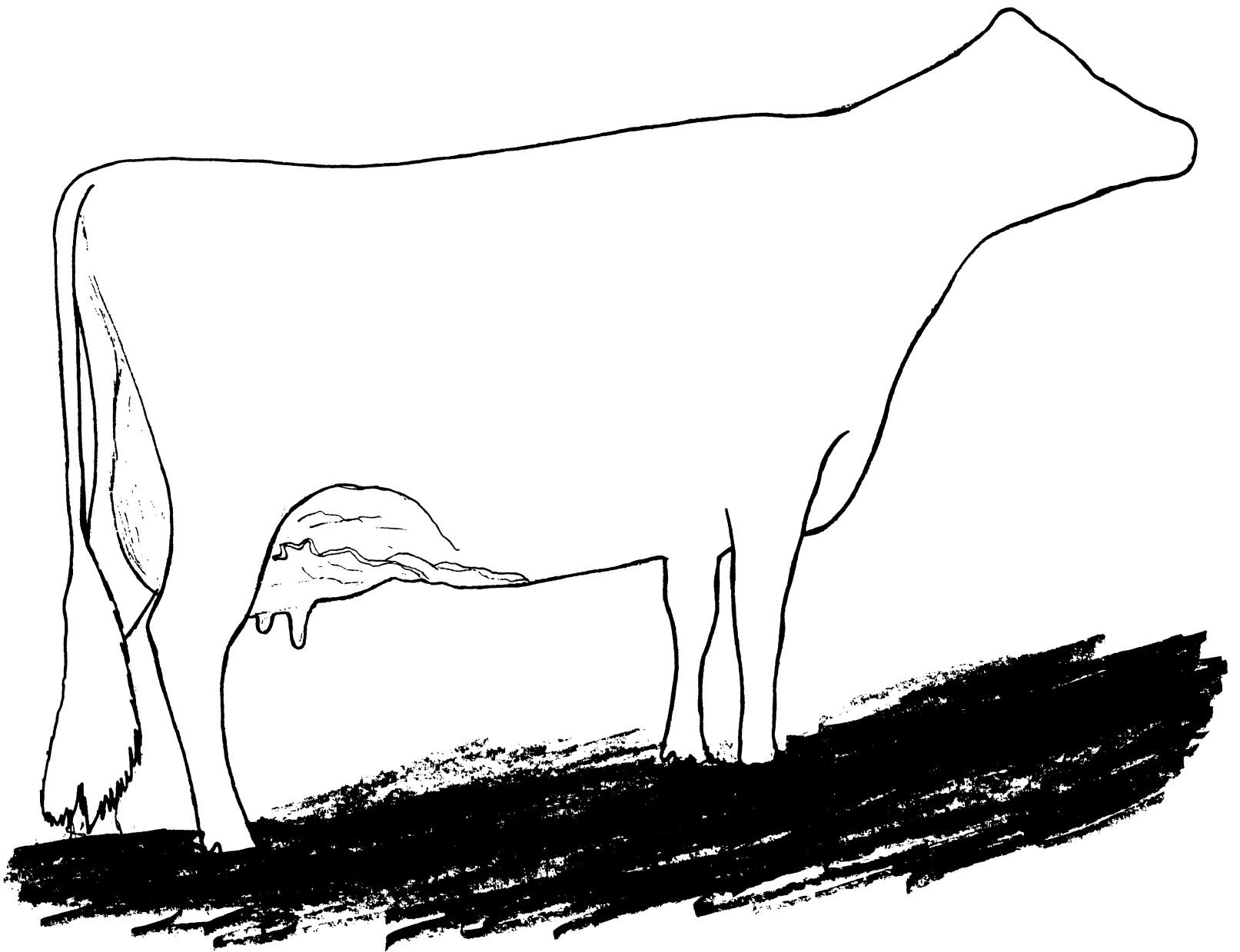


VIRGINIA'S 4-H DAIRY JUDGING IDEAS



THE VALUE OF JUDGING CONTESTS

by H. H. Kildee, Dean
Iowa State College

The judging contest in which you are participating will soon be completed but the memory and value will long remain with you. In order that you may obtain the greatest possible value, may I suggest that you proceed as follows:

1. Stand far enough from the ring so that you can really see each of the animals.
2. Call to mind a mental image of the correct type for the breed, sex, and age under consideration.
3. Proceed in an orderly manner to analyze each animal, noting the desirable and undesirable characteristics.
4. Weigh these points carefully in the balance of your knowledge and experience. Thus, you will decide the relative merits and your placing of the animals in the ring.

All life is competitive; therefore, many of the values derived from judging contests apply to our daily lives and work. Knowledge, ideals, confidence, attention to details, good sportsmanship, the ability to weigh in the balance the evidence for and against, and the ability to express judgments in a concise and forceful manner are but a few of the values. Of course, the primary objective is to learn to evaluate superior animals. This knowledge is used daily by all who have anything to do with livestock.

Breeders of purebred dairy cattle today realize that their principal objective is the production of seed stock which will improve the grade dairy herds in the efficiency and economy of producing milk of superior quality.

Utility has been emphasized, very logically, in the development of each of our breeds of dairy cattle. Therefore, milk producing ability on a practical long-time basis is demanded by those who are determining true type animals for each of the dairy breeds.

