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**Review****Current insights into the molecular genetic basis of dwarfism in livestock**

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**Highlights**

- Many forms of dwarfism are inherited and result from disrupted signalling pathways or structural disruptions.
- Dwarfism can be categorised as either proportionate or disproportionate.
- Genetic forms of dwarfism in livestock occur in cattle, sheep and horse breeds, chicken strains and in a breed of goat.
- Different genes have been found for dwarfism in animals using high-density SNP arrays and genome sequencing.
- PCR-based gene test have been developed for cattle and horse breeds.

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