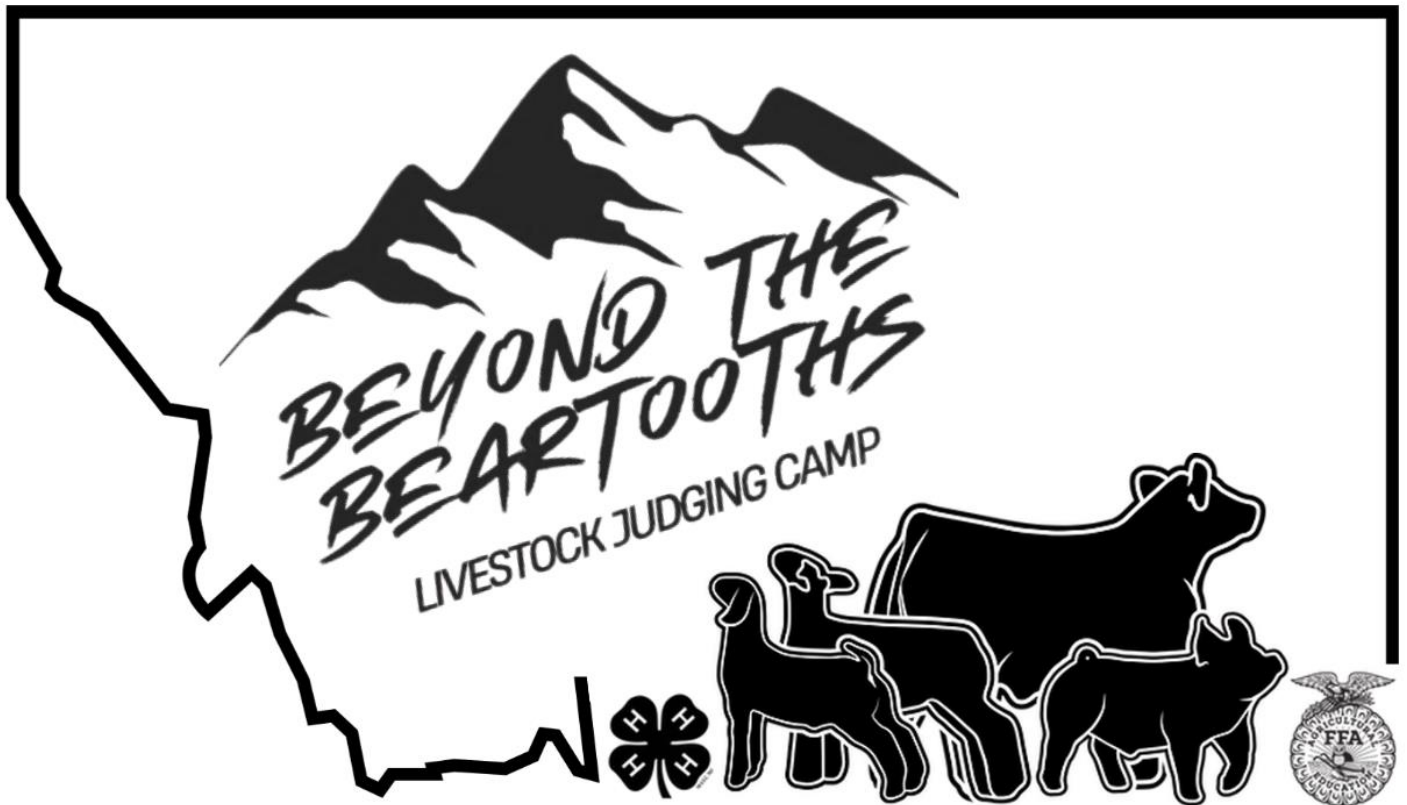


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# ***LIVESTOCK JUDGING MANUAL***

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**MAY 2025**

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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**Note Taking & Reasons Formatting . . . . . pg. 3 - 8**

**Cattle:**

|                                                                        |                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Anatomy &amp; Breeding Priorities . . . . .</b>                     | <b>pg. 9</b>       |
| <b>Ideal Breeding Heifer and Bull . . . . .</b>                        | <b>pg. 10</b>      |
| <b>Breeding Cattle Terminology . . . . .</b>                           | <b>pg. 11 – 15</b> |
| <b>EPDs . . . . .</b>                                                  | <b>pg. 16 - 17</b> |
| <b>Market Cattle Priorities &amp; The Ideal Market Steer . . . . .</b> | <b>pg. 18</b>      |
| <b>Market Terminology . . . . .</b>                                    | <b>pg. 19 – 23</b> |
| <b>Cattle Example Reasons . . . . .</b>                                | <b>pg. 24</b>      |

**Swine:**

|                                                                   |                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Anatomy &amp; Breeding Priorities . . . . .</b>                | <b>pg. 25</b>      |
| <b>Ideal Breeding Gilt . . . . .</b>                              | <b>pg. 26</b>      |
| <b>Breeding Hog Terminology . . . . .</b>                         | <b>pg. 27 – 31</b> |
| <b>EPDs . . . . .</b>                                             | <b>pg. 31</b>      |
| <b>Market Hog Priorities &amp; The Ideal Market Hog . . . . .</b> | <b>pg. 32</b>      |
| <b>Market Terminology . . . . .</b>                               | <b>pg. 33 – 37</b> |
| <b>Swine Example Reasons . . . . .</b>                            | <b>pg. 38</b>      |

**Sheep and Goat:**

|                                                                          |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Anatomy . . . . .</b>                                                 | <b>pg. 39</b>      |
| <b>Breeding Priorities and Ideal Breeding Ewe and Doe . . . . .</b>      | <b>pg. 40</b>      |
| <b>Breeding Sheep and Goat Terminology . . . . .</b>                     | <b>pg. 41 – 44</b> |
| <b>EPDs . . . . .</b>                                                    | <b>pg. 44</b>      |
| <b>Market Priorities &amp; The Ideal Market Sheep and Goat . . . . .</b> | <b>pg. 45</b>      |
| <b>Market Terminology . . . . .</b>                                      | <b>pg. 46 – 49</b> |
| <b>Sheep and Goat Example Reasons . . . . .</b>                          | <b>pg. 50</b>      |

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## ***WHY TAKE NOTES IN LIVESTOCK JUDGING???***

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- During a judging contest, you can judge anywhere from 8-12 different classes of different species; reasons are given later that day.
  - Effective note taking can help you remember certain traits and identifications of individual animals.
- Taking organized notes aid in reasons format and delivery of your thoughts.
- Write down brief descriptions, identifications of each individual animal, and notable differences in the class.
  - Which female is the soundest?
  - Who is the heaviest muscled?
  - Which animal is poor balanced?

---

## ***REASONS FORMAT***

---

- **Introduction**- Statement saying how you placed the class.
  - I sorted the breeding does 4321.
  - I liked the performance Angus heifers 1342.
  - I placed the crossbred barrows 2413.
- **Opening Statement**- Describing overall class dynamic or logic.
  - 4's easily the heaviest muscled, soundest option. I like the stoutest barrow to start.
  - There's a top pair of bulls who are extremely practical. I preferred the added power of the 2 over 4's eye appeal.
  - 3's ability to blend her pure power and stoutness of feature while staying feminine wins the class.
- **Top Pair Discussion**
  - Compare
  - Grant
  - Criticize
- **Middle Pair Discussion**
  - Compare
  - Grant
  - Criticize
- **Bottom Pair Discussion**
  - Compare
  - Grant
  - Criticize

---

## ***NOTE-TAKING FORMATS: REASONS***

---

**1. Brief Descriptions and IDs of 1**

**2. Brief Descriptions and IDs of 2**

**3. Brief Descriptions and IDs of 3**

**4. Brief Descriptions and IDs of 4**

**Opening Statement:**

**Class Name:**

**Placing:**

**1/2- Advantages for 1 over 2**

**2/1- Grants for 2 over 1**

**Criticism of 2**

**2/3- Advantages for 2 over 3**

**3/2- Grants for 3 over 2**

**Criticism of 3**

**3/4- Advantages for 3 over 4**

**4/3- Grants for 4 over 3**

**Why 4 Placed Last**

| Class Number and Name                                                                 |   | Class Placing                    |   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|
| 1                                                                                     | 2 | 3                                | 4 |
| Opening Statement                                                                     |   |                                  |   |
| <b>Top Pair Discussion</b><br>(Comparison of first place animal over second place)    |   | Grant Of Second Place Animal     |   |
|                                                                                       |   | Criticism of Second Place Animal |   |
| <b>Middle Pair Discussion</b><br>(Comparison of second place animal over third place) |   | Grant of Third Place Animal      |   |
|                                                                                       |   | Criticism of Third Place Animal  |   |
| <b>Bottom Pair Discussion</b><br>(Comparison of third place animal over fourth place) |   | Grant of Fourth Place Animal     |   |
|                                                                                       |   | Criticism of Fourth Place Animal |   |

---

## BEGINNER REASONS FORMAT

---

Insert YOUR placing

I (placed, like, sorted) the \_\_\_\_\_ (**name of class**) \_\_\_\_\_ - - - - .

For me, (**first place animal**) wins. He/she is the

\_\_\_\_\_. I'll admit that (**second place animal**)

is \_\_\_\_\_. However, he/she

is \_\_\_\_\_, so I elected to keep him/her second.

However, in the middle pair I still sort it \_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_. (**Second place animal**) is \_\_\_\_\_.

(**Third place animal**)

is \_\_\_\_\_. However, he/she

is \_\_\_\_\_. I decided to leave him/her third.

Lastly, in the bottom pair I marked it \_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_. (**Third place animal**) is

\_\_\_\_\_. Sure, (**Fourth place**

**animal**) is \_\_\_\_\_. In this class, he/she is

\_\_\_\_\_ and I put the \_\_\_\_\_ last.

---

## ***HELPFUL TIPS FOR THE REASONS ROOM***

---

### **Do:**

- **Greet the official taking reasons.**
  - Saying “Hello, how are you?” or a short greeting can be an effective first impression when first entering the room!
  - Greeting the official allows you to determine if you should be louder or softer with your voice. Your tone should be slightly above a conversation voice.
- **Make eye contact with the reasons official.**
  - Helps show confidence.
- **Use the same name for the class that was given to you.**
- **Vary delivery voice**
  - Positive or excited tone when highlighting advantages
  - Disappointed tone when discussing faults/criticisms
  - Implement pauses to allow for you to take a breath
- **Utilize facial expressions**
  - Helps emphasize key points
  - Slight head gestures and other body movements can be distracting
- **Include identifications and correct gender of animals**
  - Incorporating IDs are extremely effective for both you and the reasons official!
  - Having ID’s can help you really paint the picture of that animal
- **Make sure your reasons fall within 1:30 but not to exceed 2 minutes!**
- **It is okay if you mess up; just take a breath and keep going!**

## **Don't:**

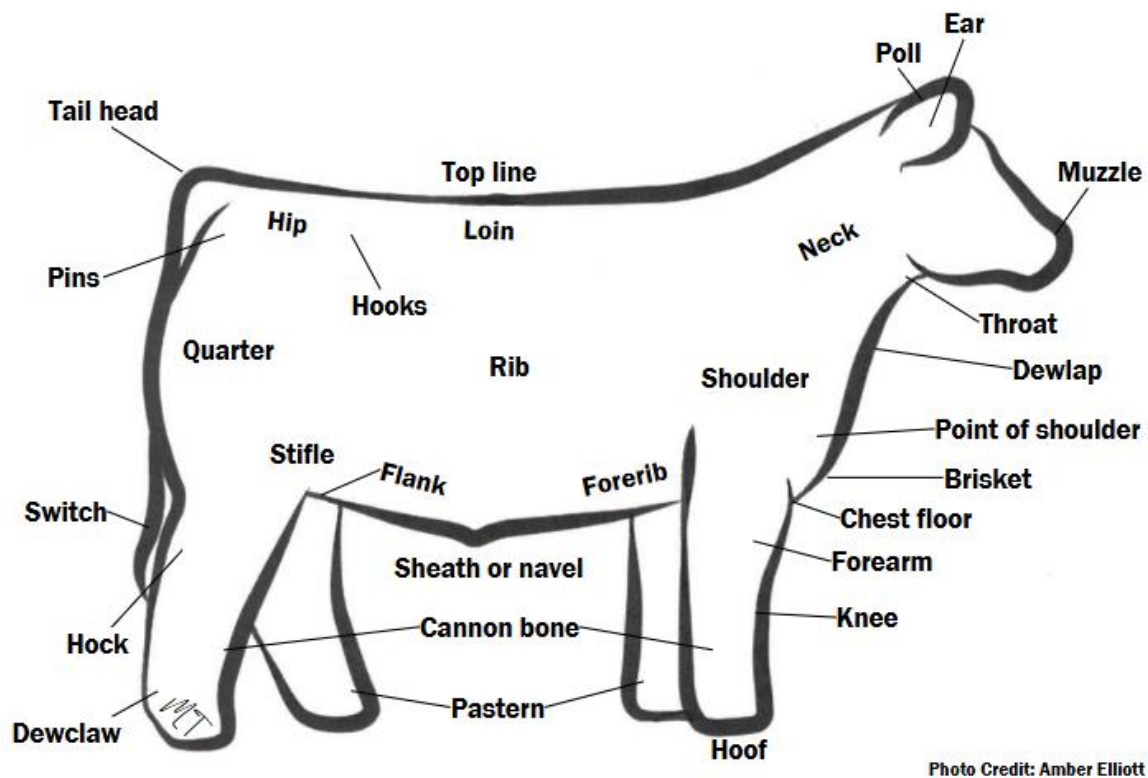
- **Introduce yourself**
  - Only identify yourself with the contestant number given
- **Try not to stand too close to the reasons official**
  - This depends on room size, but a good standard rule is standing about 6 feet away!
  - Once stopped, stand with your feet about shoulder width apart.
- **Don't sway or move around**
  - Keep feet planted in a stance that is comfortable for you.
  - Place hands behind your back.
- **Avoid saying:**
  - "Number 2"
    - Use the animal's number as if it was their name
    - Instead say the "2 is" or "4 is"
  - "The one..." (unless identifying the 1 animal).
    - Often judges want to say, "the massive one" or "the most complete one".  
This can cause confusion about which animal you are referencing.
  - "Animal" or "Individual"
    - Replace these words with species-specific terms such as steer, heifer, bull, gilt, barrow, boar, wether, ewe, doe, or ram.
- **Try not to use your notes**
  - Even if you stumble, power through; frequently, you'll get a higher score than when using your notes.
- **Avoid a number mix-up**
  - Mistakes happen; if you catch yourself mixing up your numbers, try to correct yourself!
- **Abbreviate breed names**
  - Never say "Simmi" for Simmental
  - "Char" for Charolais
  - "Berk" Berkshire
  - "Hamp" Hampshire
- **Repeat your placing at the end of your reasons**
  - You should say your placing in your opening statement.
  - Continue to use numbers throughout your set of reasons so the reasons taker can follow along.

