

COURSE ON COWS PRODUCTION

RESEARCH ON HISTORY, CHARACTERISTIC, AND ECONOMIC INTEREST ON FOLLOWING BREEDS:

- ANGUS ABERDEEN**
- BELGIUM BLUES**
- KENYAN BORAN**

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Aberdeen ANGUS



Aberdeen ANGUS: HISTORY

The name of the breed bulls and cows got in 1775, when a Scottish livestock farmers took up the improved precocity and exterior, as well as improving [slaughter weight](#) and meat quality of local cattle. This breed come from from the polled and predominantly black cattle of North east Scotland known locally as "doddies" and "hummlies" A little less than a hundred years, it was enough to bring a new purebred cattle, and in 1873, its members began to export to North America.

The precocity of the animals of this breed played a crucial role in their dissemination around the globe.



Calves Aberdeen-Angus breed are born small

- ❖ their body weight is 22-28 lbs. Calves at the same weights 22-25 kg, and bulls 25-28 kg.
- ❖ young Growing literally by the hour to six months on breast milk up to 180 kg.
- ❖ When calves deprived of cow's milk, they weigh up to 230 kg. Adding a day at 1000 g, to three years they can reach from 430 kg to half a ton of weight.

CHARACTERISTICS

- Red or black colour
- Cattle compact body
- the Head is small in size with a slightly protruding forehead, a short snout and a narrow head;
- Large and short neck smoothly into muscular shoulders;
- muscular Body, with soft hair covering and smooth back, the withers, straight sacrum and lower back straight;
- Deep (about 67 centimeters) and volume (about 46 inches) chest;
- legs rather Short;
- the Skin is thin, very loose, but subcutaneous tissue creates the appearance of a thick skin.
- Measurement at the stand 135 cm for females and 145 cm for males
- weighs 650 to 700 kg for females and between 800 to 1000 kg for males
- With out horns



ECONOMIC IMPROTANCE

- 1- Heifer Aberdeen ripen very early, their first seed in the 14-15 months of age
- 2- very High fertility contributes to blagovremeno maturation and readiness to [insemination of heifers](#) at the age of 14-15 month and Superb mothers with superior milking ability
- 3-well adapted to cold and temperate climates, so there they are used in industrial scale for breeding animals of dairy and meat and dairy breeds
- 4- Grow very fast. With proper nutrition can in a day to gain 1kg.;
- 5- Superior feed conversion
- 6- Preferred carcass size and quality
- 7-Natural marbling for tasty, tender beef
- 8- Give a delicious marbled meat with a uniform fat layers. After slaughter the carcass yield ranges from 60 to 70%.



Belgium Blue



Origin: Central and Upper Belgium

❖ In 19th Century Shorthorn bulls were exported from the UK to Belgium to improve the native population which was primarily of the dairy type (red-pied and black-pied cattle)

Physical Characteristics

❖ Large, bald and heavily muscled sized cattle

❖ The back is straight, rump is sloping, tail set is prominent and fine skin. It has strong legs and walks easily

❖ Temperament: docile, easy to handle

❖ The weight of an adult bull-1100(1.45m) and 1250kg(1.50m). Cows weigh of 850 to 900kg and can exceed 1.40m

❖ Calves Start developing that muscle at 4 to 6 weeks old.

Average weight gains per day

❖ Bull average weight of 1.6 kg/day

Reproduction and weaning

- ❖ High fertility, good mothering, and poor pelvic dimension
- ❖ Double-muscled cows can experience [dystocia](#)
- ❖ Average age for first calving is 32 months
- ❖ Gestation length at 285.6 days for males and 281.6 for females
- ❖ Calf birth weight averages 48kg for males and 44kg for females
- ❖ weaned at 6 weeks old at least 115kg
- ❖ At 18 to 19 month old bulls weighing around 650 kg.

Milk Production

- ❖ Cows average lactation of 4,000 kg of milk at 3.56% fat
- ❖ **Longevity/Replacement**
- ❖ Over 20 years but generally they do not live that long but with a max of 5 caesarians per cow this then lowers its life expectancy
- ❖ **Carcass weight**
- ❖ Weight of 80% or more dressing percentage, daily meat gain compared to Charolaise
- ❖ It is considered a good terminal sire for meat production

Economic



The average price for selling a Belgian Blue male calf is about €1,800 to €2,000, at around €2.80 per kg live weight.

Kenyan BORAN (Orma Boran, Borana, and Somali Boran)

Origin

❖ Northern Kenya, southern Ethiopia and southwestern Somalia

Physical characteristics

❖ Medium size with a short head, small ears, loose dewlap

❖ They can be horned or polled, hardy and docility

❖ They vary in height from 114cm to 147cm tall

❖ Bulls weigh approximately 550kg to 850kg - Cows weigh about 400kg to 550kg

❖ loose, thick skin and extremely pliable for added insect repellence.

❖ It is dark pigmented with fine short hair for heat tolerance

Average weight gains per day on grass & feedlot

❖ Grass = 0.7 kg - 1.0 kg_ Feedlot = 1.3 kg



Reproduction and weaning

- ❖ High fertility, good mothering, and good pelvic dimension
- ❖ Gestation period 385. Calves at birth weigh an average of 28 kg for males and females, 25 kg
- ❖ weaned at 8 months at least 200kg
- ❖ Boran heifers reach puberty at an average age of 385 days

Milk Production

- ❖ 1st lactation: Av = 9.3 kg per day: 3rd lactation: Av= 13.4 kg per day

Longevity/Replacement

- ❖ Normal for a 15-year –old cow to be sound mouthed, healthy and fertile
- ❖ At 16 year old Boran bull is still producing high quality semen for artificial insemination.

Carcass quality

- ❖ Better than other Zebu Breeds for meat tenderness, carcass marbling and rib eye area

Carcass weight

- ❖ 230-260 kg dressed weight with 52% dressing percentage

Stocking rate/density

Stocking rate = Number of livestock unit /acre

1 livestock unit weight 1000pound per 2 acres

(1000pounds=454kg)

References

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