

LIVESTOCK AND LAND USE IN
SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE

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STRATIFIED WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATIONS
IN SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

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1 Introduction.

Resource Inventory and Management (RIM) Limited has been contracted by the Nigerian Federal Livestock Department's Livestock Project Unit to carry out an assessment of livestock and land use in southern Gongola State, for the purposes of regional development planning. Extensive aerial and ground surveys were conducted during the wet season of 1983, the preliminary results of which have already been reported (RIM, 1983). Complementary surveys are scheduled to take place 1983/84 dry season.

This working paper forms one of a series of supporting documents prepared by RIM scientists during the course of their studies. It provides an updated and detailed breakdown of the cattle population in southern Gongola State, and is based on a more thorough computer analysis of the information collected during the wet season aerial survey (RIM, 1983). Estimates are given of the number of cattle and the number of cattle herds found within selected regional and land use categories, together with estimates of mean density, and mean herd size in the various strata.

The data are presented mainly in tabular form, with a few graphs to illustrate some major trends. At this stage commentary has been kept to a minimum, in anticipation of the results of the forthcoming dry season survey, which should provide the basis for more meaningful comparison and discussion.

2 Method of Analysis.

Population and herd estimates for each stratum within the ten selected regional and land use categories were determined using the ratio method of estimation recommended by Jolly (1969), covered in detail by Norton Griffiths (1978) and outlined in RIM (1983).

In essence, for each regional and land use category, the gridded aerial survey data of cattle and herd numbers were analysed line by line, and mean values calculated for each stratum represented in each line. From these an overall mean stratum value for the area surveyed was determined, weighted in favour of those lines with a larger number of representative grids. Standard errors were also calculated and are shown as percentages of the mean values given. Red and white cattle populations were analysed separately, and their results pooled to provide figures for the total cattle population.

3 Results.

3.1 Total Wet Season Cattle Population of Southern Gongola State.

Table 1 provides revised estimates of the red and white cattle populations present within the 43,875 square kilometer aerial survey zone of southern Gongola state during the 1983 wet season. These figures have been slightly modified, and represent an updated version of those presented in Table 1, page 9, of the preliminary wet season report (RIM, 1983).

3.2 Cattle Populations in the Principal Land Systems.

Bawden and Tuley (1966) defined and mapped 30 land systems in Southern Sandauna and Southern Adamawa Provinces in the southern part of what is now known as Gongola state. Twenty-seven of these land systems fall within the RIM's aerial survey zone. Wet season cattle population estimates within each of the principal land systems are given in table 2; only land systems occupying an area larger than 500 square kilometers are presented in the table. Those excluded are: (1) Gotel Mountains - 125 square kilometers; (2) Chabal Hendu Plateau - 25 square kilometers; (3) Vogel Peak - 25 square kilometers; (6) Tibé Plateau - 325 square kilometers; (10) Filinga Plateau - 100 square kilometers; (11) Kiri Plateau - 275 square kilometers; (12) Sabere Platform - 100 square kilometers; (18) Atlantika Mountains - 50 square kilometers; and (22) Zinna Platform - 75 square kilometers.

3.3 Cattle Populations in the Regional Land Systems.

The 27 LRD land systems that occurred within the southern Gongola survey area were amalgamated into five regional groupings, each with generally similar characteristics. The component land systems within each land region are as follows: The Mambilla Plateau from LRD land systems 4,5,7,8,9 and 13; The Central Complex from LRD Systems 1,2,3,6,10,11,12,14,15,16,17,18,19,24 and 26; The Central Lowlands from LRD land systems 25 and 29; The Ganye Lowlands from LRD land systems 20,22 and 23; The Benue Flood Plains from LRD land system 30. Table 3 provides a breakdown of the estimated cattle population within each of these regional land systems.

