

Body Condition Scoring

Skin Scoring

Tick Scoring

Image disclaimer



Viewers please be aware that this resource depicts some animals that may be experiencing illness and/or significant parasitic burdens.

Viewers may find some of the images depicting poor animal health confronting.

Dog Body Condition Scoring

Scale: 1 - 9



Body Condition Score = 1

Very thin! Emaciated



- Very boney -Spine, Ribs, Hips & Shoulders. Not much muscle.

Body Condition Score = 3

A little bit thin



- More than 2 ribs visible. Hips sticking out a bit.
- Waist tucked in.

Body Condition Score = 5

Good



- No bones visible - muscle layer covering shoulders, ribs and hips
- Waist still has a small tuck

Body Condition Score = 6

Good



- No bones visible - muscle layer covering shoulders, ribs & hips
- Waist still has a small tuck

Body Condition Scores = 7 & 8

A bit fat (7) and fat (8)



- No bones visible - fat layer covering shoulders, ribs & hips
- Straight along the sides - no waist when viewed from above

Body Condition Score = 9

This dog is very fat! Obese!



- No bones visible - thick layer of fat
- Round tummy and fat rolls

Dog Skin Scoring

Scale: 0 - 5



No skin problems



- Healthy skin and full hair coat
- No hairloss or mange

Skin Score = 1



- Hair loss on about 20% of the dog's body
- Sometimes can look moth eaten

Skin Score = 2



- Hair loss on about 40% of the dog's body

Skin Score = 3



- Hair loss on about 60% of the dog's body

Skin Score = 4



- Hair loss on about 80% of the dog's body

Skin Score = 5



- Total hair loss, or crusting of the skin

Dog Tick Scoring

Scale: None - Severe



Tick Score = None

None

Mild

Moderate

Severe



None

- No ticks located anywhere on the pets body

Tick Score = Mild

None

Mild

Moderate

Severe



Image courtesy Dr Stephen Cutter

Mild

- Only a few, mostly small ticks

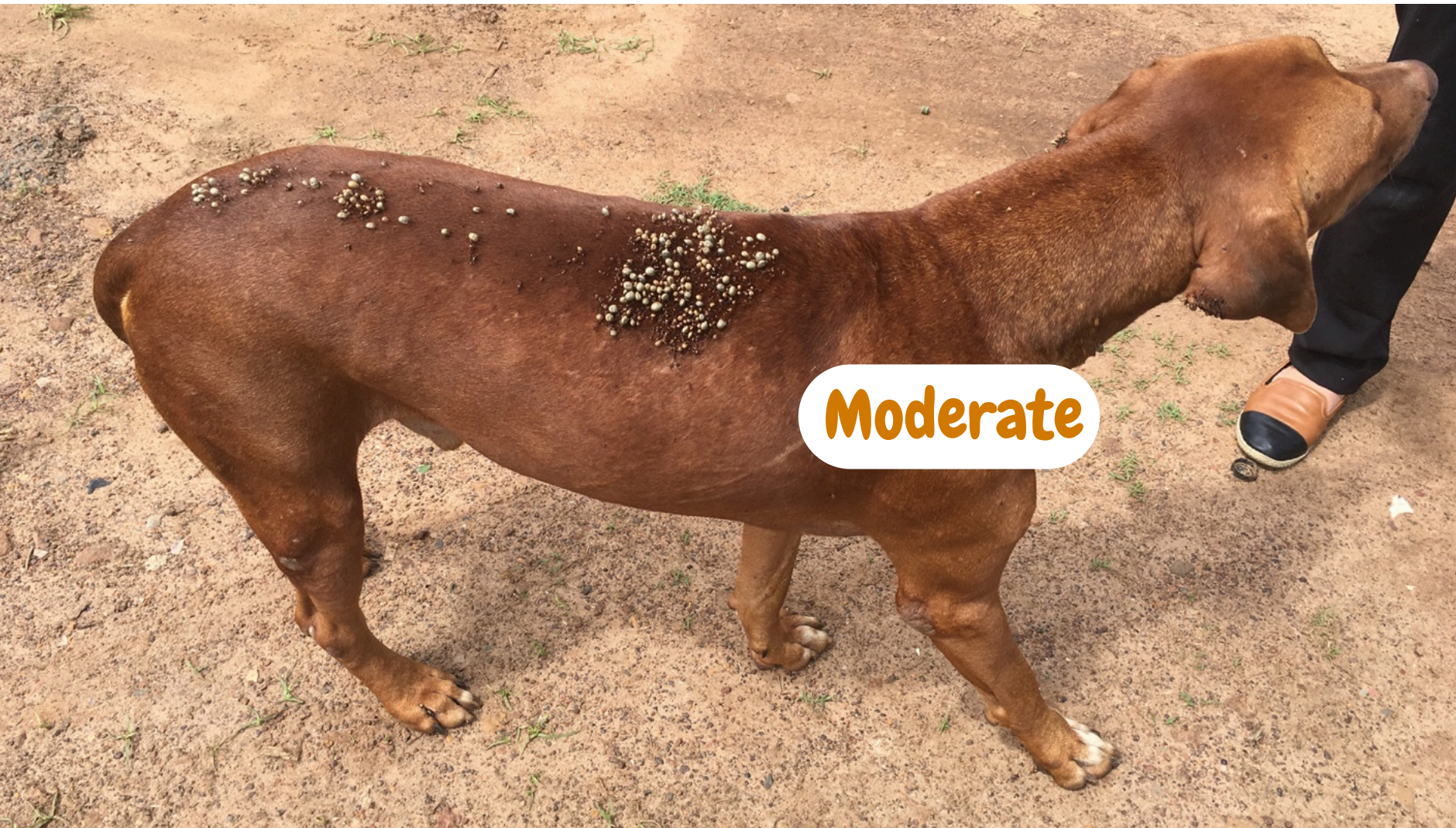
Tick Score = Moderate

None

Mild

Moderate

Severe



- Some ticks, including some big pregnant female ticks

Tick Score = 3

None

Mild

Moderate

Severe



Severe



Image courtesy Dr Stephen Cutter



- Many ticks, including many big pregnant female ticks
- Ticks in multiple places on dog's body

**With treatment for mange,
this dog's body condition score (BCS) and skin score (SS) improved heaps!**



Body Condition Score: increased from 1 (very thin) to 6 (good)

Skin Score: dropped from 5 (leatherback) to 1 (small amount hair loss)