

Breed Descriptor of Malnad Gidda (Cattle)



Breeding Tract			
State: Karnataka	Udupi		
	Uttar Kannada		
	Shimoga		
	Kodagu		
	Hassan		
	Dakshina Kannada		
	Chikmagalur		
Location			
Longitude (deg.)	74.5 - 75.5		
Latitude (deg.)	11.5 - 14.5		
General Information			
Synonyms	Gidda, Uradana (Meaning village cow), Varshagandhi (gives one calf every year)		
Origin	The word Gidda means dwarf and Malnad means a place receiving heavy rainfall, where these cattle are inhabited. Malay means hilly, Nadu means place (Malay+Nadu= Malnad) and gidda means small.		
Major utility	Draught, Milk and Manure		
Comments on utility	They play a major role in the rural economy of this region by providing milk, manure and draft power with negligible inputs		
Comments on breeding tract	"		
Adaptability to environment	They are well adapted to the local agro ecological systems of Western Ghats		
Population			
	Year	Population	Other information
	2007	1281000	Source: Livestock Census 2007. Dept of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Govt. of Karnataka.

	2013	899091	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	During nights animals are housed in traditional shed where in dung and urine is not cleared regularly. Green leaves are spread on the floor everyday as bedding material over the dung and urine. It is cleared once in one to two months which forms good quality compost manure normally. These animals are sent for grazing from morning till evening. They are also fed with small quantities of paddy straw, spear grass and green grass depending on availability. Generally they are bred by natural service when they go for grazing.		
Morphology			
Colour	The predominant coat colour is black with light shades of fawn on thigh and shoulder region		
Horn shape and size	Generally small and straight. Outward, upward and inward		
Visible characteristics	They are small in size with compact body frame weighing around 80-120 Kg. Tail switch - black, hump - small, udder small and bowl shaped.		
	Male	Female	Overall
Height (avg. cm.)	91.0	90.3	
Body Length (avg. cm.)	86.5	87.0	
Heart girth (avg. cm.)	118.5	118.4	
Birth weight (avg. kg.)		8.56	
Performance			
	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Age at first parturition (months)	45.4		
Parturition interval (months)	17.0		
Milk yield per lactation (kg)	218.3		

Any Peculiarity of the breed	Malnad Gidda cattle are reared under low input low output system. Some areas it is zero input system where animals sustain solely on grazing. Elite cows give 3-5 kg of milk per day despite small body size. These animals are highly adapted to harsh climatic conditions including heavy rainfall conditions. These animals run fast, jump high and long.
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