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Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. W. E. Skelton, Dean, Extension Division, Cooperative Extension Service, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061.

NEW VIRGINIA 4-H DAIRY COW SCORE CARD

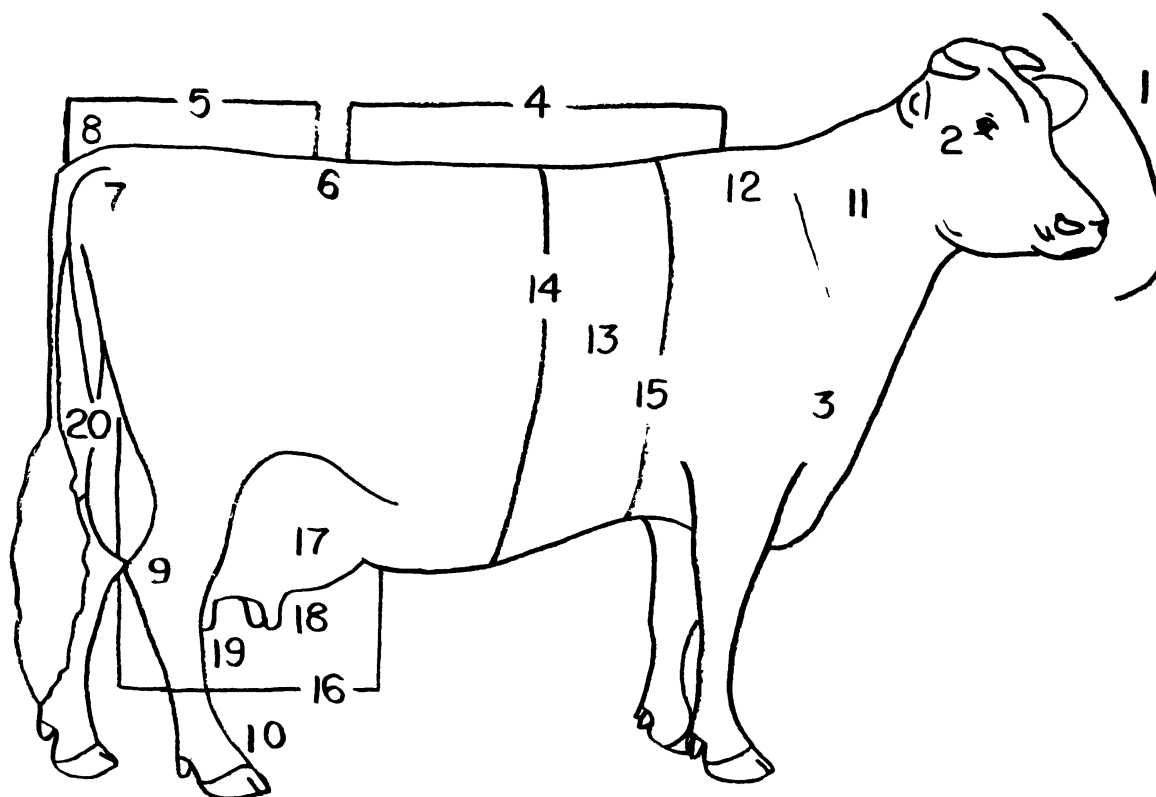
Breed characteristics should be considered in the application of this score card.

ORDER OF OBSERVATION	Perfect Score
1. <u>Mammary System</u> (A strongly attached, well balanced, capacious udder of fine texture indicating heavy production and a long period of usefulness)	35
<u>Udder</u> -Symmetrical, moderately long, wide and deep, strongly attached, showing moderate cleavage between halves, no quartering on sides; soft, pliable, and well collapsed after milking; quarters evenly balanced	13
<u>Fore Udder</u> -Moderate length, uniform width from front to rear and strongly attached	7
<u>Rear Udder</u> -High, wide, slightly rounded, fairly uniform width from top to floor, and strongly attached	8
<u>Teats</u> -Uniform size, of medium length and diameter, cylindrical, squarely placed under each quarter, plumb, and well spaced from side and rear views	5
<u>Mammary Veins</u> -Large, long, tortuous, branching--"Because of the natural undeveloped mammary system in heifer calves and yearlings, less emphasis is placed on mammary system and more on general appearance, dairy character and body capacity. A slight to serious discrimination applies to over-developed, fatty udders in heifer calves and yearlings."	2
2. <u>Dairy Character</u> (Evidence of milking ability, angularity, and general openness, without weakness; freedom from coarseness, giving due regard to period of lactation)	25
<u>Neck</u> -Long, lean, and blending smoothly into shoulders; clean cut throat, dewlap, and brisket	
<u>Withers</u> , sharp. <u>Ribs</u> , wide apart, rib bones wide, flat and long, <u>Flanks</u> , deep and refined. <u>Thighs</u> , incurving to flat and wide apart from the rear view, providing ample room for the udder and its rear attachment. <u>Skin</u> , loose and pliable	
3. <u>General Appearance</u> (Attractive individuality with femininity, vigor, stretch scale, harmonious blending of all parts and impressive style and carriage. All parts of a cow should be considered in evaluating a cow's general appearance)	24
<u>Breed Characteristics</u>	
<u>Head</u> -Clean cut, proportionate to body; broad muzzle with large, open nostrils; strong jaws; large, bright eyes; forehead, broad and moderately dished; bridge of nose straight; ears medium size and alertly carried	6
<u>Shoulder Blades</u> -Set smoothly and tightly against the body	
<u>Back</u> -Straight and strong; loin, broad and nearly level	
<u>Rump</u> -Long, wide and nearly level from <u>Hook Bones</u> to <u>Pin Bones</u> ; clean cut and free from patchiness; <u>Thurls</u> , high and wide apart; <u>Tail Head</u> , set level with backline and free from coarseness; <u>Tail</u> slender	6
<u>Legs and Feet</u> -Bone flat and strong, pasterns short and strong, hocks cleanly moulded. <u>Feet</u> , short, compact and well rounded with deep heel and level sole. <u>Fore Legs</u> , medium in length, straight, wide apart, and squarely placed. <u>Hind Legs</u> , nearly perpendicular from back to pastern, from the side view and straight from the rear view	12
4. <u>Body Capacity</u> (Relatively large in proportion to size of animal, providing ample capacity, strength, and vigor)	16
<u>Barrel</u> -Strongly supported, long and deep; ribs highly and widely sprung; depth and width of barrel tending to increase toward rear	8
<u>Heart Girth</u> -Large and deep, with well sprung fore ribs blending into the shoulders; full crops; full at elbows; wide chest floor	8

