

LIVESTOCK
JUDGING
for
BEGINNERS

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Livestock Judging for Beginners

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LIVESTOCK judging is an appraisal of an animal or animals in comparison with the ideal of a particular type or class. It takes years of study and experience to become an expert judge of livestock, but with a few pointers and a little studying, everyone can improve.

The ambition of every farm boy and girl is to know good livestock. They realize that good livestock is one of the essentials of successful farming. The feeder who buys steers, pigs, or lambs for fattening must know the types that will respond best to feed and which ones will bring top market prices. The farmer who is raising breeding stock also has a better chance to succeed if he understands just what type of animal is wanted on the market.

What Judging Requires

First, of course, the beginner should learn the name and location of the different parts of the animal. Livestock terms are peculiar in that a certain part of an animal's body has one name in one class of livestock and another name in another kind. For example, the same part of the body is called the rump on a steer and the croup on a horse.

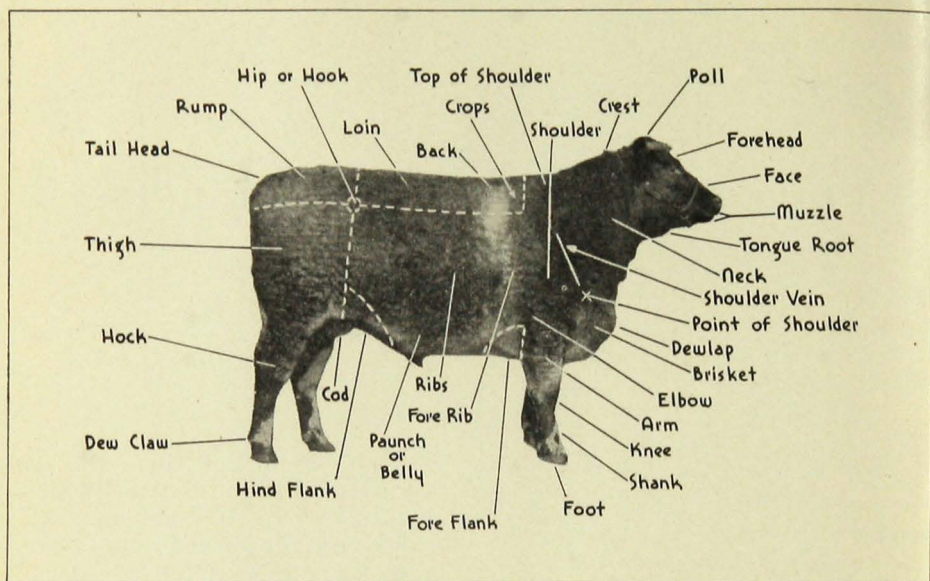
A good way to learn these different parts is by studying the labeled illustrations found in this bulletin. After you have done this see if you can point out all the parts on a live animal.

Next you should learn the relative importance of these different points. A study of the sample score cards in the back of this bulletin will help you place proper emphasis on the important points and less emphasis on the minor points.

As a beginner you should score a few animals and compare the total points. Use the score card, however, only at the beginning to help get a mental picture of an ideal animal. After this has been learned, the score card should not be used. Experienced judges do not use score cards.

A successful livestock judge should—

1. Have in mind the ideal type for each kind of livestock.
2. Know what the desirable and undesirable points are and be able to observe and recognize them accurately.
3. Have keen observation and good judgment in balancing these points, giving emphasis to the most important ones.
4. When required, be able to give convincing and effective reasons.



Judging Cattle

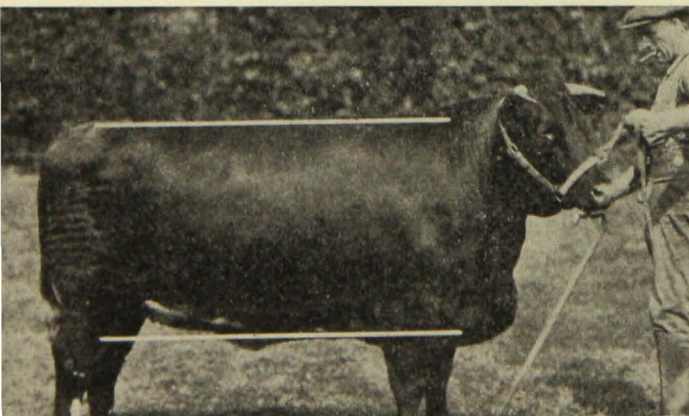
MOST of this discussion on cattle refers to beef animals rather than to dairy cows. Some material has been included about dairy cows so that comparisons may be made.

Fat Cattle

In judging fat cattle these points should be considered: first, condition;

second, conformation; and third, dressing percentage.

Condition—In this class an animal must be fat to be placed at the top. Condition or finish refers to the amount of fat or covering an animal carries. The covering must be deep and thick, smooth, mellow—not too hard or too soft or patchy. A fat animal should have a uniform covering over his en-



Side View of Beef Animal

A beef animal should have parallel bottom and top lines. Note how these lines differ from those of the dairy cow.



REAR AND SIDE VIEWS OF BEEF AND DAIRY ANIMALS

Side lines drawn on a good beef animal (extreme left) are parallel. On a dairy animal they form a wedge. Desired thick flesh and well-rounded thighs are shown on the beef animal; while the dairy type (extreme right) shows thin, incurving thighs.

tire body. You can determine this by handling or touch. Use your hands to feel the top line, ribs, and shoulder.

Conformation—A good beef animal should be blocky in general appearance. His head should be short, wide, and clean cut; his legs and neck, short; his body, deep and wide; his top and underline, straight; his ribs, well sprung; and his rump, wide and level. Hips should not be too prominent and should be smoothly covered. The hindquarters should be full, deep, and carried well down into the twist.

There is a correlation between the short, compact animals and early maturity.

Dressing Percentage—The dressing percentage of a steer or any other animal is the percentage that the carcass

is of the live weight. Obviously a high dressing percentage is desirable. Other things being equal, the fattest animals have the highest dressing percentage. Paunchiness, thick hides, and thickness of bone lower the dressing percentage.

