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Livestock Judging for South Dakota 4-H Club Members

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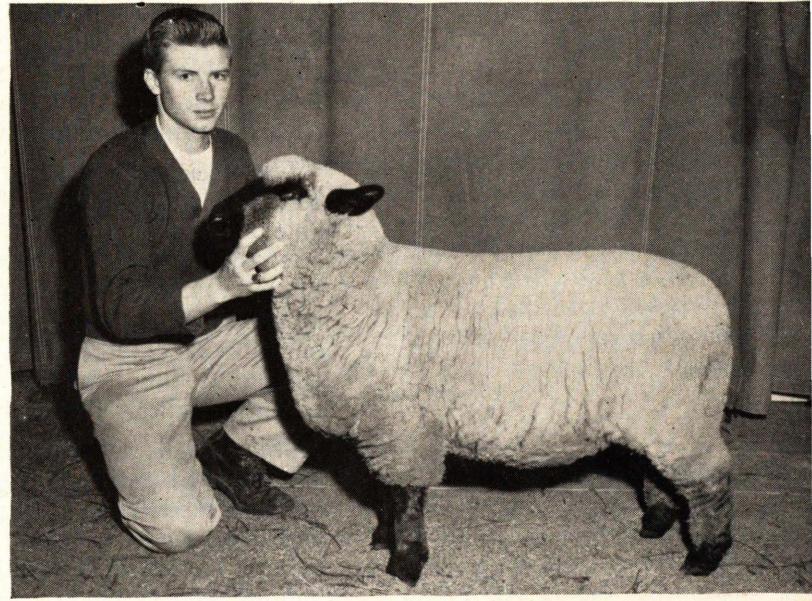
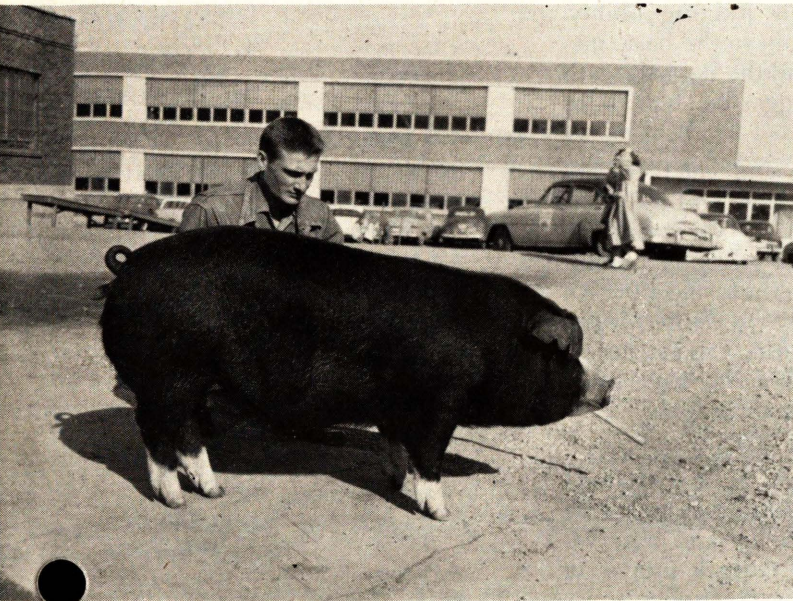
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LIVESTOCK JUDGING

FOR SOUTH DAKOTA 4-H CLUB MEMBERS



Foreword

The title of this bulletin implies the purpose for which it is intended. It has been prepared to help beginners improve their judging ability. Special emphasis has been given to the basic mechanics of livestock judging and the beginner will find it helpful to follow the suggested steps in his efforts to gain judging skill.

Livestock judging is an art and yet there are certain scientific findings that have had considerable influence on the selection of good stock. Too often beginners learn the art of selecting animals but fail to know the reason for their selection. An appreciation of the reason why we desire a deep ham, a wide chest, a blocky form, a dense fleece, etc., gives the beginner a broader and more permanent knowledge of livestock judging.

Study of this bulletin, alone, will not make anyone a skilled judge of livestock. Skill is attained only after much use of this information, together with experience, constant practice and observation of the work of skilled livestock judges in judging schools, contests and livestock shows.

Livestock Judging Guide for S. D. 4-H Club Members

by

L A V E R N E J. K O R T A N

Associate Extension Animal Husbandman

Livestock judging is sound reasoning. It is a subject which involves the comparison of differences. If only one animal is judged or appraised, it is a matter of comparing it with some standard, namely the ideal of its kind. If two or more animals are judged, then each animal must first be compared with the ideal, and then with the others in the class. This procedure makes it necessary that definite information be known as to the details of general appearance, form, breed and sex character, finish, quality, dressing percentage, and their influences upon function.

In the livestock industry, success of the stockman depends on the ability to know and select animals that will make the greatest improvement and increase his profits. Therefore, the successful stockman should be a good judge.

How to Begin

It is essential, especially for the beginner, to become familiar with the various parts of the animal. A knowledge of the names and location of these parts aids considerably in the development of a keen observation in detecting the differences in livestock. After considerable practice, recognition of these parts becomes involuntary, and more emphasis can be placed on other points discussed in the remainder of this bulletin.

The customary procedure in judging livestock is to

secure four placeable animals and then to have the person judging evaluate them on their merits. The beginner may find this too difficult since he does not have in mind just what is desired. A judging card should be used to overcome this difficulty. If the beginner will place the animals on the basis of the points which are briefly described, he will soon fix in his mind what is desired. After using the judging card on several classes, the student should be prepared to judge on the basis of the animal as a whole rather than on each individual point.

Study the Champions

The beginner should take every opportunity available to study animals that have been judged as champions. Compare them in your mind with other champions you have observed. Study the general appearance and strong points of animals placed at shows you attend. Observe pictures in breed magazines. Compare and familiarize yourself with the ideal type of animal. Form a mental picture of the ideal in each species and in all breeds. A good judge will make a study of the undesirable, as well as the desirable points in an animal, and will be able to recognize them promptly. He develops keen observation and judgment in balancing the points observed; he remembers the animals judged; and, when necessary, he is prepared to give reasons to support his placings.

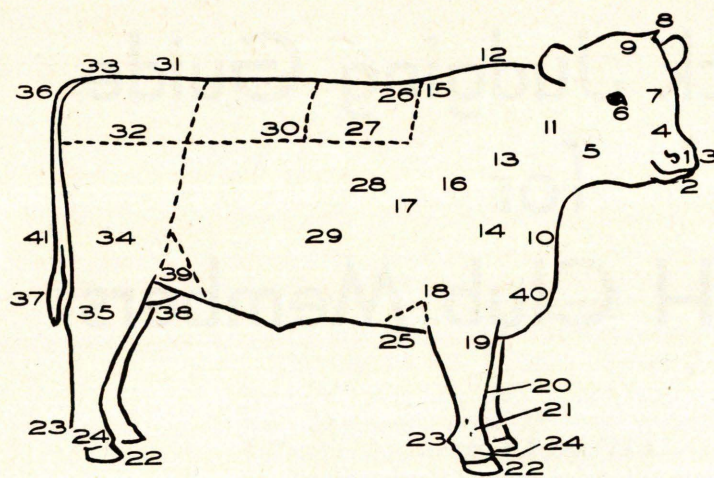
Follow This Judging System

1. Have a desire to know livestock. (Have an ideal in mind for any class of animals.)
2. Follow a definite plan in judging any class. (Example: points as listed on judging card may be order of plan.)
3. Study each animal in the class. (How does it rate with your ideal? How does it rate with the other animals within the class?)
4. Judge animals as they appear at the time of judging—not how you expect them to look in the future.
5. Have independence of thought. Develop your own mind along the lines of livestock selection with the minded to just criticism from your superiors and make your mistakes stepping stones to right thinking instead of stumbling blocks to progress.
6. Form a mental image of animals and how they were

placed. Attempting to judge livestock without first setting up a fixed image of an ideal in your mind is like driving a car without a steering wheel: it soon ends up in a tragedy.

7. Promote the ability to give effective reasons. Good reasons depend on:

- Accurate observation.
- Knowledge of the parts of the animal and effective vocabulary.
- Orderly system
- Ability to talk in a conversational but yet convincing manner. Train your mind to assemble and retain outstanding good and bad points about each animal as compared to your mental ideal. Accuracy is of prime importance.



POINTS OF A STEER

1. Muzzle
2. Mouth
3. Nostril
4. Face
5. Jaw
6. Eye
7. Forehead
8. Ear

9. Poll
10. Dewlap
11. Neck
12. Crest
13. Shoulder-vein
14. Point of Shoulder
15. Top of Shoulder
16. Shoulders

17. Forerib or heart girth
18. Elbow
19. Arm
20. Knee
21. Shank
22. Foot
23. Dewclaw
24. Pastern
25. Fore Flank
26. Crops
27. Back
28. Ribs
29. Belly
30. Loin
31. Hip or Hook
32. Rump
33. Tail Head
34. Round (thigh)
35. Hock
36. Tail
37. Switch
38. Cod
39. Rear Flank
40. Brisket
41. Twist

The Beef Animal

Beef Type: Type can be defined as a harmonious combination of those traits in an animal which contribute most effectively to the usefulness of that animal.

Constitution: Characteristics which determine in part the breeding ability, the reproductive capacity, the health, the vigor and the longevity of the animal. Constitution determines the hardiness and efficiency of the animal. Constitution is indicated primarily by a broad mouth, and large nostrils; by a wide and deep chest; by a deep and full heart girth; and by well-sprung fore and hind ribs.

