

# Effective Dairy Cattle Judging Reasons

EastGen 4-H Speaker Series, June 2020

Effective Dairy Cattle Judging Reasons- Brian Carscadden

*Recognition and Contributions:*

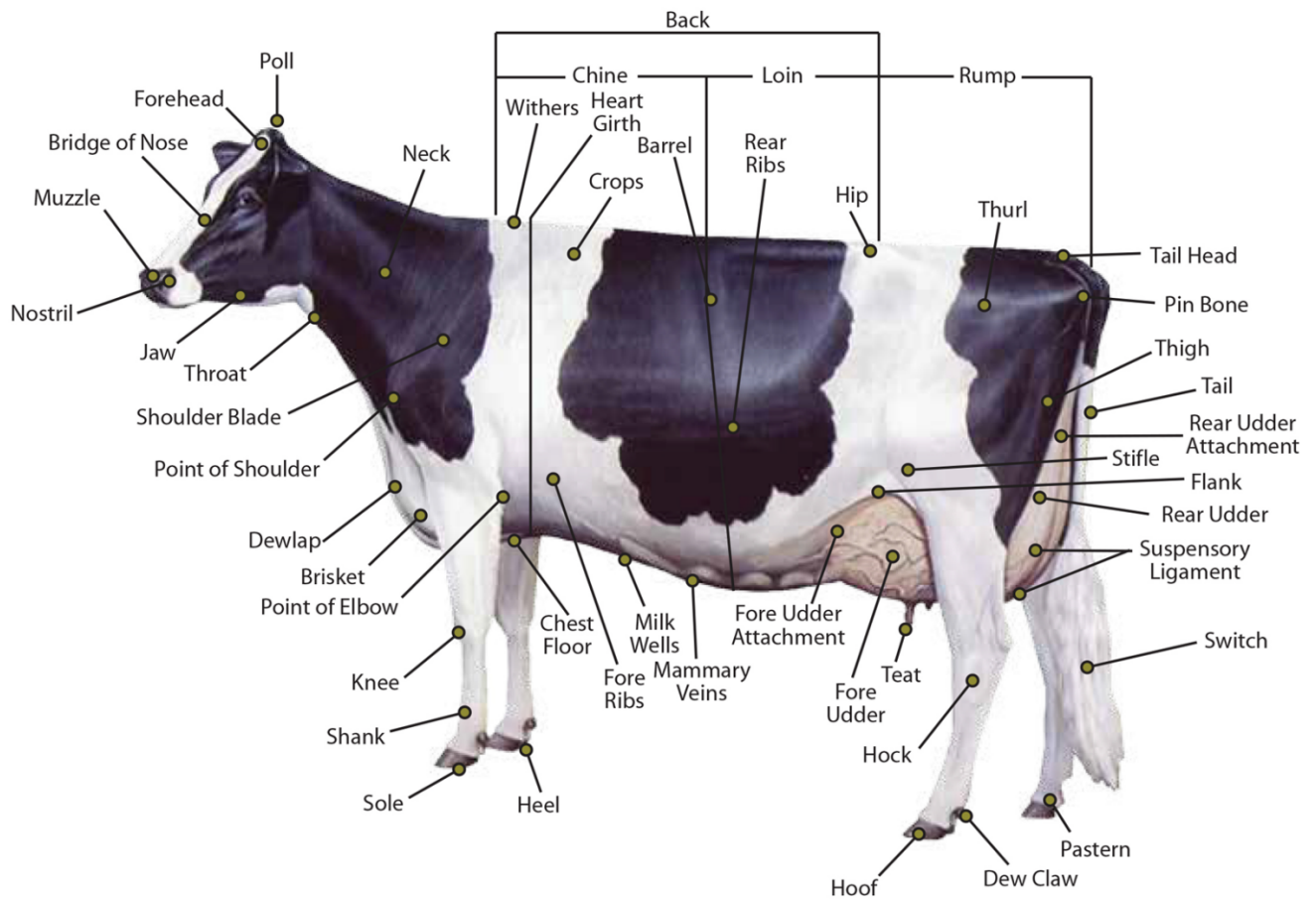
Brian Carscadden

Holstein Canada

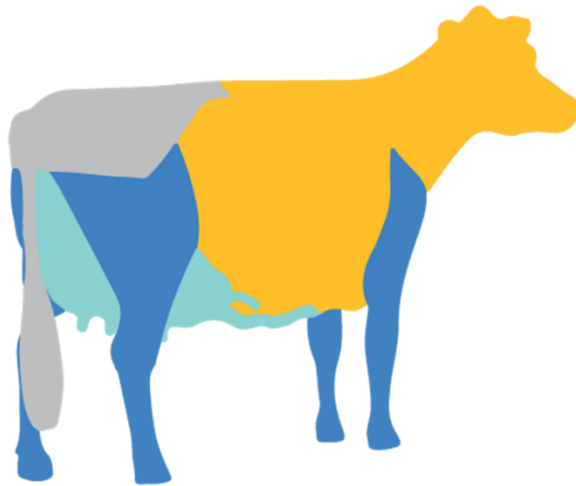
Ontario Holstein Branch

Judging Dairy Cattle- Giving Reasons, Oregon State 2005

## Parts of a Cow



## Weightings of Holstein Scorecard



RUMP 12%
MAMMARY 40%
DAIRY STRENGTH 20%
FEET & LEGS 28%

## Examples of Reasons

### Terms for comparing dairy character

1. More angularity
2. More openness of rib
3. Cleaner about the head, neck, and withers
4. More dairyness throughout
5. More length and stretch
6. Longer and leaner in the neck
7. Has the appearance of more dairyness
8. Leaner or thinner in the thigh
9. Sharper at the point of withers
10. Longer, more open throughout
11. More dairy sweep to her rib
12. More desirable balance between dairyness and strength
13. Spells more milk
14. Longer from the tip of her nose to the end of her tail
25. Spells more milk from the tip of her nose to the end of her switch

## **Terms for comparing udders**

### **Median suspensory ligament**

1. Stronger center support in the udder
2. A deeper crease in her udder
3. A deeper cleft in her udder
4. Stronger center attachment
5. Leveler on the udder floor, faulting 3 for having a reverse (forward tilt)
6. A more youthful udder
7. Carries her udder higher above the hocks
8. More crease in the udder
9. More cleft in the udder
10. An udder carried higher off the ground
