Breed Descriptor of Gir (Cattle)





State: Gujarat Junagadh Bhavnagar Amreli Location Longitude (deg.) 70 72. Latitude (deg.) 20.5 - 22.6 General Information 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 Adaptability to environment Adaptability to environment Population Year Population Saurashtra region of Gujarat specially area in and around difficult environment Adiptability to environment 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	Breeding Tract					
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Management				1 '1		
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Management system	Semi-Intensive	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				
	•	allowed to suck for	-		
	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.				
Morphology					
Colour	Most of the Gir aninmals 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		
Performance					
	Average	Minimum	Maximum		
Age at first parturition	46.08	39.0	59.0		
(months)					
Parturition interval	13.4				
(months)					
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				
		y Brazil, USA, Ven	ezuela and		
	Mexico, and bred there successfully.				