Finish and Fleshing: Refers to the degree of fatness of an animal, and fleshing refers to the natural flesh or muscle. An animal may be highly finished and still not thickly fleshed. In judging fat animals, we are interested in both thickness of natural fleshing and amount of fat. In judging breeding animals or feeder cattle, natural fleshing is primary, and condition is secondary.

Sex Character: The difference of appearance that distinguishes one sex from another, other than the presence of sex organs.

Sex character is very important in judging, for bulls that look like cows or vice versa are poor specimens for their particular purpose.

Masculine sex character is considered when judging bulls. It is evidenced by increased development of fore quarter, a heavily crested thick neck, a bold strong head, and a massive powerful appearance. A good bull gives the impression of dominance.

Feminine sex characters express refinement, lightness of shoulder and neck, and a mild and retiring expression. Cows and heifers have more refinement of bones, head and neck than do bulls.

Quality is determined by texture of hide, hair and bone, by clean cut head and neat horns; by the manner in which all parts of body fit together; by the general smoothness and touch of finish, and by the general refinement, compactness and trimness of the animal.

Balance: Gives the appearance of each part fitting perfectly in a harmonious fashion.

Style: A stylish animal is an attractive individual. An animal that displays life, is alert, and "shows off," to his best advantage.

Breed Type: Breed type is defined as those differences between various breeds of animals which distinguish one breed from another. Breed type is indicated by such characteristics as size, shape, color, presence or absence of horns and other points which are distinctive.

Size: Animals should have proper size for their age, breed and sex. Proper form and type overshadows size in the placing of animals of different ages, and the same type of characteristics, excepting for sexual maturity, should be required of a young animal as are required of a mature animal.

Beef Judging Card

POINTS TO CONSIDER

PLACING

1 2 3 4

I. GENERAL APPEARANCE: straight top-line, deep, broad, uniform in width, low-set, compact, symmetrical, stylish, standing squarely, trim middle

II. FORM:

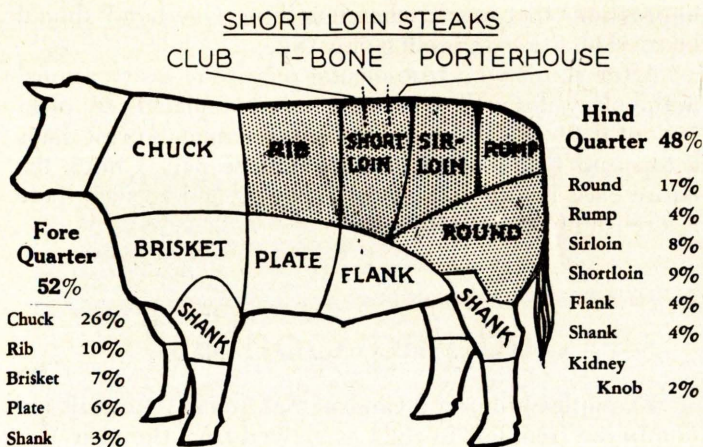
1. **Head** — Muzzle broad, nostrils large, eyes large and clear; face short, clean, and slightly dished; forehead broad; ears medium size and fine texture; horns medium size and well-shaped
2. **Neck** — thick, short, blending smoothly into shoulder; throat clean
3. **Shoulder**—smooth, well-covered with flesh, compact on top; shoulder vein smooth and full
4. **Breast**—wide, full; brisket neat and trim with little dewlap
5. **Fore legs**—short, strong; arm full, shank medium fine
6. **Chest**—deep, wide, girth large, crops full
7. **Back**—wide, straight, and thickly covered
8. **Loin**—wide, straight, and deep-fleshed
9. **Ribs**—well sprung and smoothly covered with firm flesh
10. **Flanks**—full and low
11. **Hooks** — neatly laid in and smoothly covered
12. **Rump**—long, wide, even; level and free from patchiness
13. **Thighs**—deep, broad, wide, and full
14. **Twist**—full and deep
15. **Legs**—straight, strong; shanks medium fine

III. FINISH: deep, mellow, firm covering especially over back, ribs, and loin; freedom from patchiness and rolls desired. (Finish is of great importance in fat classes, but is not so important in breeding classes as long as the ability to take on finish is indicated.)

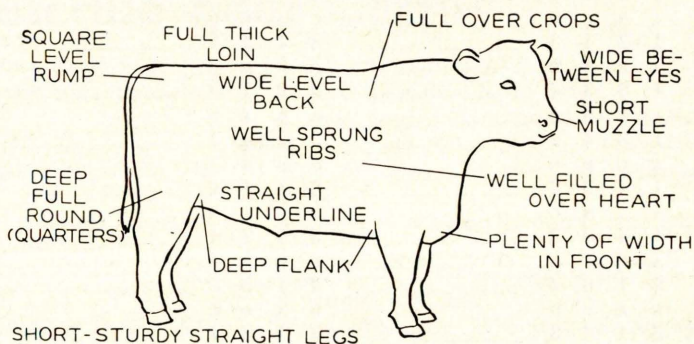
IV. QUALITY: Smooth in frame and finish; hair fine, soft; hide mellow; bone medium-size and clean

V. DRESSING PERCENTAGE: Well finished, not paunchy, medium weight hide. (Not considered in judging breeding cattle.)

VI. BREED AND SEX CHARACTER: (Applies only to breeding classes.)



Beef Wholesale Cuts
(Shaded Area Represents High Priced Cuts)



Description of Parts

Examining Beef Cattle

In judging beef cattle it is always well to have in mind a definite system which fits your needs and permits you to analyze the class most effectively.

The first impression is usually a lasting impression and should be made about 20 or 30 feet from animal. Study class for 3 or 4 minutes and get a good impression of animals as a whole. View from the side, allowing your mind to register such points as a shallow body or deep body, cut up in flanks or carrying down full and deep, length of neck, straightness of top and bottom line, straightness of legs and general blockiness and balance. Then view the animal from the rear, noting depth and fullness of round, squareness of rump, depth of twist, width and uniformity of rump, loin, back and crops; trimness of middle, width and straightness of legs. A front view will allow you to observe the breed and sex character about head and neck, check width between front legs, fullness of chest, fullness of heart girth.

A close-up view should allow you to check the depth and smoothness of fleshing. Start at shoulders or rump, feel over the back, loin down over the ribs. All this time you should concentrate and allow the mind to accept the

impressions that result when handling. One hand should be used at a time in feeling of cattle.

After you have a true mental picture of every animal in the class, it is well to set up a tentative placing by picking out the top animals and the bottom animals or perhaps a top and bottom with a close middle pair. Check the entire class before making final placing and be sure there is a reason for your placing.

Judging Contest

Example: Judging a Class of Fat Steers (Animals are numbered from left to right as viewed from the rear.)

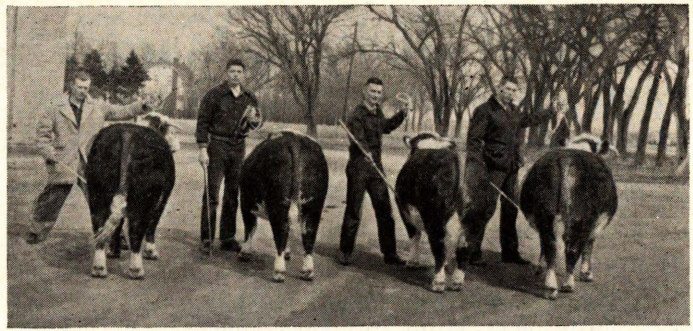
Placing Card for Judging Contests		Reasons	
Your Number	Class	Score	Placing
		Score	
1 2 3 4	_____	3 1 2 4	_____
A B C D	_____	C A B D	_____
1 2 4 3	_____	3 1 4 2	_____
A B D C	_____	C A D B	_____
1 3 2 4	_____	3 2 1 4	_____
A C B D	_____	C B A D	_____
1 3 4 2	_____	3 2 4 1	_____
A C D B	_____	C B D A	_____
1 4 2 3	_____	3 4 1 2	_____
A D B C	_____	C D A B	_____
1 4 3 2	_____	3 4 2 1	_____
A D C B	_____	C D B A	_____
2 1 3 4	_____	4 1 2 3	_____
B A C D	_____	D A B C	_____
2 1 4 3	_____	4 1 3 2	_____
B A D C	_____	D A C B	_____
2 3 1 4	_____	4 2 1 3	_____
B C A D	_____	D B A C	_____
2 3 4 1	_____	4 2 3 1	_____
B C D A	_____	D B C A	_____
2 4 1 3	_____	4 3 1 2	_____
B D A C	_____	D C A B	_____
2 4 3 1	_____	4 3 2 1	_____
B D C A	_____	D C B A	_____

Step 1. Fill in class of animals and contestant's number when class is assigned.