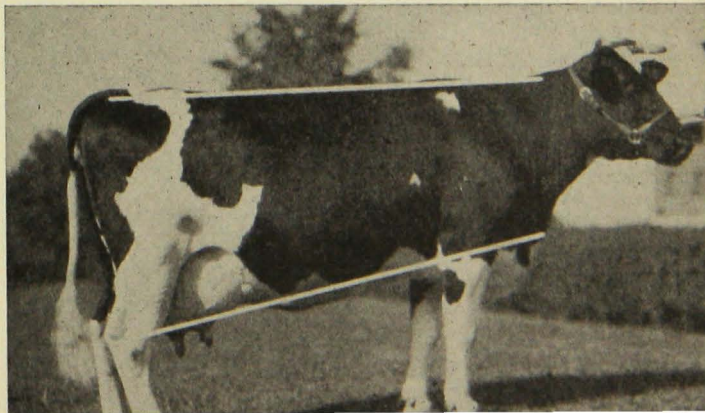
Breeding-Beef Cattle

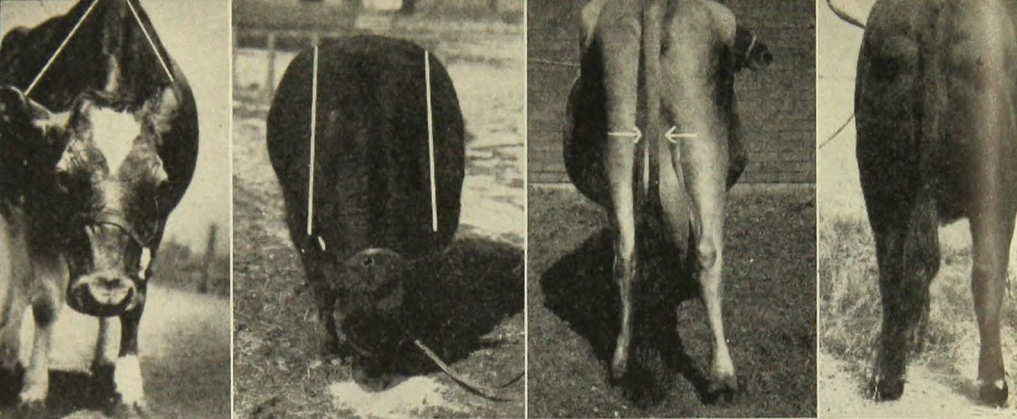
The major points in judging breeding-beef cattle are, in order: conformation, breed type and sex character, and natural fleshing.

Conformation and Breed Type—Conformation in breeding cattle should be the same as for fat cattle. In addition to this, cattle should have the type and form peculiar to its own breed. This includes horns and color markings.

Side View of Dairy Cow

The top and bottom lines of a dairy cow form a wedge, and, if extended, would meet a short distance in front of the head.





FRONT AND REAR VIEWS OF BEEF AND DAIRY CATTLE

The dairy animal (extreme left) is sharp over the withers; the beef animal is broad. Lines over the shoulders of a dairy animal form a wedge; the same lines on a beef animal are parallel. The dairy animal is cut up in the twist with incurving thighs (third from left). The beef animal (right) is deep in the twist and has full rounded thighs.

For example, Angus cattle are black and are polled, not having horns.

Breeding animals should possess quality. This is indicated by a fine, pliable hide; a silky coat of hair; and bones that are not too coarse.

Natural Fleshing—Natural fleshing refers to the amount of muscle or lean

meat which an animal carries. This is one distinguishing feature between beef and dairy types. Beef cattle should have as much natural fleshing as possible. This natural fleshing should be evenly distributed. It is especially serious if beef animals are not covered over regions of most valuable cuts.

Judging Hogs

Market Hogs (Lard Type)

In judging market hogs the major points are: first, condition; second, conformation; and third, dressing percentage.

Condition—This is determined by the amount of fat the hog carries. It is the degree of finish.

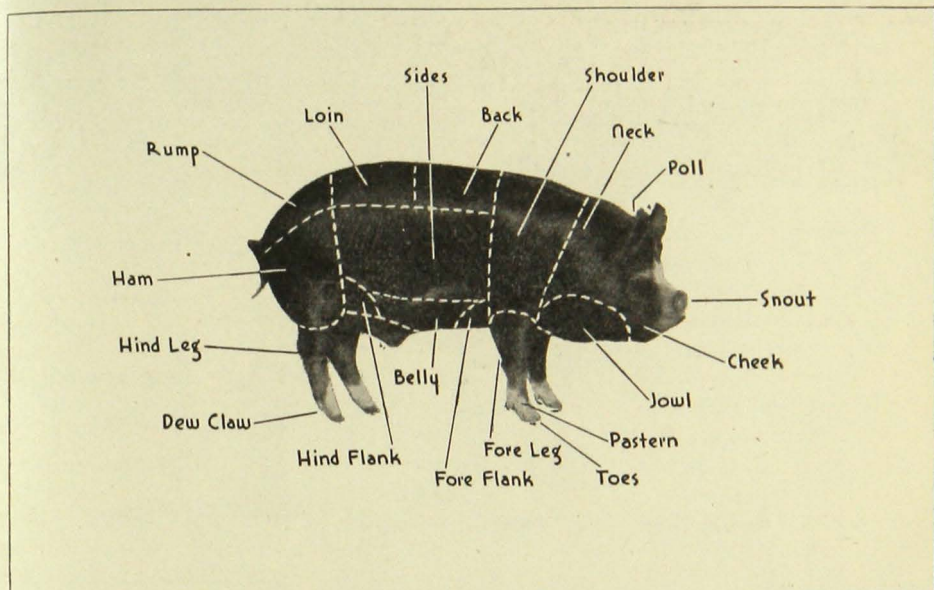
Conformation—At present the desirable type of market hog has good length, rather short legs, a wide body, straight underline, well-sprung ribs, uniform width of body, a smooth shoulder, a deep plump ham, a strong

back, and a trim jowl with bone and hair of fine quality.

Dressing Percentage—Condition is the principal factor affecting dressing percentage of hogs. Other things being equal, the fattest hog always has the highest dressing percentage. Paunchiness is the other important factor. A wasty middle lowers the dressing percentage.

Market Hogs (Bacon Type)

Bacon hogs are judged the same way as lard-type hogs except they are usu-



ally not as compact or thick. They should have a longer side. Bacon hogs carry a larger proportion of lean meat than lard hogs. The most important factor in judging bacon hogs is a long, smooth, and deep side. Coarse shoulders are very objectionable.

Breeding Hogs (Lard Type)

The major points in judging breeding hogs are, in order of importance: conformation; feet, legs, and udder; and breed and sex character.