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR COACHES

by Dr. James R. Nichols

1. Communicate
Explain: What, why, when, where and how. What is judging? Why judge? What are the rewards? When are the practice sessions, the contests? Where are contests to be held? How do we learn--how do we win?
2. Get a Commitment - Do the candidates want to make the team? Will they do the necessary work? Will they listen and practice? Do they really want to win?
3. Plan Your Training Program - Time is valuable and must not be wasted. Start early enough to provide ample time to learn. This helps instill confidence. Give the candidates the complete schedule for the entire training and contest period.
4. Illustrate Correct Judging and Reasons Procedures - Show them how to take notes, to organize their main points, and to use comparative rather than descriptive terms. Have former team members give reasons before the current team candidates.
5. Select Classes that Teach - Start with pairs of two animals. The correct placing should be fairly obvious at first. This forces candidates to confine their discussion to a single placing and aids in building self-confidence. If good animals are not available, pictures may be used to good advantage.
6. Pair the Candidates - Have the two candidates talk to each other privately then practice their reasons before each other. Encourage them to help each other.
7. Use a Recorder - A simple inexpensive tape recorder can be used to real advantage. Record their reasons after they become "passable." Let everyone hear the recordings and have each criticize his own reasons and those of others. This helps them to begin to work together as a team.
8. Correct Mistakes - Soon after candidates have placed the class and given their reasons, a good group discussion is essential to correct mistakes. Encourage questions and discussion but do not permit these to degenerate into arguments.
9. Team Must Have Confidence in Coach - Team candidates must know what is expected of them, what the goals are and what the "game plan" is so far as the training period is concerned. Tell them we don't have all the answers. Play it straight. Explain how differences of opinion among approved judges may sometimes occur but that all good judges usually place the best cattle up and the poorer ones down.
10. Emphasize Importance of Team Standings - The overall team standing, not the individual or breed ranks, is the most important goal. One good boy, while he might be high on his team or in the contest, will not produce a winning team. All team members must recognize the importance of his individual performance as a team member.



EXPERIENCED JUDGES KEEP THESE POINTS IN MIND WHEN JUDGING DAIRY CATTLE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Head--medium in length, broad muzzle. | 11. Neck--long and lean, blending smoothly into shoulders. |
| 2. Eyes--bright and alert. | 12. Withers--well-defined, wedge shaped. |
| 3. Point of shoulders--blends smoothly with chest wall and withers. | 13. Ribs--wide apart. |
| 4. Back and loin--strong and straight. | 14. Barrel--deep and wide, tending to increase toward rear. |
| 5. Rump--long and wide, topline nearly level from loin to and including tail head. | 15. Heart girth--deep and full, wide chest floor. |
| 6. Hips--wide, free from excess tissue. | 16. Udder--long, wide and moderately deep. |
| 7. Pin bones--wide apart and well-defined, on line with hip bones. | 17. Fore udder attachment--well forward, strongly attached. |
| 8. Tail head--slightly above and nearly set between pin bones. | 18. Quarters evenly balanced; moderate cleavage between halves. |
| 9. Hind legs--nearly perpendicular from hocks to pastern; wide, squarely set. | 19. Teats--medium and uniform in size, squarely placed. |
| 10. Pasterns--medium length, strong and springy. | 20. Rear udder attachment--high and wide, carrying down deep without cutting in. |

DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING—AN AID IN CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT*

by John L. Morris

Character counts in 4-H Club members as well as in dairy animals. And upon the development of that character depends the future of the individual (or the animal). One of the ways 4-H Club work can build character in 4-H members is through the Dairy Cattle Judging Program.

It is almost impossible to know how many thousands of boys and girls have benefitted from this program. The results can be seen in many ways, but no more vividly than in the Championship teams of Maryland. Seventeen times since 1921, when they first began entering out-of-state competition, Maryland 4-H teams have won the National Dairy Cattle Judging Championship. Eight times they have gone on from there to win the International title.

