

Dairy Judging-Notes, Placings, and Reasons

Judging Notebook Setup

- If you're having difficulty with the class judge them on the major categories of Udder, Dairy Strength, and Feet & Legs to help you reach your final placing.
- You should have at least 2- 3 reasons for placing one animal over another animal, writing out the reasons helps to solidify your placing and give you things to talk about during your reasons
- Make sure you always have a grant for each placing.

Final Placing: ____ - ____ - ____ - ____

	1	2	3	4
Udder				
Dairy Strength				
Feet & Legs				

Descriptions:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Reasons:

_____ over _____

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Grant:

_____ over _____

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Grant:

_____ over _____

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Grant:

Dairy Judging-Notes, Placings, and Reasons

Reasons Terms

-When compiling your reasons, it's important to remember to describe the cows through comparisons. Below are some terms and phrases to help your reasons sound cohesive. It is important to remember to use "cow" terms. If you wouldn't say it every day or when talking to someone about a cow don't use it in your reasons, they should sound professional but natural.

-Two-way traits are traits that should have a noting or a recognizing statement after them, for example, teat size-are they longer or shorter? Levelness of the rump-are her pins high or low?

-Notice unique things about the cow and write them down, i.e.: markings, color, ear tags, horn stubs, injuries or scars, halter type, this will help you remember the cows as well when giving your reasons.

- Udder
 - Rear Udder
 - Higher rear udder attachment
 - Wider rear udder attachment
 - Higher, wider rear udder
 - More turn at the top of the rear udder
 - Fuller at the top of the rear udder
 - More symmetry or balance to her rear quarters
 - More uniform width to her rear udder
 - Negatives
 - Use terms like, noticing, noting, recognizing...
 - the low rear udder on...
 - the heavy right/left quarter on...
 - the light right/left quarter on...
 - Fore Udder
 - Longer fore udder attachment
 - Smoother fore udder attachment
 - Tighter fore udder attachment
 - Blends more smoothly into the body wall
 - Longer, smoother, fore udder attachment that blends more smoothly into the body wall.
 - Negatives
 - The bulgy fore udder on...
 - The short fore udder on...
 - Teat Placement (two-way trait)
 - Her teats are more centrally located on her quarters
 - Has more correct teat size
 - More correct teat placement
 - More correct teat shape
 - Noting:
 - long teats

Dairy Judging-Notes, Placings, and Reasons

- short teats
- cone shaped teats
- wide set teats
- narrow teats
- Dairy Strength
 - Dairyness
 - Longer and leaner throughout the head and neck
 - Cleaner over shoulder
 - More chiseled down her topline
 - Cleaner over her hooks, thurls, and pins
 - More prominent over her hooks, thurls, and pins
 - More incurving or cleaner in her thigh
 - Openness & Width
 - More open in her rib structure
 - More spring to her rib
 - More spring and openness to her ribs
 - More depth in her fore rib
 - More depth in her heart
 - More depth in her rear rib
 - More depth in her rear flank
 - More openness and depth to her rib
 - More width in her front end
 - More width in her hips/hooks, thurls, and pins
 - More width in her front end and carries that width through her hips, thurls, and pins or rump
 - Negatives:
 - Carrying excess condition
 - Narrow in her front end
 - Lacks depth in her fore rib
 - Lacks depth to her rib
- Feet & Legs
 - Side View (two-way trait)
 - Keeping her legs more squarely placed beneath her
 - Less set to the hock
 - Has more flex to the hock
 - Has a more correct set of feet and legs, having less set to the hock/more flex to the hock
 - Standing more comfortably on her feet and legs...(use above terms to describe HOW they are standing more comfortably)
 - Negatives:
 - Noting:
 - Posty legs on...
 - Too much set to the hock on...
 - Rear View
 - Tracking straighter

Dairy Judging-Notes, Placings, and Reasons

- Noting...
- Hocks in
- Feet
 - When talking about pasterns and the foot:
 - Stronger in the pastern
 - deeper in the heel
 - shorter in the toe
 - Don't be afraid to string any of these together, for example: 1 places over 2 being more correct in her feet and legs, she has less set to the hock and is stepping down more comfortably on a strong pastern being deeper in the heel and shorter in the toe.
- Frame
 - Size
 - Taller and longer from end to end
 - Taller at the point of withers
 - More length to her frame being longer from end to end
 - Taller, longer cow
 - More size and scale being taller and longer
 - Rump (two-way trait)
 - Levelness
 - ...is more level from hooks to pins, noting the high/low pins on...
 - Noting:
 - High pins
 - Low pins
 - Length and width
 - ...is longer from hips to pins
 - More length to her rump being longer from hips to pins
 - Thurl Placement
 - More centrally placed thurl
 - Thurls more centrally located between the hips and the pins
 - **the thurl placement has a lot to do with how an animal tracks, a term that ties together rump structure and feet and legs is "she is more level from hooks to pins with a more centrally located thurl allowing her to keep her legs more squarely placed beneath her..."
 - Style/Blending of Parts
 - Blends more smoothly from neck to shoulder, shoulder to barrel, barrel to rump
 - Fuller in the crops
 - More level over her topline
 - Straighter over her topline
 - Stronger in the loin

Dairy Judging-Notes, Placings, and Reasons

- Grants:
 - I admit
 - I grant
 - I recognize
 - I didn't fail to recognize
- Writing shortcuts for your notes
 - HWRU-Higher, wider rear udder
 - HRU-Higher rear udder
 - LSFUA-Longer, smoother fore udder attachment
 - HtoP-Hips to Pins (either level or not)
 - LLHN-Longer, leaner, head and neck
 - Get comfortable writing your own version of shorthand so you can quickly reference your notes when memorizing your reasons
- General tips
 - Talk slow enough so that the judge can really listen to your placings.
 - Start your reasons with your placing and end your reasons with your placing, "1-2-3-4 is my placing for this class of Holstein 2 year olds" or "I place this class of Holstein 2 year olds 1-2-3-4" at the end, "For these reasons I place this class of Holstein 2 year olds 1-2-3-4" or "These then are my reasons for placing this class of Holstein 2 year olds 1-2-3-4"
 - Speak loudly but do not shout at the officials.
 - Stand with your feet together or shoulder length apart, don't cross your legs.
 - Keep your hands at your sides or behind your back.
 - **MEMORIZE THE COWS NOT YOUR NOTES**, take time in the class to really memorize the cows and your placings not your notes, be able to picture the cows as you are memorizing your reasons.
 - Enjoy it, end with a thank you and ask if there are any questions.