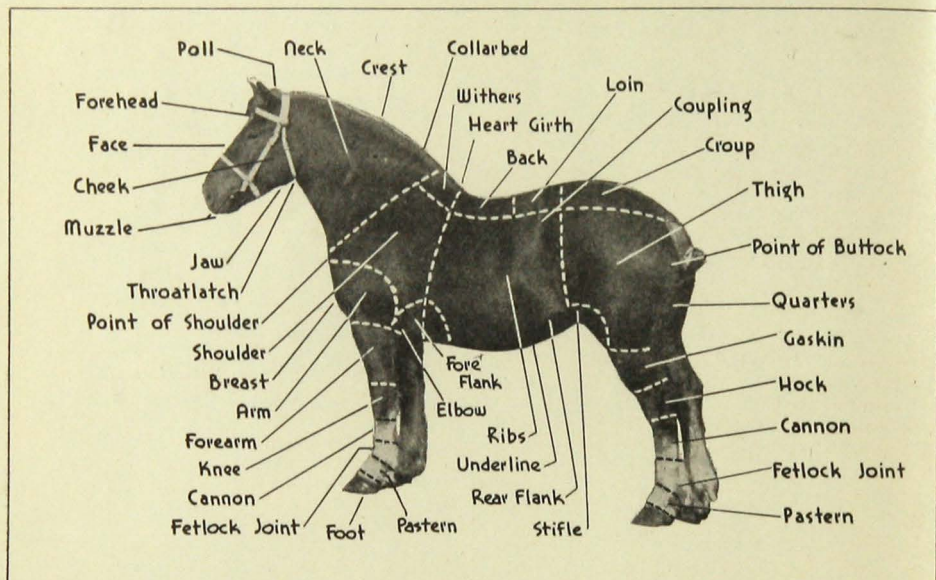
Conformation—The same conformation is sought as in market hogs.

Feet, Legs, and Udder—More attention is paid to several significant points in breeding stock than in stock that is to be slaughtered. Breeding hogs should have straight legs with sufficient bone and quality. The pasterns should be

short and straight; long, weak pasterns are undesirable. A sow should have at least 12 well-developed teats. The udders should be sound, and the teats should not be inverted. Inverted teats are usually hereditary. Whorls (swirls) are objectionable on all breeds, and most judges disqualify animals with whorls.

Breed Type and Sex Character—It is important that the animals clearly show the characteristics of their breed and sex. Chester Whites, Spotted Poles, Poland Chinas, and Durocs have drooped ears, but Hampshires, Berkshires, and Yorkshires have erect ears. Each breed has its own color characteristics which you should learn.

Sex characters are marked by either masculinity or femininity. A boar should have a strong and masculine head; a sow with a coarse head lacks femininity.



Judging Horses

Draft Horses

The major points in judging a draft horse in order of their importance are: conformation; feet and legs; and action.

Conformation—A draft horse should be large because size indicates power. He should be broad, deep, short coupled, and well muscled throughout. The body should be massive, the legs of medium length, the back short and heavy muscled. The shoulders should have a slope of about 45°. The collar surface should be flat.

Feet and Legs—Consult figure on page nine. The legs should be set squarely under the body; the bone should be of good flinty substance; the hock, large and clean. The cannon bone should be wide and flat; the pas-

terns, fairly long, preferably with a slope of 45°. The feet should be large and round with a wide, deep heel.

Action—Good action is essential in all draft horses. They should have a long, true, and straight stride. The feet should be lifted well off the ground with an even, snappy, well-balanced gait.

A horse should have sound eyes, good disposition, and good wind.

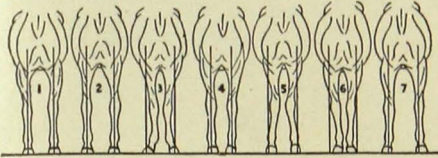
Breeding Horses

Breeding horses are judged the same as draft horses except that another major point, breed and sex character, is included. Breed character is probably less important in horses than in any other class of livestock. Each breed

has its own distinguishing characteristics.

Sex Character—Stallions have larger necks and crests than mares. They

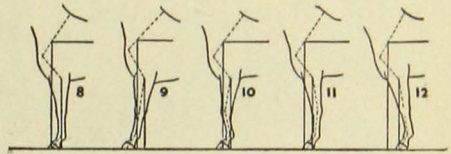
should possess masculinity. Brood mares should not be too coarse in the head and neck but rather feminine and matronly in their appearance.



FRONT VIEW OF FORE LIMBS

A vertical line from ground through point of shoulder should fall upon the knee, cannon, pastern, and foot.

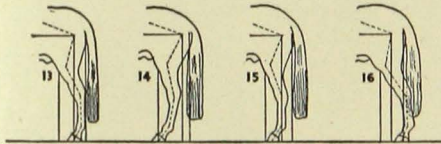
(1) Correct formation, (2) legs slightly bowed, (3) knees close, toes out, (4) pigeon-toed, (5) knock-kneed, (6) base narrow, (7) base wide.



SIDE VIEW OF FORE LIMBS

A vertical line from ground through center of elbow joint should fall on knee, pastern, and back of foot. One through middle of arm should fall on center of foot.

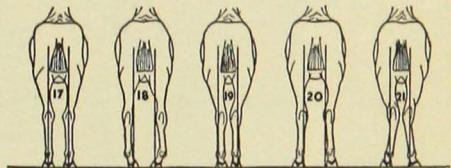
(8) Correct formation, (9) legs too far forward, (10) buck-kneed, (11) calf-kneed, (12) forelegs too far under body.



SIDE VIEW OF HIND LIMBS

A vertical line from ground through hip joint should divide gaskin in middle, falling upon center of foot. Such line through point of buttock should coincide with line of cannon, touch back of hock and fetlock.

(13) Correct formation, (14) legs too far under body and crooked hocks, (15) legs too far under and hocks too straight, (16) legs too far back.



