

## LIVESTOCK PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS<sup>a</sup>

Species	Reproduction	Birth Weight	Age at Weaning		Weaning weight	Usual market weight <i>and</i> (Age when marketed)	Rate of Gain on Feed (ADG)	Feed Per lb of Gain (F/G)	Dressing percent
			Actual Practice	Std for Reporting					
Bovine <sup>b</sup> (Cattle)	90% calf crop	60 to 100 lb Avg = 80	6 to 9 mo	205 days	400 - 500 lb.	1,000 - 1,200 lb <sup>c</sup> (18 - 21 mo. old)	Pasture or high roughage: 1.3-2.0 lb gain/day	9 - 12 lb.	60 to 62%
						(12 - 15 mo. old)			
Porcine (Swine)	12 born/litter 10+ weaned	2.7 to 3.3 lb	2 to 6 wk	21-day litter weight <sup>d</sup>	3 wk: 12-15 lb	230 - 290 lb (5-7 mo. of age)	1.7 to 2.2 lb gain/day Avg = 1.9	2.5 - 3.2 lb feed/ lb gain	70 to 72%
Ovine (Sheep)	Farm flock: 160-180% lamb crop Range flock: 120-130% lamb crop	Singles: 10 to 12 lb Twins: 7 to 9 lb	3 to 6 mo	90 days	70 - 90 lb	90 - 120 lb	Pasture: 0.4 lb gain/day Feedlot: 0.6-0.7 lb gain/day	--- 6 to 8 lb feed/ lb gain	50 to 52%
Equine (Horses)	90% foaling rate <sup>e</sup>	100 to 120 lb	4 to 6 mo	---	400 to 600 lb	---	Footnote <sup>f</sup>	Footnote <sup>f</sup>	---

<sup>a</sup> These figures are quite general and are intended only to indicate acceptable levels of performance within species and to indicate differences among species.

<sup>b</sup> Dairy calves are normally removed from the cow before 3 days of age and placed on a milk replacer diet. Otherwise, production traits of dairy steers are similar to beef cattle

<sup>c</sup> Usual market weight; however, it varies with frame size. (See Table 8.3 in text.) Market age depends upon level of nutrition (e.g., pasture vs feedlot).

<sup>d</sup> 21-day litter weight is used as a measure of sow productivity. Many producers and breed associations use this even if they wean pigs at an older age.

<sup>e</sup> Assumes good management and utilization of modern technology. The U.S. foal crop (domestic horses) averages 50%; wild horses have a 70-80% foal crop.

<sup>f</sup> Varies with producer and size of animal (draft vs riding horse vs pony); this information normally is not collected. For riding horses, 6-mo.-old weaned foals typically gain 1.4 - 1.9 lb/day; yearlings on good pasture will gain about 1.0 - 1.2 lb/day.

### Milk Production

Dairy Cow	60-120 lb/day	16,000 to 26,000 lb / 305-day lactation <sup>g</sup>	0.8 - 0.9 lb feed/lb milk produced
Beef Cow	8-12 lb/day		

<sup>g</sup> Standard for Reporting milk production: 305-day 2X ME = Total milk (lb) after 305 days being milked; milked 2 times daily (2X); Mature Equivalent (adjusted to a 'mature' cow basis [5-8 years of age] and for month that lactation started. Cows that calve during fall and winter generally give more milk than those that calve late spring and summer. Comparisons are made within breed, not across breeds.