

MOUSE



BC 1

Mouse is emaciated.

- *Skeletal structure extremely prominent; little or no flesh cover.*
- *Vertebrae distinctly segmented.*



BC 2

Mouse is underconditioned.

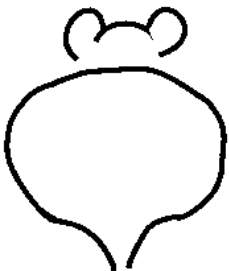
- *Segmentation of vertebral column evident.*
- *Dorsal pelvic bones are readily palpable.*



BC 3

Mouse is well-conditioned.

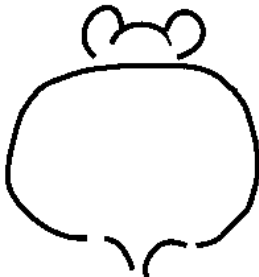
- *Vertebrae and dorsal pelvis not prominent; palpable with slight pressure.*



BC 4

Mouse is overconditioned.

- *Spine is a continuous column.*
- *Vertebrae palpable only with firm pressure.*



BC 5

Mouse is obese.

- *Mouse is smooth and bulky.*
- *Bone structure disappears under flesh and subcutaneous fat.*

A "+" or a "-" can be added to the body condition score if additional increments are necessary (i.e. ...2+, 2, 2-...)

RAT

BC 1

Rat is emaciated



- Segmentation of vertebral column prominent if not visible.
- Little or no flesh cover over dorsal pelvis. Pins prominent if not visible.
- Segmentation of caudal vertebrae prominent.

BC 2

Rat is under conditioned



- Segmentation of vertebral column prominent.
- Thin flesh cover over dorsal pelvis, little subcutaneous fat. Pins easily palpable.
- Thin flesh cover over caudal vertebrae, segmentation palpable with slight pressure.

BC 3

Rat is well-conditioned



- Segmentation of vertebral column easily palpable.
- Moderate subcutaneous fat store over pelvis. Pins easily palpable with slight pressure.
- Moderate fat store around tail base, caudal vertebrae may be palpable but not segmented.

BC 4

Rat is overconditioned



- Segmentation of vertebral column palpable with slight pressure.
- Thick subcutaneous fat store over dorsal pelvis. Pins of pelvis palpable with firm pressure.
- Thick fat store over tail base, caudal vertebrae not palpable.

BC 5

Rat is obese



- Segmentation of vertebral column palpable with firm pressure; may be a continuous column.
- Thick subcutaneous fat store over dorsal pelvis. Pins of pelvis not palpable with firm pressure.
- Thick fat store over tail base, caudal vertebrae not palpable.