
*LIVESTOCK JUDGING:
CATTLE TERMINOLOGY*



AUBURN
ANIMAL SCIENCES

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CATTLE ANATOMY

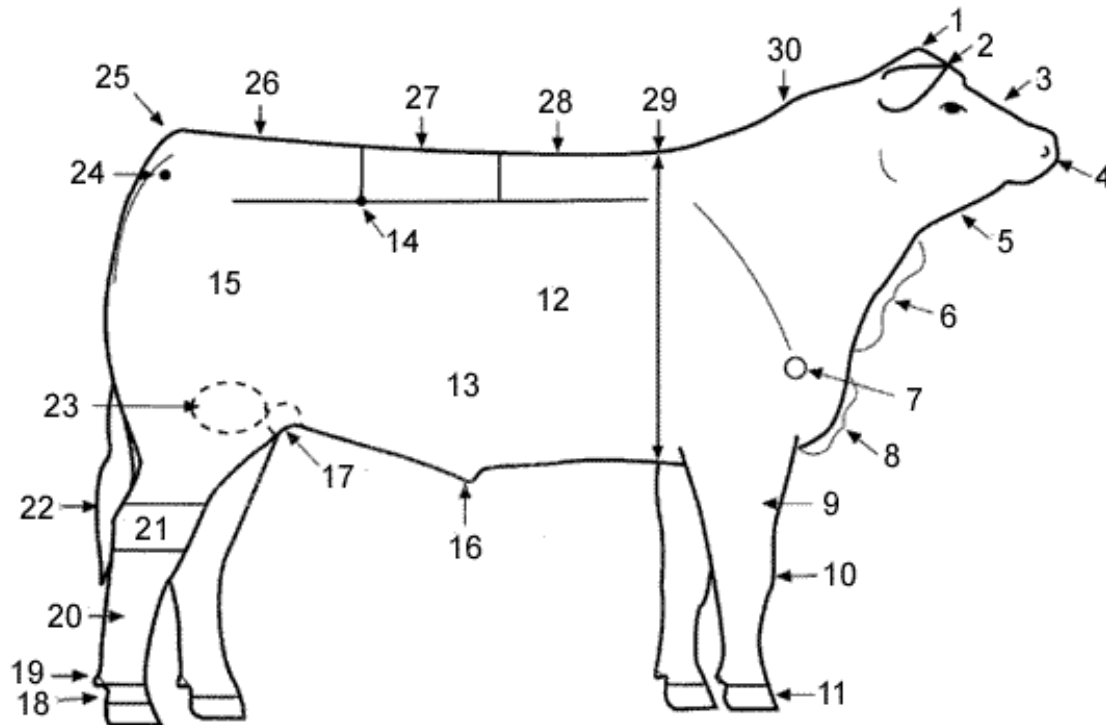


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|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Poll | 16. Sheath or Navel |
| 2. Ear | 17. Flank |
| 3. Face | 18. Pastern |
| 4. Muzzle | 19. Dewclaw |
| 5. Throat | 20. Cannon Bone |
| 6. Dewlap | 21. Hock |
| 7. Point of Shoulder | 22. Switch |
| 8. Chest or Brisket | 23. Stifle |
| 9. Forearm | 24. Pins |
| 10. Knee | 25. Tailhead |
| 11. Hoof | 26. Hip |
| 12. Rib | 27. Loin |
| 13. Belly | 28. Back |
| 14. Hooks | 29. Forerib |
| 15. Quarter | 30. Neck |

BREEDING CATTLE TERMINOLOGY

Structure:

