

Working with Days on Forage



These instructions describe how to configure and use the recording of the number of days animals have been foraging on a particular feed or pasture type. This data on a set of animals can then be compared with the weights and health of the animals to better manage their feed and its results. This Setup guide applies only to the XR5000 indicator.

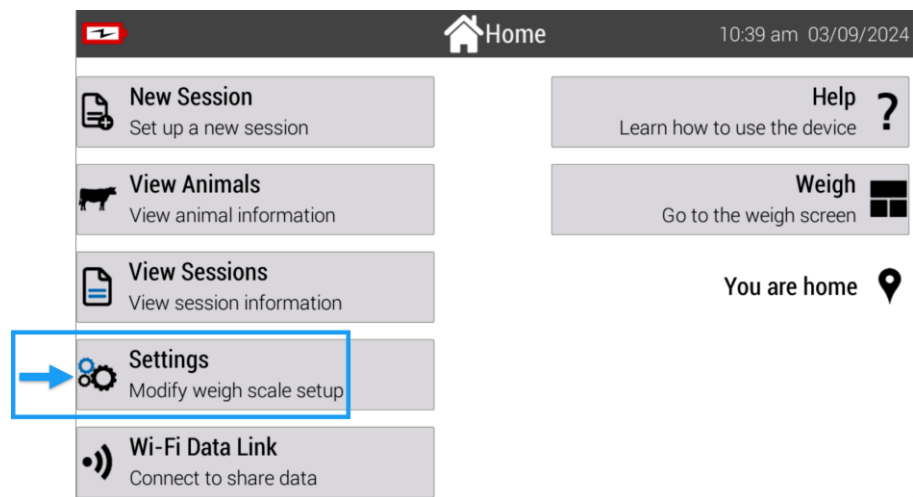


Use this Setup guide in conjunction with the supplied *Quickstart Guide – 5000 Series Weigh Scale Indicator*.

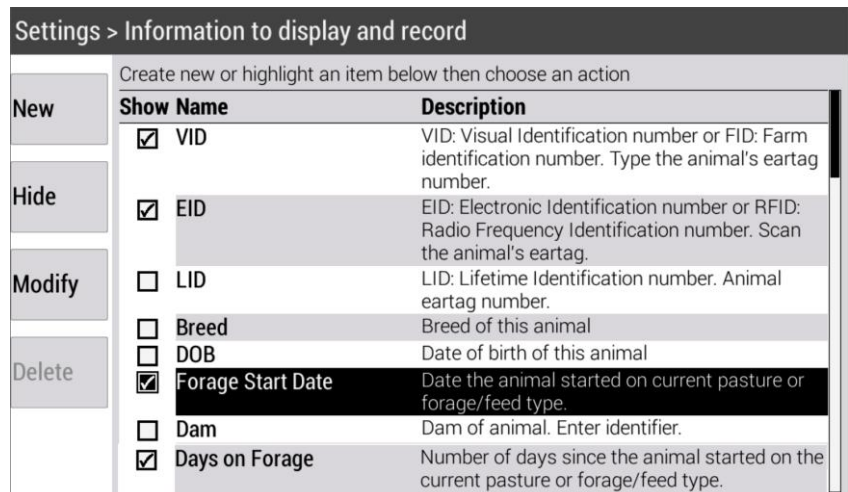
When a set of animals are being weighed, a *Forage Start Date* can be specified on the Weigh screen. This is the date in the near past that the animal started on a particular feed, and the number of days on that forage is calculated by working out the number of days from the date of weighing (i.e. today) back to the *Forage Start Date*.

Steps to configure Forage fields to appear on your Weigh screen

1. Ensure your 5000 indicator is switched on and go to the Settings screen.



2. Check that all required fields (for data you want to display or record during a weighing session) is selected, including *Forage Start Date* and *Days on Forage*.

