

Competitive Livestock Judging - Beginning Terminology

Contents

- 1 *Priorities - How we rank them*
- 2 *Cattle Terminology*
- 3 *Sheep and Goat Terminology*
- 4 *Swine Terminology*
- 5 *Combination/Equation Terminology*
- 6 *Estimated Progeny Difference*
- 7 *Things to Note/More IDs*
(Or mention in the Reasons Room)



**Johnson County 4-H
Livestock Judging Team**

Market Hogs:

- Muscle
- Optimal Leanness
- Production Orientation
 - Skeletal Width
 - Gainability/Weight
- Skeletal Correctness
- Balance/Design

Market Beef:

- End Product Value
 - Muscle
 - Optimal Finish
- Practicality
 - Rib Design/Feed ability
 - Skeletal Correctness
- Balance

Market Lambs:

- Potential Carcass Value
 - Muscle
 - Correctness of Finish
- Skeletal Correctness
 - Balance
 - Attractiveness
 - Structurally sound
- Weight and Extension
 - Importance depends on class
- Handling Quality
 - Used to Split Pairs

Market Goats:

- Muscle
 - Correctness of Finish
 - Weight/Pounds of Products
 - Skeletal Correctness
 - Balance
-

Heifers:

- Functionality and Production Efficiency
 - Skeletal Correctness
 - Volume
 - Moderation
 - Fleshing Ability
- Skeletal Width
- Femininity and Balance
- EPDS

Sheep:

- Functionality
 - Skeleton and Body Shape
- Performance
 - Volume and Width
- Balance and Eye Appeal
- Muscle

-Mouth soundness and breed character needs talked in the reasons room!

Gilts:

- Confinement Soundness
- Skeletal Width and Volume
- Growth/Performance
- Design and Femininity
- EPDS
- Underline/Vulva Quality

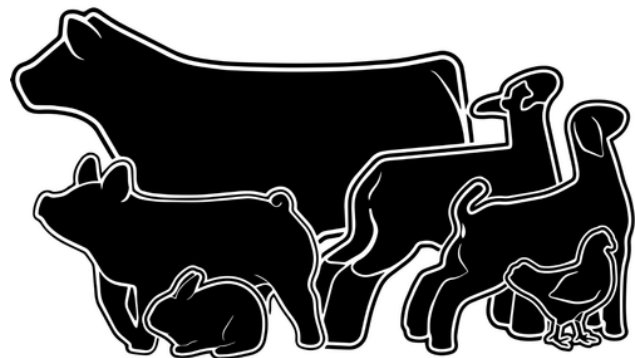
Bulls:

- Functionality and Production Efficiency
 - Skeletal Correctness
 - Volume
 - Muscle and Skeletal Width
 - Ideal Performance
- EPDS
- Masculinity
- Balance

Goats:

- Volume
- Skeletal Width
 - Muscle
- Structural Correctness
- Balance and Eye Appeal

-Mouth soundness and breed character needs talked in the reasons room!



Finish (General Terms)

Advantages

- Heavier Conditioned
- More Market Ready
- More Progressive In His Fat Deposition
- More Uniform in his Fat Cover
- Mellow Over his First and Last Rib
- Softer Over his 12th and 13th
- Safer Grading Candidate

Disadvantages

- Thin Conditioned
- Less Market Ready
- Less Advanced In His Fat Deposition
- Handles Patchy
- Less Consistent In His Fat Cover
- Barer/Harsher over his 12th and 13th
- Open Ribbed

Balance (General Terms)

Advantages

- Nicer Balanced
- Better Balanced
- More Attractive
- Nicer Profiling/Patterned
- Cleaner, Longer Fronted
- Leveler Made

Disadvantages

- Poor Balanced
- Deep Chested
- Short Sided
- Weak In His Topline
- High Flanked

Muscle (General Terms)

Advantages

- Heavier Muscled
- Stouter Made
- Powerfully Constructed/Built
- Expressively Muscled
- Product Oriented/Driven
- Honest Turn Over Rib and Loin

Disadvantages

- Light Muscled
- Narrow Made
- Flat
- Plain In His Muscle Shape
- More Modest/General Up Top and From Behind
- Not as Shapely Over His Rib and Loin

Weight/Growth Terms

Advantages

- Heavier Weight
- Higher Performing
- Growth/Performance Enhanced
- Larger Patterned/Outlined/Framed
- Product/Performance Oriented/Driven
- Pounds Heavy

Disadvantages

- Light Weight
- Low Performing
- At A Weight and Width Deficit
- Smaller Patterned/Outlined/Framed
- Least Performance Driven
- Pounds Light

Finish Phrases

- More practical fat steer look
- Plainest/most mature in his look/handle
- Freshest in his look and handle
- Needs more body and finish to maximize his genetic potential for quality grade
- Touches mellower/softer over his 12th and 13th
- More market ready in his degree of finish
- More consistent/inconsistent in his handle
- He's just shy of the finish/cover needed to be a top pair candidate
- Handles with more Industry demanded finish
- I see potential value in his added finish; however, he needs to accommodate this with more terminal shape and product to maximize his endpoint value
- Added depth and spring of rib has benefited his efficiency and in turn finish advantage
- He reads fuller in his visual fat indicators (brisket, flank, and cod) and handles mellower over his ribs, and I just see quality grade being in his favor
- He simply needs more days on feed to achieve a market ready degree of finish
- Past ideal/profitable endpoint

Muscle Phrases:

- (spreads, dimension, truer, turn, bolder)
- Works more width and dimension down his top/over rib and loin
- More turn to lower quarter and stifle
- Added merit lies in the form of ___ (power)
- Handles with a more aggressive turn to a wider loin
- Mirrors my winner's ___
- Handles and views with more shape and expression over his rib and loin/up top/behind his shoulder
- There's no doubt power may make him the place to start for some
- Not as Shapely Over His Rib and Loin

Structure Phrases

- At the lead, when set/pulled into motion, when asked to lead, when led, on the move, when traveled
- Travels with more ease and comfort
- Sets truer (more accurate) up front
- He better fills/meets/covers his track .. while remaining leveler in his topline on the move
- More correct in his shoulder/hock angle ... and as a result is longer striding
- Sets the softest to the surface
- More functional in the angle and use to his hock (shoulder)
- Tight in his rib and structure which limits his efficiency and has set him back the furthest from his ideal end point
- What he lacks in practicality, he makes up for in ..
- More length and softness to his stride
- Tight in rib and structure which detracts his feeding ability
- Rigid in his pastern and overall movement
- Ducks his pins and pulls his rear leg under himself
- Travels with more flex to lower joints
- More limited in his movement
- Sets down on surface on a bigger foot and deeper heel
- He's laid back functionally further in his shoulder and knee
- He's more correct/functional in the angle to his shoulder/hock
- Uncoordinated rear skeleton
- Although I'd like to provide him with more ___ he's clearly sound enough in any true market setting

Balance Phrases

- Fits together better from the profile/side
- Basic body dimension
- Opens with more center rib dimension and depth to flank
- But this more attractive look all-to-often correlates to an unpractical body type
- Goes beyond terminal incentives and excels the class in show ring appeal
- Cleaner and more extended through his front end
- Longer and leveler hip
- More attractive, yet still functional set to hip and hind leg
- Transitions smoother from shoulder to forerib
- 4's Steep hip finalizes his low-quality look
- Mature fronted

Body/Skeletal Width (General Terms)

Advantages

- Functional
- Practical
- Broody
- Big Bodied/Ribbed
- High Volume
- Capacious
- Easier Fleshing
- Fresher Conditioned

Disadvantages

- Shallow bodied
- Tight ribbed/hearted
- Tight/Constricted through her forerib
- Tight/High flanked
- Flat ribbed
- Hard doing
- Difficult fleshing
- Gives up rib and body