What is the secret of all these successes--since Maryland is not one of the big dairy states? The secret is that Maryland dairy farms and cattle are among the finest and that, aside from Extension personnel, the 4-H'ers at every stage of their education are helped by enthusiastic sponsors: the dairy farmers, adult leaders, friends of 4-H. It is these volunteers who make the 4-H judging program what it is today.

Many times these people are former 4-H members who learned through the dairy judging programs. But they are not necessarily of the chosen few who were on a Championship team. 4-H develops a sense of giving, rather than getting. These volunteers are merely those who have benefitted from the programs and often say, "4-H has done so much for me that I want to help others learn the benefits of 4-H."

Practically every dairyman in Maryland welcomes the student judges to his farm any time they want to come. They not only provide classes for practice judging and leadsmen for the cattle, but they will correct or confirm the students' judgment and talk with them about dairy problems.

A youngster's 4-H education begins early. One is eligible to join a 4-H Club after they have passed their 9th birthday. The dairy activities include selection, breeding, feeding and management of a dairy project, cattle diseases, milk secretion and dairy technology. More advanced members include units on dairy farm analysis and the business of managing a dairy farm. The basic idea in judging is to study the unified dairy cattle score card, learning all the animal and the emphasis placed on certain parts such as dairy character, general appearance, body capacity, and mammary system. They study pictures, slides, and plastic models.

Judging training begins on the club or county level. Some counties work within individual clubs, then pick the top group from each club for further training prior to picking a county team. The Extension Agent and committee of volunteer leaders plan a series of judging training meetings at various farms plus sessions on public speaking. In many cases the volunteer leaders then assume the responsibility for the training and the county team is selected from the results of scores at all

*Taken from November, 1964, issue of The Brown Swiss Bulletin, John L. Morris, Extension Dairy Specialist, University of Maryland.

training sessions. The beginning members merely separate the cattle in the order of their merit. After he graduates from the junior group at age 14, he is required to place the class and then either orally or in writing give reasons for the placement.

County teams then compete at the state contest and the eight highest placing individuals are given further training. From these, two teams are selected. One represents the state in the National Contest, while the other attends a Regional Contest.

This training is excellent for the boy or girl who expects to remain on the dairy farm. They will be better able to select top quality cattle, improve their breeding program and their management of the dairy operation. But what of the more than 85% of farm-reared young people who must select non-farm careers? What has this training done for them? And what is the future of the Dairy Judging Program itself?

The philosophy of youth work is no longer the old belief that knowledge of subject matter is the only end to be achieved. The project work is still the core of the 4-H program. But learning-by-doing involves more than skills. It involves thinking, planning, making decisions and expressing them well, knowing what you believe, knowing why values are important and knowing why a certain course must be taken.

Judging cattle is big business extending far beyond the contest field. It has to do with buying and selling and banking. It also has to do with developing such qualities as honesty and sincerity, courage, patience, poise and confidence, good citizenship, character, and leadership. It is these indirect values of the 4-H program that are infinitely greater than the financial value received. Four-H helps young people lay a foundation for a more realistic approach to their responsibilities as adult citizens in an increasingly involved world. It teaches an appreciation for excellence--the importance of high standards of performance in EVERYTHING we do.

The objectives of our 4-H judging program are therefore valid. And there is evidence, too, that our methods seem to be working. Of our former judging members we find many successful dairy farmers. Many of these are serving as officers or directors of their breed associations, DHIA, or artificial breeding cooperatives. Of those who have selected non-farm careers, we find many in farm-connected careers: Extension, personnel, veterinarians, research teachers, government workers, deans of agriculture, merchandizing. But the values learned of public speaking, leadership, good citizenship, etc., has added to this list ministers, teachers, insurance representatives, and many others. Wherever 4-H'ers go, the results can be seen.

Four-H Club work has been described as a laboratory for living. Members find successes and failures, fun and sorrow, happiness and disappointments. These things do not show up as an accomplishment on their record sheet, yet they are better able to face the future by discovering these values through the 4-H Club judging program. Of course, we are proud of our Championship teams. But we are even more proud of our representatives in all fields--those whose lives have been enriched by the development of character through the 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging program.

PHILOSOPHY OF DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING

by Dr. James R. Nichols

Definitions:

Dairy type is that combination of phenotypic characteristics that has come to be accepted as indicative of milk production and longevity. This is generally thought of in contrast to the combination of physical characteristics that constitute the thick, low set and rounded beef type animal maintained for the production of meat.

Judging of dairy cattle is a comparative analysis of the cattle presented for study. It consists of a comparison of the strong and weak (good and bad) points of one animal as compared to those of another animal in the class and ranking the animals in order of their nearness to the ideal animal.

- A. Study the animals with the ideal (for the breed) in mind, observing strong and weak points.
- B. Weigh the importance of the desirable points and faults of each animal as compared to those of the other and the ideal.

