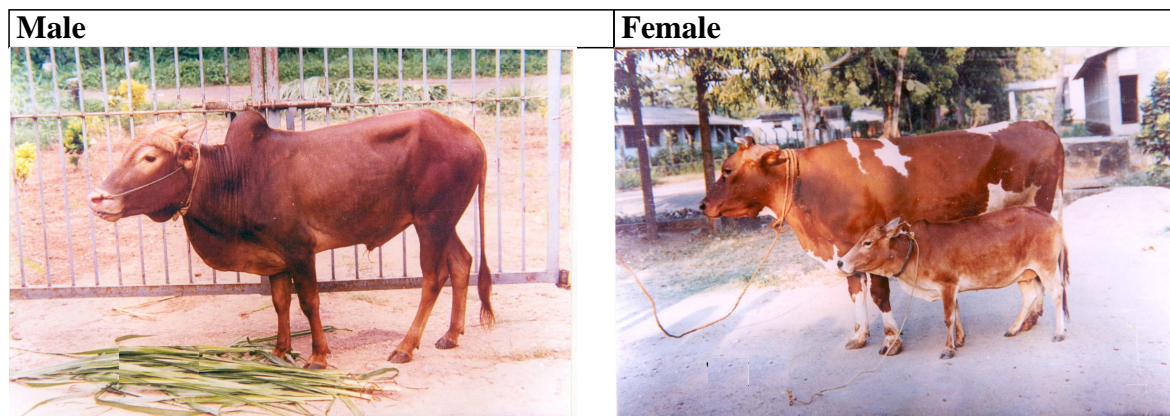


Breed Descriptor of Vechur (Cattle)



Breeding Tract			
State: Kerala	Kasargode		
	Pathanam Thitta		
	Kottayam		
	Alappuzha / Alleppey		
Location			
Longitude (deg.)	76.34 - 77.		
Latitude (deg.)	9.3 - 9.5		
General Information			
Synonyms			
Origin	It is known by the name of a place Vechur - a small place by the side of Vembanad lake near Vaikam in Kottayam district of South Kerala.		
Major utility	Food - Milk; Dung - Manure		
Comments on utility	Milk production in Vechur cattle is relatively higher than in other dwarf cattle available in this area.		
Comments on breeding tract	Kuttanad, a unique agricultural tract, which covers Alappuzha, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta; and Kasaragod districts of Kerala		
Adaptability to environment	The social requirement as well as heavy rain and hot humid climate of the area coupled with low input available to the animals led to the selection of a small adaptable animal by man as well nature. This was the basis for evolution of Vechur animal.		
Population			
	Year	Population	Other information
	2013	1065	Source: Estimated Livestock Population Breed Wise Based on Breed Survey 2013. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India, New Delhi
Management			

Management system	Extensive		
Mobility	Stationary		
Feeding of adults	Grazing		
Comments on Management	Animals from each house are let loose in the morning. These animals herd together and go for grazing in bigger groups. Breeding bulls are also present in the grazing area. Cows conceive out of natural mating from these bulls. Animals return home in the evening. Generally animals are confined to sheds in the night. Tree leaves are spread in sheds as breeding. Additional leaves are spread on alternate days on the previous layer. Daily cleaning of sheds is not done as in other parts of state. Manure is removed 3 or 4 times a year and used as mulch (organic manure) for cultivation.		
Morphology			
Colour	Animals are light red, black or fawn and white.		
Horn shape and size	Horns are small, thin curving forward and downward. In some cases they are extremely small and are hardly visible.		
Visible characteristics	Extremely small sized animal with compact body.		
	Male	Female	Overall
Height (avg. cm.)	99.0	89.0	
Body Length (avg. cm.)	104.0	93.0	
Heart girth (avg. cm.)	138.0	122.0	
Body weight (avg. kg.)	178.0	132.0	
Birth weight (avg. kg.)	11.2	10.2	
Performance			
	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Age at first parturition (months)	36.0		
Parturition interval (months)	14.01	12.0	17.0
Milk yield per lactation (kg)	561.0		
Milk Fat (%)		4.7	5.8
Any Peculiarity of the breed			