

**AVERAGE SCROTAL CIRCUMFERENCE (S.C.) MEASUREMENTS OF BEEF BREEDS
COMPARED BY WEIGHT**

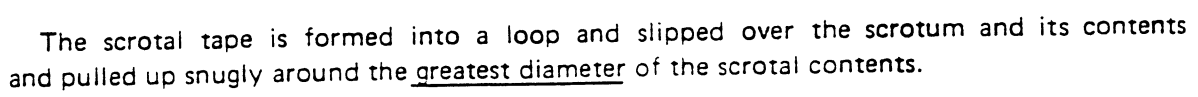
WEIGHT IN POUNDS	ANGUS	CHAROLAIS	HORNED HEREFORD	POLLED HEREFORD	SIMMENTAL	LIMOUSIN	AVERAGE
400 to 900	35.2	30.4	30.8	30.9	33.5	29.2	30.6
900 to 1000	33.1	30.8	32.9	32.9	32.1	32.4	32.3
1000 to 1100	36.4	31.8	34.3	34.6	33.9	30.1	33.7
1100 to 1200	36.8	32.9	35.4	34.1	36.2	33.0	34.6
1200 to 1300	37.3	33.8	35.6	35.2	—	—	35.5
1300 to 1400	37.5	35.2	36.2	35.4	38.1	—	36.1
1400 to 1500	37.6	35.6	36.7	35.7	—	—	36.3
1500 to 3000	40.0	37.7	—	36.8	—	—	37.9

When weather is cold, bulls retract their testes making it difficult to take proper measurements. Special care should be taken at these times to pull the testes into the bottom and eliminate wrinkles in the scrotum; otherwise, faulty measurements occur. The circumference reading in cm is taken at the index formed by the small stainless steel crossbar on the scrotal circumference tape thumb piece.

Interpretation of Results

Scrotal circumference is highly correlated to testis size and semen production in young bulls. Bull weight and testis size are also correlated to a high degree.

Thus, associating scrotal circumference with age can be misleading because of variation in bull size due to different feeding levels, especially in young bulls. It is still the best measurement available to measure potential semen-producing capacity at a given time in young bulls.

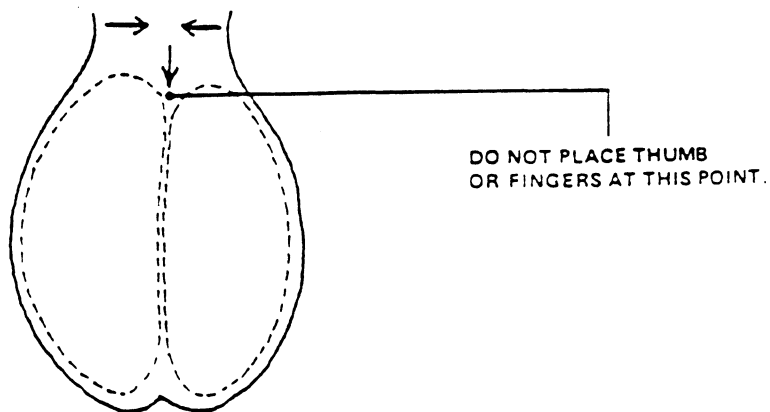


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USE OF SCROTAL CIRCUMFERENCE TAPE

The testes are pulled firmly into the lower part of the scrotum by encircling its base with the hand and pulling down on the testes. The thumb and fingers should be located on the side of the scrotum rather than between the testes to prevent separation of the testes and inaccurate measurement.



The following data can be used as rough guidelines for associating scrotal circumference with age if size of the bull is also considered.

Some cattlemen measure the scrotal circumference of all bulls of a given age and weight and cull the bottom 15 or 20%.

Generally speaking, well-fed bulls of about one year of age should have a scrotal circumference of at least 30 cm, and mature bulls at least 35 to 37 cm, depending on breed. This compensates for different methods of management which might result in different size bulls of the same age.

The following data was compiled from several sources and is representative for the breed and age listed.

AVERAGE SCROTAL CIRCUMFERENCE (S.C.) OF BEEF BREEDS COMPARED BY AGE

AGE IN MONTHS	ANGUS	CHAROLAIS	HORNED HEREFORD	POLLED HEREFORD	SIMMENTAL	LIMOUSIN	SANTA GERTRUDIS	BRAHMAN	AVERAGE*
Less than 14	34.8	32.6	33.0	34.8	33.4	30.6	34.0	21.9	33.1
14 to 17	35.9	35.4	32.2	34.2	36.5	31.7	35.3	27.4	35.0
17 to 20	36.6	34.5	34.1	34.9	—	32.0	35.5	29.4	35.3
20 to 23	36.9	34.9	36.2	34.9	—	33.9	36.7	31.4	36.0
23 to 26	36.7	34.6	33.4	34.8	36.0	—	36.5	31.7	35.4
26 to 30	36.3	36.2	33.8	35.0	—	—	36.4	33.5	35.6
30 to 36	36.6	37.11	35.2	35.6	—	—	38.3	34.7	36.0
36 plus	38.2	38.1	34.0	36.4	37.2	35.5	40.5	36.7	36.4

* Average Does Not Include Brahman Bulls