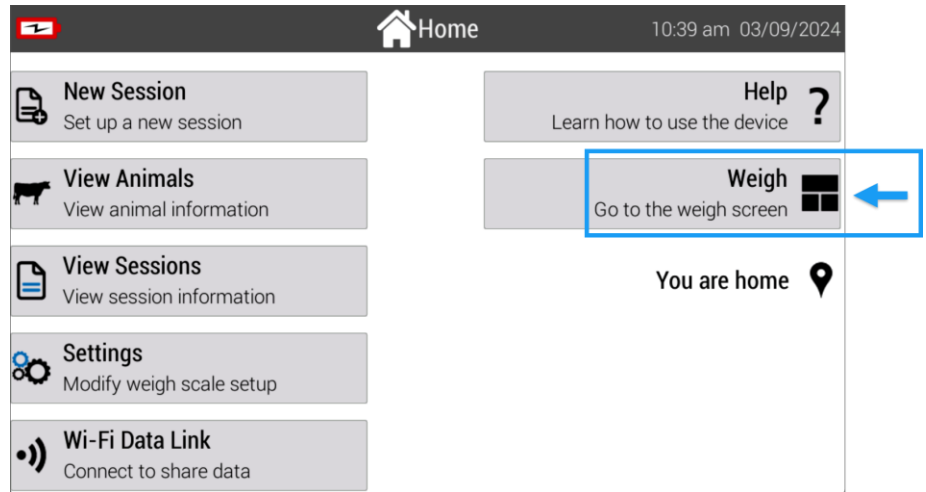


<i>Forage Start Date</i>	<u>Data entry</u> Date the animal started on current pasture or forage/feed type.
<i>Days on Forage</i>	<u>Calculated display field</u> Number of days since the animal started on the current pasture or forage/feed type.

Operating the Weigh screen to monitor forage statistics

These steps explain using the Weighing screen during a drafting session to specify forage statistics to be gathered as each animal is being weighed.

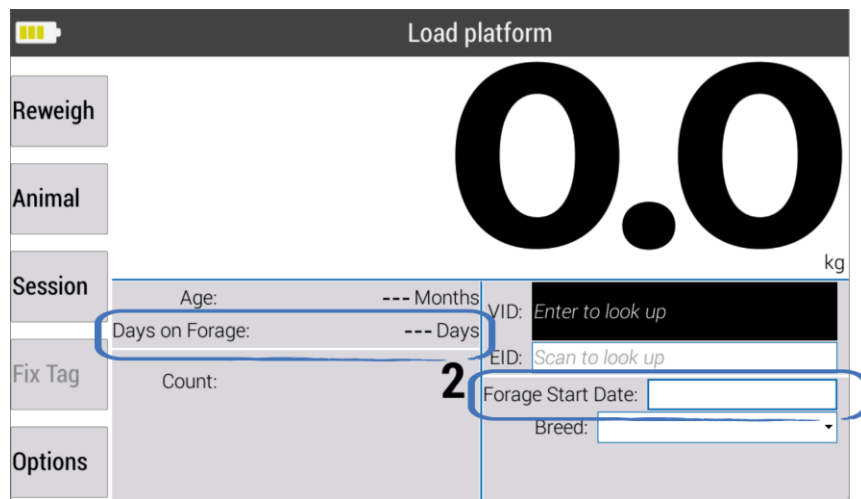
1. Go to the Weighing screen.