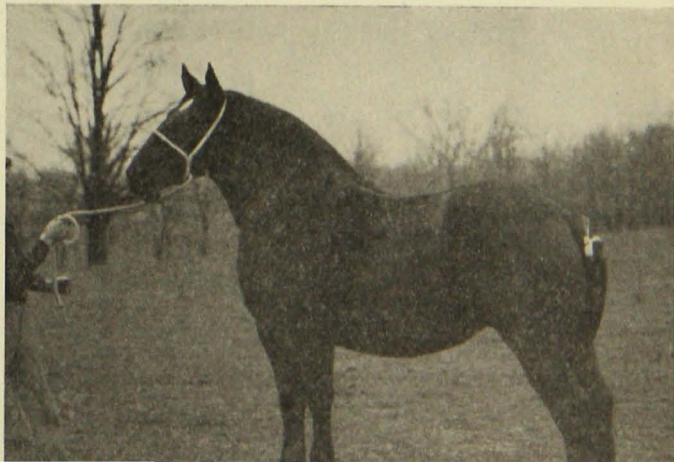
REAR VIEW OF HIND LIMBS

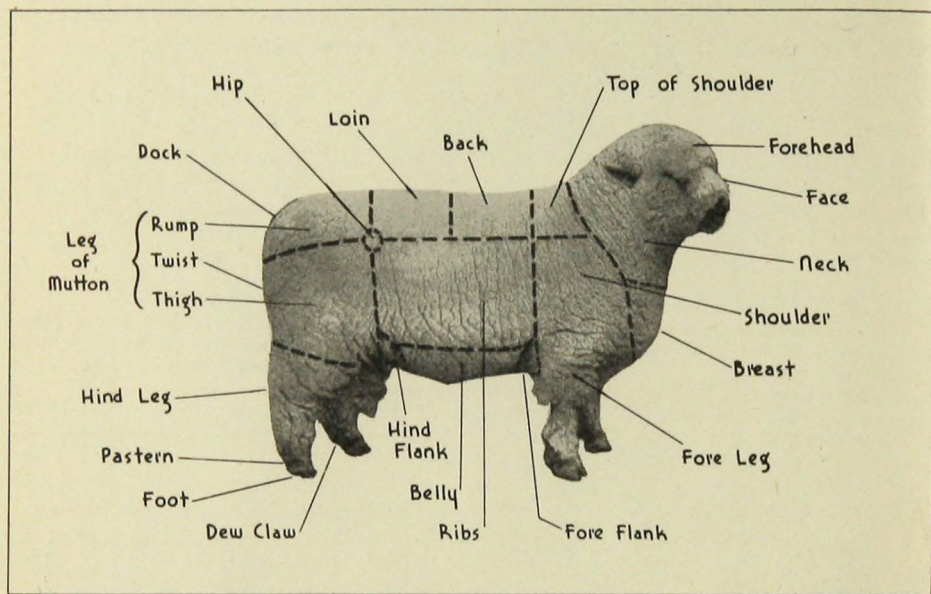
Vertical line from ground through point of buttocks falls in line with center of hock, cannon, pastern, and foot.

(17) Correct formation, (18) bow-legged, (19) base narrow, (20) base wide, (21) cow-hocked and toed-out.

A Good Type Percheron Mare

This Percheron mare shows a correct type and has outstanding merit in all characters.





Judging Sheep

PPOINTS to watch for in judging sheep depend a great deal on whether the sheep are to be sent to market or whether they are to be used for breeding purposes. Some of the points are the same, and others merely vary in importance for market and breeding sheep.

Market Sheep

Condition, conformation, and dressing percentage are the most important points to take into consideration in judging fat sheep.

Condition—This refers to the amount of fat or covering lambs or sheep have. It must be determined by handling. A firm, evenly covered, rather hard finish is desirable.

Conformation—The desirable form is one that is compact, wide, and deep of body; is smoothly laid-in at the shoulders; has short neck and legs. Market sheep should have straight top-lines and underlines; well-sprung ribs; and thick, plump legs.

Dressing Percentage—The animals carrying the highest finish usually dress the highest. The weight of pelts and paunchiness affect the dressing percentage.

Breeding Sheep

The major points in judging breeding sheep are, in order of importance: conformation, fleece, and breed type and sex character.

Conformation—Conformation is the same for both market and breeding sheep. The thick, blocky type is desired.

Fleece—More emphasis is placed on fleece and skin in some breeds than in

others. For example, Shropshire sheep must have a pink skin, and black fibers in the fleece are discriminated against more than in other breeds. With all mutton breeds, a tight, dense, bright, and fairly long fleece is a desirable quality.

Breed Type and Sex Character—The animals should have the character of the breed and sex, especially around the head and neck.

Judging Procedure

WHEN JUDGING livestock, it is important that you adopt a systematic procedure. This will prevent you from overlooking the important parts and assist you in making complete observation quickly. Keep the following list of points in mind while judging livestock:

1. Stand at least 20 to 30 feet from the animals, viewing all animals in the class at the same time. After this get a side, front, and rear view of each. By doing this, you will get an idea of the type and conformation of each animal.

2. When you approach for a close-up view, go about it systematically. For instance, you might start at the head of each animal and look it over from the head to the rear to see where it is strong and where it is weak. At the same time, in the case of fat animals, you can determine which appears to be the fattest.

3. There are several ways of placing a class. The best thing is to locate a top or a bottom animal first. Then take the next easiest placing in the class and continue to line the animals up and continue to line the animals up that way until there is only one pair

left, or perhaps there will be only one individual left, which will automatically fall into his place.

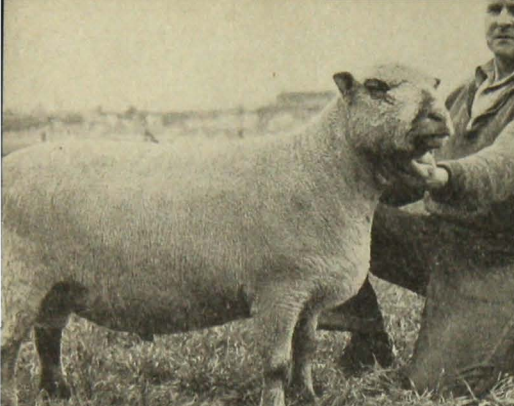
Another way is to size up one animal individually and then to appraise the next animal carefully to see whether it will go above or below that one. When all the animals are appraised, they will be placed.

4. The first impression is usually the most correct one. Changing placings at the last minute usually hurts rather than helps. If there is any doubt in your mind at the last minute as to the advisability of changing the placing, before making a final decision weigh the points very carefully.

5. When handling sheep, keep your fingers together to avoid making holes in the fleece.

6. When judging either hogs or sheep, it is best to stand back some distance to get the side view occasionally rather than look down on the animals all of the time.

7. To observe action while judging horses have the horse move first away and then toward you. You cannot see the action from a side view.



Form in sheep that have been recently shorn can be readily observed without handling, as is shown in the upper picture.

Sheep with long wool must be handled to get an impression of form, as shown in the lower three pictures.