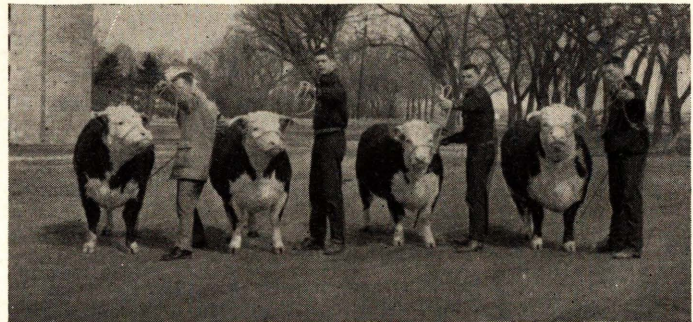
Step 2. Side view. Stand at side (back 25 to 30 feet from animal) and look for:

- Straight top and bottom lines (lines parallel to ground)
- Low set (short legs)
- Depth of body, rectangular, compact
- Flanks—full and low (front and rear)
- Deep, full hind quarters
- Long, even level rump (from hocks to pin bone)



Step 3. Rear view. Stand behind the animal (25 to 30 feet) and look for:

- Deep wide and full hind quarters
- Wide thick uniform back
- Ribs, well sprung
- Uniform width from top to bottom, front to rear
- Twist must be full and deep
- Legs straight, strong, standing squarely



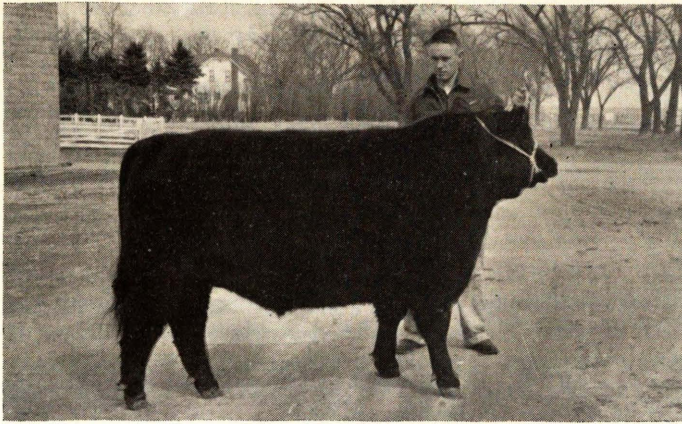
Step 4. Front view, stand in front of animal (25 to 30 feet) and look for:

- Head, muzzle broad, eyes large and clear, face short
- Chest—deep, wide, girth large, crops full
- Front legs—wide apart, standing squarely balanced
- Neck—thick short, blending smoothly into shoulders
- Shoulders—smooth, uniform width from top to bottom, compact on top
- Heart girth—well filled, smooth

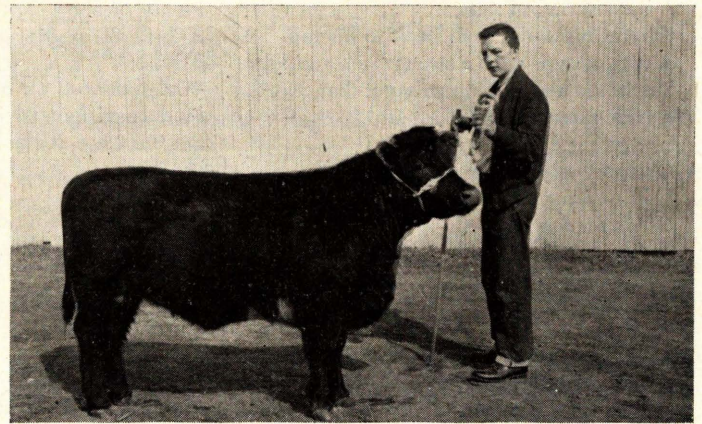


Step 5. Move near animal for close up view, use of eye and hands:

- Hide—mellow, elastic
- Thick natural fleshing
- Smooth covering
- Shoulder—smooth filled and compact behind shoulders
- Back and loin—thickly covered
- Hair—fine



Typical Fat Steer



Typical Breeding Heifer

Terms Used To Describe Beef Cattle

The ability to describe a beef animal or a class of cattle depends in a large part on the command of an effective livestock vocabulary. A knowledge of cattle terms will help in constructing an accurate word picture of the animal at hand.

General expressions:

Blocky form.
 True type and evenly balanced.
 Deep-bodied, thick-fleshed.
 Very "typey" and smooth but lacks some in size.
 Excellent balance.
 Very low-set, compact, and smooth.
 Very heavy-boned and rugged for his age, and also smooth.
 Wide and deep of body.
 Lots of depth.
 The low-set, thick, smooth kind.
 Very attractive straight lines and good promise.
 A bull of approved type.
 Square and blocky.
 More bloom.
 These calves are thick of flesh and true in their lines.
 A splendid type with plenty of meat.
 A blocky, thick-meated, low-set, trim-middled steer.
 Carries plenty of scale.
 Impressive in appearance.
 He is nearer the ground and smoother behind than No. 1, also stronger in head but lacking in depth of rib and straightness of topline.
 A little longer in the leg but covered more evenly.
 He is a very satisfactory bull.
 A pleasing type and close to the ground.
 A calf with a good head and close to the ground.
 A cow of immense scale.
 She is evenly balanced and carries herself with ease.
 He carries his weight in a compact well-balanced form.
 A bull of great scale combined with thick fleshing qualities.
 A blocky attractive heifer.

The best balanced bull of the four.
 A low-set, wide heifer but she lacks in condition.

She is a neat, low-set heifer.
 He has an acceptable Shorthorn character.

Smooth and thick of covering except for a slight depression of the back.

Trueness to breed type.
 Most desirable type.

His full flanks and deep well-sprung ribs indicate a good doer and feeder.

He is an exceptionally low-set, deep-bodied steer with a short neck and a higher degree of finish over the crops, back and loin and squarer at the tail than any other steer in the class.

He is a tight-framed, deep-quartered, uniformly wide steer.

He is a strong-topped, deep-bodied, short, compact steer, carrying his width and depth uniformly from end to end.

He is small but smooth and well-formed.
 A trimmer middle steer, strong of top and more nicely balanced throughout.

A long, narrow-bodied, upstanding individual lacking decidedly in beef conformation and finish.

She carries her weight in a well-balanced manner.

Rangy steer.
 More symmetrical throughout.

Deeper in the body.
 His thickness, depth and trueness of lines make him outstanding.

Short of leg and wonderfully well covered.
 A heifer of good type in nice bloom.

Smooth and thick in covering except for a slight depression of the back.

Head and Character

Short of neck.
 Milder in character.
 An excellent Hereford (Shorthorn or Angus).

More pleasing in the head and neck.
 Has strong breed character.
 A masculine head and neck.
 Feminine attractiveness.
 The head denotes real masculine character.

A bull with character.
 Strongly masculine in the head.
 A wide head with a moderately dished face.

Wide between the eyes and a broad muzzle.

A clean-cut, moderately dished face with ample width.

A plain-headed heifer (steer or bull).
 A narrow-faced bull.

Lacks Shorthorn (Hereford or Angus) character.

She shows a lot of Angus (Hereford or Shorthorn) character about the head.

A thick-necked bull.
 A long thin-necked heifer.

An attractive-headed, short-necked steer with ample width.

Fore Quarters

Compact and smooth about the shoulders.
 Especially good in front.

Not as clean at the throat, nor as smooth at the shoulders.

Smoothly laid shoulders.
 A wide-chested, low-set bull.

Shows no coarseness of shoulders.
 A wide chest floor.

A wide chest with plenty of depth to the fore rib and heart girth.

Pinched in the heart girth.
 A narrow-chested individual.

Cut in behind the shoulders.
 Open in the shoulders.

Too narrow in front.
 Full in the heart girth.

Fills out nicely back of the shoulders.
 A neck and a shoulder that blend smoothly.

Back, Ribs and Loin

Straight topline.
 Straight underline.

Lots of spring in the ribs.
 A nicely covered heifer with a strong back.

Carries a good spread on top.
 Well-sprung ribs.

Faultless in spring of ribs and heart girth.
 Strong back.
 Weak back.

Great spread of ribs and depth of body.

A nice spring of ribs.
 Carries his width well back to his tail.
 A rugged type with a strong back and loin.
 She holds her back up stronger than No. 2.
 A trifle more spread.
 Somewhat easy in her topline.
 Carries a good spread on top.
 Lacks spring of ribs.
 Holds his top up well.
 Strong back.
 Well-balanced top.
 Even topline.
 Straight back.
 Easy in the top.
 Lacks strength of top.
 Has a strong topline.
 Easy in his topline.
 Shows weakness of back.
 Great depth and width of loin.
 A thickly fleshed loin.
 A narrow loin.
 He is thickly covered over his ribs and back.

Hind Quarters

Heavily developed in the hind quarters.
 Deep in the twist.
 Cut up in the twist.
 Bulging quarters.
 He lacks in smoothness at the tailhead.
 A little patchy at the rear end.
 A trifle high at the tailhead.
 A thick, meaty hind quarter.
 Filled down to the hocks.
 A plump round but lacking in depth.
 A square rump.
 Too narrow at the rump.
 A sloping rump.
 A rump that carries out the width to the end.
 A deep full twist.
 Shallow in the twist and round.
 Too high in the flank.
 Hips are neatly tucked in.
 A little roughness at the tail setting.
 Tucked up in the flank.

Legs and Bone

Short-legged.
 Low to the ground.
 Upstanding steer.
 Too long of leg.
 Could be shorter of leg.
 A little longer of leg.
 Ample bone.
 Bone too refined.

Plenty of bone.
 A bull of ample substance (referring to bone).
 Well-balanced on his legs.
 He has straight hocks.
 Set too close at the hocks. Too wide at the hocks.
 Sickle-hocked.
 Crooked on his hind legs.
 Toes out too much.
 Stands squarely on his legs.
 Legs are set at the corners where they belong.
 Too light of bone.
 Coarse bone.
 Shows a lot of quality of bone.
 Close to the ground and a good type.
 Short sturdy legs.
 A low-set, rugged and strong-boned fellow.