2. With a load bar connected (ready to record an animals' weight) the selected fields for display and record are shown.



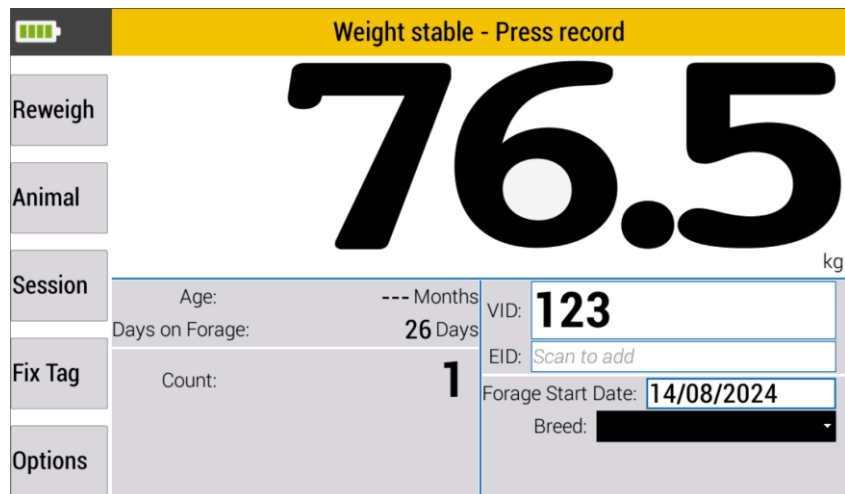
Some fields are designated display fields (bottom left panel) and some are for data entry (bottom right panel).



When an animal is weighed you can optionally enter a *Forage Start Date* as a date in the past when the animal started a particular feed type (e.g. 14/08/2024). The *Days on Forage* are automatically calculated and displayed to the left (with respect to today's date) and calculated here as 26 if today is 10/09/2024.

With animals ready to be weighed on the load bars platform, enter a VID (or scan the EID) of the first animal (to identify the animal being weighed).

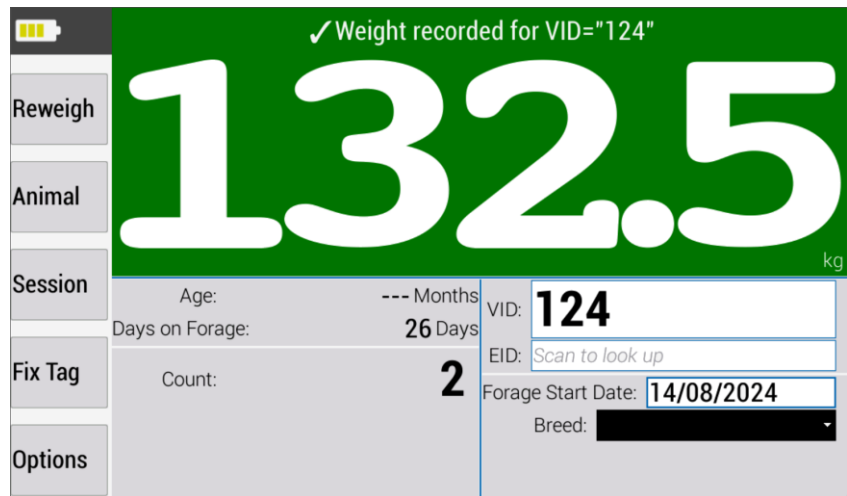
Enter a *Forage Start Date* and press **Enter** (or the **Down arrow** key) and the *Days on Forage* will be calculated and displayed in the bottom left panel.



- The REC button will light when there are changes to save. Tap **REC** to record the animal's entry.



A confirmation of the recorded entry is display on the 5000.



Assigning Forage Start Date to multiple animal entries at once

Instead of assigning a *Forage Start Date* on an animal by animal basis often it is more efficient to set the date for a whole set of animals at once (if they all started on a particular forage regime on the same date).

For example:

Animals that have been drafted into two groups for medium weight animals and high weight animals. All the high weight animals were put on a foraging regime on the same day (say, a few weeks ago) and hence we want to assign the *Forage Start Date* to all the high weight animals.

The list of high weight animals can be split off into a separate session and then examined on the Session Animals screen.

- Tap **Session Animals** to load the latest session screen. If need be, select the session to work with from the **View Session** dropdown.

