PET-Livestock Body Condition Score App

A Pictorial Evaluation Tool (PET) for Body Condition Scoring of Livestock in East Africa and the Horn of Africa.

2016

PET-Livestock is a U**P**ictorial U**E**valuation U**T**ool **in app form using images (photo-indicators) to score the body condition of common domestic livestock in East Africa and Horn of Africa.**

- PET users score body condition (BCS) of domestic livestock (cattle, camels, sheep and goats) seen on the ranges, in fields, backyards, markets and by the side of the road quickly *without touching* their bodies.

- PET manuals standardise livestock body condition scoring and allow different assessors to a) grade livestock; monitor b) changes over time in the same locations; and c) differences between similar herds and flocks in different locations at the same time.

PET-Livestock presents photo-indicators of cattle, goats, fat-tailed and long-tailed sheep and camels in progressive series of body conditions rising from very thin to very fat for each species.

The images are scored from '1' to '5' based on critical observation of *one* highly visible *target feature* of the body viewed from the correct angle or approach.

Given limited access, the **one-site, no-touch** system presented in PET is *the most appropriate rapid* method of assessing **BCS** of herds and flocks in present extensive systems of range use, and local management & traditional marketing processes.

PET-Livestock enables rapid recording, storage and analysis of data at two levels: a) **mode BCS** of herds and flocks; and, b) **BCS of individual animals** sorted into classes for each species

PET-Livestock photo galleries show **BCS** for each species portrayed by **photo-indicators** of six animals exhibiting the target feature at a range of levels that defines each BCS from 1 to 5.

The photo-indicator, **from-a-distance (f-a-d)**, shows an animal standing alone or within a small group viewed from a direction that presents the single target feature to best advantage.

Assessors using **PET-Livestock** select the photo-indicator which most closely matches the target feature of the animals under observation.

Look at the animals - Select matching image - Tap screen

The app records, stores and analyses the details.

User Guides - We suggest you read the User Guides for the PET-Livestock App (listed under the HELP tab) carefully before leaving for the field.