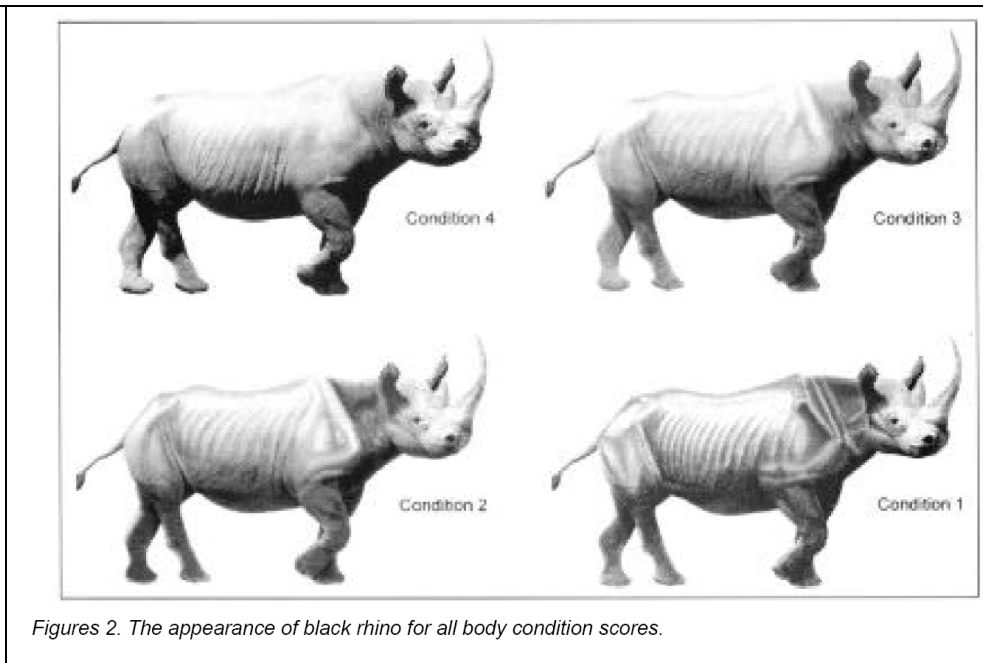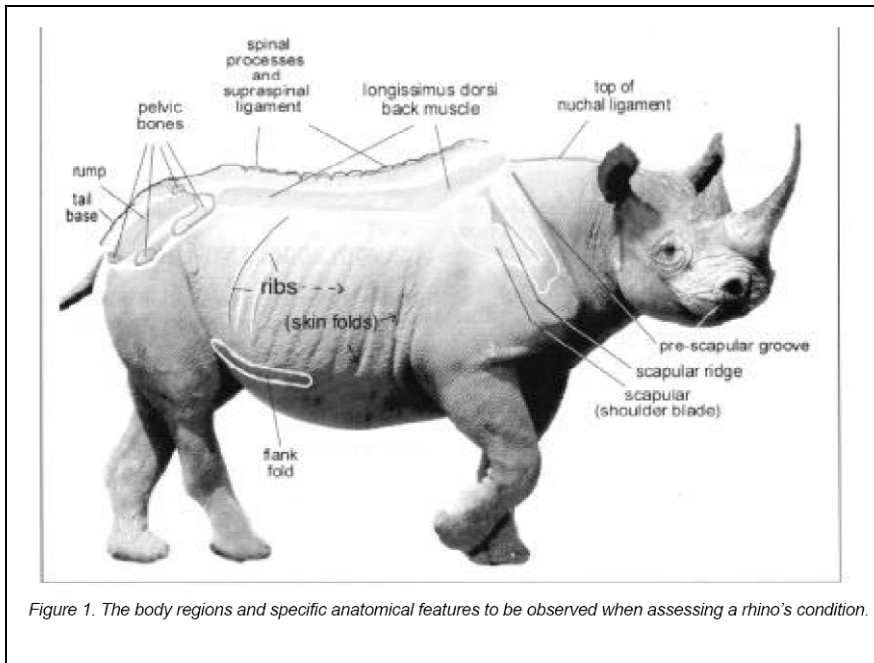# Section 1.4.2: Rhinoceros

- Reuter and Adcock; Black rhinoceros

Table 1. Descriptions of the appearance of each of the assessment sites at different body conditions in black rhino (modified from Reuter and Horspool, 1996).

CONDITION Assessment site	Numerical scale Descriptive scale	5 excellent (heavy)	4 good (ideal)	3 fair (average)	2 poor (thin)	1 very poor (emaciated)
A Neck	General appearance	thick, well muscled, rounded	well muscled, rounded	rounded	flat, narrow neck; nuchal ligament visible	narrow, angular (bony) neck; nuchal ligament prominent
	Prescapular groove		-	slightly visible	obvious	deep groove very obvious
B Shoulder	General appearance	well-muscled, rounded	rounded	flat	flat, slightly angular (bony)	angular, bony
	Scapula	covered	covered	spine visible	obvious	very obvious
C Ribs		well covered (skin folds)	covered (skin folds)	visible	obvious	very obvious
D Spine	General appearance	rounded	slightly angular	back groove back visible	groove deep obvious	back groove very obvious
	Spinous processes	covered	slightly visible	visible	prominent	very prominent
E Rump	General appearance	well rounded	flattened	slightly concave	concaveobvious depression	
	Bony protuberances	covered	slightly visible	visible	prominent	very prominent
F Abdomen	General appearance	distended, taught	filled	slightly tucked in	tucked in	tucked in
	Flank-fold	none	sometimes slightly visible	slightly visible	visible	obvious
G Tail base		rounded (bulging)	rounded	narrow	slightly bony	very thin and bony

Figure 1. The body regions and specific anatomical features to be observed when assessing a rhino's condition.

Figures 2. The appearance of black rhino for all body condition scores.

Reuter H.O. and Adcock, K. (1998) Standardized *body condition scoring system for black rhinoceros* (*Diceros bicornis*), Pachyderm, 26: 116-121