Finish and Fleshing

He is thickly covered.
 He is highly finished.
 He carries a high degree of finish.
 He has a thick covering.
 He is deep in his finish.
 He is roughly finished.
 Not smoothly finished.
 Uneven in his covering or finish.
 Carries a wealth of natural covering.
 Carries a deep covering of natural fleshing.
 He is covered evenly.
 High condition.
 Lacks condition.
 A thick, meaty kind.
 The flesh is laid on smoothly where it belongs.
 The fattest steer.
 The thinnest steer.
 A thin-fleshed steer.
 More thickly covered over the back and loin, and more highly finished over the ribs than No. 3.
 Lacking in finish.
 More natural fleshing.
 Carrying higher finish.
 She is in high condition but might be deeper of body.
 A thickly-fleshed cow of more uniform width.
 Finishes smoother at his tailhead.
 Well-conditioned and quite smooth.
 Thick-meated.
 Excellent flesh condition.

Not in as high flesh as the other two.
 Thickly covered over the crops and shoulders.
 A nicely covered strong-backed heifer.
 A thickly fleshed cow of more uniform width.
 Evenly balanced and smoothly distributed flesh.
 A nicely covered strong-backed steer.
 Patchy at the tailhead.
 Roughly finished.
 Shows considerably more fleshing over the crops, loin and back, towards the tail and fuller on the quarter than No. 2.
 A nicely fleshed, strong-backed heifer.
 A steer in prime condition.

Quality and Style

The quality is excellent.
 A very stylish heifer.
 Smooth, clean-cut and breezy.
 Smooth and nicely balanced.
 A nice pliable skin (hide).
 Not a trace of coarseness.
 Symmetrical outline, rare quality and sweet femininity.
 The quality is indicated by her clean-cut head and refined joints.
 A combination of quality, finish and balance.
 A tight-framed stylish heifer.
 A stylish bull with very good smoothness and quality.
 He is a steer with a great deal of smoothness and quality.
 Rugged with not quite enough refinement and style.

Killing Qualities

He will kill out higher.
 He will dress out higher.
 He will have a higher dressing per cent.
 He will yield a more desirable carcass.
 He will produce a neater carcass.
 He will have a trimmer carcass.
 He would be a superior killer.
 He would have the lowest dressing per cent.
 He is poorest killer.
 His carcass would be inferior.
 Because he is a tighter-framed steer and firmer fleshed, he would hang up a firmer carcass and kill out better.
 He would hang up a more desirable carcass and kill out a higher per cent.
 He would make the poorest killer in the class and have the lowest dressing per cent.

Sample Set of Reasons

Mention has already been made as to the method of preparing a set of reasons for a class of livestock. The set of reasons given here were written with a knowledge of a class of live steers.

I place this class of fat steers 2-1-3-4.

I place No. 2 at the top of this class and over No. 1 because he carries more finish and has a covering of deep natural fleshing, particularly over the rump, loin and back. He has uniform width from front to rear carrying out wide in the back, loin, rump and hindquarter. The No. 2 steer has a deep body with a smooth underline,

However, No. 1 is plumper at the bottom of the round and deeper in the twist.

I placed No. 1 next and over No. 3 because he is wider of back and loin and has a square, level rump carrying a uniform width from the hooks back to the pin bones. He has a more desirable finish than No. 3. I will grant that No. 3 is somewhat deeper of body.

I placed No. 3 next and over No. 4, this being a very easy placing because No. 3 is a much thicker more compact steer that will have a higher dressing percentage and will yield a more desirable carcass.

I placed No. 4 at the bottom on this class because he lacks finish, is too upstanding and does not carry the thickness I would like to see. He is cut up in the rear flank.

For these reasons, I place this class of fat steers 2-1-3-4.

Judging Swine

In judging swine one recognizes that the ideal market barrow serves as the basis for appraising the merits in all breeds. The producer as well as the consumer has a direct influence upon the type of market hogs that are produced. The producer is concerned with economy in production such as the ability to produce large litters that are thrifty, gain fast, mature early and are efficient feeders that produce desirable type market hogs. Consumer influence is strictly expressed through the buyers of market hogs and the processors of pork products who pay top prices for that type which yields the highest percentage of the kind and quality of pork cuts that the consumer demands.

Type in Swine

Formerly there were two general types in swine, the lard type, and the bacon type. Today in general all breeds are considered meat type and are being developed as meat type hogs. The more popular breeds are: Hampshire, Berkshire, Yorkshire, Poland China, Chesterwhite, Duroc, Landrace, Spotted Poland China, and Tamworth.

In judging meat-type hogs it should be remembered that there is less variation in the value of the different parts of the hog carcass than there is in the carcasses of the fat steer or lamb. A balanced development in all parts of the hog is important. Generally it is customary to place the greatest emphasis on the back, ham and sides. It will be noticed in prize-winning animals in the illustration below that the shoulders are in general as acceptable in developments as are the parts involving the higher priced cuts.

Meat-Type Hog

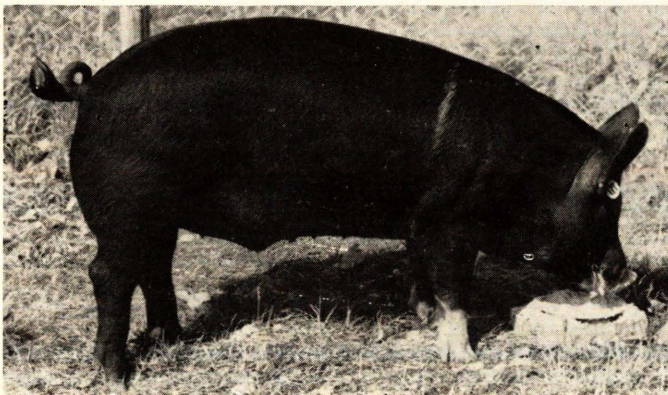
As to individuality, a meat-type hog should carry a balance of body. He should have length, trimness, smoothness and quality, and should show a reasonable amount of arch of back. He should have a clean-cut head with good width between the eyes and at the poll. The jowl should be firm and trim. His neck should be of medium

length and muscular. The shoulder should be neatly set into the body with the shoulder blades well filled between with muscle. A meat-hog should have sufficient depth of body along with width of chest floor to ensure a strong constitution. Without that strength we cannot expect best feeding results. His side should be of good length and flat, with the rib coming out from the backbone sufficiently far to give him width enough to allow the internal organs to develop and function properly. The loin should be deep and strong, and as wide as the rest of the back, and his rump should gradually slope to the tail head, being slightly rounded from side to side over the top with no indication of coarseness or flabbiness in that region. He should be just as deep and full at his rear flank as at his fore flank, which, with a trim belly line, should give him a full and practically straight underline. His ham should be smooth and firm, with the flesh carried well around the bone and tapering toward the hock. Great flabby bulging hams are not wanted on a meat hog. If a straight edge were to be laid along his side it should touch at every point.

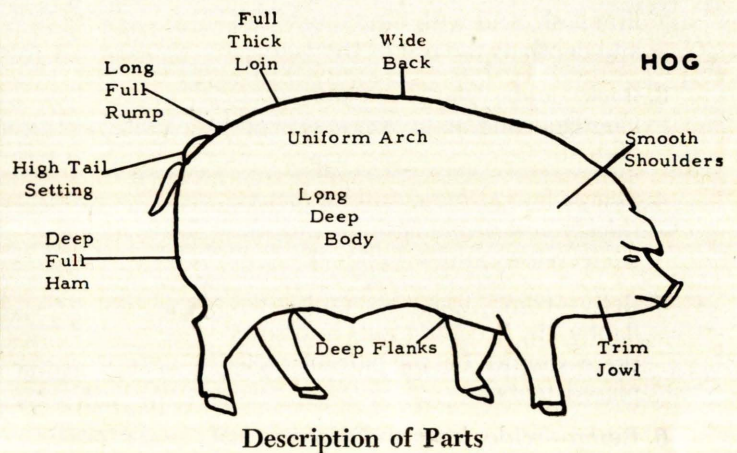
As to quality and quantity of bone the meat hog should possess a clean, strong bone, with no indication of coarseness about his joints, and he should stand straight and squarely on his feet. Any tendency toward weakness of pasterns is very undesirable. His hair should be of reasonable quantity and of good quality. Coarse, curly hair on a meat hog is not indicative of quality. Extremes are to be avoided. The razor-backed hog is not a meat hog. Neither is the narrow-chested, shallow-bodied, extreme hog an economical pork producer.

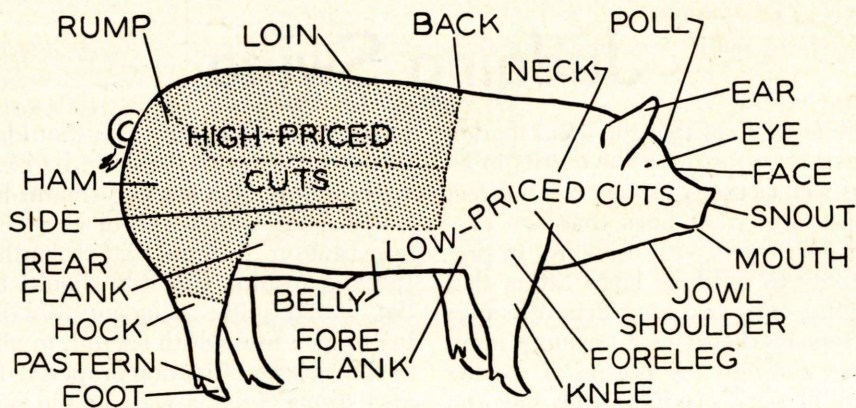
In a market class, the hog should be finished, but not overfat and should weigh at the market from 190 to 220 pounds, or from 195 to 225 pounds at the farm. While underfinish and lack of development are not desirable, wastiness and overfinish are more serious faults.