Balance (General Terms):

Advantages

- Nicer Balanced/Profiling
- More Attractive
- Balances Up Better
- More Eye Appealing
- Poses A More Stylish/Captivating Look
- Higher Quality Look
- More Impressive From the Side
- Nicer Patterned
- Leveler Made/Patterned
- Leveler/Straighter/Stronger Lined
- More Proportional/Symmetrical
- Smoother Patterned
- Leveler From Hooks To Pins

Disadvantages

- Poor Balanced
- Plainer In Her Appearance
- Less Pleasing From The Profile
- Gives Up Look/Lower Quality Look
- Not As Proportional
- Sacrifices Quality
- Deeper Chested
- Shorter Fronted
- Weak In Her Topline
- High In Her Tail head
- Off In Her Hip
- Slopes From Hooks To Pins

Structure (General Terms):

Advantages

- More Structurally/Skeletally Correct
- Sounder Structured
- Easier/Longer Striding
- Longer Reaching Stride Upfront
- Freer In Her Movement
- More Comfortable/Correct In Her Rear Leg Travel
- More Correct Slope/Angle To Her Shoulder (and Knee)
- Laid Back Functionally Further In Her Shoulder And Knee
- More Comfortably/Accurately/Readily
- Fills/Meets Her Track/Stride
- Looser In Her Skeletal Construction/Makeup/Design
- Remains Leveler/More Natural in Her Topline/Spine When Traveling
- Deeper Heeled

Disadvantages

- Structurally Incorrect
- Poor Structured
- Short/Restricted in Her Stride
- Straight Fronted
- Bucked Over
- Splays/Toes Out Up Front
- Coarse Jointed
- Swollen In Her Hock/Lower Joints
- Falls Apart at the Lead
- More Restricted/Limited In Her Movement/Rear Leg Travel/Lower Joints
- Knuckles/Gets Rigid/Upright in Her Lower Joints/Pastern
- Set Straight Thru Her Shoulder and Knee/Hock And Pastern
- Rises In Her Loin on The Move
- Shallow Heeled



Body/Skeletal Width Phrases:

- She possesses the most depth, rib, and flesh
- The female with the most internal dimension specifically has more shape thru her forerib and turn to her upper rib
- She has more expansion through her chest providing more total volume and center rib dimension
- She's fuller through her heart and forerib
- She drops out of her spine with more turn and shape to her upper rib
- She carries back with more fill and drops to her flank
- She's particularly deeper bodied and softer in her appearance
- The fresher, bolder sprung female is constructed more open through the center of her skeleton
- Simply put, she is deeper and wider
- She has more dimension of rib and drop to her flank
- She's more uniform in her body depth from forerib to flank
- She appears easier fleshing and should likely prove easier keeping throughout maturity
- Has more Brood Cow Potential/Power
- The broodier female is more cow-like in her appearance/has more potential cow character
- I'd anticipate she'd continue to maintain a higher body condition score throughout maturity
- I feel she'll be easier to maintain
- She portrays more fleshing ease, as proven by her depth of side and spring of rib

Structure Phrases:

- She is more functional in her movement
- Remains more organized in her structure/skeleton at the lead
- Moves with more flex/give/cushion to her knee and hock/lower joints
- More functionally correct in her structural design as she possesses more angle to her joints
- Steps more comfortably out of a shoulder with more set
- Her neck rises higher out of the top of her shoulder, and expectedly she is sounder fronted and easier striding off her front skeleton
- She toes ahead truer upfront
- She tracks more relaxed in her spine
- Equally as attractive on the move as when set
- More correct out of her hip and hind leg structure
- Strides-squarer and more correct from hock to ground
- Plants the more correct and attractive hip and hindleg
- More correct and attractive in her hind leg set
- Moves with more flex out of her hock and lands on a bigger foot and deeper heel
- Moves with more stability through her hock and pastern
- She tracks wider and generally plants squarer and truer from hock to ground
- She's more agile/athletic when set in motion
- The cleaner jointed, smoother structured female is more fluid in her movement

Performance Terms:

- Performance edge on and off paper
- Added performance and power more valued by the cattleman (bigger Yearling Weight)
- Traditional _ performance (breed)
- Edge in inherited growth/performance (bigger Yearling Weight)
- Her direct growth is most beneficial to the genetic base of the herd, Yearling Weight
- Commitment to commercial Angus alliance (CAB) where growth and carcass merit is always a must.
- Despite her present performance deficit, she's still the more functional choice in the bottom pair (small, but better)
- Her added growth and power should prove more profitable for commercial bull production and future
- Complementarity to this English cow base, (Continental Cross)
- Post-weaning Performance



Photo courtesy of: Refuse to Lose Photography and Young's Show Cattle

Structure Terminology:

Advantages

- Cattleman's choice for practical range service
- Rugged, Range Ready Build/Range Soundness
- Durable skeleton
- Masculine/Massive
- Promotes the practical, low maintenance look necessary for replacement heifers and profitable sale cattle alike
- Promotes the practical, low maintenance look necessary for replacement heifers while bringing forth the pre-weaning performance and power to maximize the pay weight of his weanling calf crop/that should prove to be the best marketing tools for his calf crop
- Skeletal quality
- True herd sire value lies in his extra functional skeleton
- Further build upon his extra functional base/foundation
- Travels with more authority
- Herd sire fundamentals
- Takes a longer reaching, more comfortable/functional stride off both ends of his skeleton
- Here's the most ruggedly designed,. massive, structured sire who's built the widest from the ground up
- 3's not only the biggest footed and massive structured, but he's
- Here's the big footed, stout boned, bull who tracks with the most depth and cushion to his heel on the widest base

Disadvantages

- Structure limits his use as a practical herd sire
- Leaves me skeptical of his present breeding soundness
- Should offer the least/most seasons of service and genetic improvement (Could frame as positive too)
- Struggles on lead/Fights the lead
- Functional flaws

Power Terminology:

Advantages

- I trust him to put more growth and muscle into his calf crop
- Truly massive/powerful in his rib and muscle shape
- Contributes muscle and growth needed for value added feeder calf production while still upholding_
- His added power and performance should better complement these Angus females in producing bald face fat steers
- Brings forth the added power and growth to maximize productive efficiency
- Economically relevant traits on foot backs his claim to power and performance on paper.
- Stays focused on the terminal incentives of muscle and growth
- Knowing it's crucial to provide/approach this Angus base with yield value
- His claim to be a carcass Improvement sire is reinforced by more progressive terminal figures
- Opens with the most volume and mass through his center skeleton
- Here's the bigger testicled, more masculine appearing sire who's more massively muscled
- He's simply built wider from the ground up and is more massive in his rib and muscle
- Here's the more functionally correct herd-sire who's not only bolder ribbed, but from a structural standpoint he's the cleaner jointed bull who more accurately fills his track on the lead
- He is truly massive, powerful, and still functional in his skeletal design.
- His moderate frame and boldness of rib combined with him being a big footed, soft jointed sire exemplifies his do-ability and usefulness as a prospective herd bull
- This high performing herd sire prospect is not only stout in terms of rib design and natural skeletal width, but to no surprise is equally as impressive on the charts
- Besides the fact that he is extra powerful from a muscle mass and total volume standpoint, he is able to do so and still remain extremely sound on his feet and legs
- This moderate framed, soft centered bull's durability starts at the ground, where he is big footed and honest in his base width

Disadvantages

- His lack of muscle and a practical rib shape jeopardize his range readiness and ultimate breeding value
- Sure, 4's flatter shouldered and he's the projected calving ease specialist, but this single trait sire __

Performance Terminology:

Advantages

- Added power and performance more valued by this cattleman
- Inject the most/least growth and carcass improvement into his calf crop
- Advantages in inherited growth
- Most favorable on the growth side of the scenario
- Greatest growth spread to a year of age
- Big spread
- Commercially favorable
- Progeny should enter the feedlot at heavier weights
- Early growth (weaning weight)
- Post-weaning profitability (Yearling Weight)
- Add pay weight to the cattleman's calf crop
- His progeny should bend the growth curve with an excellent weaning/yearling performance
- ... and should expectedly add more pounds to his calf crop.
- To add value and bottom-line profit to any progressive seedstock or commercial program
- This potential herd sire will bring forth powerful growth and is supported by maternal strength
- His progeny should be more fitting for the commercial bull buyer, where growth is always a must
- A maternally strong sire who can still sustain growth
- Documented growth intervals (Weaning Weight (WW), Yearling Weight (YW), Maturity, if data provided)

Disadvantages

- He is the projected calving ease specialist, but as this all-to-often correlates to a narrow chested, flat ribbed body type, this along with his limited skeleton has compromised his performance, and leaves me question the ultimate value of his offspring

General Bull Phrases to use:

Advantages

- Maintains the known (breed) strengths of functionality with a nicely balanced genetic profile
- Should provide more breeding value for the cow-calf producer
- His female progeny should generate more recognition at the state and local shows/annual production sales
- I trust him to put more fleshing ability and growth into a cow herd
- His more practical, longer lasting build makes him the cattleman's kind
- He should generate more grid favorable fed cattle
- Label him the carcass improvement sire
- An added feature is his ability to be used on heifers
- Most diverse breeding/profit generating potential
- Multipurpose sire
- Should stamp his progeny/heifers/fed calves/etc.
- He supplies the necessary power, growth, and functionality to impact elite cow bases/operations
- He's the better bodied, sounder structured sire that should offer the cattleman more seasons of service
- He offers the most high quality seed stock look along with the genetic values to fit most diversity of purebred producers.

Disadvantages

- Single Trait Sire
- Poses a scenario concern
- Herd sire value is compromised
- Falls out genetically
- What's concerning to me is that the flat ribbed tight structured bull will limit the profitability of his progeny
- Bottom line, I don't trust him on first calf heifers
- He needs to be fixed up front to be used in these larger pastures, and beyond this, the higher birth-weight, coarser shouldered bull is too limited in his skeletal makeup
- He sacrifices the most critical requirement of functionality
- Offers the least terminal incentives on paper

General Sheep Phrases

- drops her head, and then she's the coarse fronted ewe
- represents off patterned sheep
- She stays in the top pair not because she's higher performing, but because she's more functional and genuine in her pattern and skeletal quality
- top pair of tremendous high-quality sheep
- rough patterned
- stay committed to power and a stout structure
- still value his/her kind
- Body Shape/Rack/Cage - Not "rib"

Handle Quality/Leanness:

Advantages

- Trimmer Patterned
- Leaner Handling
- Firmer/Fresher Handling
- Firmer/Leaner To The Touch
- More Touch and Tone
- Market Ready Handle

Disadvantages

- Soft Handling
- State Handling
- Over-finished
- Heavy/Excessively Conditioned
- Drier and More Mature in His Handle
- Handles with Less Touch and Tone

Muscle Terminology

Advantages

- Heavier Muscled
- Stouter Made
- Powerfully/Stouter Constructed/Built
- Expressively Muscled
- Product Oriented/Driven
- More Shapely

Disadvantages

- Light Muscled
- Narrow Made
- Flattens through his outer leg
- Plain in his/her muscle shape
- Tapers out of his dock
- Not as Shapely Up Top

Market Lamb Specific Terminology and IDs

- Suffolk Appearing
- Hampshire Influenced
- Blue Tinged
- Heavy Booted/Booted Down
- Slick Legged
- Tight/Loose Hided
- Thick/Thin Pelted
- Swirl Pelted
- Pin Wrinkled
- Ringworm scarred
- Fungus Bitten/Scarred
- Birthmark
- Wool Picked/Bitten
- Parrot Mouth
- Redocked/Scar docked/ Long Docked/Short Docked
- Scar Sided
- Ear Notched

- CROSSES:
 - -Open Faced
 - -Slick Faced
 - -Speckle Faced
 - -Scurred
 - -Striped Hoof
 - -Dark Fibered



Photo provided by Bryce McKenzie

Muscle Phrases:

- Progressively thickens from rack to dock
- He spans the wider, longer, deeper loin
- Touches back with more tone and expression
- Grabs with more hard muscle shape
- Handles with a more aggressive turn to a wider loin
- He comes fuller out of his hip and drops to a leg with more shape and expression
- He measures longer out his hip providing a leg with more total volume
- He displays more width and dimension from end to end
- He wraps more inner and outer leg
- He meets my hand with more volume and dimension of muscle over his rack and loin
- He measures the longer, more dimensional hind saddle
- He stretches longer from his last rib back and grabs with more circumference of leg
- Sets a wider, deeper loin in front of a stouter squarer hip
- Creases more shape down his top
- Sets a bolder, more upstanding rack in front of the wider, squarer loin
- He handles with more shape and expression over his rack and loin
- Starts stronger behind a bolder rack
- Handles with more width and depth to his loin
- Meets my hand with more muscle mass and volume
- Handles with a bolder turn to his loin edge
- Squares up with more shape to his rack and maintains this muscle advantage over his loin and drops down with the most circumference of leg
- Creases/turns/grabs/handles with more meat animal shape
- Squares up with the most shape to his rack and progressively thickens from there back
- Staying committed to the market fundamentals of muscle and leanness
- From the outside studies with the most dimension and grabs accordingly
- I still give the edge in dimension and width to . . .
- His terminal strength and potential cutability advantage

Market Terminology/Phrases:

- side with his product potential
- fresher and more current in his condition
- product driven decision
- doesn't wrap with enough leg to win
- his stale head and mature chest, sure tells the story from there back
- I'll keep him in the middle pair because I love this kind from the side
- he's more pulled apart in his forerib and center body and this directly facilitates to his extra spread up high, so it only makes sense when I get my hands on him that he's the bold racked option that gets progressively wider from there back.
- stand up rack shape
- more pulled apart in his hip
- lays in a flat, 3-dimensional loin
- tucked up in his chest
- off the rack, I'd expect him to have some structural advantages
- stands more collected in the rack
- from behind the line, he hits me....
- comes off as a heavy weight, heavy muscled type of sheep
- at first glance he appears to be overwhelming in class, he's the big topped, stout hipped, heavy muscled sheep, but it's when I get my hands on him that the top pair becomes close, he's excessive in his condition and soft to the touch, but when it's all said and done, he will still end with the most retail product
- and when I get my hands on him, he's bolder and more upstanding in his rack shape and gets progressively wider from there back
- His round and dynamic rib shape sets the basis for his extra spread up high

Volume (Broad Terms):

Advantages

- Higher Volumed
- Wider Constructed
- Broodier Appearing
- More Maternal/Practical in Her Rib Shape/Design
- Bolder Bodied
- More Capacious

Disadvantages

- Low Volumed
- Narrow Made
- Flat Rib/Body and Tight/High in her Flank
- Shallower Bodied/Flanked
- Flat Sided
- Less Maternal/Practical in her Body

Balance/Femininity (General Terms)

Advantages

- Nicer Balanced
- Nicer Profiling
- More Attractive Profiling
- Feminine Fronted/Featured
- More Feminine and Extended Up Front

Disadvantages

- Poor Balanced
- Less Attractive
- Less Feminine
- Ewe Necked

Performance/Growth (Broad Terms):

Advantages

- Larger Statured
- Growth Enhanced/Driven/Oriented
- More Skeletally Extended
- Higher WPDA (Weight Per Day of Age)
- Larger Outlined
- Heavier Weight