3.4 Cattle Populations in Major Vegetation and Land Use Types.

The most upto date and comprehensive vegetation and land use maps of Nigeria are those derived by interpretation of Side Looking Airborne Radar (SLAR) imagery (Hunting Technical Services, 1978), and published by the Federal Department of Forestry (1978) as a set of 69 1:250,000 scale maps covering the entire country. Seven of the nine major vegetation and land use formations identified in Nigeria are represented in RIM's survey zone in southern Gongola State. Two of these, however, covered areas of less than 500 square kilometers: Shrubland and Thicket - 25 square kilometers; Cultivation > 60% intensity - 50 square kilometers, and have therefore been excluded from table 4 which gives a breakdown of cattle population by the remaining five predominant vegetation and land use types.

3.5 Cattle Populations at Various Altitudes.

With reference to a LRD/DOS (1972) relief map of the Benue valley the study area in southern Gongola state was divided into four altitude categories at intervals of 500 meters above sea level. The estimated cattle populations with these altitude ranges are given in table 5.

3.6 Cattle Populations in River Catchments.

The study area in southern Gongola state was divided into 11 river catchments, on the basis of boundaries indicated in Bawden and Tuley (1966). Table 6 gives a breakdown of wet season cattle populations within each of these principal catchments.

3.7 Cattle in Local Government Authority Areas.

The boundaries shown on the Gongola State Map, published in 1982 by the Survey Department in Yola, indicate that 14 Local Government Authority areas lie wholly or partly within RIM's survey zone. The estimated total wet season cattle populations for each of the six LGA's completely contained within the study area, are given in table 6, which also shows the partial cattle populations of seven other LGA's whose boundaries extend outside the zone surveyed. The remaining area - Zing - has been excluded because only 100 square Kilometers lies within the study area.

3.8 Cattle Populations at Various Distances from Roads.

Using the Gongola State Map as reference, the distance from the centre of each grid square within the survey zone to the nearest major road was determined, from which the wet season cattle populations at various distances from major roads were estimated. The results are given in table 8 and the trends for "all cattle" illustrated graphically in figure 1.

3.9 Cattle Populations at Various Distances from Major Towns.

Using the Gongola State Map as reference, the distance from the centre of each grid square within the survey zone to the nearest major town was determined, from which the wet season cattle populations at various distances from major towns were estimated. The results are given in table 9 and the trends for "all cattle" are illustrated graphically in figure 2.

3.10 Cattle Populations at Various Distances from Major Rivers.

Using the 1:250,000 topographical maps produced by the Nigerian Federal Survey Department as reference, the distance from the centre of each grid square within the survey zone to the nearest major river was determined, from which the wet season cattle populations at various distances from major river were estimated. The results are given in table 10 and the trends for "all cattle" are illustrated graphically in figure 3.

6 References.

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TABLE 1: WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE*.

	Total Population Size**	Population Density km	Stocking Rate ha./hd	Total Number Herds**	Mean Herd Size
All Cattle	686,700	15.65	6.4	15,800	43
Red Cattle***	321,700 (26)	7.33	13.6	8,300 (15)	39
White Cattle***	365,000 (18)	8.32	12.1	7,500 (14)	49

* Area Surveyed: 43,875 square Kilometers.

** Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.

*** Red cattle are mostly "Raha Ji" = "Bodeejji"

White cattle are mostly "Bunaji" = "Daneejji"

TABLE 2: WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATIONS* IN THE PRINCIPAL LAND SYSTEMS**
OF SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

