

5. less congestion (or swelling) in the udder
6. more prominent veining

GENERAL UDDER TERMS

1. larger, more capacious udder
2. more symmetry of udder
3. more "bloom" and capacity of udder
4. more balance of udder
5. leveler on the udder floor
6. she has an advantage in stage of lactation, having more bloom and capacity of udder

NEGATIVE TERMS

1. flatter on the udder floor
2. broken, weak median suspensory ligament
3. low, loose pendulous udder
4. udder lacking cleavage
5. lacks a crease to the udder when viewed from the rear

TERMS FOR COMPARING DAIRY CHARACTER

1. more angularity and clean-cutness
2. milkier appearance
3. more openness of ribbing
4. more open in her conformation
5. more dairyness throughout
6. more length and stretch
7. longer and leaner in the neck
8. more prominent about the hips and pins
9. cleaner down that topline
10. flatter (leaner or thinner) in the thighs
11. more curving in the thighs
12. longer and more open throughout
13. sharper at the point of withers

NEGATIVE TERMS

1. shorter, thicker neck
2. tighter, closer ribbed
3. throatier
4. carrying excess flesh in the throat, brisket, or dewlap
5. thick and fleshy about the throat and neck
6. thicker thighs
7. thicker, rounder shoulder
8. plainer
9. coarse and thick about the head and neck

TERMS FOR COMPARING LEGS & FEET

1. Straighter in her rear legs as viewed from behind (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 4 for being puffy in the left hock
4. handles her rear legs more correctly on the walk, faulting 3 for ...
5. more mobility, noting 2's crampiness
6. more strength and substance of leg bone
7. a cleaner, flatter hock (leg bone)
8. flatter leg bone
9. stronger in the pasterns
10. deeper in the heel (and shorter in the toe)
11. walks more correctly on her front feet, noting that 3 toes out (toes in)
12. more mobility

NEGATIVE TERMS

1. shallow heel
2. post-legged
3. weak, refined or coarse boned
4. weak pasterns
5. light-boned and lacking substance
6. hocks in when viewed from the rear
7. thick in the hock
8. too much set to her rear legs when viewed from the side
9. close at the hocks (cow-hocked)
10. toes out (toes in)
11. stands too close at the hocks
12. more coarseness at the hock
13. puffy about the hock

TERMS FOR COMPARING FRAME (Structure & Form)

RUMP

1. longer and leveler from hips (hooks) to pins
2. wider in the pins (and thurls)
3. less slope from hooks to pins
4. more nearly correct rump angle, criticizing 2 for being too low (high) in the pins
5. more nearly level from hooks to pins; faulting 3 for being too low (high) in the pins
6. tail head that sets more neatly between the pins
7. neater in the tail setting
8. more correctly set tail head

NEGATIVE TERMS

1. shorter, narrower rump
2. higher and coarser at the tail head
3. narrow between the hooks and pins
4. sloping and pinched in the rump
5. higher at the pins
6. more sloping in the rump
7. reverse tilt to the rump

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

TOPLINE

1. straighter down her topline, especially — — — —
2. stronger in the loin
3. stronger in the chine
4. stronger through the middle of her back; stronger in the loin (chine)
5. wider through the loin
6. longer from head to tail
7. more nearly level from withers to pins

NEGATIVE TERMS

1. less strength of topline
2. easy over the topline
3. weak in the chine and crops
4. weak in the loin
5. weak over the topline

FRONT END (Shoulders)

1. more width and strength
2. smoother blending shoulder
3. tighter at the point of shoulder
4. tighter at the point of elbow
5. fuller in the crops
6. blends more smoothly from neck to shoulder and shoulder to barrel
7. more harmonious blending through the front end (throughout)
8. wider on the chest floor
9. more width and strength of chest

NEGATIVE TERMS

1. coarser shoulder
2. looser shoulder
3. winged-shoulders
4. more prominent at point of shoulder
5. shallow shoulder lacking strength
6. open behind the shoulders

HEAD

1. more breed character about the head
2. more femininity about the head
3. more alertness and style
4. stronger through the jaw, faulting 3 for her Roman nose
5. more strength of muzzle

NEGATIVE TERMS

1. plainer about the head
2. head lacks style and breed characteristics

3. coarse about the head
4. short and plain about the head

TERMS FOR COMPARING 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 size, scale, and substance
14. deeper the flank
15. more depth of fore and rear rib
16. longer from end to end

NEGATIVE TERMS

1. less spring of rib
2. narrow chest floor
3. narrow, pinched heart girth
4. weak, front-ended cow
5. lacks openness and sweep to the rib
6. shallow-ribbed
7. narrow, weak, and frail
8. tight-ribbed
9. shallow fore and rear rib
10. pinched in the chest
11. shallow in the heart
12. short-bodied
13. shallow-bodied
14. ribs lacking in fullness and spring
15. round-ribbed

GENERAL TERMS

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 (and capacity)
6. placing the more recently fresh cow over
7. more balance throughout
8. she has an advantage in stage of lactation

DESCRIPTION FOR INDIVIDUAL COWS

Make your reasons more interesting by using color, markings, or some other clearly distinctive characteristics instead of the animal's number.