Disadvantages

- Smaller Statured
- At a Weight and Width Deficit
- Early Maturing
- Less WPDA (weight per day of age)
- Shorter Flank to Flank
- Lighter Weight

Performance Phrases:

- She views with more extension about her face, neck and cannon, which has allowed her to generate the higher WPDA
- Allow her to develop into the heavier yearling
- Appears the longest from her last rib back
- Taller shouldered/fronted, longer sided
- The longer cannoned ewe lamb appears to have more opportunity for future growth
- Set Low in her Dock Placement

Volume Phrases:

- The wider chested female opens up into a more practical rib design
 - Features the most Brood Ewe Potential
 - Drops down into a squarer rib cage and carries this uniformity to her flank
 - Opens up into a bolder rib design
 - Extra maternal in her rib cage
 - Incorporates a shapely, productive rib cage
 - The easier fleshing ewe who is bolder in her rib design should require less supplemental maintenance while in production
 - Should maintain a more sensible body condition in production
 - Possesses the most outward curvature and dimension of rib
-

Muscle Terminology:

- heaviest muscled, stout, powerfully designed, powerfully made, stout made
- works more, projects more
- more dimension, more expressive, more shape, more volume, more massive, more width,
- thicker
- 3 leads the class in lean muscle dimension and still maintains his mobility
- 3 is heavier muscled, working more product from blade to hip, down a squarer, bolder top
- My winner is the best combination of muscle, leanness and growth
- From a terminal standpoint, ...
- Works more product down a naturally thicker top, tying into a more massive ham
- Has more shape both down his top and through his hip and ham
- More compositionally correct barrow, that not only is more expressive, but also has more mass down both his top and through his hip and ham
- 3 tracks off a wider base from behind and accordingly leads up to a thicker ham.
- Exhibits more natural lean muscle dimension from blade to hip
- 3 is the heaviest muscled and leanest, in turn, the most expressive, specifically ...
- Comes out stouter out of his rump and is wider based from behind
- More bulge to a deeper tying ham
- In a top pair of more compositionally correct gilts, 2's muscle and weight wins the class over 4 in my opening decision
- Pulled apart with more muscle mass and dimension(shape)

Negatives

- Lighter muscled, flat hammed, narrow topped, somewhat flattens through his lower ham
 - Be specific about where the differences are and describe them, and you cannot lie here! If one is bigger hammed, and one is bolder topped, you DON'T have to label one as heavier muscled, just pinpoint the differences and go on.

Growth Terminology

- Offers more market weight versatility
- More potential for continued lean gain
- Could maintain lean gain to heavier market weights if required
- The barrow is much rawer designed, reads freer of fat and this coupled with his advantage in skeletal extension implies he should either rail a carcass with greater lean value or have more potential for future lean gain if needed.

Leanness Terminology:

- Reads, projects, works, appears
- Leaner, compositionally correct, trimmer made, expressive, shape
- Rarer bladed, cleaner bladed
- Trimmer through his lower body, freer of waste through in lower one third
- Has more shape and dimension over the squarer top
- Leading with the most muscular, production-oriented barrow that is still adequately lean
- The combination of muscle and weight put my sufficiently lean winner at the top
- In a middle pair of barrows with comparable leanness, 2's muscle places him over 3
- 2's dominance in cutability forces me to put him over 3 in my middle pair
- Cleaner bladed, cleaner topped
- Worked more shape down the top side of his skeleton and is more expressive through his ham loin junction.

Negative

- Fat, wasty
- Still 3 is excessively fat, particularly wasty underneath and still only average in muscle which should greatly reduce his percent lean value



Photo courtesy of Bachmeier Show Pigs

Production Terminology:

- Likewise, 3 is a more production-oriented barrow enhanced by his extra width of skeleton and mobility and proven by his weight advantage over 4, who I concede is ...
- The bigger, bolder bladed barrow offers more width of chest and shape of rib, compliments this by reaching out with more freedom and therefore could be termed more production oriented than 4 who I realize is ...
- The easier growing, more production-oriented barrow this is wider centered, bolder bladed and looser structured

Body/Width Terminology:

- Bold frame (use on a 3rd place hog)
- More genuine in her base width
- Opens with more dimension to her center skeleton-body
- Comes and goes squarer on her corners
- Natural width
- Sets down squarer on her corners with more genuine width
- Pulled apart further at her blades and center rib
- Broader bladed
- She's just as square at the ground as she is at the topside of her skeleton
- He's built wider from the ground up
- More opened up through his entire skeleton
- Opens up underneath
- Comes out of his sternum
- Center blade dimension
- Open/Square at the topside of his blade – know how to use these!

Negative

- Not only is 3 light-muscled, but the high flanked barrow lacks production traits, being too narrowly built, flat ribbed and extremely tight and restricted in his skeletal makeup
- Narrows up underneath
- He's just plainer about his base, and blade
- More general in his rib and muscle
- To be critical of a useful market hog, he is ...

Freshness Terminology:

- Places/Lays/sets his chine deeper between his blades
- Chine that lays fresher between the bolder blades
- More youthful, fresher

Soundness Terminology:

- The big-footed, square-toed gilt has more curvature to her knee and comes up to the more correct angle to her blade
- Drives with more comfort off her rear 2
- Drives squarer from behind
- Squarer and bigger in her foot structure
- Plants and pushes with more confidence/authority from behind (refers to rear two)
- Drives with more mobility from behind
- Strength and stability out of a longer, leveler hip
- Drives with more freedom and flexibility
- Travels with more security on a larger, more even toe
- Functionally correct
- Durable in her skeleton
- Fresher bladed
- Her main(primary) strength lies in her ___
- _____ is certainly of value
- Sets the standard for _____
- The barrow that is more uniform in his toe size
- More mobile barrow that set down with more cushion up front
- Not only is he leveler topped, but this enhances his ability to hinge a looser hip and hock
- Works with more strength and stability out of the stouter hip
- Skeletal strength- stronger topped and leveler hipped
- Relaxed in his joints

Volume Phrases:

- The wider chested female opens up into a more practical rib design
- Features the most Brood Sow Potential
- Drops down into a squarer rib cage and carries this uniformity to her flank
- Opens up into a bolder rib design
- Extra maternal in her rib cage
- Incorporates a shapely, productive rib cage
- The easier fleshing gilt who is bolder in her rib design should require less supplemental maintenance while in production
- Should maintain a more sensible body condition in production
- Possesses the most outward curvature and dimension of rib

Scale, Weight, Growth Terminology:

- more skeletal extension, more extended, bigger skeletoned, taller fronted, bigger scaled, up fronted
- later maturing, longer growing, growthier
- heavier weight, easier growing, higher performing, pounds heavier, easier gaining
- longer patterned, longer sided, longer from blade to hip, more distance from blade to hip, profiled with more extension, longer rumped
- 3 is a taller fronted gilt, that profiles longer from blade to hip
- Maturity patterns sort out my final pair in placing the longer growing 3 over 4
- 3 is a wider skeletoned, easier growing gilt that accordingly holds the weight advantage over 4.
- 3 is longer patterned and more extended from blades forward
- Here's the low fronted, earlier maturing gilt
- Light weight, poor gaining, poor doing
- Short coupled, short bodied, short made, short rumped, short fronted
- Still 3 is short boned, short bodied and compounds this by being the heaviest conditioned
- Longer-cannoned, longer faced, taller shouldered
- Shows more progression from a growth curve standpoint

Body Condition Terminology:

- More optimal in condition, than the ultra-lean 4, which should help prove more functional in reproduction.
- In relation to the ultra-lean 4, her more optimal body condition suggests she'll be more functional through lactation and re-breeding.
- Cleaner profiling
- I can sacrifice length and extension to gain the brood sow potential with 4 over 2