Land Systems	Area sq. Km.	ALL CATTLE			RED CATTLE***			WHITE CATTLE***					
		Total Number	Density /sq.km.	Herd Number	Mean Herd Size	Total Number	Density /sq.km.	Herd Number	Herd Size	Total Number	Density /sq.km.	Herd Number	
4 Mambilla Plateau	625	62,400	99.8	1,500	42	49,000 (19)	79.8	1,200 (16)	42	12,500 (26)	20.1	300 (29)	42
5 Mambilla Highland	1,425	152,400	106.9	3,900	39	134,700 (5)	94.5	3,500 (5)	38	17,700 (24)	12.4	400 (19)	44
7 Upper Donga Valley	650	50,700	78.0	1,400	36	46,000 (12)	70.8	1,300 (11)	35	4,700 (51)	7.2	100 (46)	47
8 Rugged Highland	525	4,600	8.8	140	33	1,600 (55)	3.1	60 (46)	27	3,000 (56)	5.8	80 (36)	38
9 Diss'd Rug'd High.	1,100	39,000	35.5	900	43	16,900 (32)	15.4	300 (30)	56	22,100 (18)	20.1	600 (21)	37
13 Suntai Highland	850	800	0.9	20	40	0	0	0	0	800 (64)	1.0	20 (57)	40
14 Taraba Highland	925	5,100	5.5	110	46	4,200 (62)	4.6	50 (63)	84	900 (90)	0.9	60 (89)	15
15 Dissected Escarp.	3,050	35,100	11.5	990	35	14,200 (32)	4.7	400 (37)	36	20,900 (33)	6.8	590 (28)	35
16 Dissected F/hills	6,275	16,000	4.9	420	38	1,500 (47)	0.2	50 (49)	30	14,500 (31)	2.3	370 (35)	39
17 Donga Foothills	525	200	0.4	10	20	0	0	0	0	200 (84)	0.4	10 (79)	20
19 Elevated Plains	2,250	300	0.1	20	15	0	0	0	0	300 (78)	0.1	20 (71)	15
20 Toungo Plain	1,250	6,900	5.6	1,230	6	1,100 (51)	0.9	30 (50)	37	5,800 (36)	4.7	1,200 (60)	5
23 Ini Plain	1,300	29,800	22.9	1,200	25	7,900 (25)	6.1	500 (42)	16	21,900 (14)	16.8	700 (13)	31
24 Taraba Valley	2,550	900	0.4	20	45	0	0	0	0	900 (93)	0.4	20 (90)	45
25 Benue B/t Plain	11,175	123,500	11.1	1,600	77	28,700 (22)	2.6	500 (22)	57	94,800 (16)	8.4	1,100 (13)	86
26 Donga Valley	1,100	11,000	10.0	210	55	2,700 (57)	2.5	60 (67)	45	8,300 (65)	7.5	150 (58)	55
29 Benue S/st Plain	4,600	100,400	21.9	1,280	79	8,400 (32)	1.8	100 (31)	47	92,200 (16)	20.1	1,100 (14)	84
30 Benue F/l'd Plain	2,625	33,300	12.7	310	107	800 (55)	0.3	10 (57)	80	32,500 (37)	12.4	300 (33)	108

* Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.
** Bawden and Tuley (1966).

*** Red cattle are mainly "Rahaji" = "Bodeeji".
White cattle are mainly "Bnaji" = "Daneiji".

TABLE 3: WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATION* IN REGIONAL LAND SYSTEMS
OF SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

Land Region	Area sq.Km.	Total Number	ALL CATTLE			RED CATTLE			WHITE CATTLE		
			Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Mean Herd Size	Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number
Mambilla Highlands	5,175	310,100	59.9	7,900	39	249,100 (15)	48.1	6,400 (15)	39	61,000 (16)	11.8
Central Complex	17,780	82,500	4.7	2,200	38	25,700 (22)	1.5	700 (21)	37	56,800 (20)	3.2
Central Lowlands	15,775	224,100	14.2	3,000	75	37,100 (18)	2.4	700 (18)	53	187,000 (12)	11.9
Ganye Lowlands	2,698	36,700	14.1	2,400	15	9,000 (28)	3.4	500 (45)	18	27,700 (20)	10.7
Benue Floodplains	2,625	33,300	12.7	310	107	800 (65)	0.3	10 (57)	80	32,500 (37)	12.4

* Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.