Hogs which are short, sloppy in the jowl, coarse and heavy in the shoulder are nearly always degraded on the rail. The belly should be trim and neat and when on the walk there should be a general indication of firmness. Firmness denotes muscular tendency and muscular tendency denotes lean meat rather than fat.



A Meat-Type Barrow





Points of a Swine

Swine Judging Card

PLACING
1 2 3 4

PLACING
1 2 3 4

I. GENERAL APPEARANCE—Wide back; long, deep and smooth side; uniform arch; deep heart girth and full rear flank; deep, full ham with short shank; uniform width and smooth shoulder; trim underline; neat jowl and neck; and sound, well placed feet and legs

II. FORM

- 1. **Head and Neck**—broad, clean cut and neat, large prominent eyes, wide forehead, medium size ears, trim and smooth jowls and cheek and a short well-developed snout. Neck should be medium length and blend in smoothly with shoulder. (In Breeding classes, breed type and character should be considered)
- 2. **Shoulders** — smooth, deep, full, neatly laid, smoothly covered with firm flesh, and with the same width and depth as the rest of the body....
- 3. **Back and Loin** — wide, good length, strong arch, firm and deep-fleshed
- 4. **Sides**—long, deep, full at flanks, thickly and firmly fleshed, and free from creases and wrinkles
- 5. **Belly**—trim, firm, straight — not flabby (in breeding gilts and sows there should be six pair of well-placed teats)
- 6. **Rump**—wide, long, and conform in

general form to the back and loin....

- 7. **Ham**—deep, full, wide, carrying down to hock, not flabby or wrinkled
- 8. **Legs and Feet**—moderate length, straight ample bone, clean joints, wide apart, well set on outside of body, pasterns upright, toes not spreading and of equal size. (Feet and legs of minor importance in placing fat barrows.).....

III. FINISH—deep finish, uniformly and firmly laid over entire body. Overly fat wasty hogs are undesirable. (Breeding hogs only need to be well enough finished to show essential features to best advantage.).....

IV. QUALITY—Smoothness in finish, fleshing and body form; free from wrinkles and flabbiness; refined hair, hide, bone, and head.....

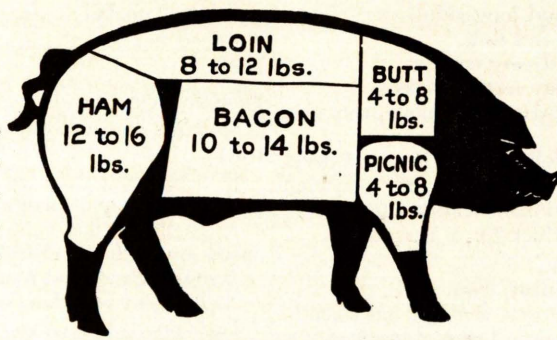
V. DRESSING PERCENTAGE—Proper degree of finish, quality and trim middles result in high dressing percentage

VI. BALANCE—Harmonious and symmetrical unity of all parts

VII. BREED AND SEX CHARACTER—As indicated by strong head, style, and breed type characteristics and ample masculine or feminine sex characters. (Breeding swine only.).....

**AVERAGE
% OF CARCASS**

Ham	18%
Bacon	17%
Loin	14%
Picnic	8%
Butt	6%



**APPROXIMATE
% OF VALUE**

Ham	25%
Bacon	20%
Loin	19%
Picnic	8%
Butt	6%

Swine Wholesale Cuts

Terms Used in Describing Swine

Note the different ways of describing the same character. One should have at his command such a variety of terms that he can vary his reasons so his style will not become monotonous.

Head and Neck:

A neat, clean-cut head with lots of breed character.

A broad head of medium length that is light and smooth in the jowl.

A good feeder head and a short, thick neck.

A coarse head, with droopy ears and a flabby, wasty jowl.

Neck is too thin at the shoulders.

A very neat carriage of the ears. Smooth forehead, clear eyes, and a typical dish in the face.

Ears carried too erect for a Duroc-Jersey, etc. Ears too close and pendulous for a typical Berkshire.

Head is breedy—refined qualities in the sow—masculine, vigorous qualities in the boars.

Shoulders:

Deep, smooth and neatly laid. Compact.

Well-filled back of the shoulders.

Too heavy, rough or open in the shoulders.

Flat at the top. Slack in shoulders. A little out at the shoulders.

Neatly laid but a bit shallow.

Ample depth but somewhat coarse and lacks firmness, particularly at the base. Wrinkles and rough.

Well-finished, firm and smooth.

Smooth but lacks depth and finish.

Back and Loin:

Strong, well-carried back and a smooth loin.

Well-covered and firm topline with a nicely balanced arch.

A strongly-arched back with ample width.

U.S.D.A. WEIGHT AND MEASUREMENT GRADES FOR BARROWS AND GILT CARCASSES

Average back fat thickness (inches) by grades. Measurement made opposite the first and last rib and last lumbar vertebra.

Live Wt.	Carcass weight or carcass length	U. S. No. 1	U. S. No. 2	U. S. No. 3	Medium	Cull
Under 180	Under 120 pounds or under 27 in.	1.2 to 1.5	1.5 to 1.8	1.8 or more	0.9 to 1.2	Less than 0.9
180/240	120 to 164 pounds or 27 to 29.9 in.	1.3 to 1.6	1.6 to 1.9	1.9 or more	1.0 to 1.3	Less than 1.0
240/300	165 to 209 pounds or 30 to 32.9 in.	1.4 to 1.7	1.7 to 2.0	2.0 or more	1.1 to 1.4	Less than 1.1
300/up	210 or more pounds or 33 or more in.	1.5 to 1.8	1.8 to 2.1	2.1 or more	1.2 to 1.5	Less than 1.2

Judging a Class of Hogs

In judging hogs it is customary to turn the class into the pen or show ring where they are free to move about. It is necessary that the ideal type for the class and breed be kept in mind so that a quick decision can be made when comparing the animal with the ideal that is pictured mentally. In judging hogs handling is generally not necessary.

Step 1. Side view, stand at least 15 feet away and observe each barrow as he moves. Look for:

- Type and general appearance.
- Length and depth of side, firmness.
- Trimness of under line, firmness.
- Smoothness of side and shoulders (Free from wrinkles).
- Uniformity of arch.
- Plump meaty, firm, deep hams.
- Straight legs and strong pastern.

Step 2. Rear view, stand near the barrow and look for:

- Uniform width from front to rear.

b. Width, firmness, meaty, plumpness of ham.

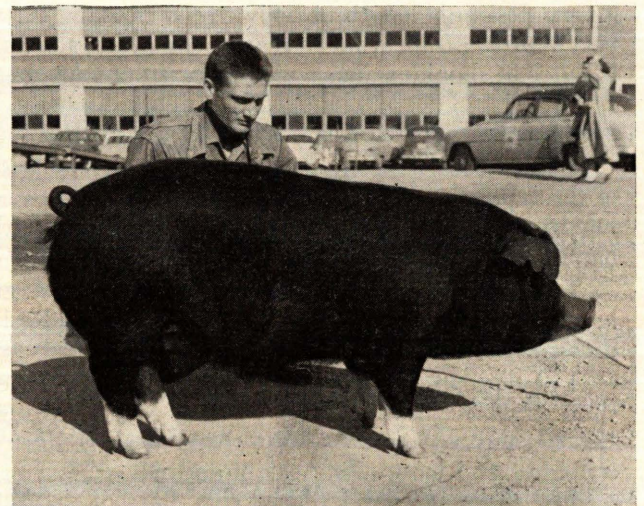
c. High tail setting.

d. Fullness behind shoulders.

e. Quality, free from wrinkles and flabbiness.

f. Depth of ham.

g. Straight legs and feet.



Rear View (left) and Side View

Firmly-fleshed back and loin with good width.

Lacks fullness in the loin. Thin in the loin. Narrow or shallow in the loin.

A bit sharp in the back. Lacks width and general fullness along the back.

Width of back and loin is not uniform. Back tapers into a narrow loin.

Lots of strength to the back. A good high back and typical for his breed.

Rump and Hams:

Width is well carried out, length is ample and slope is good.

Nicely-turned rump that is well-set. Shapely and well-fleshed.

Slope is nicely sustained with a smooth arch of topline.

Balances unusually well with the ham.

Ample width but a bit flat. Plain over the rump.

Tapers too much and lacks in general fullness.

Wide, deep and well-filled. Hams down well.

Well-balanced, firm and smooth.

Shapely with ample depth.

Carries a full and neat taper into the hock. Let down well in the ham.

Nicely shaped but a bit flabby.

Has scarcely enough finish to be firm in the ham.

Too small in the ham. Lacks development. Light in the ham.

Tapers too much. Not enough width. Lacks depth.

A bit light, but very smooth.

Lacks depth and fullness in rear. Rather flat on outside and narrow at the rear.

Sides:

Long and deep sides.

Sides are well let down in the flanks.

Smooth, deep and long sides.

Nicely finished and firm.

Good length and very trim.

Flabby and wasty in the flanks.

Lacks finish particularly along the bottomline.

Very straight, well-finished, long and deep.

A bit slack in the depth and somewhat short for an ideal Poland China, etc.

Too short and thick for a Yorkshire.

Belly and Flank:

Belly is broad, neat, trim.

Belly is firm, carried well up and smooth.

Flanks full and firm. Deep in the flanks.

Flanks are well let down and level with the belly.

Tucked up in the flanks. Shallow in the flanks.

Flabby in the flanks and belly.

Heart Girth:

Well-filled in the heart girth.

Ample depth and fullness.

Well-sprung and deep fore ribs.

Slack, pinched, tight, too small in the heart girth.

Large heart girth.

