


# Recording body condition scores

## Using recording sheets

Here is an example of a BCS recording sheet which enables you to calculate the average BCS of your herd and the all important percentages of thin and fat cows (i.e. those below 4.5 and above 5.5).

**Body Condition Score (BCS) recording sheet**  
(Seasonal/split calving herds)

 Dairy Australia  
not only a herd

Herd: Smith's spring calving Stage of lactation cycle: Drying-off Date: 13 / 5 / 13

	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6.5+	
No. of cows:	0	4	12	23	20	9	2	0	70 (A)
Total BCS:	0	14	48	103.5	100	49.5	12	0	327 (B)
No. of cows below 4.5:	16 (C)								
Average BCS of herd:				4.67 (B/A)					
No. of cows above 5.5:								2 (D)	
% of cows below 4.5:	(C / A x 100) 23%								
% of cows above 5.5:								(D / A x 100) 3%	

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For information on body condition scoring for herd management, visit [www.dairyaustralia.com.au/BCS](http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/BCS)

Target at calving:  
No more than 15%  
of cows below BCS  
4.5

Target herd BCS  
decrease between  
calving and mating:  
No more than 0.6

Target at calving:  
No more than 15%  
of cows above BCS  
5.5

To download blank copies of recording sheets, go to [www.dairyaustralia.com.au/BCS](http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/BCS)