Placing of Animals

1. Stand at a distance and get a clear-cut mental picture of the type and body conformation of the animals. Always take a rear, side and front view of the animals from a distance.
2. Remember the breed type you are looking for when judging a class.
3. In a class of 4 animals pick a top and bottom first, if possible, or get pairs together.
4. Thinking through your reasons on a difficult class before making the placing will often help you avoid bad "busts."
5. A final look at the class from a distance should be made before making your final placing.
6. Always hold to your first impression, unless it is discovered that some serious fault has been overlooked. Never change your placing at the last minute; you've spent your full time on evaluation and a last minute change is always dangerous.
7. Never let your placing be influenced by another contestant or by the way the judges are looking at the animals.
8. Do some thinking and work on terms to be used between workouts if you want to become a competent judge and able to express yourself clearly.
9. The right attitude, willingness to work and interest is what the coach is looking for. Ability can be developed.

Giving Your Reasons

The object of giving reasons is to tell where one animal excels the next in line in an accurate, impressive, interesting, sincere and confident manner.

1. Picture the class mentally.
2. Have your reasons well in mind before going before the judge. Organize and plan your reasons.

3. Give your reasons clearly and distinctly and not too fast.
 - a. Be accurate, concise and definite.
 - b. Start with major differences between animals being compared. Emphasize major points first.
 - c. Be fair and impartial.
 - d. Use plenty of comparison.
 - e. Be certain of the class so you do not mix numbers and sexes. Mixing numbers is confusing in giving reasons and may cost your team the contest.
4. Give your reasons smoothly and not in short, incomplete, jerky sentences.
5. Never repeat yourself; it takes time.
6. Never argue with the judge in a contest. Good judges do not weigh the points the same.
7. When talking a close pair make this evident and "grant" to lower place animal what is due it.
8. Always use 1, 2, 3, 4 to identify the animals. Do not speak of No. 1 or No. 2, or "3 cow", "4 cow", etc. It takes time and becomes tiresome to the listener.
9. All terms must be comparative except when it is necessary to make a direct criticism which cannot be adequately brought out by comparison. In other words the approach is from the positive rather than the negative or critical aspect.
10. Do not use such sweeping statements as "1 is the deepest cow in the class." If "1" is your top animal you are comparing "1" to the animal in second place and not to the whole class.
11. Never use the words "good", "better", "best", "I think", or "I guess."
12. Never make a statement unless you are sure in your mind it is right.
13. End your reasons in a forceful, confident manner and state clearly and concisely why you placed the last animal down.

Rules for Oral Reasons

- I. Accuracy--be certain your statements convey facts!
 1. Think about your class and do not get animals or numbers mixed.
 2. Avoid mentioning questionable points or "opening yourself up" so that the judge will have an opportunity to disagree with you.
 3. Admit the advantages of the "udder animal" whenever it has any points of superiority over the animal placed above it. These points of concession may be stated: I grant, I admit, I acknowledge the fact that, However, On the other hand, I recognize, I concede, etc.
- II. Organization (Proper sequence--variety of terms)
 1. Reasons should be concise, easy to follow and to the point, yet complete enough to cover thoroughly all of the important points and to give a vivid picture of the ring.
 2. Put the most important reasons first.
 3. Do not describe an animal; tell why you consider it superior to the animal next in line.

4. Do not skip from one part of the animal to another and back again.
5. The reasons should compare the animals under consideration. In the case of a close pair, a limited amount of description may be used.
6. Use the numbers of the animals often enough so that the judge can readily follow you. Avoid too frequent use of "she", "he", or "it."
7. Select terminology that makes clear what you are describing.

III. Force (Confidence, aggressiveness)

1. Have confidence in yourself.
2. Make yourself clear by using common words.
3. Do not talk too fast, but talk convincingly.
4. Talk in a slightly louder tone than you would in ordinary conversation, but do not go to extremes. Use inflection while talking.
5. Do not be content to mention main headings or general terms only. (Feed capacity, constitution, breed type) Get down to facts.
6. Never use indefinite words such as good, better, nice, etc.
7. Do not repeat certain words so often that your reasons become monotonous, but use sufficient variety.
8. Do not use long run-together statements.
9. Drop your voice at the end of each sentence.
10. Hold your head up.
11. Do not fidget.
12. Keep your hands behind you unless you must gesture.

IV. Experience (Is he a dairyman? Does he use dairy cattle terminology?)

1. Use terms that are peculiar to dairy cattle.
2. Become familiar with the characteristics of each breed of dairy cattle being judged.
3. To gain experience, practice writing and giving reasons on classes you have judged.
4. Make an effort to pick up new terms particularly well adapted to describing certain points of conformation.
5. Learn by your mistakes and the mistakes of others.

V. Poise (Impression on the judge)

1. Create a desirable impression by your appearance, manner and sincerity.
2. Look directly at the judge rather than around the room or out the window.
3. Stand squarely on both feet. Do not move about when giving your reasons.
4. Stand five to eight feet from the judge depending upon the size of the room.
5. Gestures with the hands should be kept to a minimum.

See notes under III.

COMPARATIVE TERMS FOR USE IN GIVING REASONS

Many boys and girls can easily place a class of cows and also recognize the differences between cows. However, they frequently have difficulty in telling the judge their reasons for placing one cow over another.

The first thing you must do to become a good dairy cattle judge is learn the parts of a cow and be able to locate them on any cow. After you can immediately identify all the parts you should proceed to learn comparative terms.