Photo courtesy of Bachmeier Show Pigs

Volume and Skeletal Width Terminology:

- Broodier, wider skeletoned, higher volumed, deeper sided, more natural skeletal width, more production oriented, big volumed
- Bolder ribbed, wider centered, more shape and curvature to her rib, more center body width
- Bolder turn to the deeper rib
- Bolder bladed, more open at her blades, bolder bladed, wider bladed, bolder fronted, more width through her chest floor, wider chested, more expanded through her chest, more front end dimension.
- 3 is a more production-oriented gilt that is broodier-made, and easier growing
- 3 exhibits more natural skeletal width, specifically being more expanded through her chest and as you might expect also tracks off a wider base from behind, holding the edge in muscle over 4.
- 3 is more maternally designed, not only possessing more skeletal width and broodiness, but also being more refined through her more extended front
- Sidenote: Maternally designed combines, femininity, broody, and good underline; maternally oriented means the same thing, but includes good maternal #'s (SPI, MU) and should only be used in performance classes, maternal appearing can be used in both cases, but works better in performance classes where one gilt is broodier and more feminine but the other gilt has a higher SPI on paper.
- 3 has more curvature to her ribs, is bolder bladed and still maintains her mobility which coupled together should prove her a more valuable replacement than the flat ribbed, tight structured 4, who I grant is ...
- In a top pair of more functional gilts

Negative

- Narrow skeletoned, narrow made, narrow gauged, terminal appearing, least replacement potential
- Flat ribbed, flat made, tight ribbed, high flanked, pinched through her center body, shallow sided, hollow rib
- Narrow chested, restricted through her chest floor, narrow tracking
- 3 is the flattest ribbed and poorest structured which could endanger longevity and consistent gestations in confinement
- The small gilt is the narrowest gauged, exceptionally flat ribbed and tight structured which could also correlate to her being the poorest growing.

Structure and Movement Terminology:

Action words

- Reads, works, projects, displays, runs, turns, etc
- Use descriptions as ID's ... give flat criticisms
- Set up descriptions with views ... but it as she drives at me that I like the belted gilt in third ...
- Mobile, freer structured, looser skeletoned, looser made, freer moving, longer striding, fluid moving, correctly structured, looser structured, moves with more freedom, easier moving, softer moving, steps out longer, durably, truer moving
- Talk “width, bone and foot size” ... in combination -
- Allows him/her to support more foundation/muscle
- Works, moves, drives, operates, strides, steps, reaches
- More longevity prone, more durably designed, more confinement adaptable, more confinement durable, better suited for confinement, greater longevity, prove sounder in confinement
- More cushion up front, more laid back in shoulder set, more curvature in knee, more reach off of front end, sets down with more cushion to knees and pasterns.
- more functional set to hock and pasterns, moves with more flex and give to hock and pastern
- Bigger boned, heavier skeletoned, heavier structured, bigger foot
- 3 dominates the class in mobility
- 3 drives down a bigger foot with a longer stride
- 3 works with a more functional set to her hock
- Tracks out looser with more strength/stability on the bigger bone and foot
- More functionally correct in her structural design
- The more structurally correct gilt which has benefited her in becoming the heavier weight, apparently better gaining gilt
- The longer muscled and still freer striding gilt
- 3 moves with more authority
- 3 is looser structured, specifically moves with more cushion on her knees and pasterns which should prove more longevity prone than 4
- Sounder footed (if the other gilt being compared to is tender footed or laboring for reasons other than being straight or restricted out of hock, makes awesome ID if at a contest you're told to ignore soundness)

Negative

- Tight structured, restricted in movement, stiff straight, struggles, labors, uncoordinated in movement, short striding, choppy step
- Steep shouldered, more upright in shoulder placement
- Frail structured, small footed
- The steep shouldered gilt struggles off her front end which could likely present longevity difficulties
- 3 is tight and restricted off both ends of her skeleton
- Exceptionally tight structured, which could seriously jeopardize her confinement soundness.
- Isolate the problem specifically if a gilt is structurally incorrect, and describe that, don't be too broad or inaccurate

Design Terminology:

- leveler designed, leveler spined, leveler made, stronger spined, squarer hipped, leveler rumped.
- Leveler designed gilt that is stronger spined and higher in her tail placement.
- 3 is a more attractively patterned gilt that is leveler spined and exhibits more femininity throughout her front
- Taller, and stronger behind her blades
- nicer profiling
- longer and leveler rumped
- leveler designed, creating more freedom out of a looser hip and hock, which should prove her more durably designed than 4 who I realize is ...
- works out of the leveler, looser hip and hock with more authority

Negative

- High Topped, ill designed, broken topped, broke behind her blades, steep rumped
- 3 is high topped which helps account for her being straight and stiff in her hock and pastern.

Muscle and Leanness in Gilts:

- Heaviest muscled, stoutest, most powerfully constructed, wider constructed
- Wider bases, larger hammed, stouter rumped, bigger topped, tracks out of the stouter hip
- Leaner designed, trimmer
- I like 3 over 4 in a middle pair of gilts that are comparable in leanness
- 2 is a stout, broody gilt that is still adequate in leanness.
- “When discussing muscle and leanness in breeding gilts simply state the big things and shy away from getting into a lot of depth about specifically where and how they're leaner or heavier muscled, that way the reasons taker doesn't feel like you are talking a breeding set.”

Femininity, Vulvas, Underlines Terminology:

- Feminine, refined, maternally designed, maternal appearing
- Longer fronted, more extended from blades forward, more refined through neck and head, more feminine headed
- More extended from blades forward while maintaining her femininity
- Possess more length of front end and femininity to compliment her more functionally correct underline.
- More feminine, more ideal vulva size, and has the longer underline
- The longer fronted, more maternal appearing gilt that appropriately has the more functional underline
- The powerfully constructed heavy muscled gilt that is still uniquely more feminine. -1 word can make a big difference in an opening!
- Sidenote: "Six or more pairs of teats are desirable. Breed associations have established 12 sound, workable teats as the minimum, with 14 being most ideal"
- Functional underline, sound underline, nicer underline, higher quality underline, more desirable underline, tighter underline attachment
- Longer underline, starts further forward, higher counting underline
- More refined underline, more evenly spaced, freer of pin nipples, higher number of nurse-able nipples, more uniform, functional underline
- More desirable vulva
- Loose underline, blunt underline, loose in her rear udder attachment, coarse underline, undesirable underline, poor underline, short underline, pin nipple
- Possibly infantile vulva, extremely small vulva, tipped up vulva.



Photo courtesy of Bachmeier Show Pigs

General Id's:

- She's a useful, deep ribbed, wide made gilt, yet, she's just deprived of the quality ... so she's 3rd
- In a mature sow stage
- Production setting
- Heavy eared
- Sheath- boars/ barrows id's
- To sound more "like a hog person" ID with maternal characteristics: the swollen vulva gilt, the gilt that appears to be in estrus, the up-vulva gilt, the gilt with a pin nipple, the gilt that is below breed requirements for # of nipples, the longer underline gilt, the more prominent underline gilt. These give you an extra grant or criticism without taking the place of one.

