

**B-83 : A STUDY ON CARCASS QUALITY CHARACTERS OF  
LANKA BUFFALO & LANKA CATTLE**

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A study on carcass quality characters of Lanka buffalo and Lanka cattle was conducted in Kandy area. Relevant data was collected from 14 animals including 7

Lanka buffaloes and 7 Lanka cattle and special emphasis was given to the parameters such as dressing %, meat to bone ratio, organ weights and eye muscle area.

There was a significant difference between dressing % of buffaloes and cattle, and it was  $49.17 \pm 1.23$  for former and  $52.56 \pm 3.34$  for latter. The lower dressing % of buffalo is mainly due to the greater weight of hide and head with relatively larger horns. However the male buffaloes showed a lower dressing % of 48.05 than 49.62 of females and it was 54.7 for male cattle whereas, 50.4 for females. Buffaloes were always superior to cattle in organ weights. Cattle were in advance of buffaloes for meat to bone ratio, in both quarter and whole carcass basis. There was a slight effect of sex on meat to bone ratio of buffalo and cattle. A linear relationship was observed between eye muscle area and dressed carcass weight of both buffalo and cattle. Furthermore, there were correlation coefficients of 0.8571 and 0.8745 between eye muscle and dressed carcass weights of buffalo and cattle respectively.