11. Has a crease that cuts deeper through the rear udder as viewed from the rear

### **Rear udder**

1. Higher in the rear udder
2. Wider in the rear udder attachment
3. Higher and wider in the rear udder
4. Fuller at the top of the rear udder
5. More fullness of rear udder
6. More height, width, and fullness to the rear udder
7. More correct turn to the rear udder
8. More symmetry and balance of rear udder
9. More balance of rear quarters (faulting 2 for being light in the left rear quarter)

### **Fore udder**

1. Stronger fore udder attachment
2. Tighter in the fore udder (attachment)
3. More firmly attached fore udder
4. Fore udder that blends more smoothly into the body wall
5. Firmer in the fore udder attachment
6. An udder “tied on more tightly to the body wall”

### **General udder terms**

1. Larger, more capacious udder
2. More symmetry of udder
3. More balance of udder (noting 3 is light in the right front quarter)
4. More level on the udder floor
5. More bloom of udder
6. She has an advantage in stage of lactation, having more bloom and capacity of udder.

### **Teats and teat placement**

1. More correct teat size and shape
2. Teats placed more correctly beneath each quarter, faulting 3 for...
3. More nearly correct front teat placement, criticizing 4...
4. Teats hanging more nearly plumb
5. Teats placed more squarely beneath the quarters, noting the wide teat placement...
6. More nearly correct teat size, faulting 2...
7. More correct teat placement as viewed from the side, noting the close (wide) teat placement on 2
8. More desirable teat shape, faulting 3 for...