General Swine Terms:

- looser structured
- stays more comfortable as the class wears on
- from a breeding hog standpoint
- appealing design with width and feature
- his/her blade sits too far away from his rib cage and as a result he/she pushes out in his elbow and knee
- they sort as I watch them drive right at me
- real pair advantage in the way she/he is assembled up front
- back to basics of building hogs from the ground up
- pair of bold, stout, genuine hogs that start
- easier for me to identify with her/his basic build
- ideally, I'd like to fix my class winner in terms of her/his hock design, but I don't see another one in here that's sounder with as much power and shape
- but I'd still give her/him a chance because all this mass and substance belongs in the top pair
- I'll admit it's not a matter of muscle that sorts her/him into 2nd

Market Hogs

- Powerful= weight+ width+ rib shape+ bone+ muscle
- Productive= width+ growth +bold rib and deep body+ soundness+ muscle
- Efficient= weight and scale+ body+ muscle+ skeleton+ compositionally correct
- Freshness = deep chine + hair and skin quality
- Attractive= clean jaw line+ tall fronted+ level+ extension + bone+ fill +freshness+ soundness
- Design= tall shoulder+ youthful + bone+ skull+ fill+ square build+ rib shape+ balance+ skeleton
- Basic Build= genuine width+ rib shape+ muscle+ skeleton+ youthful+ square build
- Skeletal Quality= big even toes+ correct angles (blade, hip, hock, knee, pastern) + level+ long hip +square coming and going
- Youthful =skull+ composition + deep chine +freshness
- Composition = fat in relation to muscle (jawline, lower 1/3,Groove to top)
- Quick Patterned/Small Scaled/Early Maturing= Short face +Cannon +Short body+ likely to be fat
- Large Scaled/Big in Kind/late Maturing Look= Longer Face+ Tall Shoulder +Extension+ Leaner

Carcass:

- 10th Rib Muscle= lean muscular top (specifically loin eye)
- lean Value= weight+ composition+ top shape
- Pounds of Product= scale+ volume of muscle+ weight+ composition
- High Cutability = Muscular+ Lean
- Low Cutability = Avg/Light Muscle+ Fat

Carcass Terms

- Cutability= heavy muscled+ trim down low/ pattern +Expressive/ Shapely+ Look/ Handle
- Fat Steer/ Easy feeding= Full in their external indicators + Smooth + Practical body
- Quality Grade/ Safer Grading= Full through external indicators+ uniform/ consistent cover+ more cover over 12th and 13th
- Market readiness= Muscular+ Properly Finished/ Correctly Covered
- Total Pounds of Product= Heavy weight+ skeletal Width /Large Frame/ extended
- Pay Weight= Carcass Weight/ How they return profit+ Frame, Maturity, length/extension
- Heavy Muscled= Wide + dimension of muscle
- Heavy Weight= Wide + frame +extended/length
- Rib the larger eye= Rib+ loin + top shape
- Freshness/Compositionally correct = Proper age+ Good hair/ skin+ smooth handle

Breeding Gilts

- Functional= growth+ volume+ structure + teats and vulvas
- Broody= growth+ width + high volume + stout+ sound
- Maternal= growth+ soundness+ body + feminine+ volume+ underlines+ long muscle
- Late Maturing Look= growth + length of cannon + long fronted + extension + composition+ youthful
- Early Maturing Look= short face and cannon+ Jammed up+ compositionally incorrect
- Female Makers= feminine+ sound + body volume+ teats and vulvas + growth
- Boar Makers= stout+ growth+ width+ structure+ muscle+ rib shape
- Foundation Female= productive+ attractive+ good build+ sound+ good EPDs + growth +skeletal quality+ longevity+ versatility
- Maternally Strong= performance+ volume+ sound+ teats and vulva+ feminine+ long muscle
- Terminally Strong= growth+ muscle+ rib shape+ EPDs
- Seedstock/ Breeding stock= growth + balance + great build +sound+ good EPDs
- Source for Days Reduction= Days to 250 EPD + growth + scale + muscle
- Source for Show Pig Production = growth + muscle+ design + skeletal quality +composition+ rib shape

Market Steers

- Practical (Body Type) = Heavy Weight+ Sound+ Big Bodied+ Wide/ Muscular
- Powerful= Width+ Heavy Muscled+ Bold+ Heavy Structured + Weight
- Massive= Wide+ Bold/ Big Bodied+ Heavy Muscled+ Heavy Weight +Bone
- Attractive (eye appealing): Clean fronted+ level Lines+ Sound Structure+ Good hip/ Leg+ Freshness
- Balance = Fits together good from the side, Proportional in lines + Sound Structure
- Structure/ Soundness = Correct use/ angle of joints + big footed + deep heeled, readily fills his track while remaining collected in skeleton/ topline
- High Quality= Combination of the above
- Moderate= Average in growth indicators: typically, easier feeding/ doing

Heifers

- Donor= elite breeding piece+ good data +attractive+ sound
- Powerful= muscle + width +bone+ Weight per Day of Age
- High Quality= attractive+ rib+ sound+ good udder+ correct condition
- Practical/Functional= sound+ body+ width
- Broody= bold rib+ width+ stout+ sound + performance
- Maternal= feminine+ sound + volume + rib+ teats
- low Maintenance/Input/etc. =moderate+ sound+ volume+ easy fleshing+ depth, rib, and flesh
- Balanced= sound+ proportional + fits together well
- Feminine/Attractive= level+ nice fronted+ refined udder+ hip and hind leg+ level
- Performance= frame+ growth + data + weight
- Skeletal Quality= level top+ correct angles + fills track + clean Joints
- Longevity= sound+ body+ moderate+ Milk#
- Maternally Strong= Milk#+ functional
- Bull Maker= growth+ data+ power+ functional
- Seedstock/Show Ring Production = attractive + body+ structure+ balanced EPDs
- Female Maker= sound +body+ performance+ udder

Market Sheep and Goats

- Powerful =width+ muscle + stout + productive rib
- Attractive= upstanding+ clean chested+ level+ uniform + square build + hip and hind leg
- Expressive= trim + firm + rack shape+ definition of muscle
- Sound Structured= correct in angles+ comfort on move
- Fresh= good hide + good handle + upstanding shape+ clean plated
- Youthful Rib = bold shape + shallow hearted + able to maintain heavy weight + fresh
- Stature = large frame+ extension
- Stale= fades over loin + mature + sharp raked + bad hided + poorly managed
- High Quality= good build+ attractive+ muscular
- Last Rib Back/ Hind saddle= longer+ fuller+ fresher loin + stouter, squarer hip+ muscular leg → 60% of total length
- Cutability = lean + muscular
- Pounds of Product = weight + muscle
- Composition = optimal finish + muscle
- Touch and Tone= firm+ good hide+ shapely/muscular+ fresh
- Handling Quality= fresh+ muscular+ rack+ loin (good to edges), good hide

Bulls

- Functional/Practical= sound+ volume+ width+ testicles
- Powerful =width+ muscle+ stout+ growth
- Performance Driven = growth (WPDA) + frame+ balanced data
- Masculine= crest neck+ testicles + muscular
- Durable= bone+ big foot+ structure+ rugged+ rib shape
- Female Maker= functional + moderate+ testicles
- Bull Makers= powerful+ performance+ masculine + functional
- Calving Ease = low birth weight (high CED) + smooth shoulder+ clean joints
- Natural Service/Cleanup Bull= functional+ rugged+ whatever scenario asks for
- Profitable Feed Out Program = cutability + pay weight+ quality grade+ performance
- Cutability/Yield Grade= expressive+ REA
- Pay Weight= growth+ growth EPDs
- Quality Grade= practical body+ IMF
- Show Ring Progeny= quality look+ functional+ good data
- Versatile= able to cover many different production goals

Transitions

- It's the fact that good cattle come in different shapes and sizes that lend some discussion to the initial pair
- But in relation to his contemporaries/counterparts
- Initially there is a unique opportunity to start with a female that blends presence and power on a functional framework
- If he breeds true to his numbers
- In my mind that top pair of gilts are close, and it's your priorities at home that will impact how you mark your card.
- Not to take anything away from the 9-litter gilt that comes out in second.
- I'll still take my chances on her in the bottom pair.
- In this pair I bet on her to take the breed further in the right direction
- It's my priorities at home that allow me to migrate to the conventional made show bull in 1
- Still when you study what's left there isn't one that can touch him in terms of substance and spread
- But let's be honest, he isn't in the same league
- Looking past this, it's his basic build and moderate look that makes him the logical choice in the middle
- Yet I still don't question his practicality
- Keeping in mind handling quality, I like the middle...
- As I sort the bottom pair that represent different kinds, it's ultimately structure that allows me to go 2, 4
- So I will put trust in the progressive breeder to protect her in terms of structure and write it 1-2 in the bottom