***To improve your reasons, you must practice!***

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# CATTLE ANATOMY

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## BREEDING CATTLE PRIORITIES

---

| Breeding Heifer Priorities:                          | Breeding Bull Priorities:                            |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Functionality (combination of structure and body) | 1. Functionality (combination of structure and body) |
| 2. Balance/Eye Appeal                                | 2. Muscle/Power                                      |
| 3. Optimal Condition/Fleshing Ability                | 3. Fleshing Ability/Optimal Condition                |
| 4. Muscle                                            | 4. Balance/Eye Appeal                                |

**Ideal Breeding Heifer:**

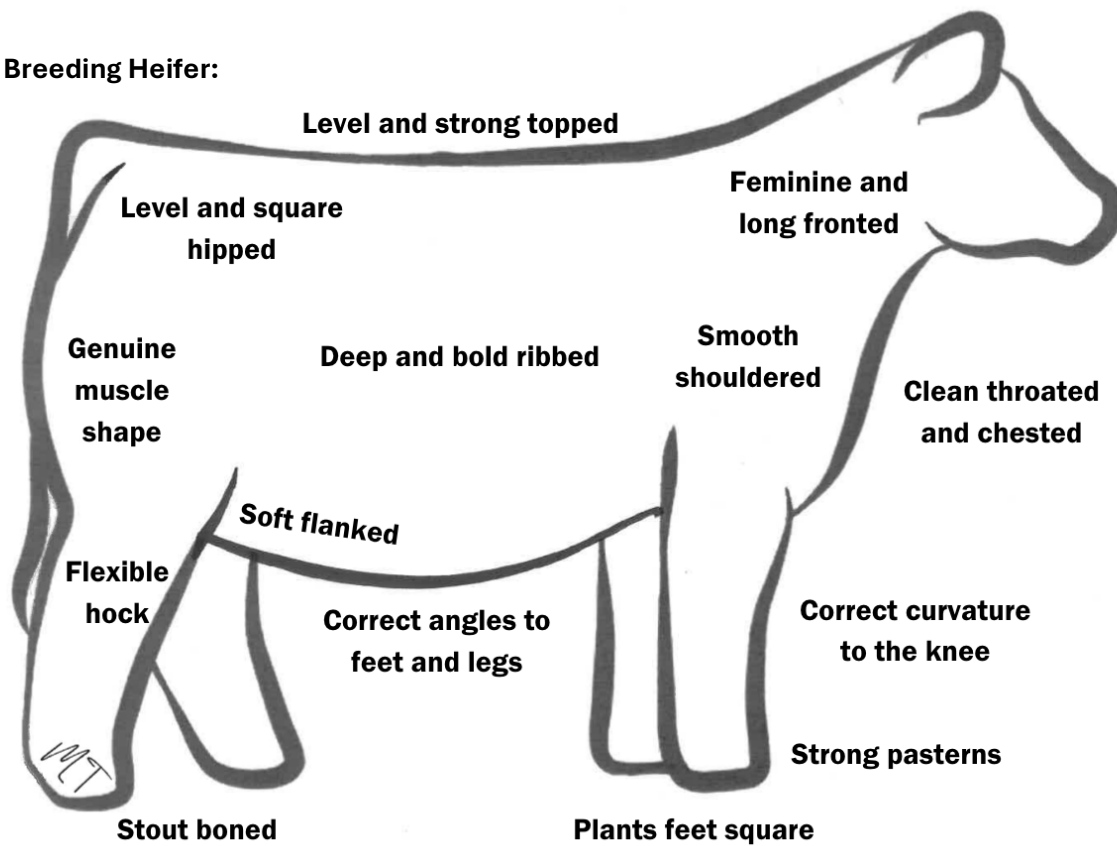


Photo Credit: Amber Elliott

**Ideal Breeding Bull:**

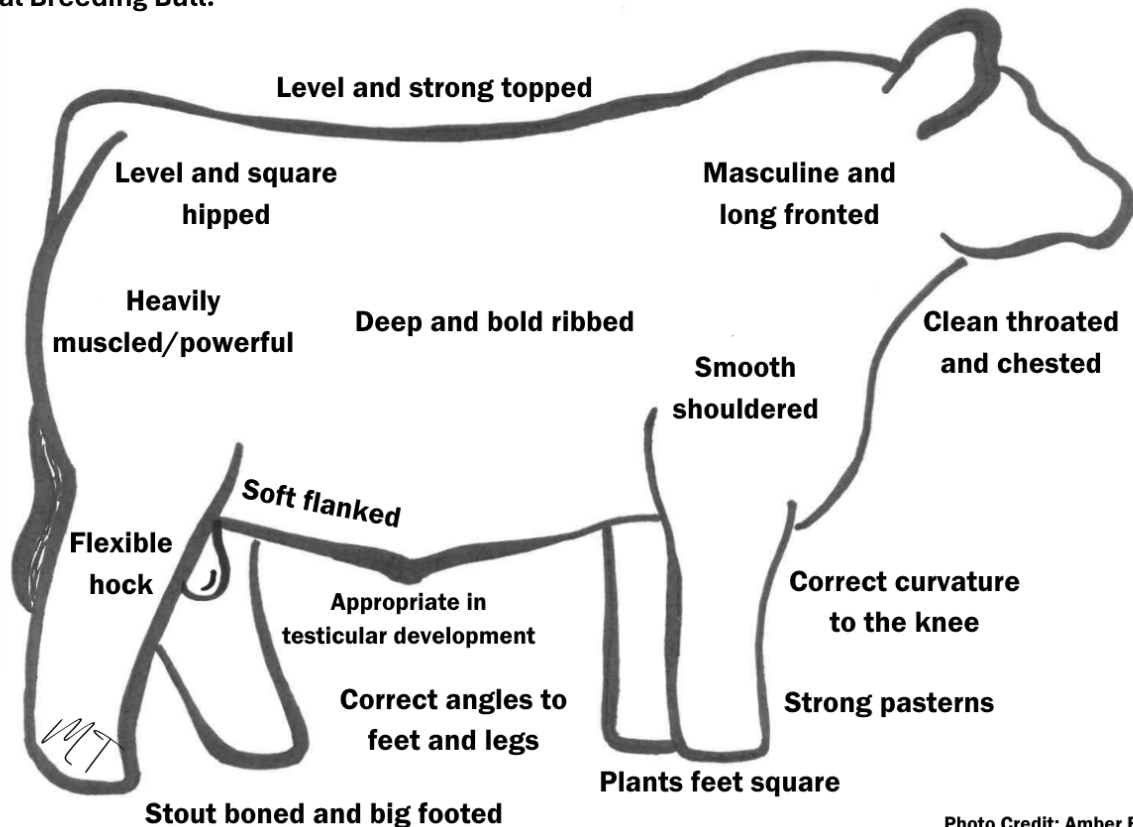


Photo Credit: Amber Elliott

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# **BREEDING CATTLE TERMINOLOGY**

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## **Structure:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correct in the angle to his/her shoulder and knee</li> <li>• Comfortable in motion</li> <li>• Easier moving</li> <li>• Functional</li> <li>• Freer moving</li> <li>• Flexible</li> <li>• Fills his/her track</li> <li>• Laid back in shoulder</li> <li>• Longer striding</li> <li>• Meets his/her stride</li> <li>• Plants with more flex out of hock and pastern</li> <li>• Sounder</li> <li>• Square-hocked</li> <li>• Square-built/made</li> <li>• Smooth/neat-shouldered</li> <li>• Skeletally correct</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bows from behind/ bow-legged</li> <li>• Coarse shouldered</li> <li>• Drops pins on the move</li> <li>• Ill-built</li> <li>• Open-shouldered</li> <li>• Poor-structured</li> <li>• Pulls hock in</li> <li>• Straight shouldered/fronted</li> <li>• Straight hocked</li> <li>• Short striding</li> <li>• Splays/toes out up front</li> <li>• Small-footed</li> <li>• Tight-spined</li> <li>• Tight-structured</li> <li>• Restricted in motion</li> <li>• Upright angles</li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## **Positive Structure Phrases:**

- His/her more correct shoulder angle and hind leg structure allow him/her to take a more comfortable step.
- Goes to surface with more comfort and flex off both ends
- The big-footed female/bull takes a longer step while staying more collected in his/her topline.
- He/she sets down with more flex and cushion in his/her pastern.
- Travels with more freedom
- Cleaner-jointed female/bull remains the most comfortable in motion
- When the cattle are in motion, the sounder-structured female fills her track
- The big-footed, stout-structured bull tracks with the most flexibility at the ground.

## **Negative Structure Phrases:**

- More upright in shoulder angle; consequently, doesn't fill his/her track
- His/her straight angles make me question his/her longevity
- On the lead, sets down more rigid in his/her pastern
- In motion, drops his/her pins and pulls his/her rear leg under

**Body/Volume:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bold bodied/ribbed</li><li>• Big bodied/ribbed</li><li>• Bolder foreribbed</li><li>• Deep-centered or bodied</li><li>• Dimensional</li><li>• High-volume</li><li>• Maternal sweep to her flank (females only)</li><li>• Practical-bodied</li><li>• Productive-centered</li><li>• Soft-ribbed/middled/sided</li><li>• Soft-flanked</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Harsh-middled or bodied</li><li>• Hard doing/keeping</li><li>• Flat-sided or ribbed</li><li>• Least/one dimensional</li><li>• Shallow-bodied</li><li>• Tight-ribbed</li><li>• Tight or cut up in flank</li><li>• Tight foreribbed</li></ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Body Phrases:**

- Maternal female blends smoothly from her shoulder to forerib
- She/he offers more rib and body
- The bolder foreribbed female draws back to a more maternal sweep to her flank
- Stout-featured bull is the bigger ribbed, sounder structure option that should hold up in production.
- The broody female is bigger-bodied and softer appearing
- Not only is she deep bodied, but also offers the most shape and dimension in her upper rib shape
- He/she reads more massive in his/her rib and body

**Negative Body Phrases:**

- Shallow-bodied heifer/bull reads the least practical
- Her tight-body and straight structure makes me question cow longevity
- Large-outline heifer/bull is the harshest-centered
- Flattest-sided and tight-flanked heifer reads too hard doing

**Skeletal Width/Power:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bigger-hipped</li><li>• Genuine muscle shape</li><li>• Natural thickness</li><li>• Powerfully built/made</li><li>• Stout hippped/made</li><li>• Thick made/ended</li><li>• Wider based</li><li>• Wide-constructed</li><li>• Wider/stouter pinned</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Closed up</li><li>• Light-muscled</li><li>• Least powerful</li><li>• Narrow-made/constructed/based</li><li>• Narrow-pinned</li><li>• Narrow-chested</li><li>• Outmassed/outpowered</li><li>• Plain-shaped</li></ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Skeletal Width/Power Phrases:**

- She's the bigger bodied option that offers the most natural skeletal width and thickness
- The broody female owns the class for genuine width and thickness
- The bigger pinned bull is wider tracking
- Wider constructed bull offers more power and thickness up high
- Stout featured heifer reads with so much brood cow power
- She's extremely powerful and reads massive in her rib and muscle
- Rugged-made bull easily is the most powerful and muscular

**Negative Skeletal Width/Power Phrases:**

- From behind, reads too narrow in pinset and tapers to the ground
- He/she gives up too much power and mass
- He/she is the narrowest constructed, lightest muscled
- Ideally, would like to stouten her up and give her more natural thickness