Feet and Legs:

Stands squarely on sound feet and legs.

Shapely, quality bone and short, strong pasterns.

Toes of even size, held well together and pasterns are short.

Crooked in hind legs. Hocks set too far back.

Stands too close in front and behind. Weaves when he walks. Walks with feet too close. Not enough space between legs.

Lacks balance in development of toes.

Rear legs appear too long, making hips seem high.

Rear legs too straight. Post-legged. Rear legs too straight, the rump too steep, and the

pasterns "knuckle" over.

Knees too close. Legs bent back at the knees.

Feminine Qualities:

Six pairs of equally-spaced and prominent teats.

Refined about the head, smooth in general outline and ample quality.

A mellow, fine-haired, beautifully-balanced sow with lots of style.

A sow with a good roomy middle.

A clean-cut sow that is handy on her legs.

Teats poorly spaced and too few in number.

Sow No. 1 has two "blind" teats and has a very flabby underline.

Masculine Qualities:

Rugged, big-boned, sound boar.

A vigorous constitution, massive form, and ambitious but controlled temperament.

A broad, nicely-balanced head that shows strength.

Testicles well-developed.

Only one testicle showing disqualifies No. 1.

Although both testicles are showing they are not prominent enough.

A nicely balanced, sound-footed boar with a free and active walk.

Finish:

A high degree of finish.

A firm, smooth finish.

Shows more finish than 2.

A fatter barrow than 2.

Uniformly well-finished throughout.

Lacks finish. Not fat enough. Rather soft and flabby. Uneven in his finish. A bit soft in his hams and sides.

Overdone and soft. Lacks firmness in the flanks and back of the shoulders.

A mellow, firm and smooth finish but not quite enough of it.

* * * * *

Sample Set of Reasons

I place this class of market barrows 1-2-3-4.

I place No. 1 at top of the class and over No. 2 because he is a well-balanced, meaty, firm fleshed barrow that has a very desirable length of body. He is carrying his width very uniform from front to rear, is smoother, shows more balance in shoulders, has a medium arch of back, carrying down full and deep in ham, with a high tail setting. However I will grant that 2 is trimmer in the jowl.

I placed No. 2 second and over 3 because No. 2 is more of the type of No. 1 showing a more medium-type, showing trimness and smoothness, with desirable length. He has a large fuller ham that shows more firmness than No. 3.

I placed No. 3 next over No. 4 because of greater length and shows more firmness. No. 3 will yield a higher dressing per cent and a firmer more desirable carcass.

I placed No. 4 at the bottom of the class because he is short, chubby, heavy in the jowl and wasty throughout. He is carrying more backfat than what is desired, is wrinkled and loose along the underline.

For these reasons I placed this class of market barrows 1-2-3-4.

Some Inherited Defects in Swine

Some defects found occasionally in swine are of some concern in the selection of breeding animals. The ones described here are inherited defects and may appear by mating two animals that are carriers of these defects. The beginner's attention is called to these defects merely for the purpose of developing his ability to observe.

Mention of these defects may be made but it may not be necessary to discuss each in complete detail especially the more minor details. Whorls (swirls) in the hair along the topline have been objected to by breeders for a long time. They are often found in the flanks, on the jowls, in the forehead or on the snout. These, however, are not so conspicuous, and therefore not so objectionable as whorls along the topline.

Small inside toes, especially on the rear feet, but also on the front feet, are causing concern inasmuch as they tend to distort the alignment of the feet, weaken the

pastern and place undue amount of weight on the outside toe.

Weak, long, broken down pastern and spreading toes are objectionable, especially on mature animals as they soon have trouble in walking.

Inverted or blind teats refers to a condition in which at the end of the teat has failed to emerge.

Unequal number of toes, kinky or "screw" tails and skin tumors—that are commonly called warts, even though they may be an inch or more in diameter, are disturbances that one should recognize. The kinky tail defect may occur near end of the tail or near the base. Extreme cases may be so badly kinked that the tail is typically "screw" shape.

Color is considered in connection with each breed in

which such defects are known to exist. The appearance of white in red breeds is an example.

Cryptorchids are boars that have only one testicle in the scrotum and one up in the body cavity. In some cases both of the testicles are up in the body. Boars with this trouble should not be used as breeders and should be turned down in any class.

Scrotal Hernia—the scrotum is enlarged as a result of loops of intestines having descended into it.

Umbilical or navel hernia is the result of loops of intestines passing through the abdominal wall near the navel or on the underline, forming a filling immediately inside of the skin. Both of these defects are subject to disqualification, and in no case should animals with these defects be used as breeders.

Judging Sheep

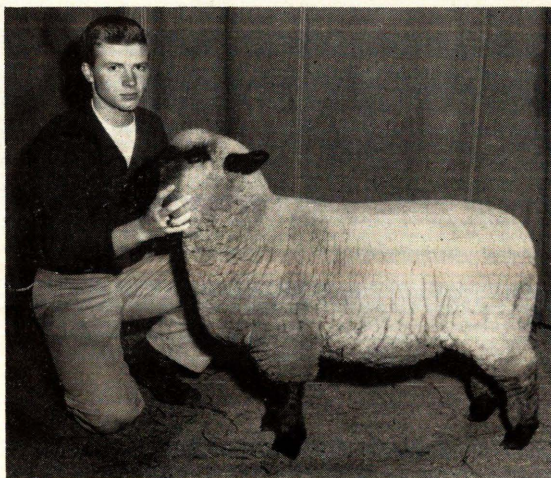
Sheep are more difficult to judge than cattle because they are smaller. Also, the various parts are not easily seen and the long wool covers their true shape. To master the art of sheep judging one must know breed characteristics, body type, the type of wool peculiar to each breed and the relative importance of these factors.

The major points to consider in judging sheep are: type, fleece, and skin, natural fleshing, conformation, constitution and finish, quality, sex character, balance, style, breed type and size. The importance of the above factors will depend on the type, breed, and the specific purpose for which the sheep is produced. For example, little or no importance is attached to fleece in placing fat wethers but fleece is very important in selecting Rambouillet ewes or rams.

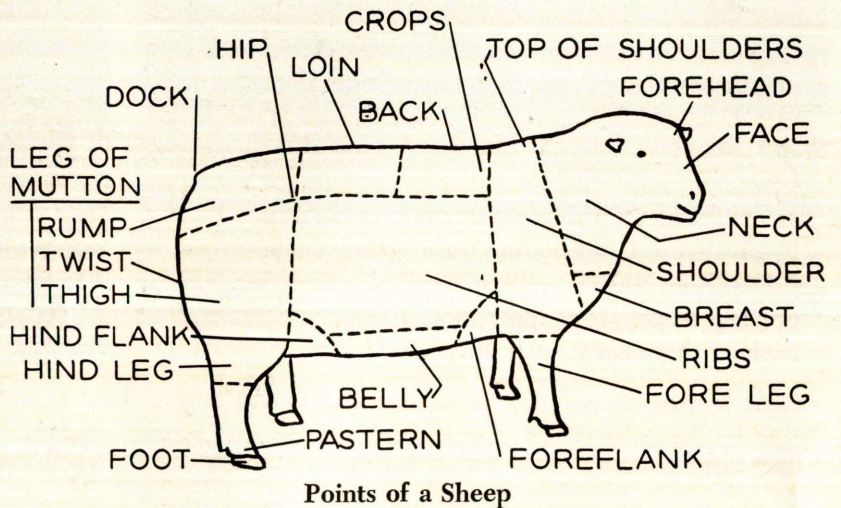
To be able to appraise sheep correctly calls for a study of ideal types. The mutton (meat) type (medium wool sheep) is of more importance in South Dakota than the fine and long wool breeds which are primarily wool producing. The mutton type will be given consideration in this circular.

MOST POPULAR BREEDS OF SHEEP IN THE UNITED STATES

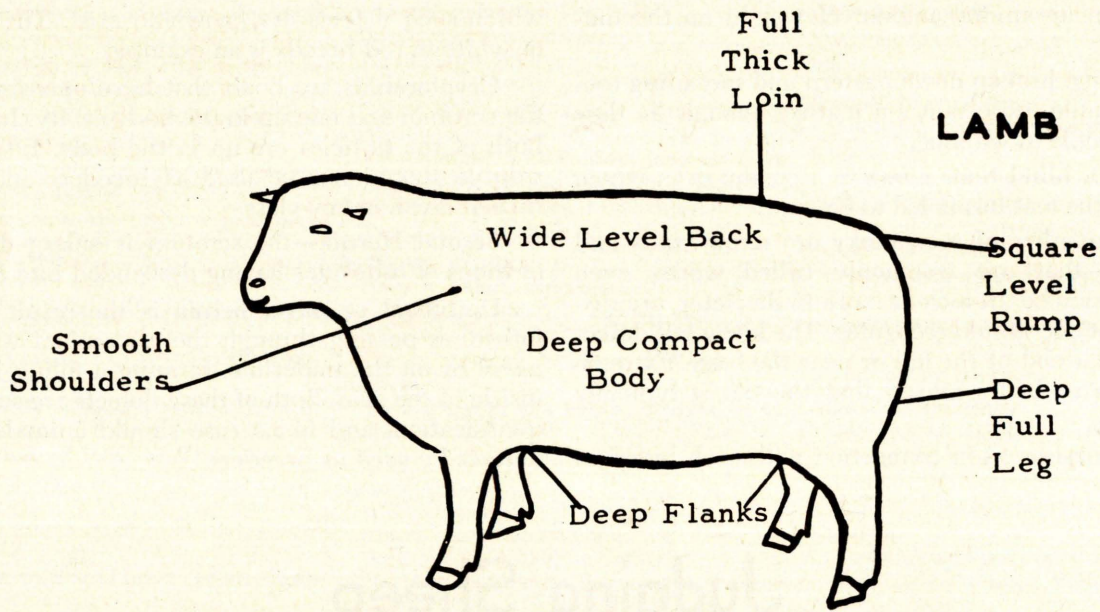
Breed	Type	Sub-Type
1. Southdown		
2. Shropshire		
3. Dorset Horn		
4. Hampshire		
5. Suffolk	Mutton Type	Medium-wool
6. Oxford Down		
7. Corriedale		
8. Cheviot		
9. Columbia		
10. Panama		
11. Lincoln		
12. Cotswold	Mutton Type	Long-wool
13. Leicester		
14. Romney Marsh		
15. Rambouillet		
16. American Merino	Wool Type	Fine-wool
17. Delaine Merino		
18. Karakul		Fur