General Breeding Terms/Phrases

- his use might be limited to those females that have enough natural width and skeleton
- offers more function and value long term
- if you have a sow/cow base that can tolerate his structure
- perhaps his true value will be evident in the next generation
- she should hold more value when sent back into production
- I stay committed to keeping my breeding stock genuine at the ground
- generating potential is limited
- should have the most influence on the next generation
- I'd still sort him over 4 in the bottom, not because he's better on paper, but phenotypically he's the better built.
- they both hit me with some breeding value; they just differ in how they need to be used
- most appropriate amount of width, bone, and muscle, in a maternal functional package
- don't find a lot of retainment value
- on paper it's close, but as I physically break him down
- she reads with more function and true value long term
- both have some pieces that'll be difficult to breed around
- the true generating piece may be found in the 2nd place heifer/gilt
- attractive, athletic build only completes her maternal design
- now if you can protect her in terms of foot and bone
- reads as the harsh, high maintenance heifer/gilt
- she could be taken to the widest variety of sires
- basic function and long-term use
- I'd question his ability to take this operation in a profitable direction
- he/she offers a more generating look from the side
- he/she backs that up with a strong set of numbers
- more generating potential
- maternally featured
- low maintenance and easy keeping kind of rib
- add power to any program
- greatest influence in one generation

General Market Terms/Phrases

- With the intent of sending weight and product to the rail, this one holds a tremendous amount of value, and that allows him to stay in the top pair
- his true advantages will be seen on the rail
- tandem of cutability and balance
- bigger impact on the bottom line
- impressive amount of bulk and mass set on a functional framework
- as I continue to break him/her down
- I'm not going to be too hard on 3, because initially she hits me as the_
- that alone keeps him over 4
- reads with more power at any angle you study him
- Keeping real world muscle a priority
- he has the advantage when I study him from the outside
- feel more comfortable leaving the problem heifer/sheep in the bottom pair
- laying the basis for his genuine width up high
- I can certainly tie into the added shape and mass in 2
- more attractive on the go
- I'm confident she needs to go 3rd
- Now I'll give credit where it's due
- I can't convince myself that 3
- proportions so well/balances so good
- a middle pair that rival one another in their advantages
- I'm just not convinced he's stout enough
- some real discussion to be had this the ___ pair
- keeping build a priority
- when her flaws are most apparent
- I'm comfortable calling her the most genuine of the remaining duo
- yet, she's still appropriate in her transition from her forerib back to flank

Market Hog Phrases:

- When he drives underneath me I'm convinced that's he's the bigger fresher topped barrow and stoutest out through his hip
- His kind is the most practical in production as he's the most expansive in his forerib while being the boldest and deepest in his rib
- Here's the good built nice balanced barrow that's the tallest at the point of his shoulder and the most level from there back
- From the side he's the nice balanced level designed hog that reads more genuine in his shape from blade to hip
- Initially the tricolored barrow hits me hard from the side because of his color pattern but he's the wide, stout, moderate one that's opened up underneath and simply is the biggest backed and stoutest hipped
- That barrow has a great look and presence from the side as that's the heads-up attractive barrow that is tall at the point of his shoulder and has his tail cranked up high at the base of his hip

Cattle Performance EPD's

<u>EPD</u>	<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Unit/Measure</u>	<u>Preferred Value</u>
Birthweight	BW	LBS.	Low
Calving Ease Direct	CED	%	High
Calving Ease Maternal	CEM or MCE	%	High
Weaning Weight	WW	LBS.	Depends on Scenario
Yearling Weight	YW	LBS.	Depends on Scenario
Maternal Milk	MM or Milk	LBS.	Moderate (Breed Ave.)
Yearling Height	YH	Inches	Moderate
Heifer Pregnancy	HPG	%	High
Maintenance Energy	ME	Mcal/Month	Low
Stay ability	STAY	%	High
Scrotal Circumference	SC	Centimeters	High
Docility	DOC	Score	High
Dry Matter Intake	DMI	LBS.	Low
Mature Weight	MW	LBS.	Moderate
Tenderness	Tend	Score	High
Average Daily Gain	ADG	LBS./Day	Depends on Scenario (High)
Residual Feed Intake	RFI	Lbs./Day	Depends on Scenario (LOW)
Carcass Weight	CW	LBS.	High

Cattle Carcass EPD's

<u>EPD</u>	<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Preferred Value</u>
Rib Eye Area	REA or RE	Square Inches	High
Yield Grade	YG	Yield Grade Difference	Low
Retail Product	% RP	%	High
Marbling	MARB or IMF	Fraction of Difference in USDA Grade	High
Marbling	% IMF	%	High
Carcass Weight	CW	LBS.	High
Fat Thickness	Fat	Inches	Low

Cattle Indexes

EPD	Abbreviation	Measure	Breed
Beef Value	\$B	Post Weaning Performance and Carcass Value	Angus
Weaned Calf Value	\$W	Preweaning Merit (BW, WW, YW, MM, Cow Size)	Angus
Feedlot Value	\$F	Post Weaning Performance	Angus
Grid Value	\$G	Carcass Grid Merit	Angus
Quality Grade	\$QG	Quality Grade Segment of \$Q	Angus
Yield Grade	\$YG	Yield Grade Segment of \$G	Angus
Cow Energy Value	\$EN	Amount Saved/cow/year	Angus
Baldie Maternal Index	BMI\$	Based on 1000 Hereford x Angus Females with progeny towards CHB	Hereford
Brahman Influence Index	BII\$	1000 Hereford x Brahman	Hereford
Certified Hereford Beef	CHB\$	Terminal Sire Index Based on Hereford Sired calves for CHB	Hereford
Cow Profit	\$Cow	Genetic Value in \$ of profit when retained as a replacement	<u>Gelbvieh</u>
Efficiency Profit Index	EPI	Emphasis on feed efficient cattle that still gain	<u>Gelbvieh</u>
Feeder Profit Index	FPI	Feedlot performance CW, marbling, and Yield Grade	<u>Gelbvieh</u>
All Purpose Index	API	Use of bulls on entire Angus based cow herd, culls sold on grid	Simmental
Terminal Index	TI	Use on mature Angus cows with all offspring sold on grade and yield	Simmental
Mainstream Terminal Index	\$MTI	Profit per carcass from Angus/Hereford cows marketed on grade and yield	Limousin



Photo courtesy of: Refuse to Lose Photography and Young's Show Cattle

Sheep FEPD's / EBV (Estimated Breeding Value)

<u>EPD</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>Preferred Value</u>
Birth Type	Single, Twin, Triplet	Scenario Based
Rear Type	Single, Triplet, Twin	Reflect Birth Type
60 Day Weaning Weight	Lbs.	High
120 Day Post Weaning	Lbs.	High
Maternal Milk	Lbs.	High
Maternal % Lamb Crop	%	High
Backfat	Inches	Moderate (.15"-.3")
Loin Eye Area (LEA)	Inches	High
Scrotal Circumference (SC)	Centimeters	High
Codon 171 Genotype	DNA for Scrapie (QQ, QR, RR)	QR or RR
Spider Gene	DNA test for carrier of the spider gene (NN or NS)	NN

