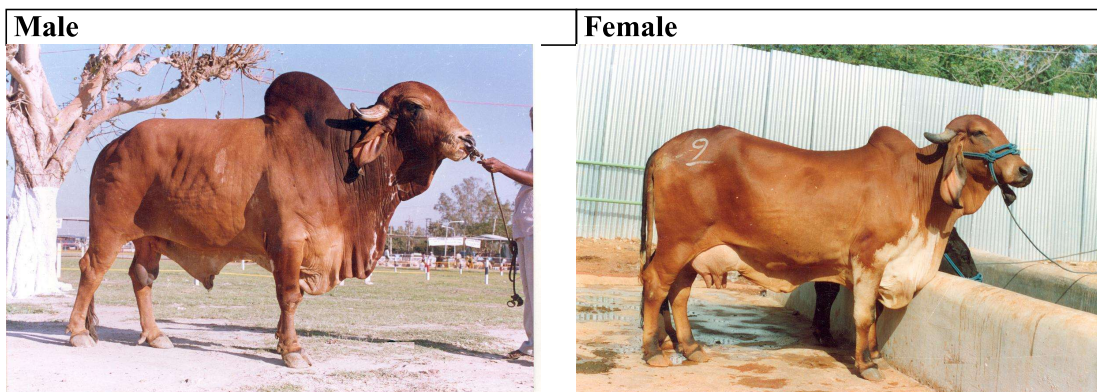


## Breed Descriptor of Gir (Cattle)



<b>Breeding Tract</b>			
State: Gujarat	Rajkot		
	Junagadh		
	Bhavnagar		
	Amreli		
<b>Location</b>			
Longitude (deg.)	70. - 72.		
Latitude (deg.)	20.5 - 22.6		
<b>General Information</b>			
Synonyms	Bhodali, Desan, Gujarati, Kathiawari, Sorthi, and Surati		
Origin	Named after the Gir forest, the geographical/origin of the breed		
Major utility	Food - Milk		
Comments on utility	Gir cows are good milk producers. Bullocks can drag heavy loads on all kinds of soils, be it sandy, black or rocky.		
Comments on breeding tract	Saurashtra region of Gujarat specially area in and around Gir forest.		
Adaptability to environment	It is a hardy animal and can survive and produce in difficult environment		
<b>Population</b>			
	Year	Population	Other information
	2000	917081	Source: Indian J. Animal Sciences, 2008, 78(6):672.
	2013	1380208	Source: Estimated Livestock Population Breed Wise Based on Breed Survey 2013. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India, New Delhi
<b>Management</b>			

Management system	Semi-Intensive		
Mobility	Stationary		
Feeding of adults	Grazing and Concentrate		
Comments on Management	Gir cattle are largely bred by professional breeders known as Rabaris, Bhanoads, Maldharis, Ahirs and Charans. Calves are allowed to suck for 8 to 12 months. Milking cows are usually retained in the village while dry cows and young stock are sent for grazing. Animals are herded in a field for 3 or 4 nights by the farmers as it provides manure in the form of dung and urine.		
<b>Morphology</b>			
Colour	Most of the Gir animals are pure red though some are speckled red.		
Horn shape and size	Horns are peculiarly curved. Starting at the base of the crown they take a sideways downward and backward curve and again incline a little upward and forward taking a spiral inward sweep, ending in a fine taper- thus giving a half moon appearance.		
Visible characteristics	Long and pendulous ears folded like a leaf. Ears hang all the time and their inside face forward.		
	Male	Female	Overall
Height (avg. cm.)	159.84	130.79	
Body Length (avg. cm.)	137.51	131.4	
Heart girth (avg. cm.)	201.41	166.47	
Body weight (avg. kg.)	544.0	310.0	
Birth weight (avg. kg.)			20.77
<b>Performance</b>			
	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Age at first parturition (months)	46.08	39.0	59.0
Parturition interval (months)	13.4		
Milk yield per lactation (kg)	2110.0	800.0	3300.0
Milk Fat (%)	4.6	3.9	5.1
Any Peculiarity of the breed	Gir is a world-renowned breed known for its tolerance to stress conditions. Having faced scarcity for a numbers of years, it has the capacity for yielding more milk with less feeding and is resistant to various tropical diseases. It has been imported by Brazil, USA, Venezuela and Mexico, and bred there successfully.		