

Table S1: Hong Kong cattle Body Condition Score (BCS) scale summary. The scale was from 1 to 9 and was based on literature from beef cattle. As extreme scores (BCS 1 and BCS 9) were never observed, they are not included below.

Score	BCS 2	BCS 3	BCS 4	BCS 5	BCS 6	BCS 7	BCS 8
Overall							
Tail							
Description	Vertebrae easily visible; prominent all along backbone; hip bone entirely visible and pointing out through the skin. Visible deep around tail, with no visible fat. Tail head appears receded.	Apparent spine and vertebrae; hipbones visible with some cover. Deep around the tail area, no visible fat.	Apparent spine and hip bone, vertebrae can be apparent on cattle with lighter coat colour but hardly distinguish on cattle with darker coats. No fat on nor around tail.	Apparent hip bone and spine, vertebrae can be apparent on cattle with lighter coat colour but hardly distinguish on cattle with darker coats. Muscular body shape. Only sides of the tail have fat, with no fat deposit on tail head.	Apparent hip bone, no rib or vertebrae apparent. Muscular body shape. Tailhead even with fat over rump.	Neither hip bone, vertebrae nor spine are apparent, dewlap does not show sign of fat accumulation. Sides, mounted and under tail have visible fat, tailhead slightly sunken in.	No apparent bone, hips rounded, vertebrae and hipbones thickly covered, dewlap full. Mounds of fat around and on tailhead.

Note: This scale was adapted to the HK feral cattle based on beef cattle BCS (D’Occhio et al. 2019; Weik et al. 2021).