If you can recognize the differences between cows and memorize the phrases which apply to these differences, you will be on the road to giving accurate, comparative reasons. The phrases must be memorized well and you must know what they mean to be most effective. When you are giving your reasons, you will not have to think how to make a certain comparison. This will be easy to do after you have the basic phrases well in mind. With experience you will develop phrases of your own. These are only a few to help you get started.

You will note that all the terms listed below are comparative and not descriptive. The most common error made by boys and girls who are learning to give reasons is to describe the cows instead of comparing them. For example, "I placed 1 over 2 because she was large, straight over the topline, and has a level rump. Her udder was attached strongly, both fore and rear," does not tell the judge why you placed 1 over 2. You should say, "I placed 1 over 2 because she was larger, straighter over the topline, and has a more nearly level rump. Her udder attachment was longer and stronger in the fore, and higher, and wider in the rear." By using "er" words such as stronger instead of strong, straighter instead of straight, you will be making direct comparisons that will tell the judge why you placed the class as you did.

Now you are ready to develop your vocabulary of the comparative phrases listed below and learn what they mean. However, never use a phrase that you don't understand. It is best you use only the ones you know something about.

At first just learn short phrases like:

"She is taller"
"Wider in the chest"
"Deeper in body"
"Stronger loin"
"A larger cow"

After you have an appreciation for these phrases, move on to combining phrases like:

"She has a stronger jaw and is wider at the muzzle."
"She is far superior in dairy character, being sharper and cleaner over the withers, and more prominent about the hooks and pins."
"One has a more powerful front end in that she is wider in the chest, deeper in foreribs, has a greater spring of ribs and is fuller in the crops."

In building your vocabulary you can combine any phrases that you want. But when giving your reasons you must only use the phrases that apply to the situation.

A good practice to see how you are developing is to take a sheet of paper and go out into the barn or into a field and recall 10, 15, or 20 phrases that are particular to General Appearance. Then do the same for mammary system, dairy character and body capacity. Once you have a command of comparative terms for dairy judging, you can develop into a good judge and give excellent reasons.

COMPARATIVE TERMS

1. MAMMARY SYSTEM:

- A. She has a more capacious udder.
- B. Is higher, wider, and stronger in rear udder attachment.
- C. Has more balance and symmetry of udder.
- D. Exhibits a stronger median suspensory ligament.
- E. Displays more uniform width of rear udder from the top to the floor.
- F. Has more uniform width of udder from front to rear.
- G. A higher attached rear udder.
- H. Her fore attachment carries further forward.
- I. More desirable contour of rear udder.
- J. The floor of her udder is carried higher above the hocks.
- K. A longer, firmer, and smoother fore udder.
- L. She is flatter on the sides of her fore udder.
- M. More balance to the fore quarters.
- N. Appears to have a softer, and milkier udder.
- O. More prominent udder veining.
- P. Exhibits more udder veining and apparent udder quality.
- Q. More nearly level udder floor.
- R. Her teats hang more nearly plumb.
- S. A squarer teat placement.
- T. Teats of more desirable size and shape.
- U. Displays a more desirable size of udder in that 3 has too much udder for a 2-year-old.

2. DAIRY CHARACTER:

- A. Longer and thinner in the neck.
- B. More angular and open ribbed.
- C. Is more prominent about the hooks and pins.
- D. Cleaner cut about the head and neck.
- E. Trimmer in the throat.
- F. Flatter and cleaner in the thighs.
- G. Neater and more refined tail head.
- H. Displays more angularity and openness.
- I. Freer of excessive flesh.
- J. More open in her ribbing.
- K. Sharper over the withers and topline.
- L. Thinner in the thighs, cleaner and more refined.
- M. She is a milkier cow with more openness of body.
- N. Excels in dairyness, being a sharper, cleaner cut cow.
- O. Exhibits more milkiness, being sharper, longer, leaner, and cleaner.

3. BODY CAPACITY:

- A. Longer in body.
- B. Deeper in both fore and rear ribs.
- C. Greater spring of ribs.
- D. Has more arch to her ribbing.
- E. A larger more capacious barrel.
- F. Wider in chest.
- G. Fuller in the crops.
- H. More spring of fore ribs.
- I. Deeper in the heart.
- J. Fuller behind the point of the elbow.
- K. A longer ribbed cow that is deeper in body.
- L. Wider, deeper, and longer in the barrel.

BODY CAPACITY (CONTINUED)

M. Larger and stretchier body.

N. More powerful front end being wider and deeper in the chest.

4. GENERAL APPEARANCE:

A. Head and Neck:

1. Wider and broader in the muzzle.
2. Larger, more open nostrils.
3. Stronger and deeper in the jaw.
4. Brighter more prominent eye.
5. Wider in the forehead.
6. Longer and leaner neck.
7. Neck blends more smoothly with the shoulders.
8. Has more style and breed character about the head.
9. Is more feminine about the head.
10. Has more alertness and character about the head.

