### EASY KEEPERS

#### **TEMPERAMENT**

Zebus are intelligent, gentle, easy to handle, docile, highly social, have a strong herd instinct and are happy in groups. They harmoniously share pasture space with chickens, goats, dogs, ducks and sheep. Zebus are easily handled by children and are well suited for families with smaller acreage. Zebus are lovable and practical!

#### **HEALTH & HUSBANDRY**

Zebus require very little maintenance as they are disease and parasite resistant, calve easily, and are excellent mothers. Originating from tropical climates, they are quite heat tolerant. Actually, they prefer the heat but can adapt to colder weather. Hoof trimming from time to time may be necessary when they consume feed in lieu of grazing. Pour-on dewormer, diatomaceous earth powder, and administering vaccines are easy to do without special equipment. If necessary, a young zebu can be transported conveniently in a large dog crate. Expensive fencing, equipment and housing are not necessary.

#### MORE

Among the many other reasons for raising zebus include agricultural exemptions, pets, lawn mowers, bucking bulls, draft animals, petting zoo stars, novelty, youth showmanship, FFA projects, family meat/milk production and more. Added bonuses of raising zebus include the byproducts such as hides, dung fuel, and manure fertilizer.





#### **YOUTH & SHOWMANSHIP**

Preschoolers, young adults with a disabilities, avid breeders, retired folks, agricultural students, families ... everyone loves showing their zebus! Their unintimidating size coupled with their docile personalities make zebus the perfect agricultural project for youth. Children cultivate responsibility and sense of accomplishment. Zebus are shown in their natural state requiring no clipping, blow drying or shearing. Beautiful, social and tame, they are as easy to dress up for costume classes as they are to groom.

Hobby farmers, 4H clubs, production, show stock breeders, and pet owners are excited about the increasing market for miniature livestock!



for information on breeders, breed standards, help to get you started, youth programs:

<u>NationalZebuCattleClub@yahoo.com</u> or <u>www.Facebook.com/NationalZebuCattleClub</u>

## NZCC

NATIONAL ZEBU CATTLE CLUB



# WORLD'S SMALLEST NATURAL BREED OF CATTLE

Zebus are native cattle to India, Africa and Southeast Asia. This heritage breed goes back to 6000 BC where they were used as draft animals and family milk cows.

Distinctive features include its exotic face, athletic build, hump, small ears, and a graceful, well-proportioned, angular body. Both males and females have horns. Gray is the most common color, but zebus can be shades of red, tan, black and even paint.





ANCIENT BREED HARDY HEAT TOLERANT DOCILE TEMPERAMENT DUAL PURPOSE CATTLE

Miniature Zebus are the only naturally occurring miniature breed of cattle.

Zebus have always been a small, a completely natural breed and not the result of dwarfism or altered genetics. Zebus are not tiny brahmans. In fact brahmans were crossbred up from original bos indicus lines to produce larger animals. Other miniature breeds were bred down for novelty from larger animals.

And what about that hump? The hump evolved over centuries from the zebu being a draft animal pulling carts and plowing fields. The hump is a firm protrusion without bones, like a brisket. The hump also serves as a reservoir of fat. The dewlap (neck) is loose skin to aid in dissipating heat.

Newborn calves weigh just 15-20 pounds. Females grow to be 200-400 pounds, and full grown bulls can weigh 400-600 pounds. Zebus are 34-42 inches tall at maturity and can live 20+ years.

National Zebu Cattle Club

MEAT: ZEBUS ARE IDEAL FOR THE PRODUCTION OF HOMEGROWN NATURAL BEEF. COMPARED TO LARGER CATTLE BREEDS, THEY ARE MORE DISEASE RESISTANT, TOLERATE HEAT AND DROUGHT WITH EASE, REQUIRE ONLY ONE-FOURTH OF THE DAILY FEED AND/OR ACREAGE TO GRAZE, AND THEY HAVE A DIVERSE FORAGE DRIVE WHICH MAXIMIZES THE EFFICIENCY OF THEIR ENVIRONMENT. BOTH LARGER CATTLE AND ZEBU PRODUCE AN AVERAGE OF 40% OF THEIR TOTAL BODY WEIGHT IN DELICIOUS BEEF!



Average yield is 40% low-calorie and low-cholesterol beef.



The average steer will provide approximately 250 pounds of delicious meat.

MILK: ZEBU COWS CAN PRODUCE UP TO A GALLON OF HEALTHY, EASILY DIGESTIBLE MILK A DAY. ZEBUS PRODUCE MILK WITH A2 PROTEIN—THE ORIGINAL BETA CASEIN PROTEIN—WHICH EXISTED BEFORE A MUTATION CAUSED THE APPEARANCE OF A1 IN EUROPEAN HERDS A FEW THOUSAND YEARS AGO. UCDAVIS REPORTS THAT THE MORE COMMONLY CONSUMED A1 MILK HAS BEEN IMPLICATED AS A POTENTIAL ETIOLOGICAL FACTOR IN DIABETES, HEART DISEASE, AUTISM, AND MILK SENSITIVITIES.



Zebus have smaller teats and can be milked by hand or with a goat milker.



Zebus are ideal family milk cows. Their milk has up to 5% butterfat.

ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMICS: MINIATURE ZEBUS ARE PERFECT FOR SMALLER ACREAGE. ZEBUS ARE ONE-FOURTH THE SIZE OF FULL SIZED CATTLE AND REQUIRE ONE-FOURTH OF THE FEED AND PASTURE SPACE. IT DOES NOT TAKE AS MUCH ACREAGE TO SUPPORT ZEBUS AS IT DOES TO SUPPORT FULL SIZED BREEDS. YOU CAN RAISE THREE OR FOUR ZEBU IN THE SPACE USED FOR ONE FULL SIZED COW.



Zebus are perfect for urban farming, smaller acreage and hobby farmers.



Zebus are easy keepers, lovable, intelligent and a family friendly breed.