** Red cattle are mainly "Rahaji" = "Bodeeji".
White cattle are mainly "Banaji" = "Daneiji".

TABLE 4: WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATIONS* IN THE PRINCIPAL VEGETATION AND LAND USE TYPES IN SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

Vegetation/ Land Use Type	Area sq.Km.	ALL CATTLE			RED CATTLE**			WHITE CATTLE**		
		Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density sq.Km.	Herd Number
Grassland	9,700	366,600	37.8	9,000	41	263,000	(19)	27.1	6,800	(19)
W-S-G / W-L** Transition	13,775	142,100	10.3	2,060	69	28,700	(20)	2.1	560	(21)
Woodland	13,425	52,000	3.9	1,170	44	12,600	(41)	0.9	270	(38)
Forest	1,175	1,500	1.3	20	75	300	(92)	0.3	10	(91)
30 - 60% Cultivation	5,725	122,800	21.4	3,500	35	16,800	(20)	2.9	700	(40)

* Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.

** Wooded Shrub Grassland / Woodland.

*** Red cattle are mainly "Rahaji" = "Bodeejii".
White cattle are mainly "Banaji" = "Daneejii".

TABLE 5: WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATIONS* IN RELATION TO ALTITUDE
IN SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

Altitude meters asl	Area sq.Km.	ALL CATTLE			RED CATTLE			WHITE CATTLE					
		Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number			
0 - 499	21,600	267,000	12.4	3,510	76	41,000 (18)	1.9	810 (18)	51	226,000 (13)	10.5	2,700 (10)	84
500 - 999	13,325	73,600	5.5	3,250	23	13,100 (30)	1.0	650 (44)	20	60,500 (20)	4.5	2,600 (35)	23
1,000 - 1,499	6,575	161,400	24.5	4,100	39	108,200 (24)	16.4	2,700 (24)	40	53,200 (15)	8.1	1,400 (14)	38
>1,500	2,375	184,700	77.8	4,800	38	159,400 (12)	67.1	4,100 (11)	39	25,300 (22)	10.6	700 (23)	36

* Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.

** Red cattle are mainly "Rahaji" = "Bodeeji".
White cattle are mainly "Banaji" = "Daneeji".

TABLE 6: WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATIONS* IN THE PRINCIPAL RIVER CATCHMENTS
OF SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

Catchment	Area sq.Km.	ALL CATTLE		RED CATTLE		WHITE CATTLE	
		Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Herd Size	Total Number	Density /sq.Km.
1 DONGA							
Upper Reaches	2,275	217,000	95.8	5,600	39	198,100	83.6
Mid/Lower Reaches	4,700	133,900	28.5	2,500	54	45,400	9.7
Bantaji Trib.	6,575	96,200	14.6	1,376	70	18,500	2.8
2 TARABA							
N. Upper Reaches	4,650	7,200	1.5	180	48	5,500	1.2
S. Upper Reaches	4,700	38,300	8.1	1,130	34	38,600	6.5
Kan Tributary	5,225	31,400	6.0	680	46	6,900	1.3
Mid/Lower Reaches	7,300	77,700	10.6	940	83	8,500	1.2
3 BENUE							
N. Tributaries	4,650	28,500	6.1	540	53	5,500	1.2
4 DEO	1,850	15,400	8.3	1,440	11	1,300	0.7
5 INI	1,700	35,700	21.0	1,400	26	8,500	5.0
6 BELWA	250	4,450	17.8	110	48	850	3.4

* Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.