B. Shoulders, Topline and Rump:

1. Is smoother at the point of shoulders.
2. Stronger over the chine.
3. Tighter through the shoulders.
4. Has a wider loin that is stronger.
5. Neater laid in at the shoulders.
6. Straighter and stronger over the topline.
7. Carries more width at the hooks.
8. Longer from hooks to pins.
9. More nearly level from hooks to pins.
10. Smoother tail setting.
11. Higher and wider in the thurls.
12. Wider in pins.
13. Carrying out longer and more nearly level over the rump.
14. More neatly laid in at the tail setting.

C. Feet and Legs:

1. Has straighter front legs.
2. Stands wider between front legs.
3. Stands more squarely on rear legs.
4. Has a more correct set to her hocks.
5. Deeper in the heel.
6. Displays stronger and straighter pasterns.
7. Is straighter on her rear legs as viewed from the rear.
8. Flatter in the bone.
9. More squarely placed under her body.
10. Moves with a stronger, easier stride.

D. Overall:

1. Has more harmonious balance and blending of parts.
2. She is a larger, more upstanding and stretchier cow.
3. A more powerful cow exhibiting more size, scale, and substance.
4. Has more style, balance, and smoothness throughout.
5. A more attractive cow, she is smoother down the top, stands on straighter legs and has more size and scale.
6. She is a taller, longer cow with more vigor, strength and substance.

HOW TO MAKE NOTES

MAKING NOTES

Make a set of short, simple notes that will help you with your oral reasons. Notes are to be used to study before giving oral reasons to the judge, not to read to him. They should help you recall or re-make a mental picture of the class. Do not refer to your notes while giving reasons.

Below is an example of a set of notes. The illustration is reduced from a 5x8-inch note card. This size (5x8) card is recommended for notes. You should take a blank card and 2 sharp pencils with erasers to all judging sessions. Line-off a page for each class to be talked, similar to the form below.

CLASS 1 HOLSTEIN COWS	
4-3-1-2 pair bottom	GRANT
WHY 4 over 3 done Pair 1. Stronger udder 2. Taller 3. Straighter legs 4. Deeper body	3 over 4 1. More dairy character 2. Stronger loin
3 over 1 1. Deeper body 2. Larger cow 3. More balance of udder 4. More desirable teats	1 over 3 1. Longer udder
1 over 2 1. Flatter rump 2. More udder quality 3. Tighter shoulders	2 over 1 1. Straighter legs
2 placed last 1. Smallest cow 2. Poorest cow 3. Least dairy character	2 1. Deep body

SPELLING WORDS FOR DAIRY JUDGING

If you want to be a TOP judge, you will need to be able to spell these words for written reasons and know their meanings for oral reasons. Start by learning the words in group one before moving on to group two. Have another member, agent, adult leader, or parent quiz you on each group of words.

<u>One</u>	<u>Two</u>	<u>Three</u>	<u>Four</u>
1. Barrel	1. Attached	1. Advantage	1. Acknowledge
2. Brisket	2. Ayrshire	2. Appearance	2. Admit
3. Brown Swiss	3. Balance	3. Attachment	3. Analysis
4. Chine	4. Because	4. Capacious	4. Angularity
5. Cleaner	5. Blending	5. Capacity	5. Apparent
6. Dairy	6. Bottom	6. Carries	6. Decided
7. Deeper	7. Firmer	7. Character	7. Displays
8. Dew Claw	8. Freer	8. Cleaner-Cut	8. Exhibits
9. Dewlap	9. Grant	9. Contour	9. Exceeds
10. Flank	10. Guernsey	10. Dairyness	10. Excessive
11. Flatter	11. Leaner	11. Excels	11. Furthermore
12. Fuller	12. Level	12. Openness	12. Harmonious
13. General	13. Mammary	13. Placement	13. Ligament
14. Girth	14. Muzzle	14. Powerful	14. Median
15. Holstein	15. Pasterns	15. Prominent	15. Milkier
16. Hooks	16. Placing	16. Quality	16. Plumb
17. Jersey	17. Ribbing	17. Refined	17. Possess
18. Larger	18. Sharper	18. Smoother	18. Reasoning
19. Loin	19. Shoulders	19. Spring	19. Substance
20. Rump	20. System	20. Squarer	20. Superior
21. Taller	21. Stronger	21. Straighter	21. Suspensory
22. Thurls	22. Thigh	22. Strength	22. Symmetrical
23. Topline	23. Thinner	23. Stretchier	23. Symmetry
24. Udder	24. Veins	24. Uniform	24. Upstanding
25. Withers	25. Wider	25. Vigor	25. Upstandingness

A SET OF ORAL REASONS FOR JUDGING DAIRY CATTLE

I placed this class of Aged Guernsey Cows 1-4-2-3.

1 easily places over 4 because she is more pleasing in General Appearance, being a more upstanding and stretchier cow. 1 is straighter over her topline, more nearly level from hooks to pins, and stands on straighter legs than does 4. 1 has an advantage in mammary system over 4 in that her longer more capacious udder is also higher, wider, and stronger in rear udder attachment and stronger and smoother in fore udder attachment.

As to the close middle pair, I went 4 over 2 on Dairy Character as indicated by 4 being cleaner about the hooks and over the withers, longer and leaner in the neck and showing more milkiness throughout. 4 also has a more desirable size, shape and placement of teats than does 2. I grant 2 is exhibiting more body capacity. 2 is much wider in the chest, deeper in both fore and rear ribs together with more width of body and spring of rib.