8. The major points for each class of livestock are listed in this bulletin. When placing a class of livestock, these should be considered first before going to minor details.

REASONS

Contestants are required to give an oral or written set of reasons in nearly all judging contests. Moreover, in scoring, the contestants' reasons usually count as much as placings. There are several ways of giving reasons. Two styles are given below. As a sample we have used an imaginary class of steers.



Style 1—"I placed this class of fat steers 2-4-3-1, placing 2 over 4 because of his more desirable condition and conformation. His condition is more desirable because he is more thickly covered over the shoulder, back, loin, and ribs than 4. I like his conformation more because he is shorter of leg, more compact and deeper of body, and has a more uniform width of body."



Style 2—"I placed this class of fat steers 2-4-3-1, placing 2 over 4 because he is more thickly covered over the shoulder, back, loin, and ribs than 4. He is shorter of leg, more compact and deeper of body, and has a more uniform width of body."

With either style we would add as a last part of the comparison of this pair: "There is apparently little difference in dressing percentage in this pair of steers because 2 is more paunchy than 4."

These pictures to the right show how to examine for these points, respectively:

Development of rump

Depth of twist

Muscling in the leg of mutton

Character of fleece and skin

The difference in these styles is that in the first we mentioned the major points in which 2 excels 4, mentioning the most important major points first and then the others in the order of their importance. After this, we dropped back to the first major point and discussed the details of that major point where 2 excels 4.

In the second style, instead of mentioning the major points first, we discussed the details of the more important major point and then went on to the details of the second most important major point.

In both styles we handled the dressing percentage proposition the same—merely mentioning it so that the man listening to reasons would know that we observed this major point. We did not handle that as we did the other major point because it is one major point in which there is little or no difference between the two steers. However, if you had placed 2 over 4 on condition only, use the second style for that comparison.

After giving reasons on 2 and 4, we continue in the same manner with 4 and 3 and then with 3 and 1. The first style, however, is usually more impressive.

The following suggestions will help you in giving reasons:

1. Stand up straight and look right at the man who is taking reasons.
2. Keep your hands behind your back. This will help you keep from fumbling with them.
3. Start out with the introduction: "I placed this class 1-2-3-4 (or how-



ever they were placed), placing 1 over 2 because. . ."

4. Do not say the "number 1 steer or the number 2 steer." You waste words that way. Refer to animals by number only, that is, 1 or 2.

5. Always make a direct comparison, and generally tell why the top animal is superior to the second—not why the second one is poorer than the first.

6. Do not exaggerate. Accurate statements in your reasons are important.

7. Be sure of your numbers. When going over the reasons in your mind before they are given, say the placings of that class over and over again to yourself until you can say them without effort.

8. Do not be afraid to give the second-place animal of a pair credit for anything that it may excell in.

9. If an animal is very outstanding in the class or is an easy bottom, mention that, but do not do so unless you are sure that this is true. If you should say so and the judge believed that they were close or placed them differently, your reasons might be considered less valid.

10. Raising and lowering the voice while giving reasons will help hold the attention of the man who is taking reasons.

11. Speak rather loudly and in a confident manner. Be persuasive.

12. Be sure that you mention the important things first in giving the reasons on any pair of animals—the real reason or reasons why you placed that animal over the other one.

13. Always refer to each animal by the correct sex. Don't say IT—use HE or SHE, or the animal's number.

14. In your introduction always refer to the class as it was given you.

15. For your conclusion say, "Leaving the class 1-2-3-4. . ." instead of "For these reasons I place this class 1-2-3-4. . ." As soon as you have made that statement ask the man who is taking reasons, "Do you have any questions?"

16. Don't be afraid to admit your ignorance when the judge questions you. Rather than guess, say, "I don't remember"—use that expression rather than "I don't know."

17. In giving reasons, be very careful to use the terms that apply to each of the different kinds of livestock.

Some of the actual copies of reasons given at the International and American royal are included in this bulletin. Study them carefully for style and reasoning.

Barrow Class Reasons

The first of these are the reasons given by Lester Lerud, a University of Minnesota student at the 1937 International. He received a perfect score with 50 points for both placing and reasons in the Chester White barrows class.

"I place this class of Chester White barrows 4-3-1-2. I place 4 at the top of the class because he is easily the fattest barrow in the class as well as a very well-balanced barrow. He is slightly different in type from the other barrows in that he is a deeper bodied, wider, shorter bodied barrow. He has a plumper, larger ham than any of the other barrows. Because 4 is a fatter hog, he would dress higher than any of the others. 3 is a more upstanding barrow, not having as much finish and being rather light in his ham. It is true, however, that 3 has slightly more quality of bone and is trimmer in his middle.

"I place 3 over 1 because he is fatter and has a more desirable conforma-

tion; he has considerably more width throughout; he is stronger in his back, laid in slightly smoother at his shoulders and is more uniform in his depth of body, especially being deeper in his rear flank. Because 3 has quite a lot more condition, he would undoubtedly be the second highest dresser of the class.

"1 and 2 were both upstanding, light hammed hogs that didn't have as much finish as the other two barrows. I preferred 1 over 2 because he had quite a lot more quality throughout. He is much smoother at his shoulders, smoother in his sides, trimmer in his middle, and has a finer bone. There is very little difference in finish in the two barrows, 1 perhaps having a slight advantage as was indicated by his fullness and smoothness of sides. 1 would dress higher because he was trimmer in his middle and slightly fatter."

Filly Class Reasons

The second set of reasons included in this bulletin were given by Glenn Long, student, College of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, in the 1938 International. His reasons are given for two-year-old Belgian fillies. Long received a perfect score, receiving 50 points for both placing and reasons.

"I placed this class of two-year-old Belgian fillies 4-2-1-3. 4 was a fairly easy top in this class. She was a larger, more massive filly that showed more width and depth of body. She had more muscling throughout and carried a larger middle. She had more quality and breed type showing more style and refinement about her head. She showed more slope of shoulder and length of pastern than 2 and was the longest, straightest moving filly in the class.

"2, however, had more substance of bone and a larger foot. 4 can be criticized for lack of substance for a mare of her size.

"I placed 2 over 1 and thought this was a very close placing, but 2 was a draftier, heavier muscled filly showing more substance of bone and a larger foot. She had more spring of rib and showed more constitution. She had a wider, longer, leveler croup that was muscled down farther than 1.

"1, however, was a more compact, shorter bodied filly showing more quality and breed type throughout. She par-

ticularly showed more quality about her head and bone. She moved with a little more length and snap to her stride, but both fillies moved equally straight.