**Udder quality** (be sure you are right before you say anything about udder quality)

1. More apparent quality in the udder
2. An apparently softer, more pliable udder
3. More desirable texture to the udder, noting the congestion in 3's udder
4. An advantage in stage of lactation, noting the congestion in 3's udder
5. More apparent udder quality
6. More "bloom" to the udder, faulting 3 for being too stale to compete with the fresher cows in the class

**Terms for comparing legs and feet**

1. Straighter in her rear legs as viewed from behind (or the side), faulting 2 for...
2. More correct set to the hock, noting the straight (set) leg on 3
3. Cleaner through the hock, faulting 2 for being puffy in the left hock
4. Handles her rear legs more correctly on the walk, faulting 3 for...
5. More strength and substance of leg bone
6. A cleaner, flatter hock (leg bone)
7. Flatter leg bone
8. Stronger in the pasterns
9. Deeper in the heel (and shorter in the toe)
10. Walks more correctly on her front feet, noting that 4 toes out
11. Stands and walks on a more correct foot and leg
12. Steps down on a foot that is deeper in the heel
13. Walks (or stands) more comfortably on her rear legs
14. Walks straight at you

## **Terms for comparing frames** (structure, form)

### **Stature** (height)

1. Taller, more upstanding
2. Taller at the point of withers
3. More stature
4. More height at the point of withers
5. A taller front-ended cow
6. More size, scale, and substance

### **Topline**

1. Straighter down her topline; especially harder in the loin (or chine)
2. Stronger in the loin
3. Stronger in the chine
4. Smoother (more level) down the top (topline)
5. More nearly level from withers to pins
6. Stronger through the middle of her back
7. Wider through the loin
8. Harder down that topline; especially in the loin (or chine)
9. Stronger on top
10. Carries her top (loin) stronger on the move

### **Rump**

1. More nearly level from hooks to pins; faulting 2 for being too low (or high) in the pins
2. Longer and leveler from hips to pins
3. Wider in the pins (and thurls), noting....
4. More correctly set tail head
5. Neater at the tail head

6. More correct in the tail setting
7. Tail head that sets more neatly between the pins
8. Wider through the rump
9. Wider at the thurls
10. More correct slope from hips to pins; criticizing 3 for being too high (or low) in...

#### **Front end (shoulders)**

1. More width and strength of chest
2. Smoother blending shoulder
3. Tighter at the point of shoulder
4. Fuller at the point of elbow
5. Tighter at the point of elbow
6. Fuller in the crops
7. Blends more smoothly from neck to shoulder and shoulder to barrel
8. More harmonious blending through the front end (throughout)
9. Wider on the chest floor
10. A stronger front-ended cow

#### **Head**

1. More breed character about the head
2. More femininity about the head
3. More alertness and style
4. Stronger through the jaw
5. More strength of muzzle
6. More style about the head
7. Brighter eye
8. More dish to the face
9. A deeper, stronger jaw

**Terms for comparing strength (body capacity)**

1. More width and strength throughout
2. More width and strength in the chest
3. Fuller behind the shoulders
4. Deeper in the chest
5. More spring of rib
6. More spring of fore rib
7. Deeper in the barrel
8. Fuller in the heart
9. Wider through the chest floor
10. Deeper in the rear rib
11. A stronger, more powerful cow
12. A cow with more strength and power
13. More powerful through the front end

**General appearance**

1. A more youthful cow
2. More style and balance (throughout)
3. More harmonious blending of parts
4. More symmetry and balance
5. A cow with more bloom
6. More balance throughout
7. More size, scale, and substance
8. A smoother blending cow throughout
9. A cow with more quality from end to end
10. She has an advantage in stage of lactation



**Opening statements**

1. 1-2-3-4 is my placing in this class of 4 yr. olds
2. I place this class of 4 yr. olds 1-2-3-4
3. My placing for this class of 4 yr. olds is 1-2-3-4

**Granting a superiority in the lower placing of a pair**

1. I admit that 4 is ...
2. I grant that 4 is ...

**Closing statements**

1. For these reasons, I place this class of (identification) 1-2-3-4.
2. These are my reasons for placing this class of (identification) 1-2-3-4.