**Balance/Eye Appeal:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clean-chested</li><li>• Correct/level in his or her lines</li><li>• Elite look</li><li>• High-quality look</li><li>• Long necked</li><li>• Long, level-hipped</li><li>• Longer side/bodied/spined</li><li>• More extended through his/her front end</li><li>• Nicer-balanced</li><li>• Neater at topside of shoulder</li><li>• Neater-chested</li><li>• Proportional</li><li>• Refined up front</li><li>• Sharper-fronted</li><li>• Smooth made/shouldered</li><li>• Smoother in their topline</li><li>• Striking from profile</li><li>• Stout/Big boned/footed</li><li>• Square-hipped</li><li>• Ties neck high on point of shoulder</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coarse-naveled</li><li>• Coarse made</li><li>• Deep-chested</li><li>• Frail made/boned</li><li>• High tailhead</li><li>• Low fronted</li><li>• Off behind shoulder</li><li>• Off balanced</li><li>• Plain-fronted</li><li>• Plain from the side</li><li>• Poor-balanced</li><li>• Round/off in her hip</li><li>• Rounds from hooks to pins</li><li>• Short-sided</li><li>• Thick-fronted</li><li>• Weak in her/his spine</li></ul> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- All her parts blends smoothly from the side
- From the side, her added length and correct lines are striking
- From profile, offers an elite look
- Smoother patterned heifer/bull profiles with extra balance
- Clean-fronted female is my favorite from the side and draws back to the most attractive hip and hindleg

**Negative Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- Weak topped heifer's balance is the easiest to fault
- Low fronted bull reads too round out of his hip
- Coarse shouldered bull reads too deep in his chest and high in his flank
- Deep chested heifer reads off-balance

**Optimal Condition and Performance:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easy keeping</li> <li>• Easy doing</li> <li>• Easy fleshing</li> <li>• Fresher in condition</li> <li>• Later maturing</li> <li>• Low input</li> <li>• Low maintenance</li> <li>• More appropriate in condition</li> <li>• More weight per day of age</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carrying too much condition</li> <li>• Early maturing</li> <li>• Excessive</li> <li>• Heavier-conditioned</li> <li>• Hard keeping/doing</li> <li>• High input</li> <li>• Lower performing</li> <li>• Poor fleshing</li> <li>• Quick maturing</li> <li>• Slow growing</li> <li>• Tone her/him back in condition</li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive optimal condition and performance phrases:**

- Her ideal condition suggests she'll be easier to manage in production
- Her more moderate frame and bold body type suggests she's the lower maintenance option
- Longer cannoned bull reads more ideal in his growth pattern

**Negative optimal condition and performance phrases:**

- Her extra condition doesn't help the deep chested heifer's balance
- Shallow bodied female's added frame suggests she'll be harder keeping in production
- Earliest maturing bull gives up performance

**Sex Characteristics:**

|                 |                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Heifers:</b> | <b>Positives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feminine</li> <li>• Maternal</li> <li>• Refined about her head and neck</li> <li>• Refined teat shape</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coarse</li> <li>• Coarse teats</li> <li>• Long teats</li> <li>• Least feminine</li> <li>• Not as maternal</li> </ul> |
| <b>Bulls:</b>   | <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaner/tighter sheath</li> <li>• Masculine</li> <li>• Rugged</li> <li>• Larger-testicled</li> </ul>              | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Least-masculine</li> <li>• Loose sheath</li> <li>• Least rugged</li> <li>• Small-testicled</li> </ul>                |

| Production EPDs           |                            |                     |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| <i><b>Name</b></i>        | <i><b>Abbreviation</b></i> | <i><b>Trend</b></i> |
| Calving Ease Direct       | CED                        | Higher              |
| Birth Weight              | BW                         | Lower               |
| Weaning Weight            | WW                         | Higher              |
| Yearling Weight           | YW                         | Higher              |
| Yearling Height           | YH                         | Higher              |
| Scrotal Circumference     | SC                         | Higher              |
| Pulmonary Artery Pressure | PAP                        | Lower (under 41)    |

| Maternal EPDs         |                            |                     |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| <i><b>Name</b></i>    | <i><b>Abbreviation</b></i> | <i><b>Trend</b></i> |
| Heifer Pregnancy      | HP                         | Higher              |
| Stayability           | Stay                       | Higher              |
| Calving Ease Maternal | CEM                        | Higher              |
| Maternal Milk EPD     | Milk                       | Average             |
| Mature Weight         | MW                         | Higher              |
| Mature Height         | MH                         | Higher              |
| Cow Energy Value      | \$EN                       | Higher              |

| Terminal/Carcass EPDs |                            |                     |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| <i><b>Name</b></i>    | <i><b>Abbreviation</b></i> | <i><b>Trend</b></i> |
| Carcass Weight        | CW                         | Higher              |
| Marbling              | MARB/IMF                   | Higher              |
| Ribeye                | REA                        | Higher              |
| Carcass Fat           | Fat                        | Average             |

| Indexes                 |                            |                     |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| <i><b>Name</b></i>      | <i><b>Abbreviation</b></i> | <i><b>Trend</b></i> |
| \$Beef                  | \$B                        | High                |
| \$Combined              | \$C                        | High                |
| All Purpose Index       | API                        | High                |
| Certified Hereford Beef | CHB\$                      | High                |

**Phrases for Performance Classes:** In sets, you can refer to EPD's as production values, Genetic script, Genetic figures, or Seedstock values.

**Overall Statements:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The most balanced in his/her seedstock values</li> <li>• Most impressive in his/her genetic script</li> <li>• Multi-trait excellence</li> <li>• Hardest to fault on paper</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Falls out on paper</li> <li>• Most holes in his/her production values</li> </ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Birth Weight/Calving Ease:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He's the calving ease sire</li> <li>• I'd trust him on first time heifers</li> <li>• His smooth design matches his low birth-weight figure</li> <li>• More calving ease bred into his pedigree</li> <li>• More conservative in his birthweight</li> <li>• He's a safe option to use on heifers</li> <li>• I feel most comfortable settling him to first time heifers</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I wouldn't trust him on first time heifers</li> <li>• High birthweight bull</li> </ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Growth:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He should inject more growth into his offspring</li> <li>• The terminal sire should stamp his calf crop with added power and growth</li> <li>• Impressive growth spread (birth weight to yearling weight)</li> <li>• Has the performance advantage on and off paper</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regressive in his/her growth figures</li> <li>• Below average in growth indicators</li> <li>• Lowest performing on and off paper</li> </ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Carcass:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Powerful bull is the most impressive in his carcass values</li> <li>• He's equipped with the carcass genetics to impact his fat cattle</li> <li>• His progeny should excel on a dual-based grid</li> <li>• I hope his carcass values pass on to his progeny</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Least impressive in his carcass figures</li> <li>• Below average in his carcass values</li> </ul> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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# **MARKET CATTLE PRIORITIES**

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**Market Cattle Priorities:**

- 1 Carcass Value/Composition (Muscle and Finish)
2. Practicality (Body and Structure)
3. Balance and Eye Appeal

**Ideal Market Steer:**

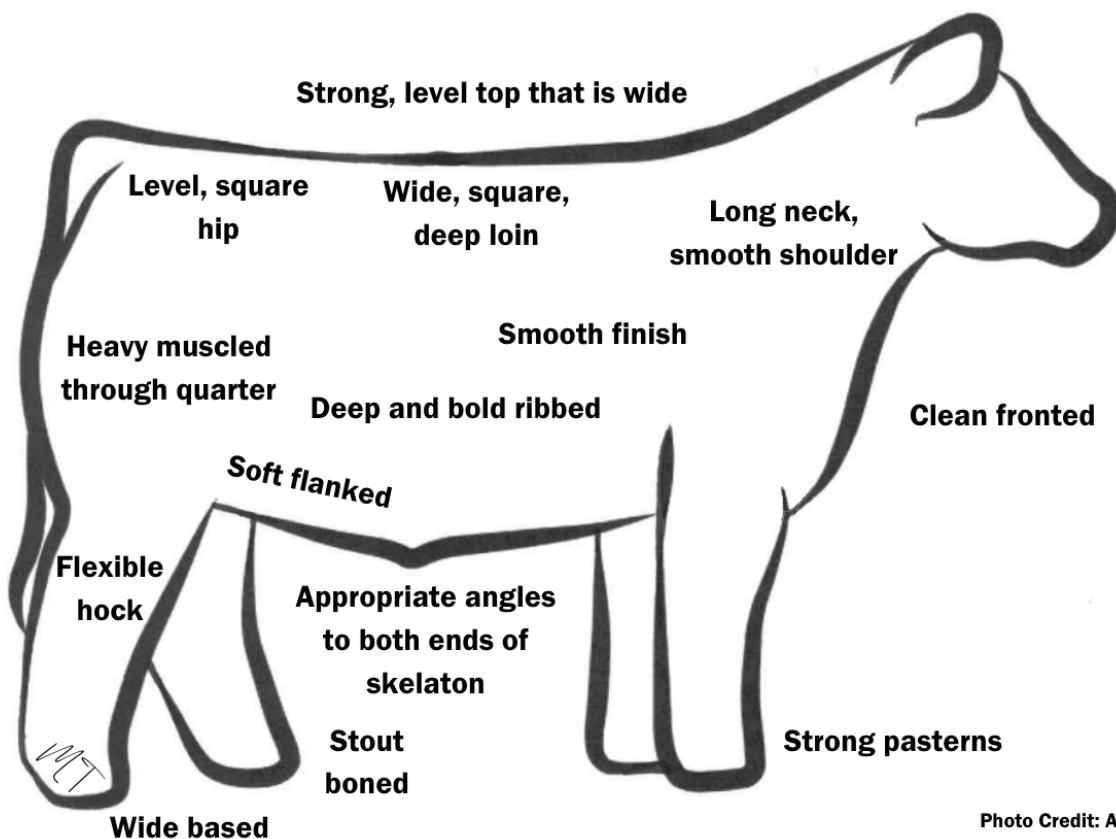


Photo Credit: Amber Elliott

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# MARKET CATTLE TERMINOLOGY

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## Muscle:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Big topped</li><li>• Expressive muscle pattern</li><li>• Expressively muscled</li><li>• Heavy muscled</li><li>• Natural thickness</li><li>• Product oriented/driven</li><li>• Shapely</li><li>• Stout hipped/pinned</li><li>• Thick/shapely quarter</li><li>• Wide topped</li><li>• Wide constructed/based</li><li>• Wide/square loined</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Closed up</li><li>• Flat made</li><li>• Flat quarter</li><li>• Lightest muscled</li><li>• Least expressive</li><li>• Least shapely</li><li>• Narrow chested</li><li>• Narrow pinned</li><li>• Narrow loined</li><li>• Narrow based/constructed</li><li>• Narrow topped</li><li>• Outmassed/outpowered</li><li>• Plain in muscle shape</li></ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Positive Muscle Phrases:

- Wider constructed steer works more natural thickness down his top
- On the handle, stout made steer offers a more natural turn to his loin
- Feeds with more muscle out of backside of his shoulder
- From behind, he's the wider pinned option that has more shape to his quarter
- Reads with more natural shape and expression down his top
- Big-ribbed steer reads with more spread over his top
- Handles with more shape over his loin

## Negative Muscle Phrases:

- Narrow constructed steer reads the least impressive in his muscle shape up high
- From behind, narrow pinned steer is the flattest in his quarter
- Frailer made option is tighter in his forerib and narrowest topped
- Handles with the least amount of turn and spread down his top

**Optimal Fat Thickness/Finish:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compositionally correct</li><li>• Correctly finished</li><li>• Heavier finished</li><li>• More market ready</li><li>• Smooth handling</li><li>• Smoother over 12th/13<sup>th</sup> rib</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bare over his 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Harsh handling</li><li>• Less market ready</li><li>• Over finished</li><li>• Quality grade concern</li></ul> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Carcass:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Go to the rail with most pounds of product</li><li>• High quality grade</li><li>• Higher cutability</li><li>• Rib a larger eye</li><li>• Stamp the lower numerical yield grade</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Composition concern</li><li>• Low cutability</li><li>• Poor composition</li></ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Optimal Fat Thickness and Carcass Phrases:**

- If genetics allow, I'd expect the heavier finished steer to achieve a higher quality grade
- On the rail, the bolder bodied and bigger topped 4 should expose a larger eye
- More expressively muscled 1 is higher cutability
- Soft middled steer reads fuller in his external indicators
- Practical made steer hit me as the more market ready option
- Handles mellower over his 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>
- On the handle, he's the fresher steer that handles smoother over his last rib
- Higher cutability steer handles with more genuine spread up high

**Negative Optimal Fat Thickness and Carcass Phrases:**

- Over finished and lightest muscled steer is a composition concern
- Compositionally, 4 is the most off the mark. Flattest bodied steer has deposited the most fat in his brisket and over his ribs
- 3's extra fat not only takes away from his look, but may jeopardize his carcass value
- He's the barest handling steer who needs more time on feed
- The leanest steer is the tightest bodied and least practical

**Body/Volume:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Positive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bold ribbed</li><li>• Bolder foreribbed</li><li>• Bigger bodied</li><li>• Dimensional</li><li>• Practical centered</li><li>• Soft centered/middled</li><li>• Soft flanked</li></ul> | Negative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cut up in flank</li><li>• Flat sided</li><li>• Harsh centered</li><li>• 1-Dimensionial</li><li>• Shallow bodied</li><li>• Tight ribbed</li><li>• Tight flanked</li></ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Body/Volume Phrases:**

- Bolder bodied steer spans more product up high
- He's the bolder, more dimensional steer that's wider constructed
- Softer flanked steer balances better from the side

**Negative Body Phrases:**

- Flattest sided steer gives up too much mass
- He's entirely too shallow bodied and straight structured to compete
- He's deep chested relative to a tight flank

