

## Dressing Out Percentage – Cattle

Dressing Out Percentages are influenced by liveweight and condition. The general rule of thumb applies.

Dressing out percentage increases with liveweight.

Bulls' percentage may be marginally lower than steers' because of heavier hides and leaner carcasses. Heifers' percentage may be higher at the same liveweight because of increased fatness.

Traditional beef breeds (Angus, Hereford and Shorthorn) dress out heavier than dairy breeds but lower than when crossed with exotic breeds eg Charolais, Simmental etc.

SOURCES:

Lamb Report/Market Link  
MAFTech, BLENHEIM

## Dressing Out Percentage – Lambs

The formula for estimating Dressing Out Percentage is:

Hot carcass weight is calculated:

$(\text{Liveweight (kg)} \times 0.473 - 1.92) \times 1.045$  and the standard is taken as 43% for a 13.5kg hot carcass.

The table below gives full liveweight, carcass weight and dressing out relationship based on shorn wether lambs from a long woolled breed.

Full Live Weight (kg)	Hot Carcass Weight (kg)	Dressing %	Full Live Weight (kg)	Hot Carcass Weight (kg)	Dressing %
15	5.4	36.1	39	17.3	44.3
16	5.9	36.9	40	17.8	44.4
17	6.4	37.6	41	18.3	44.5
18	6.9	38.3	42	18.8	44.7
19	7.4	38.9	43	19.2	44.8
20	7.9	39.4	44	19.7	44.9
21	8.4	39.9	45	20.2	45.0
22	8.9	40.3	46	20.7	45.1
23	9.4	40.7	47	21.2	45.2
24	9.9	41.1	48	21.7	45.2
25	10.4	41.4	49	22.2	45.3
26	10.8	41.7	50	22.7	45.4
27	11.3	42.0	51	23.2	45.5
28	11.8	42.3	52	23.7	45.6
29	12.3	42.5	53	24.2	45.6
30	12.8	42.7	54	24.7	45.7
31	13.3	43.0	55	25.2	45.8
32	13.8	43.2	56	25.7	45.8
33	14.3	43.3	57	26.2	45.9
34	14.8	43.5	58	26.7	46.0
35	15.3	43.7	59	27.2	46.0
36	15.8	43.9	60	27.7	46.1
37	16.3	44.0	61	28.1	46.1
38	16.8	44.1			

Full liveweight is taken to be lambs weighed immediately off pasture.