On the bottom pair, I went 2 over 3. 2 has a superior udder that is stronger attached both fore and rear and has much more balance between rear quarters than 3. 2 is much stronger and wider in the loin giving her a straighter topline. Also 2 is longer in body, deeper in ribbing and wider in the front end. I grant, however, 3 is a cleaner-cut and milkier kind of cow.

But I dropped 3 because she is light in her left rear quarter, loose in udder attachments, easy in the loin, and shallow in body.

With these reasons, I placed this class 1-4-2-3.

WRITTEN REASONS FOR 4-H DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING

Placing Card

4-H CLUB JUDGING CONTEST

Contestant's Number 13A Reason Grade

Class Holstein Aged Cows

PLACING

1st 4 2nd 3 3rd 1 4th 2

Reasons for placing 4 1st over 3 2nd

4 is more desirable in G. A., being a taller, larger cow. She is stronger in the loin and more nearly level in the rump. 4 stands on straighter rear legs than does 3. 4's more capacious udder has more uniform size and shape of teats.

I grant 3 is stronger in udder attachments. 3 also has much more D. C., being cleaner cut throughout and sharper over the withers.

Reasons for placing 3 2nd over 1 3rd

3 excells 1 in D. C. She is cleaner about the head and neck and a milkier cow. 3's udder is higher, wider and smoother in rear attachment. She is also stronger in fore attachment.

However, I grant 1 has more B. C., being deeper in fore and rear ribs with much more spring of rib. She is also wider in the chest.

Reasons for placing 1 3rd over 2 4th

1 easily places over 2. She is a larger cow, straighter over the topline. 1 is deeper in her body in both fore and rear ribs and wider in the chest. She is a sharper, cleaner cut cow with more D. C. 1's udder appears to have more udder quality.

Reason for placing 2 4th

2 is a small cow, lacking the udder quality and body capacity of the other cows in their class.

Points to Remember When Writing Reasons for 4-H Dairy Judging

1. 50 points is a perfect score. One receives a total of 15 points for his comments on top pair, 15 points for middle pair, 15 points for bottom pair, and 5 points for placing the bottom cow on bottom. When one does not tell a complete picture of the differences between the cows is when one loses points.
2. Written reasons should be neat, legible and to the point. Extra words are not necessary. One can abbreviate the major heading (G. A., B. C., D. C., and M. S.).
3. The most important difference between 2 cows should be written first and the least important difference written last.
4. If the pair is close or real easy, it should be mentioned (4 easily places over 1 because . . . or 4 and 1 are a close pair).
5. The udder is a very important part of a cow and should be considered in all placings. Something about udder characteristics should be mentioned on every pair in your reasons.
6. One must tell why the bottom cow is on bottom.
7. Differences about the cows must be apparent in one's written reasons. Take, for example, the reasons on the preceding page.

Top pair - points mentioned

1. G.A.	<u>Grants</u>
2. Taller, larger cow	1. Ud. att.
3. Loin	2. D. C.
4. Rump	3. Sharper
5. Rear legs	
6. Capacious udder	
7. Teats	

Middle pair - points mentioned

1. D. C.	<u>Grants</u>
2. Milkier cow	1. B. C.
3. Rear attachment	2. Ribs
4. Fore attachment	3. Chest

Bottom pair - points mentioned

1. Larger cow	<u>Grants</u>
2. Topline	1. None, because
3. Body	it was a very
4. Ribs	easy pair
5. Chest	
6. D. C.	
7. Udder quality	

Bottom cow

1. Small cow
2. Udder quality
3. B. C.

8. Writing reasons is one's opportunity to convince the judge that his placing is 100% correct.

DAIRY JUDGING

Every 4-H Dairy member should have the ambition to become a good dairy judge. You can learn to judge if you will think and make use of your time in training work. Really, learning to judge dairy animals is not difficult if you will learn to become a keen, careful observer. You will also need to develop a desire to learn to recognize the big things that make an animal desirable or undesirable.

Through Judging You Learn--

- To make accurate observations and see the differences in animals.
- To weigh and evaluate these differences for comparison with an ideal.
- To arrive at a definite decision.
- To make an organized set of notes.
- To explain your decision in a pleasing, well-organized, and convincing manner when giving oral reasons.

Achieving skills in dairy judging will help you in selecting better animals for your 4-H project. It will be very valuable if you choose a career in the dairy industry. The skills developed in careful comparisons, making decisions, and in giving oral reasons will be invaluable in any career you may enter.

ORDER ADDITIONAL 4-H DAIRY JUDGING MATERIALS

<u>Title</u>	<u>Source</u>
Dairy Cattle Judging Made Easy	Dairy Youth Office, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg
Judging Registered Holsteins	Holstein Association Brattleboro, Vermont 05301
Jersey Judging Made Easy	American Jersey Cattle Club 1521 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43205
How to Judge Guernseys	American Guernsey Cattle Club Peterborough, New Hampshire 03458
Ayrshire Judging	Ayrshire Breeders Association Brandon, Vermont
Hoard's Dairyman Judging Guide	W. D. Hoard and Son Company Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin 53538

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This publication has been prepared for use in the Virginia 4-H Dairy Program. Credit is due writers of similar and related publications from which ideas and information were drawn.