**Structure:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Correctly structured</li><li>• Comfortable in motion</li><li>• Clean jointed</li><li>• Durable built</li><li>• Flexible</li><li>• Freer moving</li><li>• Heavy structured</li><li>• Laid back in in angles</li><li>• Looser constructed/structured</li><li>• Relaxed in his shoulder and knee</li><li>• Structurally correct</li><li>• Sounder made</li><li>• Square hocked</li><li>• Square made/built</li><li>• Smoother/cleaner jointed</li><li>• Sets front feet squarer</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bow-legged</li><li>• Coarse jointed</li><li>• Coarse shouldered</li><li>• Ill-built</li><li>• Poor-built</li><li>• Restricted</li><li>• Rigid on the move</li><li>• Straight shouldered</li><li>• Straight hocked</li><li>• Short striding</li><li>• Tight spined</li><li>• Tight structured</li><li>• Upright in knee and shoulder</li></ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Structure Phrases:**

- At the surface, stout featured steer takes a longer step
- Of the pair, he's the sounder option that is more laid back in his angle in knee
- Smoother shoulder steer reads more relaxed in his angles
- Longer hipped steer sets down with more flex out his rear skeleton

**Negative Structure Phrases:**

- He's the straight made steer who isn't equipped with enough flexibility
- Coarse jointed steer is too straight hocked
- Reads more upright off both ends of his skeleton

**Balance/Eye Appeal:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clean fronted</li><li>• Extended through front end</li><li>• Fresh fronted</li><li>• Level designed</li><li>• Nicer balance</li><li>• Nicer profiling</li><li>• Longer side/bodied/spined</li><li>• Proportional</li><li>• Proportional fat steer look</li><li>• Strong topped/ level topped</li><li>• Stout made/big footed</li><li>• Square/level hipped</li><li>• Soft flanked</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coarse shouldered</li><li>• Deep chested</li><li>• Frail made/small footed</li><li>• High/tight flanked</li><li>• Low fronted</li><li>• Off in his hip</li><li>• Mature fronted</li><li>• Plain</li><li>• Poor balanced</li><li>• Round hipped</li><li>• Short fronted</li><li>• Short hipped</li><li>• Weak topped</li></ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- He profiles with the most attractive hip and hind leg design
- Clean fronted steer offers an extremely proportional, fat steer look from the side
- Extended made steer is constructed the most correct in his lines
- He's the longer fronted steer that is the strongest in his topline and comes the squarest out of his hip
- It's impressive the stout made steer still is the most attractive from the side

**Negative Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- Off-balance steer is too round out his hip
- He's coarse shouldered and weak in his top
- Profiles with the least amount of quality
- Balance wise, he's too deep in his chest relative to his flank

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## **CATTLE REASON EXAMPLES**

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### **Heifers**

I like the Angus Heifers 2-3-4-1. There's a top pair of high-quality females that are totally different in their type and kind. For me, I sided with the added skeletal integrity of 2 over 3's extra power. The white flanked heifer is the soundest female that is smoother shouldered, comes back to a more maternal sweep to her flank, and is designed the most attractive out her hip and hind leg. No doubt, the broody 3 is powerful. The big footed heifer is massive in her rib and body and the widest in her pin set; however, she's coarser about her shoulder and navel. Going away, I'd like to square her up from hock to ground.

In the middle pair, 3's mass and dimension overwhelm 4. From the side, I appreciate 4's presence and balance. The most feminine female ties her neck higher of her shoulder and stronger topped. But behind the cattle, the flatter sided heifer gets out massed and reads more average in her foot and bone size.

On bottom, functionality sorts it 4/1. The more maternal heifer is freer moving especially out of her hock and is softer ribbed. Up high, slick haired 1 reads bolder in her upper rib shape and comes with more natural thickness out of her hip, but on the move, I can't stand the straightest made heifer. The shallowest bodied, least practical heifer is 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Bulls**

I placed the performance Angus Bulls 4-3-1-2. Immediately, 4's blend of power and structure wins. It's not every day that the most masculine bull combines the most muscle and dimension with this kind of flexibility at the surface. To top it off, the biggest testicled bull is my pick to generate low input, productive daughters. I'll admit, highest indexing 3 reads with more direct growth and is extremely functional in his build; however, he doesn't balance up as nice. The tighter foreribbed bull gets easy behind his shoulder and is shorter hipped.

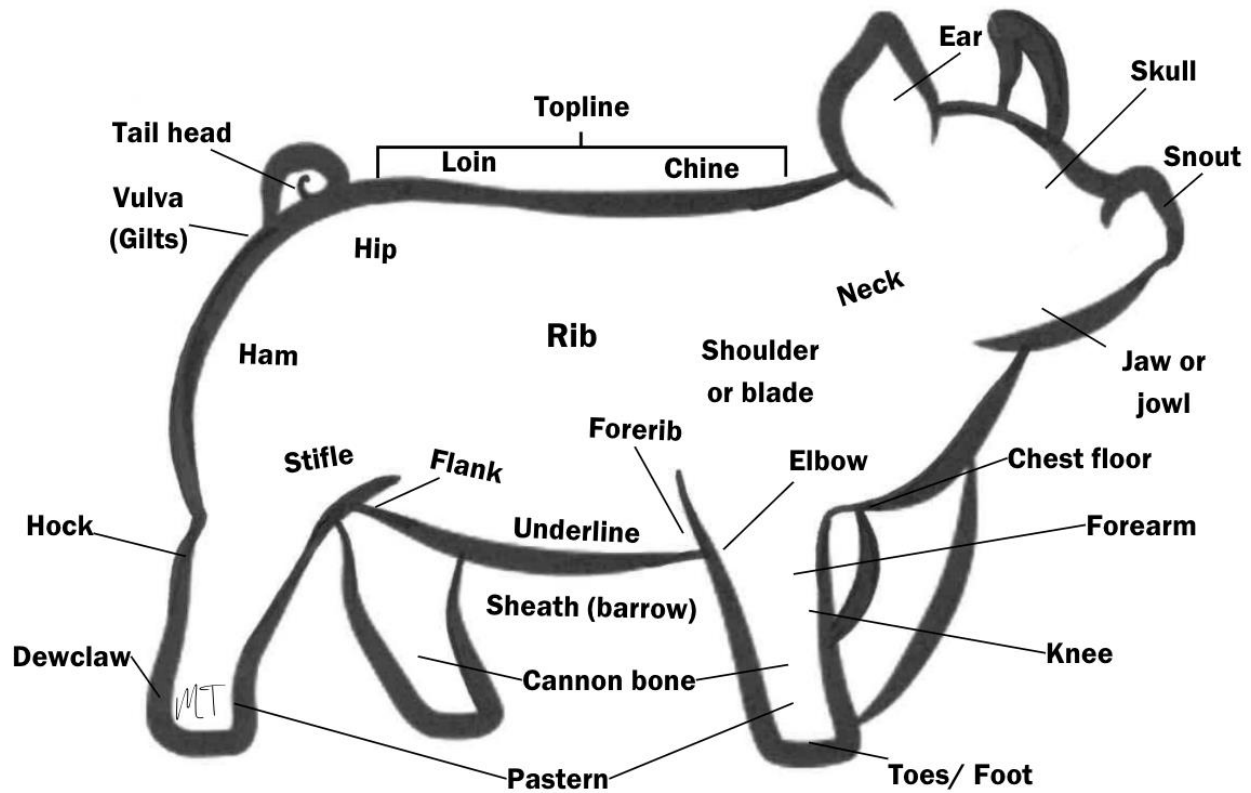
The middle pair is close; I marked it 3 over 1. The wider constructed 3 has the edge in natural thickness and upper body shape and in motion, the big footed bull sets down with more cushion to his pastern and flex out of his hock. From the side, 1 has the edge in balance and eye appeal. He's the long-fronted, cleaner chested bull that comes back to a squarer hip. Comparatively, he's narrower constructed and flatter in his body shape and lower stifle, and tighter hocked.

Regardless on bottom, I am more confident in 1's sound structure to last in production and sort him over 2. Up front, the more moderate bull is more laid back in the angle of his shoulder and knee. Sure, the calving ease sire is certainly smooth made and extended, but he's the straightest shouldered, most rigid in motion and offers the least power and dimension. I'll keep the low performing bull last.

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# SWINE ANATOMY

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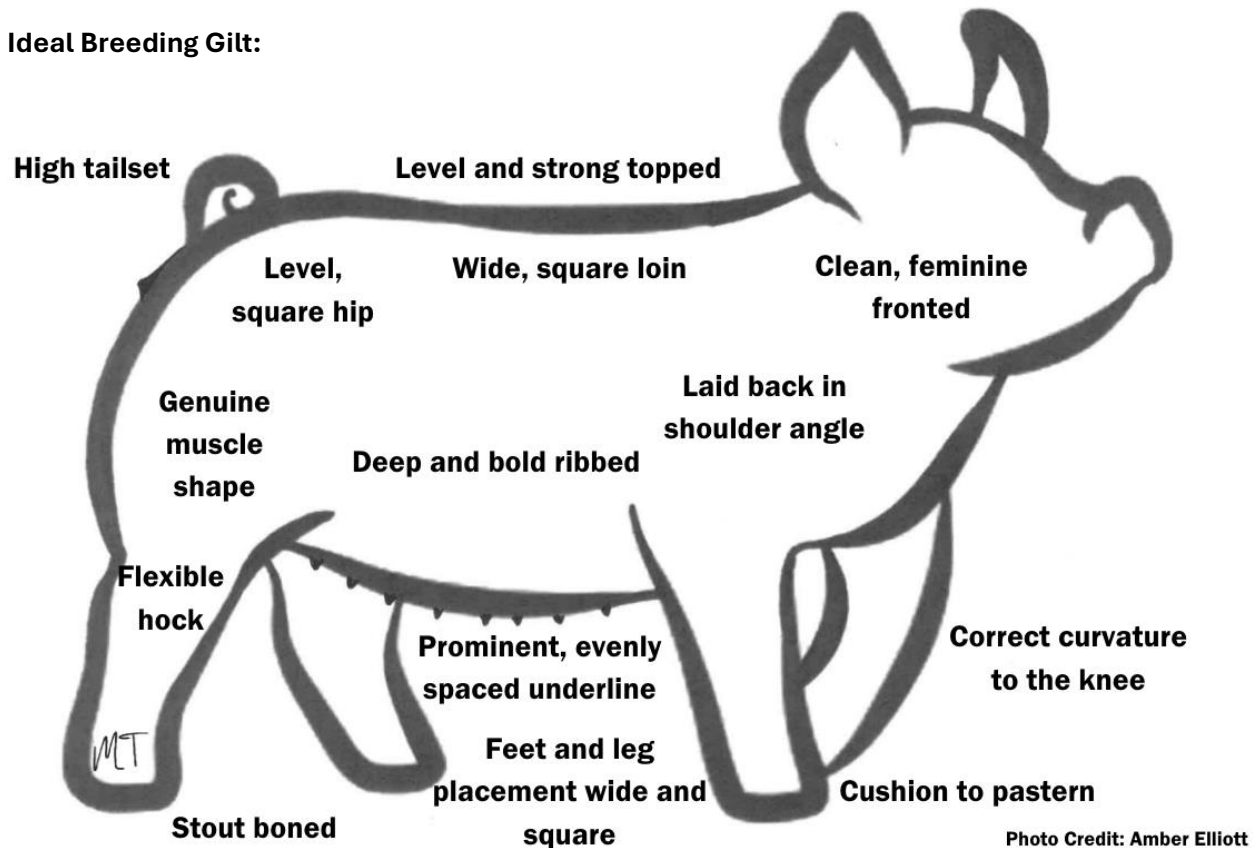
## BREEDING HOG PRIORITIES

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**Breeding Gilt Priorities:**

1. Functionality (Structure and Body)
2. Balance and Eye Appeal
3. Muscle
4. Fleshing Ability/ Optimal Condition

## Ideal Breeding Gilt:



## Sex Characteristics:

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Gilts:</b> | <b>Positives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent in the size and spacing of her teats</li> <li>• Evenly spaced underline</li> <li>• Feminine</li> <li>• High counting underline</li> <li>• Maternal</li> <li>• More prominent in her teat shape</li> <li>• Refined about her head and neck</li> <li>• Refined teat shape</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blunt underline</li> <li>• Coarse</li> <li>• Coarse teat/underline</li> <li>• Least feminine</li> <li>• Not as maternal</li> <li>• Small vulva</li> <li>• Tipped vulva</li> </ul> |
| <b>Boars:</b> | <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent underline</li> <li>• High counting underline</li> <li>• Larger testicled</li> <li>• Masculine</li> <li>• Rugged</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Least masculine</li> <li>• Loose sheath</li> <li>• Least rugged</li> <li>• Small testicled</li> </ul>                                                                             |

