

Mississippi 4-H Livestock/Horse Judging Contest	SR.	10-A	Brown Swiss Cows			
	Contest	Team No. and Contestant No.	Class	Class No.		Reason Score
DIRECTIONS - Below are all the possible placings for a class of 4 individuals. Draw a circle around the placing which you consider correct for the class you are judging.						
A=1-2-3-4	G=2-1-3-4	M=3-1-2-4	S=4-1-2-3			
B=1-2-4-3	H=2-1-4-3	N=3-1-4-2	T=4-1-3-2			
C=1-3-2-4	I=2-3-1-4	O=3-2-1-4	U=4-2-1-3			
D=1-3-4-2	J=2-3-4-1	P=3-2-4-1	V=4-2-3-1			
E=1-4-2-3	K=2-4-1-3	Q=3-4-1-2	W=4-3-1-2			
F=1-4-3-2	L=2-4-3-1	R=3-4-2-1	X=4-3-2-1			

JUNIOR YEARLING GUERNSEY HEIFERS SAMPLE REASONS

Good morning. I am contestant number 10-A. I placed this class of Junior Yearling Guernsey Heifers 3-1-2-4.

I placed 3 over 1 because she is a longer-bodied heifer. She is longer and more level from hips to pins, indicating greater length of udder upon maturity. 3 is higher and wider at the pins and more desirable about the tail setting. She has more balance and symmetry throughout.

I placed 1 over 2 because she is a more upstanding animal and is much stronger over the topline. She has more width of chest and is straighter in her fore legs. No. 1 shows more promise of udder, in that she has more loose folds of skin. Her teats are also more squarely placed.

I concede that 2 is more neatly blended at neck and shoulders.

I placed 2 over 4 mainly on dairy character. She is much cleaner and sharper throughout. She is sharper over the withers and is more prominent at hips, pins, and thurls. 2 is also more neatly blended at the neck and shoulders.

I placed 4 last in an easy placing because she is somewhat weak over the topline, has a sloping rump, and is shorter and more compact.

For these reasons, I placed this class of Junior Yearling Guernsey Heifers 3-1-2-4.

Are there any questions?

JUDGING HEIFERS

The Dairy Heifer Scorecard is shown. As you can see, the greatest emphasis should be on Dairy Character. Good heifer judges look for tall, straight animals with correct feet and legs. Keep in mind that heifers are simply undeveloped cows, and most things that apply to cows also apply to heifers. The explanations of frame, feet and legs, dairy character, and body capacity described earlier in this publication also apply to heifers.

Of course, you cannot be sure how the udder on a young heifer will develop upon calving, but there are indications for guidance. For instance, distance from hips to pin bones indicates whether the udder will be short or will have desired length. The basis for this is that a perpendicular line dropped from the hip of a cow will fall even with front of udder, and one dropped from pin bone will fall even with rear udder. Likewise, something of the width of udder a heifer will have upon freshening can be determined by observing width between hips, thurls, and pin bones.

If hips, thurls, and pin bones are wide apart, the heifer's udder should develop into a uniformly wide udder. There is a close correlation in that respect. On the other hand, if hips are wide and pin bones close together, udder tends to be wide in front and narrow behind. These principles also apply to dry cows, whose collapsed udders do not show their normal shape and size.