** Red cattle are mainly "Rahaji" = "Bodeeji".
White cattle are mainly "Banaji" = "Daneiji".

Total Number

Herd Number

Herd Size

Total Number

Herd Number

Herd Size

TABLE 71 WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATIONS* WITHIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY AREAS
OF SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

Local Government Authority	Area sq.km.	ALL CATTLE			RED CATTLE**			WHITE CATTLE***					
		Total Number	Density /sq.km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number			
Bali	8,675	72,900	8.4	1,280	61	20,000 (24)	2.3	420 (31)	48	52,700 (22)	6.1	780 (22)	68
Donga**	2,950	55,700	18.9	660	84	5,500 (23)	1.9	100 (41)	55	50,200 (12)	17.0	560 (14)	90
Ganye	7,050	51,200	7.3	2,350	22	11,000 (30)	1.6	250 (22)	44	40,200 (22)	5.7	2,100 (39)	19
Gashaka	7,800	4,400	0.6	120	37	1,700 (45)	0.2	40 (45)	43	2,700 (50)	0.3	80 (40)	34
Jada**	325	6,200	19.1	500	12	2,600 (41)	8.1	350 (65)	7	3,600 (16)	11.0	150 (21)	24
Jalingo*	1,150	3,300	2.9	67	49	600 (90)	0.5	7 (89)	86	2,700 (38)	2.4	60 (29)	45
Kurmi	3,025	14,800	4.9	410	36	500 (65)	0.2	30 (71)	17	14,300 (38)	4.7	390 (38)	37
Mambilla	4,288	320,300	76.3	8,290	39	263,500 (7)	62.7	6,790 (8)	39	56,800 (18)	13.5	1,500 (16)	38
Matar Fada**	1,225	61,200	50.0	660	93	2,700 (44)	2.2	40 (36)	68	58,500 (18)	47.7	620 (17)	94
Mutum Biyu	5,625	84,900	15.1	1,100	72	12,000 (30)	1.9	240 (25)	50	72,900 (16)	11.4	940 (13)	78
Nassarawa**	275	5,600	20.4	150	37	500 (85)	1.8	20 (86)	25	5,100 (43)	18.6	130 (36)	39
Yelli**	350	4,700	13.4	170	28	400 (45)	1.0	20 (41)	20	4,300 (20)	12.3	150 (18)	29
Yorro**	375	800	2.2	20	40	0	0	0	0	800 (78)	2.2	20 (81)	40

* Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.

** Indicate LGAs extending beyond area surveyed, and partial cattle population.

*** Red cattle are mainly "Rahaji" = "Bodeejii".

White cattle are mainly "Banaji" = "Daneiji".

TABLE 8: WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATIONS* AT VARIOUS DISTANCES FROM MAJOR ROADS
IN SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

Distance from Major Roads Km.	Area sq. Km.	ALL CATTLE			RED CATTLE**			WHITE CATTLE**			
		Total Number	Density /sq. Km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density /sq. Km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density /sq. Km.	Herd Number	
< 5	8,775	167,400	19.1	3,020	55	56,800 (31)	6.5	1,390 (30)	41	110,600 (13)	12.6
5 - 9	8,525	177,800	20.9	4,630	38	67,200 (24)	7.9	1,960 (25)	34	110,600 (18)	13.0
10 - 14	7,025	186,100	15.1	2,310	46	43,100 (25)	6.1	1,080 (26)	40	63,000 (17)	9.0
15 - 19	6,000	82,500	13.8	1,880	44	49,100 (26)	8.2	1,130 (26)	43	33,400 (18)	5.6
20 - 24	4,675	63,500	13.6	1,510	42	42,400 (30)	9.1	1,000 (30)	42	21,100 (25)	4.5
25 - 29	3,275	39,300	12.0	1,010	39	24,900 (33)	7.6	760 (35)	33	14,400 (31)	4.4
30 - 34	2,725	34,800	12.8	910	38	28,700 (35)	10.5	680 (40)	42	6,100 (29)	2.2
) 34	2,875	15,400	5.4	540	29	9,600 (42)	3.3	310 (45)	31	5,800 (28)	2.0
										230 (41)	25

* Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.

