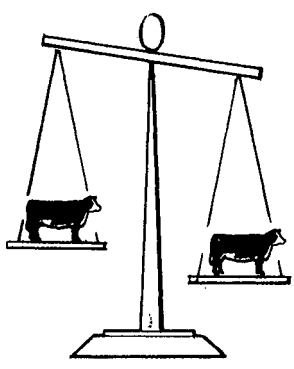


MN 2000 EP 202

superceeded by MN 2000  
EP # 358



**HEAVIER  
MEATIER  
CALVES  
THROUGH**

# *Beef Testing*

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## MORE PROGRESS THROUGH YEARLING SELECTION

Obtain yearling growth and grades wherever possible (recommended for herd classification).

- Contact weigher-grader to weigh and grade cattle as yearlings. This also enables breed associations to classify animals for official records.
- Plan 140-day official on-the-farm testing of bulls or weigh and grade at 11 to 14 months of age.
- Plan to weigh and grade heifers 11 to 16 months of age. Heavy feeding of heifers is not recommended.



## MORE PROGRESS THROUGH CARCASS EVALUATION

- Since heritability of carcass traits is relatively high, half-brothers should be fed out to obtain carcass merit.
- Certified sire's rating is given to sires with a minimum of six slaughtered progeny that meet certification standards.
- Certification standards are:
  - Carcass weight of 1.25 pounds or more per day of age
  - Must grade "U. S. Choice" or above
  - Loin eye area of 2 square inches or more per 100 pounds of carcass weight
  - Fat thickness no greater than 0.12 inch per 100 pounds of carcass weight
  - Retail cuts equal to 51 percent or more of carcass weight.

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Authors of this publication are C. J. Christians, R. E. Jacobs, and R. L. Arthaud, professors and extension animal husbandmen, University of Minnesota. Credit is given to all similar publications.

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