# ***BREEDING HOG TERMINOLOGY***

## **Structure:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletic in (his/her) build</li> <li>• Better built</li> <li>• Correctly structured/built</li> <li>• Correct in the angle to her/his shoulder and knee</li> <li>• Cleaner jointed</li> <li>• Comfortable on drive</li> <li>• Durably built/designed</li> <li>• Even spread to toes</li> <li>• Flexible at the surface/in motion/on the drive</li> <li>• Freer moving</li> <li>• Hinges looser out of (his/her) hip and hind leg</li> <li>• Laid back in her blade</li> <li>• Looser constructed/structured</li> <li>• More range of motion</li> <li>• Plants with more flex out hock and pastern</li> <li>• Relaxed in blade angle</li> <li>• Smooth/neat shouldered</li> <li>• Sound made</li> <li>• Squarer hocked</li> <li>• Squarer kneed</li> <li>• Square built</li> <li>• Skeletally correct</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bows from behind/bowlegged</li> <li>• Breaks/broken behind blade</li> <li>• Coarse shouldered/bladed</li> <li>• Coarse jointed</li> <li>• Comes in at her knee</li> <li>• Forward in the angle of her blade</li> <li>• Ill-built</li> <li>• Least correct in her skeleton/build</li> <li>• Limited in step/in motion</li> <li>• Poor structured</li> <li>• Pulls hock in</li> <li>• Restricted in motion</li> <li>• Round hipped</li> <li>• Straight hocked</li> <li>• Straight made</li> <li>• Straight shoulder/fronted/bladed</li> <li>• Splays/toes out up front</li> <li>• Swollen hocked</li> <li>• Tight spined</li> <li>• Tight on the drive/structured</li> <li>• Timid on the drive</li> <li>• Upright angles</li> <li>• Uncoordinated in motion</li> <li>• Uneven in toe spread</li> </ul> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## **Positive Structure Phrases:**

- More functional gilt has a more appropriate set to her hind leg and pastern
- Stouter featured gilts equipped with a durable foundation which supports her added mass up high.
- Strong-pasterned 3's laid back angles are better suited for confinement
- Looser designed gilts' range and reach is unmatched
- Plants and pushes with more flex and give to her hock and pastern
- Taller shoulder gilt is more pulled back in her blade and knee
- Comes at me squarer from blade, knee to ground
- Longer-sided 4 hinges looser out of a more flexible hind leg
- Equipped with more cushion out of her knee and pastern

- Drives so comfortable with a massive hip and hind leg
- Her correct angles should allow her to hold up in the crate/confinement
- It's to no surprise that the gilt who is more laid back in her blade and knee offers more reach up front

#### **Negative Structure Phrases:**

- Straighter made gilt labors too much off her front end
- Takes the most restricted step out of her hip and hind leg
- Straight bladed female is the most restricted in her hock and pastern
- Harsh centered gilt is too tight off both ends of her skeleton and the least functional
- Structurally, she's too upright in her blade and tight in her spine

#### **Body/Volume:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bold bodied</li> <li>• Big bodied/ribbed</li> <li>• Bold ribbed/caged/center rib</li> <li>• Deep centered or bodied</li> <li>• Dense bodied</li> <li>• High volume</li> <li>• Massive ribbed</li> <li>• More dimensional</li> <li>• Most center rib</li> <li>• Maternal rib shape</li> <li>• Maternal sweep to her flank (females only)</li> <li>• Practical bodied/ribbed</li> <li>• Soft ribbed/middled</li> <li>• Soft flanked</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flat sided or ribbed</li> <li>• Harsh middled or bodied</li> <li>• Hard doing/keeping</li> <li>• Least dimensional</li> <li>• Least productive</li> <li>• Tight ribbed</li> <li>• Tight fore ribbed</li> <li>• Tight or cut up in flank</li> </ul> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### **Positive Body/Volume Phrases:**

- Broody appearing female easily offers the most dimensional rib shape
- More flexible gilt is by some margin bolder and softer in her center body
- Comes with more dimension and turn to her center rib
- Softer bodied 3 reads more practical
- Stout skulled gilts the biggest chested and transitions back into the boldest forerib

**Negative Body/Volume Phrases:**

- Coming and going, the narrowest constructed gilt is the flattest ribbed
- She's the tightest and harshest about her center body
- Frailer made 2 reads too one-dimensional

**Balance/Eye Appeal:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attractive</li><li>• Correct and level in his/her lines</li><li>• Elite/Impressive look</li><li>• Extended ahead of blade</li><li>• High quality look</li><li>• Good designed</li><li>• Level hiped</li><li>• Neater in his/her lower 1/3</li><li>• Nicer balanced</li><li>• Nicer profiling/designed</li><li>• Proportional</li><li>• Reads proportional from the side</li><li>• Square hiped</li><li>• Smooth made/bladed</li><li>• Ties neck high on point of shoulder/blade</li><li>• Tall bladed</li><li>• Upheaded</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deep chested</li><li>• Low fronted</li><li>• Off balanced</li><li>• Off behind shoulder</li><li>• Plain fronted</li><li>• Poor balanced</li><li>• Plain from the side</li><li>• Round/off in her hip</li><li>• Short sided/ more compact</li><li>• Short faced</li><li>• Weak in her/his spine</li><li>• Wastier lower 1/3</li></ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- On the whip, I like the upheaded gilt's extension ahead of her blade
- Most feminine female brings forth added length and extension
- Leveler designed gilt is set higher at the base of her tail
- Driving profile, the tall shouldered, extended gilt is my favorite
- Maternal made 4 is a standout for design and presence

**Negative Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- Short skulled gilt breaks behind her behind her blade and too round hiped
- Coarse bladed 1 is too short in her kind and the least feminine
- Early maturing, short faced 3 is too coarse

**Skeletal Width/Power:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Big topped</li><li>• Bigger hipped</li><li>• Bold bladed</li><li>• Big forearm</li><li>• Genuine muscle shape</li><li>• Natural thickness</li><li>• Natural skeletal width</li><li>• Opened up</li><li>• Powerfully built/made/constructed</li><li>• Shapely</li><li>• Stout hipped</li><li>• Stout skulled</li><li>• Stout featured</li><li>• Square topped</li><li>• Wider chested</li><li>• Wide constructed/based</li><li>• Wider/stouter pinned</li><li>• Wide topped</li><li>• Works more spread/width/mass uphigh</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Closed up</li><li>• Frail skulled</li><li>• Frail featured</li><li>• Light muscled</li><li>• Least powerful</li><li>• Narrow made/constructed</li><li>• Narrow pinned</li><li>• Narrows/flattens through lower skeleton</li><li>• Narrow chested</li><li>• Narrow topped</li><li>• Outmassed/outpowered</li><li>• Plain shaped</li></ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Skeletal Width/Power Phrases:**

- Comes and goes the widest in her skeleton
- Stouter featured gilt drives wider and squarer underneath
- Brood gilt is bolder in her center rib and wider at the surface
- Stout skulled, big footed gilt is more pulled apart in her chest and transitions back to the boldest rib shape
- Bold bodied 4 works more natural thickness down her top and out of her hip
- Leaving me, wider pinned gilt is more powerful

**Negative Skeletal Width/Power Phrases:**

- Coming at me, frail skulled female is too closed through her chest which correlates to her being the flattest bodied
- Frail made 3 is the most closed up through her knee and chest
- From behind, 4 tapers out of her hip and to the surface

**Optimal Condition, Growth and Performance:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate in condition</li> <li>• Cleaner/neater lower 1/3</li> <li>• Clean jawed/jawed</li> <li>• Fresher in condition</li> <li>• Easy keeping</li> <li>• Easy doing</li> <li>• Later maturing</li> <li>• More weight per day of age</li> <li>• Low input</li> <li>• Low maintenance</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carrying too much condition</li> <li>• Deep jawed</li> <li>• Early maturing</li> <li>• Heavier conditioned</li> <li>• High maintenance</li> <li>• Hard keeping</li> <li>• Lower performing</li> <li>• Quick maturing/patterned</li> <li>• Slow growing</li> <li>• Short faced/cannoned</li> <li>• Smaller framed/scaled/statured</li> <li>• Stale</li> <li>• Excessive</li> <li>• Wastier lower 1/3</li> <li>• Wasty made</li> </ul> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Condition, Growth, and Performance Phrases:**

- The tall fronted gilt is equipped with more growth built into her frame
- Later maturing gilt has more extension built into her skeleton
- Longer cannoned female is more appropriate in her condition

**Negative Condition, Growth, and Performance Phrases:**

- Earliest maturing, shortest coupled gilt offers the least performance
- Slow growing 4 needs to be toned back in her condition
- Short cannoned female reads too round and wound up in her kind

| <b>Swine Production EPDs</b> |                            |                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b><i>Name</i></b>           | <b><i>Abbreviation</i></b> | <b><i>Trend</i></b>  |
| Number Born Alive            | NBA                        | High                 |
| Litter Weight                | LW                         | High                 |
| Days to 250 lbs              | Days (Days to 250)         | Low                  |
| Back Fat Thickness           | BF                         | High (not excessive) |
| 21 Day Weaning Weight        | 21-day wt                  | High                 |
| Loin Eye Area                | LEA                        | High                 |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Rib Fat     | 10 <sup>th</sup> Rib Fat   | High (not excessive) |
| Maternal Line Index          | MLI                        | High                 |
| Sow Production Index         | SPI                        | High                 |
| Terminal Sire Index          | TLI                        | High                 |

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# **MARKET HOG PRIORITIES**

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## **Market Hog Priorities:**

1. Carcass Value (Muscle and Leanness)
2. Practicality (Structure and Body)
3. Balance and Eye Appeal

**Ideal Market Hog:**

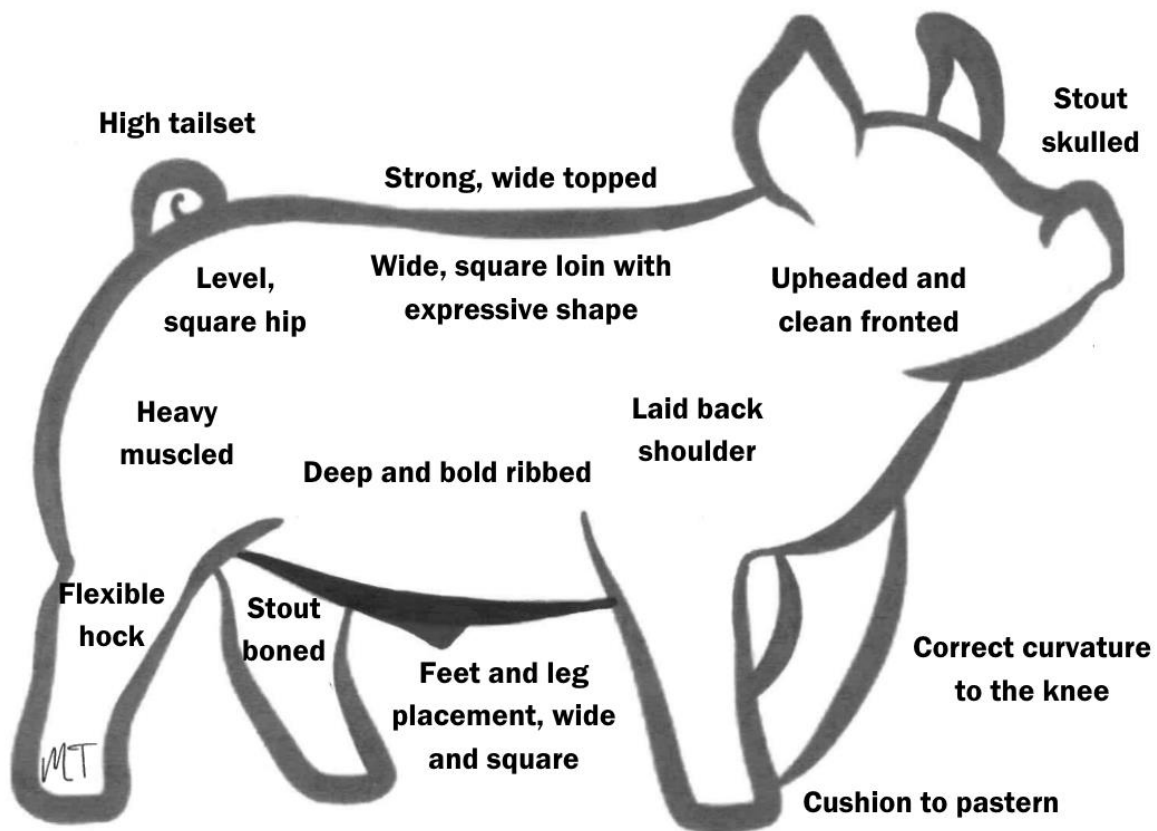


Photo Credit: Amber Elliott

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# **MARKET HOG TERMINOLOGY**

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## **Structure:**

| Positive:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Negative:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletic</li> <li>• Clean jointed</li> <li>• Durable</li> <li>• Flexible</li> <li>• Freer moving</li> <li>• Hinges looser out of hip and hindleg</li> <li>• Laid back in blade and knee</li> <li>• Looser constructed</li> <li>• Mobile</li> <li>• Plants and pushes with more flex</li> <li>• Relaxed in his shoulder and knee</li> <li>• Square kneed</li> <li>• Square hocked</li> <li>• Smoother/Cleaner jointed</li> <li>• Sets front feet squarer</li> <li>• Structurally correct</li> <li>• Strong ankled/pastern</li> <li>• Sounder made</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bow Legged</li> <li>• Coarse jointed</li> <li>• Coarse bladed/shouldered</li> <li>• Comes in at knee</li> <li>• Flat footed</li> <li>• Hesitant on drive</li> <li>• Ill-built</li> <li>• Poor-built</li> <li>• Restricted</li> <li>• Rigid on the move</li> <li>• Round hipped</li> <li>• Soft footed/ankled</li> <li>• Straight shouldered/bladed</li> <li>• Straight hocked</li> <li>• Tight structured</li> <li>• Tight spined</li> <li>• Upright in knee and shoulder</li> <li>• Uneven toe spread</li> </ul> |