** Red cattle are mainly "Raha Jiji" = "Bodeeji".
White cattle are mainly "Banaji" = "Daneeji".

TABLE 9: WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATIONS* AT VARIOUS DISTANCES FROM MAJOR TOWNS
IN SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

Distance from Major Town Km	Area sq.km.	ALL CATTLE			RED CATTLE**			WHITE CATTLE**		
		Total Number	Density /sq.km.	Herd Number	Herd Size	Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Total Number	Density /sq.km.
0 - 4	3,550	91,600	25.8	2,370	39	50,200 (25)	14.1	1,310 (25)	38	41,400 (17)
5 - 9	8,500	230,500	27.1	5,850	39	133,000 (26)	15.6	3,540 (18)	38	97,500 (16)
10 - 14	9,850	189,500	19.2	4,110	46	89,200 (28)	9.1	2,340 (20)	38	100,300 (14)
15 - 19	8,325	92,000	11.2	1,930	48	20,000 (28)	2.4	590 (29)	34	72,100 (17)
20 - 24	5,700	47,900	8.4	920	52	16,100 (32)	2.8	350 (35)	47	31,800 (31)
25 - 29	3,975	22,500	5.7	400	56	4,300 (45)	1.1	90 (41)	51	18,200 (26)
30 - 34	2,325	12,700	5.5	260	49	8,900 (48)	3.8	120 (40)	75	3,700 (37)
> 34	1,658	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0

* Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.

** Indicate LGAs extending beyond area surveyed, and partial cattle population.

** Red cattle are mainly "Rataji" = "Bodeeji".
White cattle are mainly "Banaji" = "Daneiji".

TABLE 10: WET SEASON CATTLE POPULATIONS* AT VARIOUS DISTANCES FROM MAJOR RIVERS
IN SOUTHERN GONGOLA STATE.

Distance from Major Rivers Km	Area sq.Km.	ALL CATTLE			RED CATTLE**			WHITE CATTLE**				
		Total Number	Density /sq.Km.	Herd Number	Herd Size	Total Number	Density /sq.km.	Herd Number	Herd Size	Total Number	Density /sq.km.	Herd Number
0 - 4	10,475	130,500	12.4	2,240	58	25,100 (24)	2.4	590 (27)	42	105,500 (16)	10.1	1,650 (15)
5 - 9	10,475	123,700	11.8	2,930	42	43,900 (24)	4.2	1,000 (25)	44	79,800 (15)	7.6	1,930 (32)
10 - 14	9,000	132,900	14.8	3,150	42	56,400 (20)	6.3	1,470 (22)	39	76,600 (14)	8.5	1,680 (26)
15 - 19	6,300	134,100	21.3	3,120	43	77,900 (21)	12.4	2,160 (22)	36	56,200 (19)	8.9	960 (14)
20 - 24	3,975	101,900	25.6	2,440	42	73,800 (24)	18.6	1,780 (24)	42	28,100 (23)	7.1	640 (17)
25 - 29	1,700	33,200	19.5	1,040	32	27,000 (23)	15.9	800 (26)	34	6,200 (38)	3.7	240 (32)
30 - 34	925	21,390	23.1	610	35	11,000 (30)	11.9	310 (39)	36	10,300 (39)	11.2	300 (42)
> 34	1,025	9,070	8.8	320	29	6,700 (49)	6.6	230 (47)	30	2,400 (52)	2.3	90 (55)
												26

* Figures in parenthesis are % standard error.

** Red cattle are mainly "Rahaji" = "Bodeeji".

White cattle are mainly "Banaji" = "Daneiji".

Dug.

FIGURE 1: ALL CATTLE AT VARIOUS DISTANCES FROM MAJOR ROADS.