Session > Session Animals				
Summary	View Session: *Session_001 (09/09/2024)			
	Search:			
	VID	Weight (kg)	Animal notes	EID
Statistics	125	30.0		
	124	47.0		
	123	73.0		
Session Animals				
All Sessions				
Options				

2. Scroll along the columns of the screen till you see the forage statistic fields.

Session > Session Animals

View Session: *Session_001 (09/09/2024)

Search:

	VID	Forage Start Date	Age (Months)	Days on Forage (Days)	Breed	Date
Statistics	125	14/08/2024		26		09/09/2024
	124	14/08/2024		26	Fresian	09/09/2024
	123	14/08/2024		26		09/09/2024
Session Animals						
All Sessions						
Options						

3. Using the **Arrow** keys, tab along the column headings and press **Enter** and select **Change "Forage Start Date" for all** from the dropdown menu.

Session > Session Animals

View Session: *Session_001 (09/09/2024)

Search:

	VID	Forage Start Date	Age (Months)	Days on Forage (Days)	Breed	Date
Statistics	125	Sort by "Forage Start Date" (ascending)		26		09/09/2024
	124	Sort by "Forage Start Date" (descending)		26	Fresian	09/09/2024
	123	Change "Forage Start Date" for all		26		09/09/2024
Session Animals		Move column left				
		Move column right				
All Sessions						
Options						

4. Enter revised *Forage Start Date* (e.g. 3 days earlier) and tab to **Save** and tap **Enter**.

Session > Session Animals

View Session: *Session_001 (09/09/2024)

Change field values

New Value: 11/08/2024

Save Cancel

	VID	Forage Start Date	Age (Months)	Days on Forage (Days)	Breed	Date
Statistics	1					09/09/2024
	1					09/09/2024
	1					09/09/2024
Session Animals						
All Sessions						
Options						

- All animals in this session will have their forage statistics recalculated and displayed.

In this example the date was three days earlier than first entered and so the *Days on Forage* changed from 26 to 29 days.

Session > Session Animals

View Session: *Session_001 (09/09/2024)

Search:

	VID	Forage Start Date	Age (Months)	Days on Forage (Days)	Breed	Date
Statistics	125	11/08/2024		29		09/09/2024
	124	11/08/2024		29	Fresian	09/09/2024
	123	11/08/2024		29		09/09/2024
Session Animals						
All Sessions						
Options						

Auto repeating Forage Start Date for multiple animals in a session

When weighing animals and specifying a *Forage Start Date* then if all the animals in the current session are to have the same date, then you can configure the field to always default the *Forage Start Date* that was entered for the first animal, to be the same for all subsequent animals. This saves having to re-enter the data for each animal weighed.

- Go to the Settings screen and scroll down to highlight *Forage Start Date*.
- Tap **Modify** to load the configurable settings for the selected field.



Not suitable if you are drafting on criteria where some animals will NOT require the *Forage Start Date* assigned to the first animal in the session.

Settings > Information to display and record

Create new or highlight an item below then choose an action

	Show Name	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VID	VID: Visual Identification number or FID: Farm identification number. Type the animal's eartag number.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EID	EID: Electronic Identification number or RFID: Radio Frequency Identification number. Scan the animal's eartag.
<input type="checkbox"/>	LID	LID: Lifetime Identification number. Animal eartag number.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Breed	Breed of this animal
<input type="checkbox"/>	DOB	Date of birth of this animal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Forage Start Date	Date the animal started on current pasture or forage/feed type.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dam	Dam of animal. Enter identifier.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group	Group or mob. Enter text.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Location	Location of the animal. Enter text.

- Check **Repeat** and tap **Enter** to save.

Settings > Modify Forage Start Date

"Forage Start Date" is lifetime information

Field name: Forage Start Date

Description:

Field type: Date

Display Size:

Repeat:

For further information regarding your stock management system, contact Datamars Ltd on 0800 878 837

For technical support, contact 0800 AGDATA (0800 243 282).

© Datamars Limited, 2024. All rights reserved.

Issue 1 9/2024