## **Positive Structure Phrases:**

- Driving away, 2 stays more inside the parameters of his framework
- Plants square from hock to ground
- Better built option who drives with the most flex
- As the drive wears on, he's the more mobile barrow
- Offers more reach out of the front of his skeleton
- Early maturing barrow is out in his elbow and bowed in his hock
- Comes up in the center of his loin
- Plants and pushes looser out his hip and hock

## **Negative Structure Phrases:**

- He's out too far on the corners of his skeleton
- Course jointed barrow pulls his hock in too much
- On the whip, 2 is too upright in his blade and tight hocked
- At the surface, he needs to be squared up
- Flat footed barrow needs to be stronger in his ankle
- On the drive, most restricted hog needs more flexibility

**Muscle:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Big forearmed</li><li>• Bold bladed</li><li>• Expressive ham</li><li>• Expressively muscled</li><li>• Heaviest muscled</li><li>• Heavy structured</li><li>• Natural thickness</li><li>• Powerfully constructed/designed/made</li><li>• Pulled apart</li><li>• Pried open</li><li>• Product driven/oriented</li><li>• Stout hipped</li><li>• Stout skulled</li><li>• Stout featured</li><li>• Spreads the most mass up high</li><li>• Shapely</li><li>• Wide constructed/based</li><li>• Wide topped</li><li>• Wide loined</li><li>• Widest chested</li><li>• Works most muscle down top</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Closed up</li><li>• Flat made</li><li>• Frail skulled</li><li>• Frail featured</li><li>• Lightest muscled</li><li>• Least expressive</li><li>• Least shapely</li><li>• Non-descript</li><li>• Narrow chested</li><li>• Narrow pinned</li><li>• Narrow loined</li><li>• Narrow based/constructed</li><li>• Plain in muscle shape</li><li>• Plainest shaped</li><li>• Outmassed/outpowered</li><li>• Tapers to base</li></ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Muscle Phrases:**

- Stouter-skulled barrow works more muscle from blade to hip
- Draws back to a wider, squarer loin edge
- Comes bolder bladed and offers a fresher shape
- Wider constructed barrow facilitates more product down his top
- The massive-centered barrows is stouter hipped
- Opens with more width out of the backside of his blade
- Offers more dimension over a wider constructed skeleton; he should easily rail more total pounds
- Turns more shape through the center portion of his ham
- Works more true shape from blade to hip
- Bolder bodied, bigger backed barrow works a more expressive topside shape
- Stouter hipped 4 is thicker through his lower ham and sets down wider at the surface
- Squares up with more shape behind a bolder blade
- Big forearmed 2's base width and rib cage sets the stage for his topside power
- Wider based, bolder bodied barrow lays more natural muscle down his top

**Negative Muscle Phrases:**

- Frail skulled 4 reads the least impressive in his shape
- It's no surprise narrowest constructed barrow is the lightest muscled
- Narrowest topped barrow is the plainest at the base of his ham
- The early maturing barrow is the plainest shape
- At the surface, frail jawed 2 is too closed up
- Small outlined barrow appears to give up the most total pounds of product
- 4's the narrowest topped and flattest though his center body

**Fat Thickness/Composition:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Positive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High percent lean</li><li>• Lean</li><li>• Leaner designed</li><li>• Probe with less fat</li><li>• Trimmer made</li><li>• Trimmer lower 1/3</li></ul> | Negative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Excessive</li><li>• Heavier finished</li><li>• Least expressive</li><li>• Over finished</li><li>• Plain</li><li>• Soft</li><li>• Wasty through lower 1/3</li></ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Carcass:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Positive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compositionally correct</li><li>• Expose the largest 10<sup>th</sup> rib muscle (loin eye area)</li><li>• High cutability</li><li>• More pounds of product</li></ul> | Negative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Composition concern</li><li>• Least total pounds of product</li><li>• Low cutability</li><li>• Product concern</li></ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Carcass, Fat Thickness, Composition Phrases:**

- Rail a higher cutability carcass
- I'd expect the heavier muscled 2 to rail with more total pounds of product
- I'd expect the trimmer barrow to hang a more shapely carcass
- Cleaner jawed barrow reads trimmer in his lower 1/3.
- Compositionally, he's the leaner designed barrow that spreads more total mass up high
- Trimmer made 1's higher cutability
- On the rail, should cut with less fat opposite the 10<sup>th</sup>
- Bigger backed, bold bodied barrow should cut a larger loin eye

**Negative Carcass, Fat Thickness, Composition Phrases:**

- 4 reads wastier through his jawline and lower 1/3
- Plainest shaped 2 is pushing too much fat
- Stale appearing, fattest barrow is a composition concern
- Compositionally, the plain shaped, light muscled barrow can't compete

**Body/Volume:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bolder ribbed</li><li>• Bigger bodied</li><li>• Bolder caged/centered</li><li>• Bigger/Bolder forerib</li><li>• More dimensional</li><li>• Practical centered/ribbed</li><li>• Softer centered</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dry ribbed</li><li>• Flat sided</li><li>• 1-Dimensionial</li><li>• Harsh Centered</li><li>• Shallow bodied</li><li>• Tight ribbed</li><li>• Tight flanked</li></ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Body/Volume Phrases:**

- Not only is the stout featured barrow the biggest bodied but he's also the softest
- More pulled apart through his center body
- His bold cage allows him to facilitate more mass up high
- Coming at me, 4's the most pulled apart and transition back to the boldest rib cage

**Negative Body/Volume Phrases:**

- Flatter in his blade and body
- Frail made 4 is the most closed up through his chest and center cage
- Coming and going, it's obvious 4 is one-dimensional

**Balance/Eye Appeal:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clean fronted</li><li>• Fresh fronted</li><li>• Extended through front end/ahead of blade</li><li>• Level hiped</li><li>• Level designed</li><li>• Nicer balance</li><li>• Nicer profiling</li><li>• Proportional</li><li>• Strong topped/ level topped</li><li>• Sharp lines</li><li>• Square hiped</li><li>• Upheaded</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coarse built</li><li>• Coarse shouldered</li><li>• High/tight flanked</li><li>• Low fronted</li><li>• Mature fronted</li><li>• Off in hip</li><li>• Round built</li><li>• Round hiped</li><li>• Plain</li><li>• Poor balanced</li><li>• Short fronted</li><li>• Short hiped</li><li>• Weak topped/weak behind blade</li></ul> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- Nicer balanced barrow is assembled stronger in behind his blade and leveler out of his hip
- Leveler designed barrow who is cranked higher at the base of his tail
- Taller fronted, more extended 3 stays more collected in his spine
- Driving profile, 3's extremely elevated up front and still stays relaxed in his blade and knee

**Negative Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- Short skulled barrow is low fronted and round hiped
- Balance wise, low fronted 2 is too coarse shouldered and round hiped
- Driving profile, shorter made 1 is weak behind his blade

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## **SWINE REASON EXAMPLES**

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### **Gilts**

I like the crossbred gilts 1-3-4-2 and 1's power and skeletal width rise to the top, especially when the stoutest featured gilt couples that with a flexible build and high quality look. Boldest ribbed gilt's maternal presence is amplified by laid back angles and soft flank. From profile, I love the extended 3's design. Feminine female is neat and elevated ahead of her blade and draws back to a level hip. Coming and going, flat footed gilt isn't as massive in her body or skeletal width.

In the middle, I'll side with the cleaner jointed 3's functional foundation over 4. I have more confidence in her relaxed angles to hold up better in the crate. Up high, 3 works more natural spread and is wider pinned. But as the drive wears on, swollen hocked gilt proves she's tighter spined and more restricted off both ends.

Both females on bottom have structural issues, but I prefer the stout skulled 4's softer rib design and genuine width. Sure, taller fronted 2 is smoother bladed and longer spined. Coming at me, she's entirely too closed up and in at her knee, flattest centered, and least dimensional while being too forward in her blade and tight hocked. Frailest featured gilt stays 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Barrows**

I sorted the market barrows 3-4-1-2. It only takes one look to sort up widest constructed and most durable built barrow. Stoutest made 3 is easily the boldest bladed and bodied which allows him to spread the most muscle up high. What's impressive is that he does all that while being the most mobile and squarest made. On the drive, Upheaded 4 makes a case; he's the taller bladed, leveler designed barrow that works a more expressive shape down his top. Structurally, he's not in the same league. Straight bladed and kneed and too tight out of his hip and hind leg.

In the middle, it's 4 over 1. 4's fresh shape, wide top, and genuine width at the surface has me convinced he's the more muscular hog that should expose a larger 10th rib muscle. Driving profile, 1's look is captivating- extended ahead of a smooth blade, practical centered and square hipped. Coming and going, there simply is not enough hog there. Frail skulled barrow is the narrowest and flattest.

Bottom pair of hogs are completely different; I prefer 1 over 2. Later maturing, cleaner jowled barrow reads trimmer. No doubt, coming at me 2 is more pulled apart in his chest and leaves me bigger hipped. But, he's easily the worst composition hog that is fattest and frailest. The plainest shaped, roundest made barrow is last.