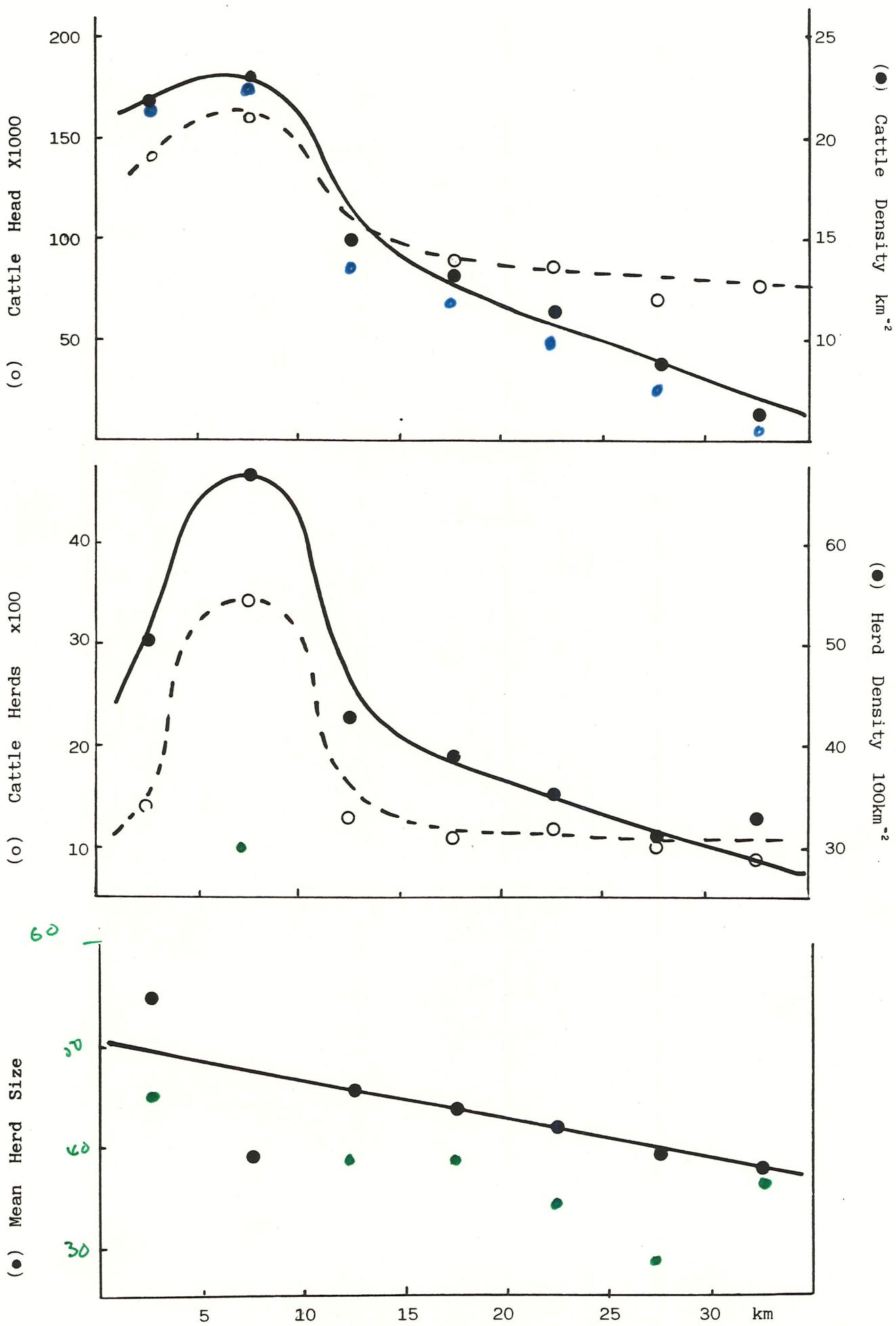


FIGURE 2: ALL CATTLE AT VARIOUS DISTANCES FROM MAJOR TOWNS.