A Typical Breeding Ewe



Points of a Sheep



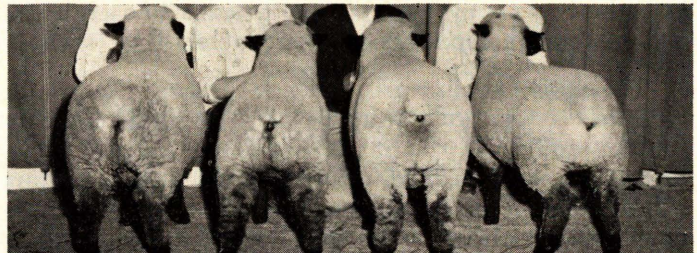
Description of Parts

Judging Market Lambs

In judging a class of market lambs there are several important factors to consider such as type, finish and quality, and dressing percentage. As in cattle, the thigh, rump (leg of lamb), back and loin are the highest priced cuts. The "leg-of-lamb" is the most important of these cuts.

Fat market lambs used in judging contests are usually wether lambs. A wether is an unsexed male under one year of age. Beginners should learn to judge fat lambs first as they are easier to judge than breeding animals.

Here are some steps in judging a class of lambs. Sheep classes are numbered from left to right as viewed in Step 2.



Step 2. Stand behind class (25 to 30 feet) and look for:

- a. Width of back, loin, and dock (rump).
- b. Deep and well filled leg and twist.
- c. Uniformity of width from front to rear.
- d. Width well down to hock.
- e. Width between hind legs.



Step 1. Stand at the side (about 25 to 30 feet) and look for:

- a. Compactness of body, rectangular in shape
- b. Parallel top and bottom lines, strong back.
- c. Depth of body.
- d. Deep flanks (fore and rear quarters).
- e. Short thick neck, well filled neck view.



Step 3. Stand in front of class (25 to 30 feet) and look for:

- a. Width between forelegs.
- b. Width and depth of chest.
- c. Width of shoulders and smoothness behind shoulders.

After observing the animals carefully from a distance and comparing them on general appearance, type and conformation it is also necessary and desirable to handle each lamb systematically to prove your findings with your hands what you already have observed from a distance.



First Step

With fingers extended and close together, grasp the lamb around the top of neck. This will give you an idea of the size and length of neck and also the amount of flesh in the neck vein; the junction of the neck and shoulders.



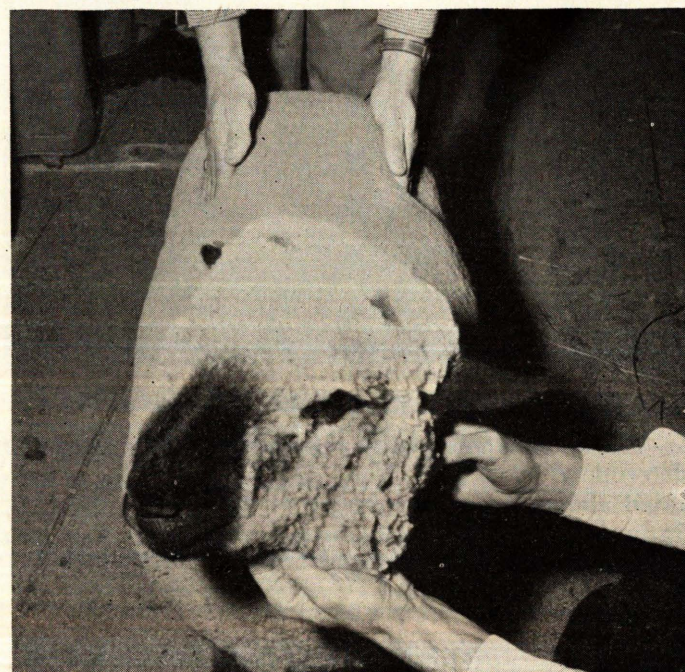
Second Step

Smoothness over the top of the shoulder points, amount of finish, and the filling in the crops is examined in the same manner.



Third Step

The depth of the fore quarters are examined in the above method.



Fourth Step

The width and depth of loin are examined in the above manner. As expensive cuts come from this region it is desirable to have a strong broad loin showing depth and a reasonable amount of firm fleshing.



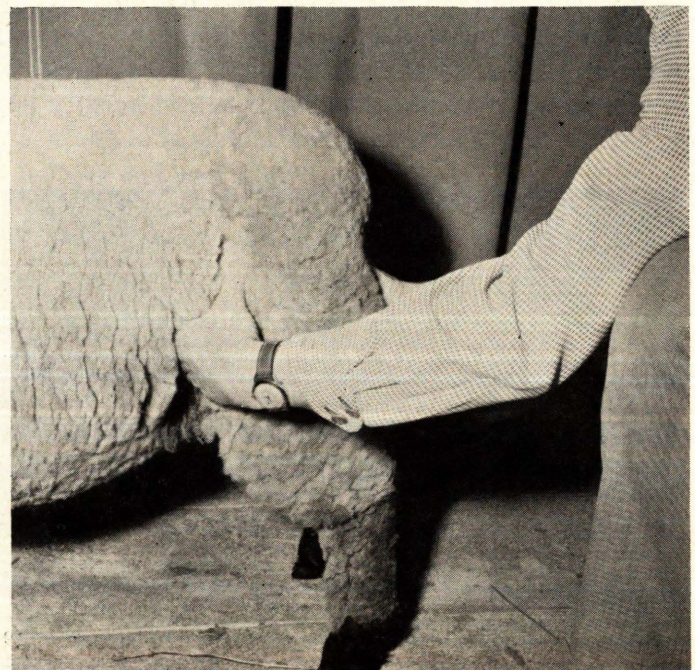
Fifth Step

The amount and quality of fleshing on the ribs can be determined by pressing firmly with the finger tips as indicated above. An even covering of firm flesh is desired. Spring of ribs and capacity through the middle may also be determined at this time.



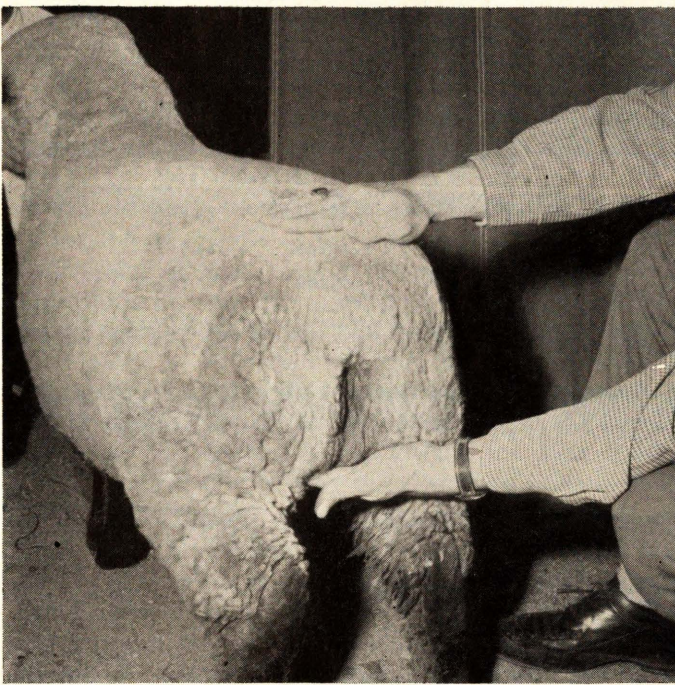
Sixth Step

The width of hindquarters and fullness of rump is determined in this picture.



Seventh Step

The size of the leg and the amount of filling on both inside and outside can be estimated by grasping the leg firmly as close to the body as possible. It is necessary to use both hands pressing firmly if the comparison of this very important and expensive cut is to be estimated correctly.



Eighth Step

The depth of hindquarter and depth of twist is determined in this picture.



Ninth Step

This illustrates how and where to open fleece to determine density, length of staple, grade, uniformity, presence of black fiber and color of skin. Never open fleece over the back.

Mutton Sheep Judging Card

POINTS TO CONSIDER

I. GENERAL APPEARANCE—straight top and underline; deep, broad; uniform in width; low-set; compact; symmetrical and stylish, standing squarely; trim middle

II. FORM

1. **Head**—face short; mouth and nostrils large; eyes large and clear; forehead broad; ears alert, not coarse; wide between ears
2. **Neck**—short, thick, full at junction with shoulder
3. **Shoulder**—even with body; compact on top; smoothly covered
4. **Breast**—full, deep, wide
5. **Chest**—wide, deep; full heart girth
6. **Ribs**—well sprung, long, close together, thickly covered
7. **Back**—broad, straight. (In fat sheep thickly fleshed)
8. **Loin**—thick, broad; (Well-covered in fat sheep)
9. **Hips**—neat; smoothly covered
10. **Rump**—long, wide, level

PLACING

1 2 3 4

11. **Thighs**—deep, wide, full
12. **Twist**—deep, plump
13. **Legs**—straight, strong, fairly short

PLACING

1 2 3 4

III. FINISH—deep, even, firm covering over the loin, back, ribs, and shoulders. A thick dock, plump neck, and shoulder vein and full breast indicate a finished condition. (Finish is of great importance in fat classes but is not so important in breeding classes as long as the ability to take on finish is indicated.)

