

DAIRY HEIFER SCORE CARD

FRAME

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Backline - *straight and strong; loin broad, strong and level with chine an rump; rump long, wide with pin bones slightly lower than hip bones; tail head refined, blending smoothly with the rump; thurls.. set high and wide.*

Stature - *tall and upstanding in consideration of age. Height at withers and hips should be similar.*

Front End - *indicating strong constitution with dairy refinement. Shoulder blades set smoothly and tightly with the neck and body. Chest deep, wide and strong.*

Breed Characteristics - *see Unified Dairy Cow Scorecard.*

DAIRY CHARACTER

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Emphasizing angularity, sharpness, openness, and cleanness with strength and freedom of coarseness.

Withers - *sharp, with vertebrae and chine defined.*

Ribs - *wide apart, flat and long.*

Thighs - *flat and free of excess flesh, well apart providing ample space for udder development.*

Neck - *long and lean with throat and dewlap free of excess flesh.*

FEET AND LEGS

30

Emphasizing ease of mobility through correctness in leg structure with strength of pasterns and soundness of feet.

Feet - *steep angle and deep heel with short, well-rounded, closed toes.*

Rear Legs; Rear View - *straight, wide apart with feet squarely placed. Side View* - *a moderate set (angle) to the hock. Hocks* - *cleanly molded, free from coarseness and puffiness with adequate flexibility.*

Pasterns - *short and strong with some flexibility. Slightly more emphasis placed on Feet than when evaluating this breakdown.*

BODY CAPACITY

10

Corresponding size to scale of animal, providing adequate capacity for large intakes of forage. Consideration given to period of gestation.

Body - *long, deep and wide with depth and spring of rib increasing toward the rear. Flanks, deep.*

Chest - *strong with wide floor and well sprung fore ribs. Crops full.*

MAMMARY DEVELOPMENT

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The heifer should have four teats that hang plumb (extra teats removed). It should also have adequate folds of skin to show promise of udder development with due consideration given to stage of gestation if bred.

A slight to serious discrimination should be made when a teat or teats is too long, strut widely, or are poorly spaced. An enlarged quarter or udder that is fat and over developed is also objectionable and should be discriminated against.