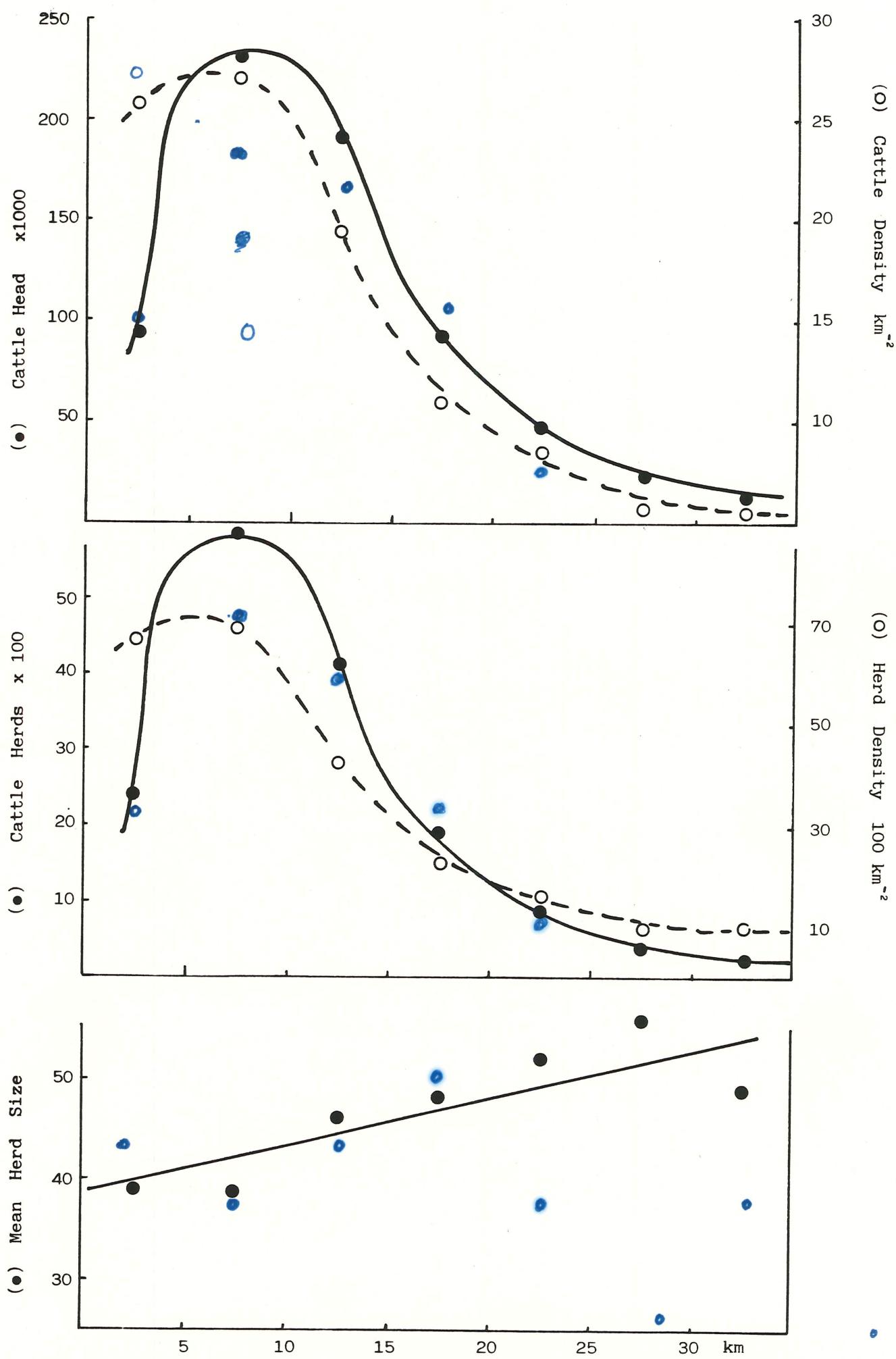


FIGURE 3: ALL CATTLE AT VARIOUS DISTANCES FROM MAJOR RIVERS.