Swine EPD's

<u>EPD</u>	<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Preferred Value</u>
Number Born Alive	NBA	# of pigs	High
21 Day Litter Weight	21 Day	Lbs.	High
Back Fat	BF	Inches	Moderate
Loin Eye Area	LEA	Inches	High
Days to Reach 250 lbs.	Days	# of days	Low
Sow Productivity Index	SPI	Combines NBA and 21 Day LWT	High
Terminal Sire Index	TSI	Combines Days, Lbs., and BF	High
Maternal Line Index	MLI	Economic Value that combines SPI and TSI	High
Weaned to Estrus Interval	WTE	Measured in Days	Scenario Based
Feed Efficiency	FE	Lbs.	Low
Number Weaned	NW	# of pigs	High
Litter Weight	LWT	Lbs.	High
Pounds of Lean	LBS	Lbs. Predictor	High

Hogs in General:

- Ear Notch
- Dewclaws
- Center/Cavity/Cage
- Skin/Hair
- Square
- Reach and grabs
- Up headed
- Hinges
- Plants/pushes
- Sternum
- Chine
- Skull and Jaw
- Toes/Feet
- Blade
 - Shape and Width
- Large scale
- framework
- design
- pliable
- reads, drives, works, studies
- pried apart, busted open
- corners
- Feeding floor
- turn the corner
- tall bladed
- ear sets
- mating decisions
- breeding piece
- Knees
- tail set
- lymph nodes
- durable/durability
- build
- bold
- foundation
- surface
- pasterns
- maturity

Market Hogs

- Sexes
- sheaths
- 10th rib
- % lean
- Freshness
- Chest
- 10th Rib Muscle
- Ham Loin Junction/Juncture
- Counterfeit
- Genuine

Gilts

- Vulva
- Underline
- Broody
- Maternal
- farrow
- Crates
- Slats
- Femininity
- Longevity
- Confinement
- Protect/Pieces (Breeding)

Common Swine Breed Thoughts:

- Hampshire, Yorkshire, Duroc
- *Yorkshire*
 - Mother Breed
 - Think maternal, sound, productive
 - Usually are:
 - quicker, need fixed in the ham/loin junction more often and some need fixed in their pasterns
- *Durocs*
 - Durability, growth, red, stoutness of feature, colors/striped hooves
 - Beware of some of their:
 - hip/hind leg. blade shape, coarseness, overall shape
- *Hampshire*
 - Muscle, leanness, percent lean, TALK BELTS, terminal type
 - Make sure they are sound, softer middled and growthy/productive enough



Photo courtesy of Bachmeier Show Pigs

Bulls

- Hair
- Switches and Tail Heads
- Sheaths, Scrotal Circumference
- Condition
- Polled/Horned
- Brands
- Color
- Structure
- Foot/hoof shape
- deep healed
- lower joints
- fills track
- longevity
- rear leg travel
- seasons of service
- trust
- Breeding pieces
 - protect, mating decisions
- Body/Volume
- Big Bodied/Powerful Rib/Muscle
- Easy Fleshing
- Soggy
- Beefy
- Bull Battery
- Rugged
- Masculine
- Range Ready
- Sire
- Powerful
- Complimentary
- Inject, Put Back
- Sire Group
- Mating Flexibility

Heifers

- Hair
 - Switches
 - Talk Heads
 - Navals
 - Teats
 - Gestation (For Breds)
 - Condition
 - Polled/Horned
 - Brands
 - Color
- Structure*
- Hooves/Foot Shape
 - Deep Healed
 - Lower Joints
 - Natural Topline
 - Fills track
 - Rear Leg Travel
- Body/Volume*
- Big bodied
 - Bold sprung
 - sweep to her rear rib and flank
 - heart/forerib
 - depth/flesh/rib
 - maintenance
 - input cost
 - east fleshing
 - post-partum
 - neck shape
 - muscle pattern

Feedlot Steers and Fats

- Hair, switches, tail heads, sheaths
 - Finish
 - Crest/Maturity
 - Polled/Horned
 - Brands
 - Color
 - Tags (on body)
- Structure*
- Hooves, fills track, natural collection
 - practical
 - tight rib/structured
- Finish*
- Easy Feeding
 - Practical Fat
 - Big Bodied
 - Visual Indicators
 - Brisket, Cod, Flank, Pones
 - Efficient
- Muscle*
- Rib, Loin, Quarter, Stifle
 - Larger Eye
 - Red Meat Yields
- Feedlot Specific Talk:*
- Yard, Bunk, Pen of his kind, feed, days on feed (less than 1300 lbs.), Showlist
- Haltered Steers*
- Can talk about the competitive show steer look in this class

Common Beef Breed Thoughts:

- Angus, Hereford, Continental
- Angus
 - “Business Breed”
 - Positives are: Maternal, sound, practical, quality grades
 - Some negatives can be: growth, genuineness, muscle
- Hereford
 - Talk pigment and feathers, horned/polled/ color, black switched
 - Think of Herefords as: durable, rugged, shapely/stout
 - Some negatives can be: muscle, plain/common, maternal quality
- Continentals
 - Should have: width, growth, muscle, yield grades, terminal traits
 - May struggle with: basic build, maternal quality, coarseness, quality grades, and femininity.

Sheep and Goats

Body

- Round
- Robust
- Gauge
- Cage
- Opened up
- exotic
- flank lines
- current/modern/trendy
- youthful
- Athletic
- Shallow

Skeleton and Balance

- Chest Floor
- Blade/Scapula
- Lines - Draws Back
- Organized Skeleton
- Elegant
- Corners
- Head Carriage
- Head/Neck Attachment
- Pattern
- Wedge
- Hip and Hind Leg Posture
- Pin Set

Muscle/Handle

- Loin, Leg, Rack
- Bold
- Upstanding rack shape
- edges
- hydrated
- wide/flat
- depth
- full
- fades
- rounds
- washes out
- twist
- leg shape
- Hard/Firm
- Bloom
- Hind saddle
- Cutability
- Drops/Narrows/Rounds
- Pulls Away from spine
- Action words for sheep and goat handle are:
 - Touches, Spans, Grabs
 - Creases, Meets, Fills

Ewes and Does:

- Mouths
- Pasterns
- Fit Jobs
- Hides
- Notches
- Wool Cover
- Docks
- Muzzles
- Breeds
- ears
- Doe Specific:
 - Horns, Skulls, ears, pigment, color

Common Sheep Breed Thoughts:

- Hampshires
 - Wool Cap/Leg & Boot
 - Boxy, square, big hipped, big cage, big bone, pounds product
 - Can have more hide, faster maturing, fatter
- Suffolks
 - Black points, slick legged
 - Handle quality, thin hides, late maturing, leanness, cutability, shallow
 - Can be flat, unproductive, frail, round
- Dorset
 - Wool Caps, pink nose medium hairy ears, no spots, white hooves
- Southdown
 - Black Noses, boxy short muzzles, short thick ears, “mousey” points
 - Chalky=too white
 - Striped hooves, no black, hairy lambs



Photo provided by Bryce McKenzie

Issued in furtherance of extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Mandy Marney, Director, University of Wyoming Extension, College of Agriculture, Life Sciences and Natural Resources, University of Wyoming Extension, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming 82071.

Persons seeking admission, employment, or access to programs at the University of Wyoming shall be considered without regard to race, sex, gender, color, religion, national origin, marital status, disability, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information, political belief, or other status protected by state and federal statutes or University Regulations in matters of employment, services, or in the educational programs or activities it operates, in accordance with civil rights legislation and University commitment. To request accommodations, please contact the UW Extension Communications & Technology Office at (307) 766-5695 or uwe-ct@uwyo.edu to discuss possible solution(s) to fit your specific needs.



College of Agriculture,
Life Sciences and
Natural Resources

MP-165
April 2026