# SHEEP AND GOAT ANATOMY

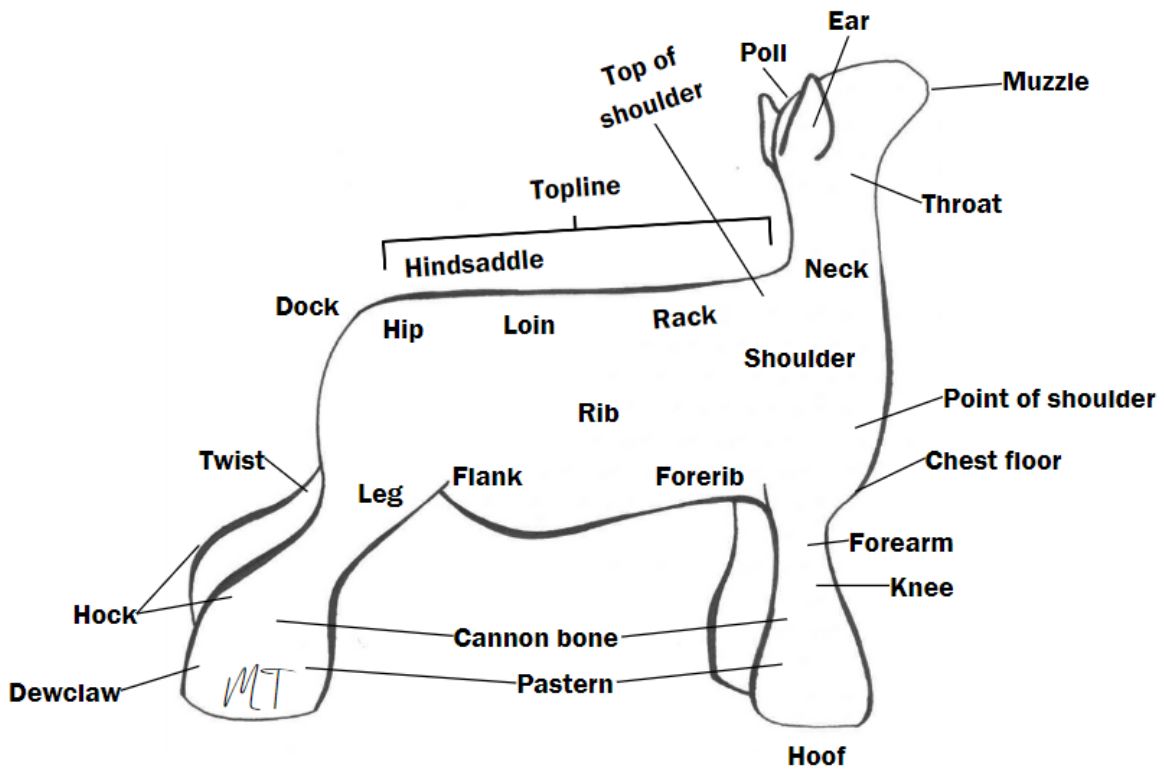


Photo Credit: Amber Elliott

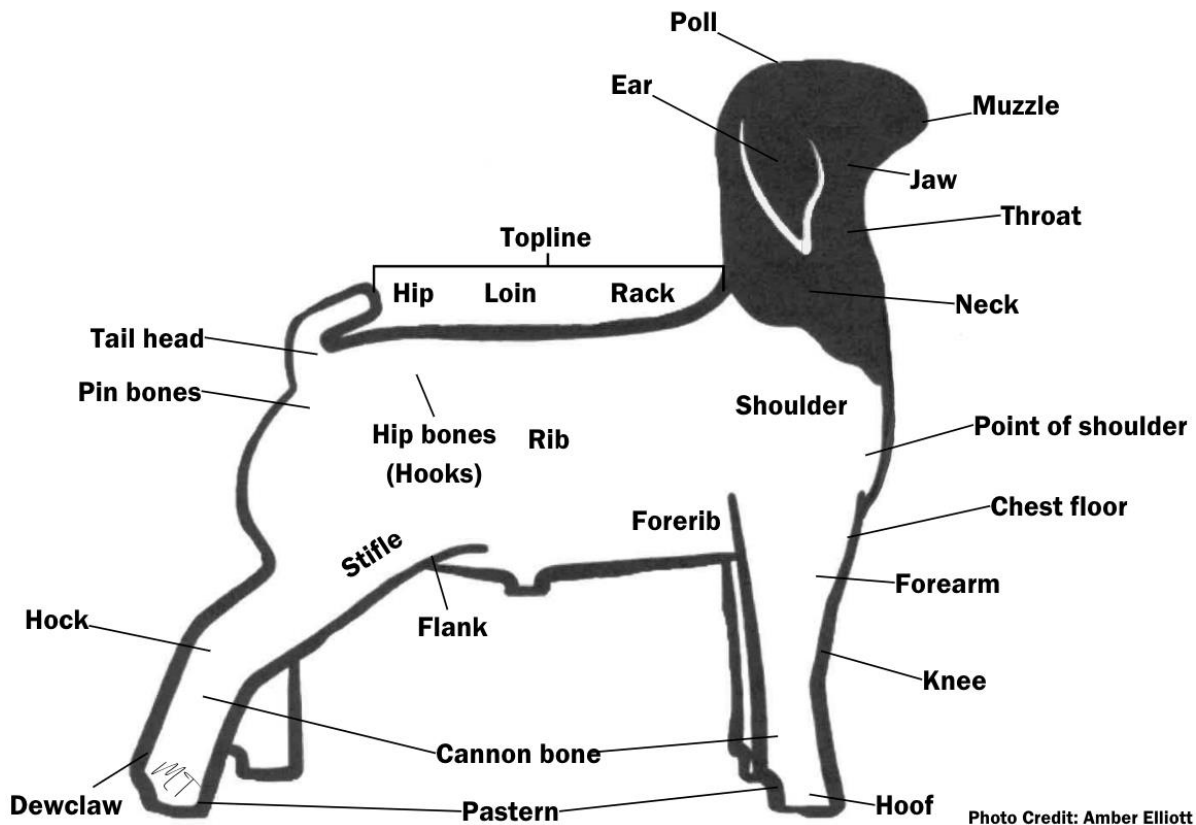


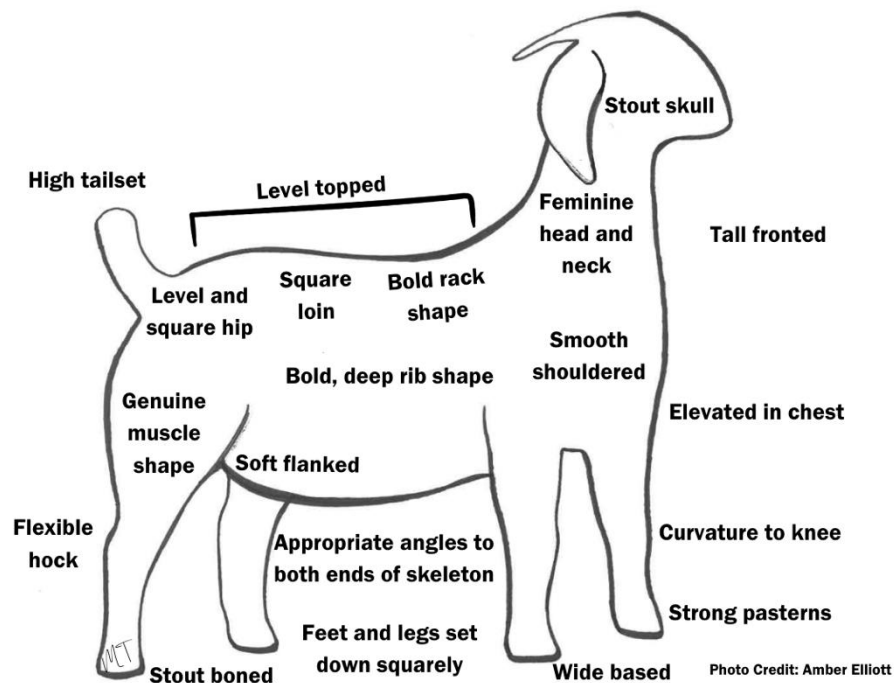
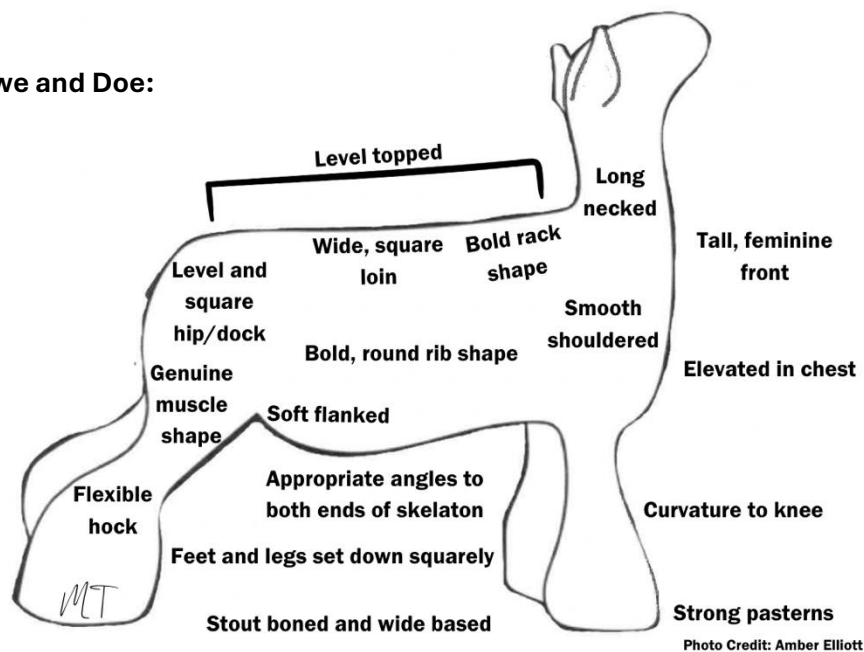
Photo Credit: Amber Elliott

# BREEDING SHEEP AND GOAT PRIORITIES

## Breeding Sheep/Goat Priorities:

1. Functionality (Body/Structure)
2. Skeletal Width/Dimension
3. Balance/Eye Appeal
4. Fleshing Ability/Optimal Condition

## Ideal Breeding Ewe and Doe:



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# ***BREEDING SHEEP AND GOAT TERMINOLOGY***

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## **Structure:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Correct in skeleton</li><li>• Freer moving</li><li>• Laid back in shoulder</li><li>• Looser constructed</li><li>• More flexible at the surface</li><li>• More comfortable in motion</li><li>• More correct in the angle to her/his shoulder and knee</li><li>• More athletic in (his/her) build</li><li>• Organized in their skeleton</li><li>• Relaxed in shoulder/blade angle</li><li>• Squarer hocked</li><li>• Sound made</li><li>• Skeletally correct</li><li>• Strong pastern</li><li>• Stronger topped</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bows from behind/bow-legged/rolls hock</li><li>• Drops pins on the move</li><li>• Ill-built</li><li>• Opened/coarse shouldered</li><li>• Over in knee/buck-kneed</li><li>• Pulls hock in</li><li>• Poor structured</li><li>• Restricted in motion</li><li>• Straight shouldered/froned</li><li>• Straight hocked/made</li><li>• Splays/toes out up front</li><li>• Tight structured</li><li>• Tight spined</li><li>• Upright angles</li><li>• Weak pastern</li></ul> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## **Positive Structure Phrases:**

- Leaving me, wide pinned female tracks wider and stays truer from hock to ground
- Structurally, the most extended ewe travels with more flex and plants squarer
- In motion, 4's topline stays more collected
- At the surface, the stronger pasterned doe is equipped with more flexibility
- 4's equipped with more flex out of her hip and hindleg
- From behind, the most functional female travels squarer
- More feminine ewes stays the most organized in her skeleton

## **Negative Structure Phrases:**

- From the side, 2 postures her hindleg the straightest
- Upfront, 3's too forward in her shoulder and knee
- Short hipped doe is the most restricted
- In motion, she's up in her spine and most limited in her stride
- Going away, it's obvious the narrow-based doe is the straightest and most limited out of her hock

**Body/Volume:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bolder ribbed/caged</li><li>• Bigger bodied/caged</li><li>• Bolder foreribbed</li><li>• Curvature to rib</li><li>• More dimensional</li><li>• More maternal rib shape</li><li>• Opened up in their rib cage</li><li>• Practical centered</li><li>• Round ribbed</li><li>• Soft flanked</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flat sided</li><li>• Flat foreribbed</li><li>• Harsh centered/caged</li><li>• 1-Dimensionial</li><li>• Shallow bodied</li><li>• Tight ribbed/caged</li><li>• Tight Flanked</li></ul> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Body/Volume Phrases:**

- The broody appearing doe is easily the boldest and most dimensional
- 4's the most open in her rib and expansive in her pinset
- It's impressive the smooth shouldered doe turns a bolder, more natural rib cage

**Negative Body/Volume Phrases:**

- Between the pair, she's decisively flatter ribbed
- Sure, large outlined doe is the deepest bodied but she's easily the flattest ribbed
- Harshes ribbed ewe is the least practical

**Skeletal Width/Power:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Big forearmed</li><li>• Big hipped</li><li>• Expressive</li><li>• Heavy muscled</li><li>• Square topped</li><li>• Stout hipped</li><li>• Thick topped</li><li>• Wide based/constructed</li><li>• Wide pinned</li><li>• Wide chested</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flat muscled/made</li><li>• Light muscled</li><li>• Least shapely</li><li>• Narrow constructed</li><li>• Narrow topped</li><li>• Narrow pinned</li><li>• Non-descript</li><li>• Tapers to base</li></ul> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Skeletal Width/Power:**

- The broody doe is pulled apart in her chest exits to the boldest cages coincides with her spanning the widest up high
- It's unique the widest, squarest, and heaviest muscled doe still is the most attractive and athletic in her build

**Negative Skeletal Width/Power:**

- Frail structured doe is the most closed up through her chest and at the surface
- Leaving me, narrowest pinned ewe tapers to the ground

**Balance/Eye Appeal:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attractive</li><li>• Better in chest to flank progression</li><li>• Correct and level in his/her lines</li><li>• Elite/Impressive Look</li><li>• Extended ahead of shoulder</li><li>• Elevated chest floor</li><li>• Feminine</li><li>• High quality look</li><li>• Long patterned</li><li>• Level topped/hipped</li><li>• Longer side/bodied/spined</li><li>• Nicer balanced</li><li>• Nicer profiling/designed</li><li>• Neater at topside of blade</li><li>• Proportional from the side</li><li>• Smooth made/bladed/shouldered</li><li>• Striking from profile</li><li>• Stronger topped</li><li>• Stouter/Bigger boned</li><li>• Square hipped</li><li>• Ties neck high on point of shoulder/blade</li><li>• Tall fronted/ shouldered</li><li>• Wedges neater in their bottom line</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Course shouldered/bladed</li><li>• Deep chested</li><li>• Deeper chested relative to flank</li><li>• Frail made/boned</li><li>• Inverted bottom line</li><li>• Low fronted</li><li>• Off-Balanced</li><li>• Off-quality</li><li>• Off in topline</li><li>• Poor balanced</li><li>• Plain fronted</li><li>• Plain from the side</li><li>• Round/off in hip</li><li>• Short sided/bodied/more compact</li><li>• Weak in her/his spine</li><li>• Weak topped</li></ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- More feminine, youthful doe is more collected in her lines
- I love how 2 is more attractive in her front-end; hooking up stronger out of the backside of her blade
- Her high neck attachment, smoother shoulder, and leveler hip should make her a versatile breeding piece.
- From the side, 4's my favorite. Long necked, neat shouldered, driven up in her chest and progresses back to a soft flank.
- Balance wise, the more proportional female wedges correctly in her bottom line
- Ultra feminine ewe is neater at the base of her chest

**Negative Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- 1's extra power compromises her look—being too compact and round
- Low tying, short necked doe instantly struck me as plain looking
- Small frame size and coarse build aids to her quick and early maturing look

**Optimal Condition/Fleshing ability:**

|                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Positive:                                                                                                                 | Negative:                                                                                                                                   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low input</li> <li>• Low maintenance</li> <li>• Appropriate condition</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heavy conditioned</li> <li>• Hard doing</li> <li>• Harsh centered</li> <li>• High input</li> </ul> |

| Sheep Production EPDs       |                               |                                           |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <i><b>Name</b></i>          | <i><b>Abbreviation</b></i>    | <i><b>Trend</b></i>                       |
| Number of Lambs Born        | NLB                           | High                                      |
| 60-Day Weight               | 60-DW                         | High                                      |
| 90-Day Weight               | 90-DW                         | High                                      |
| 120-Day Weight              | 120-DW                        | High                                      |
| Adjusted 120 Day Weight     | Adj. 120-DW                   | High                                      |
| Fleece Spinning Count       |                               |                                           |
| <b>Codon 171 (Scrapies)</b> | <b>Possible Abbreviations</b> | <b>What does it mean?</b>                 |
|                             | RR                            | Clean/Not a carrier                       |
|                             | QR                            | Carrier/Can potentially pass to offspring |
|                             | QQ                            | Carrier/Will pass to offspring            |
| <b>Born/Raised</b>          | <b>Possible Abbreviations</b> | <b>What does it mean?</b>                 |
|                             | S/S                           | Born a single/Raised a single             |
|                             | Tw/Tw                         | Born twins/Raised twins                   |
|                             | Tw/S                          | Born twins/Raised a single                |