"3 was an easy bottom in this class. She was a smaller, plainer filly than those above her. She lacked breed type and was very plain about her head. She lacked substance of bone and size of foot. She was, however, an exceptionally straight, snappy moving filly.

"For these reasons, I placed this class of two-year-old Belgian fillies 4-2-1-3."

Cattle Class Reasons

The third and last set of reasons are for Hereford fat steers. They were also given by Glenn Long, who tied for first place in judging cattle in the 1938 American Royal. He received 50 points for placing and 48 points for his reasons.

"I placed this class of Hereford fat steers 4-2-1-3. 4 was an easy top in this class. He was the fattest steer in the class. He had more width and depth of body and carried his width and depth more uniformly from front to rear. He let down deeper in his rear flank and had a larger round than did 2. He was a higher quality, smoother fleshed, trimmer middled steer and would, therefore, dress higher than 2. 2, however, was a more compact steer.

"I placed 2 over 1 because he was a steer carrying more condition. He was wider and thicker over his back and loin and carried more covering over his ribs. He was a more compact uniform steer showing more balance than did 1. He carried out longer and leveler over his rump and was smoother over his tail head. He was a trimmer middled, high quality steer that would dress higher than 1. 1, however, is a deeper bodied steer with a larger round.

"I placed 1 over 3 because he was a smoother, higher qualified steer being more uniform in his width and depth of body. He was smoother in fleshing over his back and loin. He was a deeper bodied steer carrying a larger, deeper round. The 3 steer was a wider, fatter steer but because he was coarse and uneven in his fleshing and was so shallow in his body, I thought he was an easy bottom in this class.

"For these reasons, I placed this class of two-year-old Belgian fillies 4-2-1-3."

Terminology Used in Judging

TERMINOLOGY varies with different livestock. To talk intelligently and to describe adequately any particular class of livestock, one should use proper livestock terms. Some of the most common terms used in connection with the different classes of livestock are given below.

BEEF CATTLE TERMS

Positive terms to use in giving reasons on beef cattle are listed according to major points. Some terms of criticism are also given. Terms of criticism are not used much because we usually tell why one animal is better than another rather than criticize the poorer ones.

Both Breeding and Fat Classes

Conformation—Positive terms are: more compact, lower set, wider, deeper, more uniform width, deeper in the flank, fuller heartgirth, shoulders laid in closer, smoother at the tailhead, deeper and plumper twist, heavier muscled in the round, shorter neck, more symmetrical, and straighter underline.

Terms of criticism are: shallow, rangy, leggy, weak in the back, rough shouldered, high at the tailhead, and flat ribbed.

Fat Classes

Condition.— Positive terms are: thicker and more smoothly fleshed over the back and loin and ribs, has more condition, is fatter, has smoother-covered shoulders.

Terms of criticism are: rough in fleshing, patchy at tailhead, lacks condition, has poorly covered shoulders.

Dressing Percentage—Positive terms are: trimmer middled, will dress higher, and more quality of hide and bone.

Terms of criticism are: paunchier, wasty in the middle, and coarser bone and hide.

Breeding Cattle

Breed and Sex Character—Positive terms are: more typical (name of breed) head, shorter face, broader forehead, thicker fleshed, smoother fleshed, more natural fleshing over back and loin and ribs, and more natural fleshing.

Terms of criticism are: lacking in natural flesh.

HOG TERMS

Both Breeding and Fat Classes

Conformation—Positive terms are: wider, deeper, more uniform width, smoother side, more upstanding, stronger arch of back, more spring of rib, fuller back of shoulders, longer rump, larger hams, plumper hams, freer from wrinkles, deeper in the flanks, more scale, stronger loin, and smoother shoulders.

Terms of criticism are: fish backed, shallow, narrow in the loin, cut up in the flank, too short legged, wasty jowl, rough shoulders, cat hammed, narrow throughout, and chubby.

Fat Classes

Condition—Positive terms are: more condition throughout, fatter, has more

finish, firmer-fleshed ham, and thicker covering of fat throughout.

Terms of criticism are: flabby along the underline, and lacking in condition.

Dressing Percentage—Terms of praise are: trimmer middled, less paunchy, will dress higher, and will have a higher dressing percentage.

Terms of criticism are: paunchy, wasty middle.

Breeding Hogs

Feet, Legs, and Udder—Positive terms are: stronger pasterns, straighter front legs, straighter hind legs, more quality of bone, heavier boned, and has 12 or 14 sound teats.

Terms of criticism are: crooked legged, weak pasterns, too long in the pasterns, and spreading toes.

Breed and Sex Character—Positive terms are: broodier-looking sow, more feminine head and neck, larger, brighter eye, and more typical (name of breed) head.

Terms of criticism are: heavy eared, telescoped teats, coarse head, and ruined teat.

HORSES

Draft and Breeding Horses

Conformation—Positive terms are: draftier, more size, more scale, more massive, more width, deeper, cleaner cut about the head and throat, longer necked, more style about head and neck, wider and deeper at the flank, heavier muscled, more symmetrical, more level croup, larger and more intelligent eye, larger middled, shorter coupled, and more desirable slope of shoulder.

Terms of criticism are: shallow, coarse headed, light muscled, has small dull eye, rough, steep in the croup, heavier eared, lacking in draftiness, holds head too low, long in the cou-

pling, low at the withers, too straight in the shoulder, weak in the back, low in the back, thick throated, and short in the croup.

Feet and Legs—Positive terms are: has legs more squarely placed beneath him or her, has harder bone, has cleaner bone, has flatter bone, has longer pasterns, has more sloping pasterns, cleaner in the hocks, has bigger feet, and is wider and deeper at the heel.

Terms of criticism: sickle hocks, small footed, light bones, coarse hock, stocked in the legs, short in the pasterns, straight in the pasterns, pigeon-toed, and round bones.

Action—Positive terms are: longer stride, truer stride, easier and freer stride, has more knee action, has more flexion of the hocks, has more style at walk and trot, and goes closer at the hocks.

Terms of criticism: wings out, paddled, walks a rope, goes wide at the hocks, crosses over in front, short and choppy stride, and drags feet.

Breeding Horses

Breed and Sex Character—Positive terms are: more masculine front, more feminine front, more typical (name of breed) head, more feminine head, and more masculine head.

Terms of criticism are: plain headed and lacks breediness about head.

