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Subject: Re: Livestock Ownership

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 25 Jun 2018 11:50:31 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Kia Reinis:

You have the general idea, and we have two categories just to make sure we capture all the large livestock. Some folks think of cattle including meat animals and cows including milk animals. However, note that the BDHS is not an agricultural survey and the intent of having two questions here is not so much to tease out the differences, but rather, to be certain we capture all the livestock the household has. The data are used as input for assessing socioeconomic status (to calculate the wealth index). For example, if a respondent reported they have 10 cattle, one of which is a milk cow and one of which is a bull, the interviewer would record 2 milk cows/bulls and 8 cattle, for a total of 10.

Also note that the question is one that gets amended for country-specific context. If a country has a particular animal that is commonly held, that animal can be added to the list of animals (for example, some countries may add water buffalo). In the case of Burkina Faso, the categories of cattle and cows are asked as betail and vache laiteres or taureaux.

We appreciate your use of DHS data.

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