

APPENDIX 1: GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Approximate age	Weight range	State of development
At birth	0.5 g	Hairless; mouth, front limbs and shoulders well developed; eyes and most other organs embryonic; sharp curved claws on front feet but hind limbs undeveloped; lips joined at outer edges.
1 month	5 g	Permanently attached to teat; ears still fused with the skin of the head; hind legs developing; outer edges of lips still joined together; still hairless.
3 months	100–110 g	Facial structures forming; ears fully unfolded but lying close to head; whiskers forming but otherwise still hairless; lips still joined.
3.5 months	230–250 g	Fine fur forming on ears; eyes may be open; still permanently attached to teat.
4 months	380–400 g	Eyes open; lips beginning to separate.
5 months	750–800 g	Fine layer of fur on dorsal side of limbs; no longer permanently attached to teat; lips fully separated; lower incisors erupting.
6 months	1–1.4 kg	Fine fur about one millimetre long over much of the body; skin of nose and soles of feet still pink; first molars visible, upper incisors erupting; head out of pouch occasionally.
7 months	2.2–2.5 kg	Fur thicker; premolars and second molars erupt; ventures out of pouch when in burrow.
8 months	2.7–3.4 kg	Fully furred but rudimentary tail still visible; muzzle still narrow and ears appear too large for head; out of pouch more often; nibbling grass while in pouch with head out, as well as when out beside mother.
9 months 10 months	3.6–5.2 kg 5–6.4 kg	Leaves pouch permanently; soles of feet darkening, also skin of nose; suckles from elongated teat; stays close to mother most of the time; eats more and more grass; probably eats mother's scats occasionally to establish bacterial colonies in its digestive system.
12 months 15 months	7.3–11.3 kg 12–19 kg	Weaned during this period; remains with mother for a variable time after weaning.
18 months	16.8–24 kg	Usually independent.

Data for this table were obtained from measurements of bare-nosed wombats taken on 42 road kills, 17 hand-reared wombats, and from data given in Presidente (1982) and McIlroy (1973). Data compiled by Taggart *et al.* (2007) for the southern hairy-nosed wombat is very similar to the above. The study of northern Tasmanian bare-nosed wombats by Green and Rainbird (1987) gives more detailed descriptions of growth and development.