

HENNEKE BODY CONDITION SCORE SHEET

DATE: 11/21/25

NAME: Bill

ANIMAL ID:

DESCRIPTION:

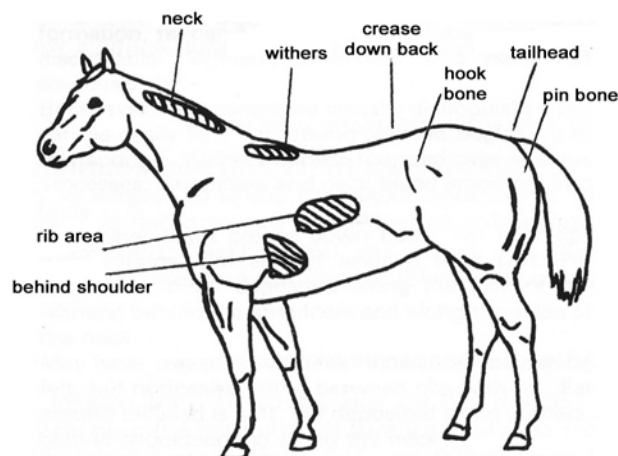
☒ VISUAL or ☐ HANDS-ON ASSESSMENT

COMMENTS:

OVERALL BODY CONDITION SCORE: 23 ÷ 6 = 4

sum total overall score

(circle descriptions for each area of the body then average together)



modified from Henneke et al. EVJ 1983;15:371-372

| Condition | Neck | Withers | Shoulder | Ribs | Back | Tailhead Area |
|--|------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| 1 Poor (extremely emaciated) | Bone structure easily noticeable | Bone structure easily noticeable | Bone structure easily noticeable | Ribs projecting prominently | Spinous processes projecting prominently | Tailhead, pinbones, and hook bones projecting prominently |
| No fatty tissue can be felt | | | | | | |
| 2 Very Thin (emaciated) | Bone structure faintly discernible | Bone structure faintly discernible | Bone structure faintly discernible | Ribs prominent | Slight fat covering over base of spinous processes. Transverse processes of lumbar vertebrae feel rounded. Spinous processes are prominent | Tailhead prominent Pin bones prominent Hook bones prominent |
| 3 Thin | Neck ✓ accentuated | Withers ✓ accentuated | Shoulder accentuated | Slight fat cover over ribs. Ribs easily discernible | Fat buildup halfway on spinous processes, but easily discernible. Transverse processes cannot be felt | Tailhead prominent but individual vertebrae cannot be visually identified. Hook bones appear rounded, but are still easily discernible. Pin bones not distinguishable |
| 4 Moderately Thin | Neck not obviously thin | Withers not obviously thin | Shoulder ✓ not obviously thin | Faint outline of ribs discernible | Negative crease (peaked appearance) along back | Prominence depends on ✓ conformation. Fat can be felt. Hook bones not discernible |
| 5 Moderate | Neck blends smoothly into body | Withers rounded over spinous processes | Shoulder blends smoothly into body | Ribs cannot be visually distinguished, but can be easily felt ✓ | Back is level ✓ | Fat around tailhead beginning to feel spongy |
| 6 Moderately Fleishy | Fat beginning to be deposited | Fat beginning to be deposited | Fat beginning to be deposited behind shoulder | Fat over ribs feels spongy | May have a slight positive crease (a groove) down back | Fat around tailhead feels soft |
| 7 Fleishy | Fat deposited along neck | Fat deposited along withers | Fat deposited behind shoulder | Individual ribs can be felt, but noticeable fat filling between ribs | May have a positive crease down the back | Fat around tailhead is soft |
| 8 Fat | Noticeable thickening of neck | Area along withers filled with fat | Area behind shoulder filled with fat | Difficult to feel ribs | Positive crease down back | Fat around tailhead very soft |
| 9 Extremely Fat | Bulging fat | Bulging fat | Bulging fat | Patchy fat appearing over ribs | Obvious crease down back Flank filled with fat | Bulging fat around tailhead (prepared by A Kane USDA APHIS 11/21/17) |