- “the black cow” (Holstein)
- “the dark colored cow” (Holstein, Brown Swiss, or Jersey)
- “the light colored cow” (Brown Swiss, Jersey, or Guernsey)
- “the white cow” (Holstein or Ayrshire)
- “the speckled cow” (Holstein or Ayrshire)
- “the spotted cow” (Holstein, Ayrshire, or Guernsey)
- “the broken colored cow” (Jersey)
- “the red cow” (Guernsey or Ayrshire)
- “the short eared cow”
- “the stub-horned cow”

GENERAL STATEMENTS

You can use many statements to add variety to your reasons. Some may help you show that the placing on one of the pairs is close or easy. Others help you make a statement of admission. Good reasons also have statements that help lead the listener from one pair to another.

TO INDICATE AN OBVIOUS (EASY) PLACING

1. A handy winner in this class
2. A logical winner in the class
3. An easy winner in the class
4. A clear cut winner in the class
5. She has a decided advantage
6. She has a definite advantage
7. She has a distinct advantage
8. In a more logical placing
9. She has much more ...
10. An outstanding cow in this class

TO INDICATE A CLOSE (DIFFICULT) PLACING

1. In a close placing 1 goes over 2 because
2. In a close pair, 1 places over 2 because
3. 2 is somewhat more . . . than 3
4. In a closer decision, 2 goes over 3 . . .
5. 2 gets the edge because she is . . .
6. 2 has a bit more . . . than 3
7. She has a slightly more . . .
8. Tends to be more . . .
9. Has a slight advantage

ADMISSION (GRANT) STATEMENTS

1. I admit that 4 is . . .
2. I grant that 4 is . . .
3. However, I give her the advantage
4. On the other hand
5. I realize that 4 is . . .
6. However, 4 is clearly
7. I concede that 4 is . . .
8. I recognize that 4 is . . .
9. I give her credit, however
10. 4 must be given the advantage, however, in . . .
11. I credit 4, however, for being . . .
12. I appreciate the . . . of 4, however . . .

TRANSITIONAL STATEMENTS (MIDDLE OR BOTTOM PAIR ONLY)

1. . . . then placing 2 over 3 because
2. . . . next placing 2 over 3 because
3. . . . next, I place 2 over 3 because
4. . . . in the middle pair, 2, places over 3 because
5. . . . concerning my middle pair, 2, places over 3 because
6. . . . going to my middle pair, 2, places over 3 because
7. . . . finally, placing 3 over 4 because
8. . . . in the bottom pair, 3 places over 4 because
9. . . . in my final pair, 3, goes over 4 because
10. . . . lastly, placing 3 over 4 because

JERSEY COWS SAMPLE REASONS

In placing this class of senior 2-year-old Jersey cows 2-1-4-3, I found a close top pair between the well uddered 2 and the powerful 1, followed by the very dairy 4 and ending with an easy bottom in the overconditioned 3.

It is 2's advantage in frame that carried her over 1 in my top pair. 2 was a taller, longer, more upstanding individual, showing more strength down her topline, was neater about the tailhead, and was wider in her hips and pins. 2 also had a slight advantage in mammary, carrying her udder higher above the hocks and having a smoother, tighter fore udder attachment and a more defined udder cleft.

However, I did not fail to realize 1 had a higher, wider rear udder attachment and a more capacious udder with more depth of udder.

Reviewing my middle pair, 1 overwhelmed 4 in mammary, having a more capacious, higher quality udder with a higher, wider rear udder attachment, a tighter, smoother blending fore udder attachment, and more correct teat placement. Moreover, 1 had the advantage of feet and legs, standing on a more correct set of rear legs, having a more desirable set to the hock, a steeper foot angle, and a deeper heel. In addition, 1 was flatter boned and squarer rumped.

4 easily places over 3 in my bottom pair because of her definite advantage of dairyness and frame. 4 was longer and leaner in the neck, being cleaner in the throat latch, showed more openness and sweep of rib, and was sharper over the withers. Not to mention the fact 3 was more nearly level from hock to pins and was flatter in the thigh.

I admit 3 was flatter boned, mainly in the hock, and was tighter in her shoulder structure. I faulted 3 and placed her last, for she lacked the frame, dairyness, and mammary of the cows I placed above her. It is for these reasons I placed this class of senior 2-year-old Jersey cows 2-1-4-3.

Thank you. Do you have any questions?

Prepared by
Andrea Slocum,
Former Tate County 4-Her