



DAIRY GOATS - how much does your goat weigh

S.A. Baxendell, Dairy Cattle Husbandry Branch, Newstead

How Much Does Your Goat Weigh?

There are many occasions when it is necessary to know how much your goat weighs, viz. when drenching it for worms, when calculating how much antibiotic injection it needs or to decide if it is suitably grown for mating. For kids, it is possible to pick them up and then stand on bathroom scales to calculate their weight.

For adult goats this is not possible. Large animal scales are available but are expensive. Alternatively, a tape measure can be used to measure the heart girth. The heart girth is measured at the narrowest part of the chest, i.e. just behind the elbows. The following Table, amended from one supplied by the Purina Goat Food Company (U.S.A.), can be used to obtain the goat's weight.

<u>Heart Girth</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Heart Girth</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Heart Girth</u>	<u>Weight</u>
CM	KG	CM	KG	CM	KG
27.3	2.3	54.0	16	80.6	44
28.6	2.5	55.2	17	81.9	46
29.8	2.7	56.5	18	83.2	48
31.1	3	57.8	19	84.5	50
32.4	3.2	59.1	21	85.7	52
33.7	3.6	60.3	22	87.0	55
34.9	4.1	61.6	23	88.3	57
36.2	4.5	62.9	25	89.5	59
37.5	5	64.1	26	90.8	61
38.7	5.5	65.4	27	92.1	64
40.0	5.9	66.7	29	93.3	66
41.3	6.8	67.9	30	94.6	68
42.5	7.7	69.2	31	95.9	70
43.8	8.6	70.5	33	97.2	73
45.1	9.5	71.8	34	98.4	75
46.4	10.5	73.0	35	99.7	77
47.6	11	74.3	37	101	80
48.9	12	75.6	38	102	82
50.2	13	76.8	40	104	84
51.4	14	78.1	41	105	86
52.7	15	79.4	42	106	89