# MARKET LAMB AND GOAT PRIORITIES

## Market Lamb and Goat Priorities:

1. Carcass Value (muscle, trimness, handling quality)
2. Practicality (structure and body)
3. Balance/Eye Appeal

### Ideal Market Lamb and Goat:

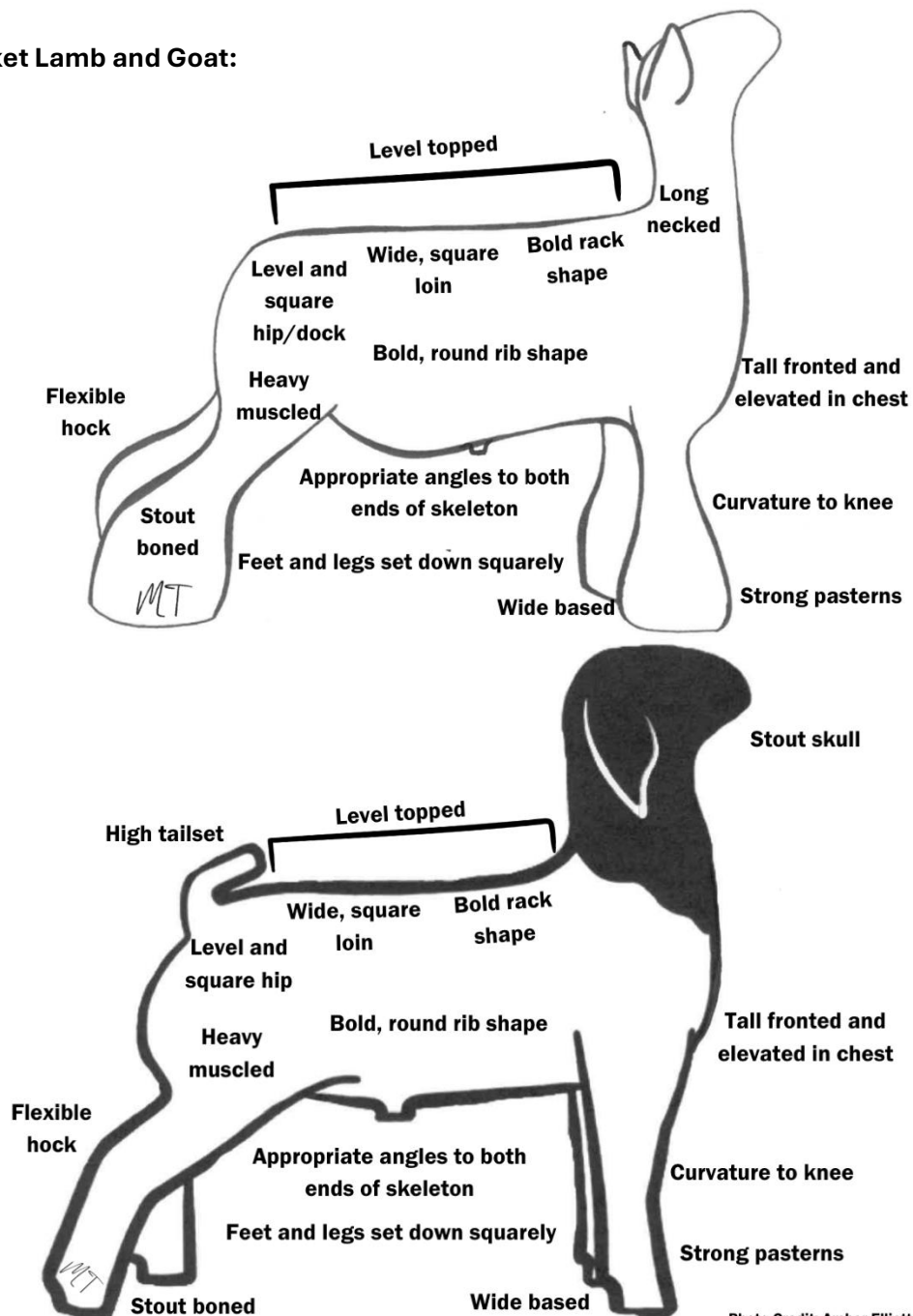


Photo Credit: Amber Elliott

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# MARKET LAMB AND GOAT TERMINOLOGY

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## Muscle:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bolder/bigger/wider racked or loined</li><li>• Big forearmed</li><li>• Carries more muscle through his lower leg</li><li>• Deeper twisted</li><li>• Expressive side view stifle shape</li><li>• Expressively muscled</li><li>• Heavy muscled</li><li>• Natural thickness</li><li>• Shapely</li><li>• Stout hipped</li><li>• Powerfully constructed/designed/made</li><li>• Spreads the most mass up high</li><li>• Wide constructed/based</li><li>• Widest chested</li><li>• Wide loined</li><li>• Wider/bigger pinned</li><li>• Wide/big topped</li><li>• Works most muscle down top</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flat made</li><li>• Flattens through stifle/lower leg</li><li>• Lightest/lighter muscled</li><li>• Least expressive</li><li>• Least shapely</li><li>• Less/non-descript in muscle pattern</li><li>• Non-descript</li><li>• Narrow chested</li><li>• Narrow pinned</li><li>• Narrow loined</li><li>• Narrow based/constructed</li><li>• Outmassed/outpowered</li><li>• Plain in muscle shape</li><li>• Plainest shaped</li><li>• Closed up</li><li>• Tapers out of dock</li><li>• Tapers to base</li></ul> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Positive Muscle Phrases:

- From behind, wider pinned 1 wraps more muscle into his lower leg
- Burly wether's stout skull and arm sets the stage for his massive back
- Big legged wether is constructed the widest in his skeleton and huge topped
- He's the stouter hipped option that carries a more dimensional shape to through his stifle
- 4 sets naturally wider at the ground

## Negative Muscle Phrases:

- Frail made wether was never in contention with his flat body type and narrow build
- It's no surprise that the wether who is the most closed up through his chest and forerib is the lightest muscled
- From behind, the narrow pinned 3 tapers down to the surface
- It's obvious from the  $\frac{3}{4}$  view, flattest bodied wether is the narrowest pinned and flattest stifled

**Carcass:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More total pounds of product</li> <li>• Carcass oriented</li> <li>• Lower numerical yield grade</li> <li>• If ribbed, should hang with a larger eye</li> <li>• Higher cutability</li> <li>• Product driven</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Least total pounds of product</li> <li>• Composition concern</li> <li>• Low cutability</li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Carcass, Handle, Freshness, Trimness Phrases:**

- On the handle, big bodied 4 offers the boldest rack shape and widest loin
- Touches the most honest in his composition and most expressive shape
- Trimmer patterned wether should hang with the more shapely carcass
- Later maturing 2 handles trimmer over his forerib
- I'd expected 4 to go to the rail with the trimmer, higher cutability carcass
- Handle wise, I love his bold rack shape and square loin edge

**Negative Carcass, Handle, Freshness, Trimness Phrases:**

- Thick hided wether is the softest handling
- On the handle, 3 is too stale over his rack and loin
- Not surprising the early maturing 2 handles the fattest behind his shoulder
- On the handle, mature weather is the least impressive and most non-descript
- Pushes more fat over his forerib and center body

**Handle/Freshness/Trimness:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Firmer/fresher to the touch</li> <li>• Fresher handling</li> <li>• Leaner</li> <li>• Handles with a more expressive shape</li> <li>• Harder handling</li> <li>• Trimmer patterned/designed</li> </ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heavier conditioned</li> <li>• Less touch and tone</li> <li>• Over-finished</li> <li>• Plainer/soft handling</li> <li>• Stalest/plainest to the touch</li> <li>• Sharpest handling</li> <li>• Washed out/down in loin edges</li> </ul> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Handling Action Words to Implement in Reasons:**

|                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On the handle</li> <li>• Meets my hand</li> <li>• Works</li> <li>• Spreads</li> <li>• Grabs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handles</li> <li>• Touches</li> <li>• Grabs</li> <li>• Spans</li> </ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Body/Volume:**

|                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Positive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bold/round ribbed</li><li>• Bolder in his forerib</li><li>• Bolder bodied</li><li>• Wide gauged</li></ul> | Negative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flat ribbed/sided/centered</li><li>• Flat/tighter foreribbed</li><li>• Narrow gauged</li><li>• Shallow/tight flanked</li><li>• Tight ribbed</li></ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Body/Volume:**

- Big forearmed wether is bolder in his forerib and upper body
- 2 expands back to a more dimensional rib shape
- His bolder rib facilitates for more mass over his top

**Negative Body/Volume:**

- It's unfortunate, he's not as opened up in his center body
- Frail made wether is flat ribbed
- From every angle, 4 is too one-dimensional

**Structure:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Positive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Correctly organized</li><li>• More appropriate set to shoulder and knee</li><li>• Heavier structured</li><li>• More skeletally/structurally correct</li><li>• More relaxed off both ends</li><li>• Most correct on feet and legs</li><li>• Sets down with more flex and comfort</li><li>• Sounder structured</li><li>• Square hipped</li><li>• Travels with more ease/comfort</li></ul> | Negative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ill-built</li><li>• Frail</li><li>• Over at knee</li><li>• Poor constructed</li><li>• Rolls hock/bow legged</li><li>• Straight fronted/shouldered/bladed</li><li>• Splays out/Toes out</li><li>• Steep hipped</li><li>• Tight spine</li><li>• Upright angles</li><li>• Weak/soft pasterned</li></ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Structure Phrases:**

- In the rack, he reads more correct in his lines
- Goes to the surface on a stouter more attractive hind leg
- 4's more organized in his skeleton
- In the stanchion, his angles read more relaxed

**Negative Structure Phrases:**

- I won't tolerate how he postures a straighter, frailer hindleg
- His straight blade doesn't help his tight spine
- Tight spined wether is round hipped and straighter hocked

**Balance/Eye Appeal:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Positive:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attractive profiling</li><li>• Attractive set to hip and hindleg</li><li>• Elevated through front end/in chest floor</li><li>• Nice/correctly balanced</li><li>• Neat at topside shoulder</li><li>• Level designed</li><li>• Long patterned</li><li>• Proportional</li><li>• Shallow chested</li><li>• Tall fronted</li></ul> | <b>Negative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coarse fronted/shouldered</li><li>• Deep chested</li><li>• Plain</li><li>• Poor balanced</li><li>• Round hipped</li><li>• Short coupled/bodied</li><li>• Short necked</li></ul> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Positive Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- It's unique that the longest bodied wether hooks in the strongest behind his shoulder
- Taller shouldered wether is more elevated up front works back to rounder more youthful cage
- On profile, 4 patterns with more extension and assembled leveler out of his hip

**Negative Balance/Eye Appeal Phrases:**

- Low fronted wether sends a shorter neck out of a coarse shoulder
- Instantly, 1 struck me too early maturing, short-cannoned wether is too jammed up
- His bottom line is most off the mark, deep chested is the tighter flanked

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## ***SHEEP AND GOAT REASONS EXAMPLES***

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### **Wether Dams**

I like the wether dams 3-4-2-1. I'm quick to sort up a pair of broody, wide constructed females but it's 3's extra look and flexible build that sorts her over 4. Smoother patterned ewe stays more collected in her spine and flexes better out a more attractive hip and hind leg. No question, 4 is the class leader for power. She's easily the stoutest featured, widest made female that facilitates the most mass uphigh. It's unfortunate her added power comes at the expense of being too coarse up front, short coupled, and bow- legged going away.

Natural thickness and dimension sorts the middle pair 4-2. She's the bolder ribbed, wider skeletoned ewe works more muscle down her top and out of her hip. Now, 2's attractive from the side—elevated in her chest, long necked, smooth shouldered and ties into a level hip. But she reads too 1-dimensonal in her body shape and closed up underneath.

On bottom, I'm more comfortable with 2's skeletal design over 1. She's the most flexible ewe that is laid back in her angles, especially in her shoulder and knee. Sure, the stouter made 1 is wider based and bolder ribbed but I won't tolerate the deep chested ewe's quick pattern and ill-build. The off-balanced, straightest made ewe is 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Market Goats**

I placed the market goats 1-2-3-4. There's a powerful pair of wethers, but it's the blonde headed 1 who best blends shape, muscle, and athleticism. The stoutest skulled, roundest bodied wether is incredibly expressive over his rack and loin yet still offers a striking look from profile. Part for part, red hiped 2 is hard to fault. From either end, massively muscled wether is wide skeletoned and stout out of his pinset. It's just that the low fronted, rounder hiped wether doesn't offer the same level of design or flexibility as my class winner.

In the middle, I marked it 2 over 3. It's hard to deny 2's power especially when handles wider over his rack and loin. From profile, later maturing 3 is shallower chested and stronger right behind his shoulder. Compared to the two goats ahead of him, tighter foreribbed wether stands out as narrower based and pinned.

Expressive shape and stoutness of feature keep 3 over 4 on bottom. He's comes squarer over his loin and works more muscle to his lower leg. Sure, tall shouldered 4 brings forth added extension and is level designed but it's clear the finer boned wether gets outmassed. I'll keep flattest bodied, narrowest made wether is 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Resources:

French, S.-J. (2024). *Livestock Judging Manual*. Auburn University College of Agriculture.

<https://agriculture.auburn.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Auburn-Agriculture-Livestock-Judging-Manual.pdf>.

**Notes:**

This image shows a full page of blank handwriting practice paper. It features approximately 28 horizontal blue lines spaced evenly down the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.