SHEEP TERMS

Both Breeding and Fat Classes

Conformation—Some of the positive terms that might be used in discussing conformation for both the breeding and fat classes of sheep include: wider, broader, straighter top line, more symmetrical, shorter and thicker neck, more compact, greater spring of fore-rib, deeper rump carried out wider to

the dock, plumper leg of mutton, and wider loin.

When criticizing these same animals you might use these terms: shallow, leggy, weak back, rangy, narrow, long necked, open shouldered, and tapers out at rump.

Fat Classes

Condition—If you wish to point out some good points in this class you might use the following expressions: carries more condition, thicker, thicker fleshed over the back and loin, fatter, plumper leg of mutton, thicker dock, and more covering over the ribs.

In criticizing these animals, use such terms as: soft, lacks covering, thin.

Dressing Percentage—Trimmer mid-dled, will dress higher, and will have a higher dressing percentage are terms of praise, while paunchy and wasty in the middle are terms of criticism applied to market sheep.

Breeding Sheep

Breed and Sex Character—Some positive terms used here might include: wider and shorter head, wider between the eyes, wooled down better over the head, broader muzzled, smaller ear, more typical (name of breed) head, more feminine about the head, and more masculine about the head.

On the other hand, the expressions used to criticize breeding sheep might be: coarse headed, not wooled down on the head, head is long and narrow, and heavy ears.

Fleece—Positive terms include: finer fleece, denser fleece, more compact fleece, brighter fleece, fleece has more

crimp, fleece has more yolk, and freer from black fibers.

Terms of criticism are: open fleece, coarser fleece, light fleece, and drier fleece.

LEARN THESE TERMS

The following words are commonly used in judging livestock. Beginners should familiarize themselves with these words and learn to pronounce and use them.

General—Alert, balance, bloom, brisket, breedy, carcass, compact, conformation, constitution, coupling, covering, crops, dew claw, docile, dressing percentage, early maturing, feminine, femininity, finish, firmer, flabby, flank, fleshing, forearms, forehead, gaunt, growthy, heartgirth, hock, hollow, length, loin, low-set, masculine, masculinity, massive, muscling, muzzle, paunch, pendulous, pastern, prominent, quality, rangy, refinement, roan, rugged, rump, scale, shank, shoulder, style, swirl, symmetrical, temperament, thigh, twist, type, unbalanced, uniform, vigorous, yearling, wasty, and weight.

Beef—Angus, cod, Hereford, mellow, patchy, plain, polled, roly, tailhead, tie.

Swine — Barrow, Berkshire, boar, Chester White, creased, Duroc, gilt, ham, jowl, lard type, litter, Poland China, side, snout, and wrinkled.

Horses — Action, Belgian, blemish, cannon bone, chestnut, Clydesdale, coupled, crest, croup, drafty, feather, fetlock, gaskin, gelding, mare, middle, muscled, paddle, pastern, Percheron, sluggish, splint, sorrel, stallion, stifle, substance, throatlock, wind, wing, and wither.

Draft Horses

SCALE OF POINTS	Per- fect score	Student score		Corrected score	
		1	2	1	2
I. AGE: estimated					
II. HEIGHT: estimated					
III. WEIGHT: 1 yr., 1,000 pounds; 2 yrs., 1,400 pounds; 3 yrs., 1,600 pounds; 4 yrs., 1,700 pounds; 5 yrs., 1,800 pounds	4				
IV. FORM					
HEAD AND NECK					
1. Head: medium size, straight faceline, clean-cut features, wide angle in lower jaw; muzzle broad, nostrils large but not dilated, lips thin, even; eyes prominent, large, full, bright, clear; forehead broad; ears medium size, set close, carried alertly	5				
2. NECK: medium long, muscular, medium crest, clean throat	2				
FOREQUARTERS					
3. SHOULDERS: sloping, muscular, well laid-in	2				
4. ARMS: short, muscular	1				
5. FOREARMS: muscular, wide	1				
6. KNEES: wide, deep, straight, clean, strongly supported	2				
7. CANNONS: short, wide, flat, tendons well defined and set back	2				
8. FETLOCKS: wide, straight, strong, clean	1				
9. PASTERNS: long, sloping (45 degrees), strong, clean	3				
10. FEET: large, both at hoof heads and at the ground, deep, slope corresponding to that of pasterns, heels wide, hoofs dense, smooth and free from cracks	4				
11. LEGS: viewed in front, perpendicular lines from the points of the shoulders should fall upon the center of the knees, canons, fetlocks, pasterns, and feet. Viewed from the sides, perpendicular lines dropped from the centers of the forearms should bisect the legs from body to fetlocks and strike the ground just back of heels	3				
BODY					
12. WITHERS: well defined, level with hips	1				
13. CHEST: deep, wide, full, large heartgirth	3				
14. RIBS: long, well sprung, close	3				
15. BACK: short, broad, strong, muscular	3				
16. LOIN (OR COUPLING): wide, short, heavily muscled	3				
17. UNDERLINE: relatively long, flank low and full	1				

Draft Horses—Continued

SCALE OF POINTS	Per- fect score	Student score		Corrected score	
		1	2	1	2
HINDQUARTERS					
18. HIPS: smooth, wide, level	1				
19. CROUP: long, level, wide, heavily muscled	2				
20. TAIL: attached high, well carried	1				
21. THIGHS: muscular, deep, wide between the stifles	2				
22. QUARTERS: deep, heavily muscled	2				
23. GASKINS: wide, heavily muscled	2				
24. HOCKS: large, wide, deep, straight, clean caps turned in slightly	6				
25. CANNONS: short, wide, flat, tendons well de- fined and set back	2				
26. FETLOCKS: wide, straight, strong, clean	1				
27. PASTERNS: fairly long, sloping (50 degrees), strong, clean	2				
28. FEET: large, both at hoof heads and at the ground, deep, slope corresponding to that of pasterns, heels wide, hoofs dense, smooth and free from cracks, toeing out slightly	3				
29. LEGS: viewed from the rear, perpendicular lines dropped from the points of the but- tocks should bisect the hocks, cannons, and fetlocks; viewed from the sides, same lines should coincide with the rear of the cannons	4				
V. SUBSTANCE: large bones and joints	4				
VI. QUALITY: bones and joints clean, tendons well defined, skin and hair fine, head and ears me- dium size	3				
VII. TEMPERAMENT: energetic, good disposition	2				
VIII. ACTION					
WALK: long, straight, snappy, springy, well-bal- anced stride	6				
TROT: long, straight, snappy, springy, moderately high, well-balanced stride with good flexion of knees and hocks	4				
IX. GENERAL APPEARANCE: massive, broad, deep and short-coupled body, rather low set; size and quality well-proportioned to weight, sym- metrical and stylish	9				
TOTAL	100				