<u>Positive:</u>	<u>Negative:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better built • Laid back in shoulder • More relaxed in shoulder angle • Longer Striding • Freer moving • More Flexible at the surface • Plants with more flex out hock and pastern • Meets track when set into motion • Looser constructed • Easier moving • Durably built • More comfortable in motion • More correct in the angle to her/his shoulder and knee • Smooth/neat shouldered • More athletic in (his/her) build • Freer moving • Hinges looser out of (his/her) hip and hind leg • Squarer hocked • Fills his/her track • Cleaner jointed • Bigger footed • Stoutier/Bigger boned • Skeletally correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ill-built • Poor structured • Upright angles • Tight structured • Straight shouldered/fronted • Coarse shouldered • Opened shouldered • Straight hocked • Short striding • Coarse jointed • Tight spined • More restricted in motion • Splays/Toes out up front • Pulls hock in • Bows from behind/ bow-legged • Drops pins on the move • Finer/average boned • Frail made • Small footed

Positive Structure Phrases:

- His/Her more correct shoulder angle and hip and hind leg structure allow her/him to take a more comfortable step
- Goes to surface with more comfort and flex off both ends
- The big footed female/bull takes a longer step while staying more collected in his/her topline
- He/she sets down with more flex and cushion in his/her pastern
- Travels with more freedom
- Cleaner jointed female/bull remains the most comfortable in motion

Negative Structure Phrases:

- More upright in shoulder angle consequently, doesn't fill his/her track
- His/her straight angles make me question his/her longevity

- On the lead, sets down more rigid in his/her pastern
- In motion, drops her/his pins and pulls his/her rear leg under

Body/Volume:

<p>Positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bold bodied • Big bodied/ribbed • Bold ribbed • Soft flanked • Bolder fore ribbed • Massive ribbed • Soft ribbed/middled • Deep centered or bodied • Practical bodied • Productive centered • High volume • More dimensional • Maternal sweep to her flank (females only) 	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shallow bodied • Tight ribbed • Flat sided or ribbed • Tight or cut up in flank • Harsh middled or bodied • Tight fore ribbed • Hard doing/keeping • Least dimensional
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Positive Body Phrases:

- Maternal female blends smoothly from her shoulder to forerib
- She/he offers more rib and body
- The bolder fore ribbed females draws back to a more maternal sweep to her flank
- Stout featured bull is the bigger ribbed, sounder structure option that should hold up in production
- The broody female is bigger bodied and softer appearing
- Not only is she deep bodied, but also offers the most shape and dimension in her upper rib shape
- He/she reads more massive in his/her rib and body

Negative Body Phrases:

- Shallow bodied heifer/bull reads the least practical
- Her tight bodied and structure makes me question cow longevity
- Large outline heifer/bull is the harshest centered
- Flattest sided and tight flanked heifer reads too hard doing

Skeletal Width/Power:

<p>Positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural thickness • Genuine muscle shape • Stout hipped • Bigger hipped • Thick made 	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light muscled • Narrow made/constructed • Narrow pinned • Least powerful • Closed up
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider based • Wide Constructed • Wider/Stouter Pinned • Powerfully built/made 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrow chested • Plain shaped
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Positive Skeletal width/power phrases:

- She's the bigger bodied option that offers the most natural skeletal width and thickness
- The broody female owns the class for genuine width and thickness
- The bigger pinned bull is wider tracking
- Wider constructed bull offers more power and thickness up high
- Stout featured heifer reads with so much brood cow power
- She's extremely powerful and reads massive in her rib and muscle
- Rugged made bull easily is the most powerful and muscular

Negative Skeletal width/power phrases:

- From behind, reads too narrow in pinset and tapers to the ground
- He/she gives up too much power and mass
- He/she is the narrowest constructed, lightest muscled
- Ideally, would like to stouten her up and give her more natural thickness

Balance/Eye Appeal:

<p>Positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reads proportional from the side • Proportional • Elite Look • Nicer balanced • Correct and level in his/her lines • Long necked • High quality look • Ties neck high on point of shoulder • Clean chested • Smooth made • Striking from profile • Long, level hiped • Neater at topside of shoulder • Clean naved • Square hiped 	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low fronted • Short sided • Deep chested • Plain fronted • Plain from the side • Coarse naved • Round/off in her hip • Rounds from hooks to pins • Weak in her/his spine • Poor balanced • Off-Balanced • High tailhead • Off behind shoulder
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Positive Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:

- All her parts blends smoothly from the side
- From the side, her added length and correct lines are striking

- From profile, offers an elite look
- Smoother patterned heifer/bull profiles with extra balance
- Clean fronted female is my favorite from the side and draws back to the most attractive hip and hindleg

Negative Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:

- Weak topped heifer's balance is the easiest to fault
- Low fronted bull reads too round out of his hip
- Coarse shouldered bull reads too deep in his chest and high in his flank
- Deep chested heifer reads off-balance

Optimal Condition and Performance:

<p>Positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More appropriate in condition • Fresher in condition • Later maturing • More weight per day of age • Easy keeping • Easy doing • Low input • Low maintenance 	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrying too much condition • Tone her/him back in condition • Heavier conditioned • Lower performing • Slow growing • Early maturing • Quick maturing • Excessive • High maintenance • Hard keeping
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Positive optimal condition and performance phrases:

- Her ideal condition suggests she'll be easier to manage in production
- Her more moderate frame and bold body type suggests she's the lower maintenance option
- Longer cannoned bull reads more ideal in his growth pattern

Negative optimal condition and performance phrases:

- Her extra condition doesn't help the deep chested heifers balance
- Shallow bodied female's added frame suggests she'll be harder keeping in production
- Earliest maturing bull gives up performance

Sex Characteristics:

<p>Heifers: Positives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feminine • Maternal • Refined about her head and neck • Refined teat shape 	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coarse • Coarse teats • Long teats • Least feminine • Not as maternal
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Bulls: Positive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Masculine ● Rugged ● Larger testicled ● Cleaner/tighter sheath 	Negative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Least masculine ● Loose sheath ● Lest rugged ● Small testicled
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EPD's:

- In sets, you can refer to EPD's as:
 - Production values
 - Genetic script
 - Genetic figures
 - Seedstock values
- **Overall Statements:**
 - **Positive:**
 - The most balanced in his/her seedstock values
 - Most impressive in his/her genetic script
 - Multi-trait excellence
 - **Negative:**
 - Falls out on paper
 - Hardest to fault on paper
 - Most holes in his/her production values
- **Birth Weight/Calving Ease:**
 - **Positive**
 - He's the calving ease sire
 - I'd trust him on first time heifers
 - His smooth design matches his low birth weight figure
 - Calving ease specialist
 - More calving ease bed into his pedigree
 - More conservative in his birthweight
 - He's a safe option to use on heifers
 - I feel most comfortable settling him to first time heifers
 - **Negative**
 - I wouldn't trust him on first time heifers
 - High birthweight bull
- **Growth:**
 - **Positive**
 - He should inject more growth into his offspring
 - The terminal sire should stamp his calf crop with added power and growth

- Impressive growth spread (birth weight to yearling weight)
 - More progressive in his/her growth spread
 - Has the performance advantage on and off paper
- **Negative**
 - Regressive in his/her growth figures
 - Below average in growth indicators
 - Lowest performing on and off paper
- **Carcass:**
 - **Positive:**
 - Powerful bull is the most impressive in his carcass values
 - He's equipped with the carcass genetics to impact his fat cattle
 - His progeny should excel on a dual-based grid
 - I hope his carcass values pass on to his progeny
 - **Negative:**
 - Least impressive in his carcass figures
 - Below average in his carcass values

MARKET CATTLE TERMINOLOGY

Muscle:

<p>Positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Heaviest muscled ● Product oriented ● Wide constructed/based ● Natural thickness ● Shapely ● Expressive muscle pattern ● Expressively muscled ● Product Driven ● Wide Loined ● Thick/Shapely quarter ● Wide topped 	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lightest muscled ● Narrow pinned ● Narrow loined ● Narrow based/constructed ● Plain in muscle shape ● Least expressive ● Least shapely ● Narrow chested ● Flat made ● Closed up
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Positive muscle phrases:

- Wider constructed steer works more natural thickness down his top
- On the handle, stout made steer offers a more natural turn to his loin
- Feeds with more muscle out of backside of his shoulder
- From behind, he's the wider pinned option that has more shape to his quarter
- Reads with more natural shape and expression down his top
- Big ribbed steers reads with more spread over his top
- Handles with more shape over his loin

Negative muscle phrases:

- Narrow constructed steer reads the least impressive in his muscle shape up high
- From behind, narrow pinned steer is the flattest in his quarter
- Frailer made option is tighter in his forerib and narrowest topped
- Handles with the least amount of turn and spread down his top

Optimal Fat Thickness:

<p>Positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compositionally correct ● Smooth handling ● More correctly finished ● More market ready ● Trimmer made ● Heavier finished 	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Over finished ● Barer over his 12th/13th ● Patchy handling ● Less market ready ● Harsh handling
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Positive Optimal Fat Thickness Phrases:

- Soft middled steer reads fuller in his external indicators
- Practical made steer hit me as the more market ready option
- Handles mellower over his 12th and 13th
- On the handle, he's the fresher steer that handles smoother over his last rib
- Trimmer made steer handles with more genuine spread up high

Negative Optimal Fat Thickness Phrases:

- He's the barest handling steer who needs more time on feed
- The leanest steer is the tightest bodied and least practical

Body/Volume:

<p>Positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bolder ribbed• Bigger bodied• More dimensional• Bolder fore ribbed• Softer centered• Practical centered• Soft flanked	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flat sided• 1-Dimensional• Shallow bodied• Tight ribbed• Hash Centered• Tight Flanked
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Positive Body/Volume Phrases:

- Bolder bodied steer spans more product up high
- He's the bolder, more dimensional steer that's wider constructed
- The fact he's softer in his flank helps him balance from the side

Negative Body Phrases:

- Flattest sided steer gives up too much mass
- He's entirely too shallow bodied and straight structured to compete
- He's deep chested relative to a tight flank

Structure:

<p>Positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structurally correct• Sounder made• More flexible• Freer moving• More relaxed in his shoulder and knee• More laid back in his angles• Softer pasterned• Looser constructed	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tight Structured• More restricted• Coarse jointed• Rigid on the move• Straight shouldered• More upright in knee and shoulder• Tight Spined• Bow-legged
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight hocked • Square hocked • Smoother/Cleaner jointed • Sets front feet squarer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short striding • Coarse Shouldered • Poor-built • Ill-built
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Positive Structure Phrases:

- At the surface, stout featured steer takes a longer step
- Of the pair, he's the sounder option that is more laid back in his angle in knee
- Smoother shoulder steer reads more relaxed in his angles
- Longer hipped steer sets down with more flex out his rear skeleton

Negative Structure Phrases:

- He's the straight made steer who isn't equipped with enough flexibility
- Coarse jointed steer is too straight hocked
- Reads more upright off both ends of his skeleton

Balance/Eye Appeal:

<p>Positive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportional • Nicer balance • Nicer profiling • Clean fronted • Extended through front end • Strong topped/ level topped • Sharp lines • Fresh fronted • Extended • Level designed • Square/level hipped • Proportional fat steer look • Soft Flanked 	<p>Negative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low fronted • Short fronted • Weak topped • Short hipped • Round hipped • Plain • Coarse built • Off in his hip • Poor balanced • Mature fronted • Deep chested • High/tight flanked • Coarse shouldered
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Positive Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:

- He profiles with the most attractive hip and hind leg design
- Clean fronted steer offers an extremely proportional, fat steer look from the side
- Extended made steer is constructed the most correct in his lines
- He's the longer fronted steer that is the strongest in his topline and comes the squarest out of his hip
- It's impressive the stout made steer still is the most attractive from the side

Negative Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:

- Off-balance steer is too round out his hip
- He's coarse shouldered and weak in his top
- Profiles with the least amount of quality
- Balance wise, he's too deep in his chest relative to his flank