

















OTHER SPECIES	SPOOR		BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS LIVESTOCK
	Front	Hind	
 VULTURE			vultures are not adapted to hunting - they scavenge and feed only on the carcasses of dead animals.
 BAT EARED FOX			bat-eared foxes are too small to attack livestock. if seen at a carcass, they are usually feeding on insects rather than on the meat.
 AARDWOLF			the aardwolf is not a hunter, its jaws are too weak, so it feeds mostly on insects & rodents and is not capable of taking livestock.
 SERVAL			servals feed on small mammals, reptiles & game birds. they could potentially take poultry or injured small stock.
 HONEY BADGER			the ratel, or honey badger, feeds on small mammals, reptiles and insects. it also raids beehives for honey. it can potentially take an injured lamb or kid.
 PORCUPINE			porcupines are vegetarian, feeding on roots, bulbs & fruit. they will also gnaw on the bones of a carcass & take them to their burrows.

For more information
 For further information about livestock management measures and protecting your livestock from carnivores, please contact:
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Lion Recovery Fund



LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT GUIDE

Identifying Livestock Loss from Carnivores



CARNIVORE IDENTIFICATION

WHY KILLING CARNIVORES DOES NOT WORK?




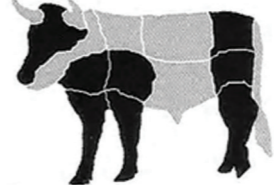











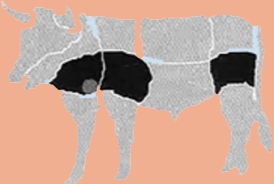











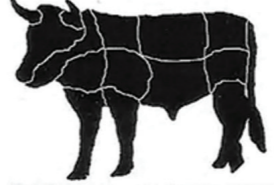








Not only is the indiscriminate killing of carnivores (by shooting, poisoning or trapping) a threat to endangered species and the environment, it provides only a very short-term remedy for the farmer - rather than a long-term cure. The killing of one carnivore simply creates an empty territory for another one to move into, which merely prolongs the costly cycle of carnivore-livestock conflict.

ABOUT THIS SHEET

This reference sheet contains information about carnivores which are capable of preying on livestock in Botswana, as well as other animals sometimes thought to be responsible but which are not actually capable of taking livestock.

Before you are able to protect your livestock it is important to know which carnivores may be responsible. Use this sheet to help you to find out and to more easily recognize the signs by each predator.

Knowing the specific kind of carnivores in your area will help you to make it very difficult for them to take sheep, goats or cattle. You can then be sure that the control methods you are introducing to deter carnivores and to protect your livestock will be more successful, which can save you both time and money.

CARNIVORE	SPOOR		PREY CARCASS LOCATION	PREY LIST	CLAW MARKS	INNARDS	BITE LOCATION	BITE WIDTH	PARTS EATEN	BONES	OTHER EVIDENCE
 DOMESTIC DOG	Front 	Hind 	anywhere	birds, rodents, hares to large antelope	none	partly eaten	all over, random bites	36 - 58 mm 3 - 4 fingers		long bones chewed, large bones intact	remains scattered, no marks on throat
 CARACAL			in grass, in bush, in a hole,	birds, rodents, hares	4 short	intact	mostly throat or back of neck	29 - 32 mm 2 fingers		no bones eaten	fur, scattered skin & guts intact, maybe red hair on prey
 JACKAL			anywhere	birds, rodents, hares to small antelope	none	partly eaten	side of neck lower jaw hindquarters of larger prey	19 - 21 mm thumb width		rib ends chewed off, other bones intact	face & ears chewed or torn, limbs maybe separated, skin remaining
 CHEETAH			under bushes or in grass	birds, rodents, hares to medium antelope	2 long marks on sides	intact but can be removed from carcass	throat	36 - 39 mm 3 fingers		rib ends chewed off, other bones intact	skin & guts remaining
 LEOPARD			up tree, in grass, in a hole	birds, rodents, hares to large antelope	4 short	intact but can be removed from carcass	throat or back of neck	40 - 46 mm 4 fingers		rib ends chewed off, other bones intact	skin & guts remaining
 BROWN HYENA			under bush or in a hole	birds, rodents, hares	none	partly eaten	back of skull & hindquarters of larger prey	47 - 56 mm 4 fingers		skull maybe crushed	fur, skin & remains scattered, crushed bone, guts remain
 SPOTTED HYENA			anywhere	birds, rodents, hares to large antelope	none	partly eaten	hindquarters first, then back	47-56 mm 4 fingers		many bones crushed	messy carcass remains, crushed bones
 LION			anywhere	birds, rodents, hares to large antelope	4 short	sometimes eaten	throat	56 - 75 mm 4 - 5 fingers		large bones intact	massive tissue damage
 AFRICAN WILD DOG			anywhere	birds, rodents, hares to large antelope	none	sometimes eaten	all over	32 - 36 mm 2 - 3 fingers		large bones intact	scattered remains