Fat Lambs

SCALE OF POINTS	Per- fect score	Student score		Corrected score	
		1	2	1	2
I. WEIGHT, score according to age—6 months, 85 pounds	6				
II. FORM—53 points					
HEAD AND NECK—7 points					
1. HEAD: face short; mouth and nostrils large; eyes large and clear; forehead broad; ears alert, not coarse; wide between the ears	5				
2. NECK: short, thick, full at junction with shoulder	2				
FOREQUARTERS—9 points					
3. SHOULDER: smoothly covered with flesh; compact on top; even with body	6				
4. BREAST: full in outline and well extended	2				
5. LEGS: straight, short, wide apart, strong; forearm full	1				
BODY—22 points					
6. CHEST: wide, deep; heartgirth full	2				
7. RIBS: well sprung, long, close, thickly covered	4				
8. BACK: broad, straight; thickly and evenly covered	8				
9. LOIN: thick, broad; well covered	8				
HINDQUARTERS—15 points					
10. HIPS: neat; smoothly covered	1				
11. RUMP: long, level, wide to dock; well covered	4				
12. THIGHS: deep, wide, full	5				
13. TWIST: deep, plump	4				
14. LEGS: straight, short, strong, set well apart; pasterns straight	1				
III. FINISH: deep, even, firm covering over loin, back, ribs, and shoulders; points indicating finished condition, thick dock, thick neck, and full shoulder vein, plump breast	12				
IV. QUALITY: head and ear medium size; bone fine	5				
V. FLEECE—6 points					
15. QUANTITY: long, dense; uniform in density and length	2				
16. QUALITY: fine, soft; crimp distinct and even throughout fleece	2				
17. CONDITION: bright, sound, clean; slight amount of yolk; foreign material not excessive	2				
VI. DRESSING PERCENTAGE: high finish, light in pelt; not paunchy	8				
VII. GENERAL APPEARANCE: straight top and underline; deep, broad; uniform in width; low set, compact, symmetrical, stylish	10				
TOTAL	100				

Fat Steers

SCALE OF POINTS	Per- fect score	Student score		Corrected score	
		1	2	1	2
I. WEIGHT, score according to age	8				
6 months 450 pounds					
12 months 850 pounds					
18 months 1,100 pounds					
24 months 1,350 pounds					
II. FORM—52 points					
HEAD AND NECK—7 points					
1. HEAD: muzzle broad; nostrils large; eyes large, clear; quiet expression; face short, clean cut; forehead broad; ears medium size, fine texture, well carried; horns fine texture, medium size, well shaped	5				
2. NECK: short, thick; throat clean	2				
FOREQUARTERS—8 points					
3. SHOULDER VEIN: full, plump	2				
4. SHOULDERS: smooth, well covered with flesh; rounded yet compact on top	4				
5. BRISKET: neat, trim, with a little dewlap	1				
6. LEGS: straight, short, wide apart; arms full; shank medium fine	1				
BODY—25 points					
7. CHEST: wide, deep, full; heartgirth large	3				
8. BACK: straight, broad; covered with thick, smooth, firm flesh; crops full	8				
9. RIBS: low, arched; thickly and smoothly cov- ered with firm flesh	5				
10. LOIN: straight, broad; covered with thick, smooth, firm flesh	8				
11. FLANK: full; even with underline	1				
HINDQUARTERS—12 points					
12. HIPS: laid-in and smoothly covered	2				
13. RUMP: long, wide, level; thickly and smoothly fleshed; tailhead broad and smooth, not patchy	4				
14. THIGHS: full, deep, wide	3				
15. TWIST: deep, plump	2				
16. LEGS: straight, short; shank medium fine	1				
III. FINISH: degree of fatness indicated especially by spinal covering, rib covering, and fullness of flank; also by fullness of cod and tongue root; proper finish indicated by a mellow yet firm and springy touch	10				
IV. QUALITY: smooth in frame and flesh; hide me- dium fine and pliable; hair fine; bone medium fine; head and horns medium size	10				
V. DRESSING PERCENTAGE: high finish, light- weight hide, not paunchy	10				
VI. GENERAL APPEARANCE: straight top line and underline, deep, low set, compact, broad, uni- form in width, symmetrical, not paunchy, stylish	10				
TOTAL	100				

Fat Barrows

SCALE OF POINTS	Per- fect score	Student score		Corrected score	
		1	2	1	2
I. WEIGHT	10				
6 months, 200 pounds					
9 months, 300 pounds					
II. FORM—55 points					
HEAD AND NECK					
1. Snout short, wide, not coarse; face rather short, smooth; eyes wide apart, large, prominent; ears medium size, thin, wide apart; jowl broad, trim, not creased or flabby; neck short, slightly arched, broad on top ..	6				
FOREQUARTERS—10 points					
2. SHOULDERS: smooth, well fleshed, even with sides, compact on top	5				
3. CHEST: wide, deep; no depression behind the shoulders	3				
4. FRONT LEGS: straight, medium length; bone medium size; pasterns upright; toes not spreading	2				
BODY—25 points					
5. BACK: slightly arched, wide; uniform in width; smooth and deep in covering	7				
6. LOIN: slightly arched, wide, uniform in width; smooth and deep in covering	7				
7. SIDES: low, deep, smooth; not creased or wrinkled; thickly and firmly fleshed; flanks low	7				
8. BELLY: straight, wide; not paunchy, narrow, or flabby	4				
HINDQUARTERS—14 points					
9. RUMP: long, wide; not drooping	4				
10. HAMS: wide, deep, full, not flabby	8				
11. HIND LEGS: straight, medium length; bone medium size; pasterns upright; toes not spreading	2				
III. FINISH: indicated by a smooth, firm, thick covering over all parts of the body	10				
IV. QUALITY: smooth in form and finish; not creased, wrinkled, or flabby; bone, head, and ear medium size; hair straight and fine	5				
V. DRESSING PERCENTAGE: high finish; not paunchy	10				
VI. GENERAL APPEARANCE: broad, uniform in width, deep, long, low set; topline slightly arched; underline and sides straight; not paunchy, symmetrical, stylish	10				
TOTAL	100				

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