IV. QUALITY—bone clean cut; hair silky; wool fine, soft, and lustrous; pelt light

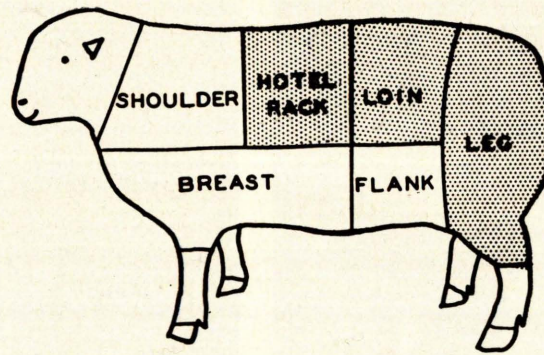
V. DRESSING PERCENTAGE—high finish; light pelt; not paunchy. (Not considered in judging breeding sheep.)

VI. BREED AND SEX CHARACTER—(applies only to breeding classes)

VII. WOOL—characteristic of the breed, uniform in length of staple and fineness, free from kemp and dark fibers, dense and showing good character

FORE SADDLE 50%
Rack—Shoulder—Breast

HIND SADDLE 50%
Leg—Loin—Flank



Leg	33%
Loin	10%
Hotel Rack	12%
Shoulder	23.5%
Breast	14.5%
Flank	7%

Sheep Wholesale Cuts (Shaded Area Represents Higher-Priced Cuts)

Judging Sheep Breeding Classes

In judging breeding classes one must consider the following points:

1. Mutton Type
2. Breed Type and Character
3. Growth and Development
4. Quality and Quantity of Bone
5. Quantity and Quality of Fleece

1. MUTTON TYPE:

As approximately 70% of the income from the sheep flock is derived from the sale of lamb carcasses, mutton type must always be considered first.

2. BREED TYPE AND CHARACTER:

Each breed has certain definite characteristics and these should always be considered. Space does not permit a full discussion on this important point as there is a great variation between the breeds. A careful study of the pictures will give you a general idea of the main points. However, to become really familiar with the breeds, you must work with and judge the live animals.

3. GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT:

As the rate of growth is closely linked with the profit to be made from the sale of market lambs it is desirable to consider growth and development carefully when judging breeding stock. A head showing good width at the poll and between the eyes along with a strong muzzle generally indicates strength. When these points become coupled with a broad chest and general width throughout, they are really important factors. Poorly-developed and undersized breeding stock should be severely penalized in the judging ring regardless of their breed character or quality of fleece since they cannot be expected to produce fast-maturing, top-quality market lambs.

4. QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF BONE:

A satisfactory breeding sheep of either sex should have ample bone yet be without undue coarseness. Generally, an animal that has plenty of bone grows and develops more quickly than one that is inclined to be too fine in the bone. However, with this strength of bone it is

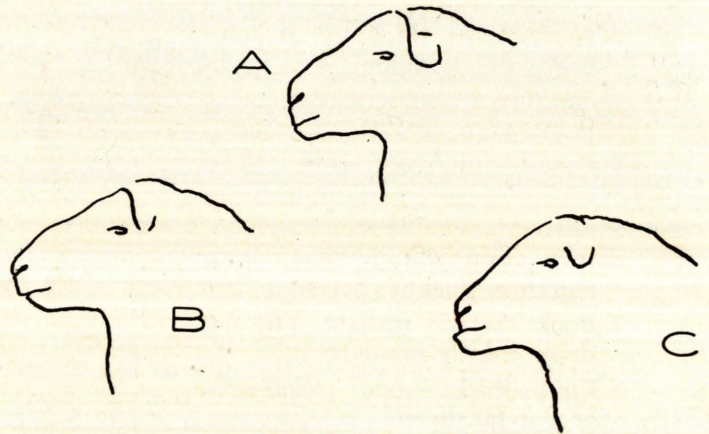
desirable to have as much quality as possible. Lack of quality is usually indicated by a coarseness about the joints. A lack of bone is often indicated by a weakness in the pasterns. Weak pasterns should always be avoided especially in rams.

5. QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF FLEECE:

All breeding animals should reach and preferably exceed the minimum requirements in pounds of wool for their own particular breed. Quality is more difficult to determine and the beginner may have trouble in noticing the actual difference in quality. Quantity is indicated by density and length.

To examine the fleece properly it should be opened in straight parts about half way down the side in as good light as possible and at three points:

1. **Shoulder**—The finest quality wool is usually found on this section.
2. **Body**—The wool here is about average and is a fair indication of the general quality.
3. **Rump**—The coarsest wool is always found in the region and by comparing the quality of the wool found in the three sections one is able to evaluate the uniformity.



Normal (A), Overshot (B) and Undershot (C)
Jaws of Sheep

The three main features to consider in examining the fleece are quantity, quality and condition.

Quantity of Fleece—Quantity of fleece is determined by the length and density and uniformity of these two characteristics. Length of staple is of much importance. The variation in the length is principally due to breed although there is also much variation in length of the different parts of the same fleece.

Density of fleece means the closeness and compactness of the fibres or the number of fibres per square inch on the body of the sheep. The density of a fleece may be determined in a comparative way by noting to what extent all the wool which one can grasp fills the hand. Density is associated with weight. Moreover, if the fleece is not dense you are justified in looking for weak spots in the fibre although you may not always find them.

Quality—Quality is determined by the fineness of fibre, soundness, closeness of crimp, softness of fibre, color and freedom from black fibre. The short wools are usually the finest quality wools while the long staple wools are coarser. This point should be taken into consideration when judging sheep of different breeds. Fineness refers to diameter of fibre.

One of the worst faults in wool is the presence of kemp, which is short, thick, opaque fibre, usually ivory white in color. It occurs most commonly among the breech wool although it may be found in any part of the fleece. It varies greatly in structure from true wool. Like black fibre, it will not take dye.

Crimp or waviness varies with the breeds. The most important point in regard to crimp is that it should be regular. Regularity of crimp is an indication of soundness of fibre. The finer the wool the finer the crimp. In opening a fleece for examination the crimp should always

be noted for from it an estimate can be made both as to the soundness and fineness of the fibre.

The softness of the fleece can be readily determined by pressing it with the hand. This characteristic depends largely upon the breed and grade of wool.

Condition—The condition of a fleece is determined by the lustre, the amount and character of the grease or yolk, and the freedom from foreign material. The most common foreign materials are burrs, chaff and dirt. Brightness depends to a large extent on freedom from dirt.

Lustre, which is highly valued for the brightness it gives in light colored dyed goods, is due to the scale covering of the wool fibre. These scales overlap one another similar to fish scale and when the wool is in a healthy condition they give somewhat of a sheen to wool when light shines upon it. Lustre is more obvious in the coarser wools, owing to the larger scales presenting a greater surface for reflection of light. A fleece that is in poor condition will not have this lustre. Instead of the scales overlapping one another they will stand out more or less at right angles to the wool fibre and are contributing factors to the condition which is commonly known as coting.

Yolk is the grease or oil that is naturally secreted by the skin and which passes up through the cells forming the core of the fibre. The yolk should be evenly distributed from the base of the fibre to the top and a shortage of yolk causes a harsh-feeling fleece. A plentiful supply of yolk tends, on the other hand, to keep the wool in a sound, healthy condition and helps to turn rain out of the fleece.

The color and covering of the wool over the head as is demanded by the breed of which the sheep is a representative, should be observed. Also note the region of the horn pits and back over the ears, the extension of the wool on the legs and the covering on the under surface of the body.

Terms Used In Describing Sheep

The beginner is encouraged to develop his own individuality in discussing livestock with the aid of the following list:

General Body Description:

A low-set, deep-bodied, short-legged lamb, carrying his width and depth of body more uniformly from end to end than any other lamb in the class.

He is stronger of back and carries a higher degree of finish over the shoulders, back and loin and is squarer at the dock than 2.

Because he is a tighter-framed wether with more depth of finish and a trimmer middle and a plumper leg he is a more desirable killer.

She is a "Typey" ewe, with a roomy, low-set, wide-ribbed body which makes for a strong and useful type.

She is a wide-backed, deep, full-chested individual with good bone and ruggedness.

A ewe lamb showing breed character, balance and lots of quality.

A thick, heavy-set ewe carrying ample natural fleshing and a short, thick neck and square dock.

A low-set, deep-bodied, wide, square-docked, dense-fleeced ewe.

A very heavy-boned, strong-headed ram, with plenty of depth, thickness of fleshing and breed type.

A low-set rugged and strong-boned ram.

A large ram with good substance but a little too coarse.

A smooth compact quality individual with a fine, dense fleece.

A long, narrow-bodied, upstanding lamb, lacking finish and smoothness in the shoulders, is easy of back and peaked at the dock.

A coarse upstanding, narrow-chested, open-fleeced, light-legged ewe that is deficient in constitution and type.

A long-bodied, weak-backed, thin-necked ram.

A blocky form.

A ewe of excellent type and smooth lines.

A ram that is truer to type and more evenly balanced.

A wether with a strong, well-covered back and a large leg.

She is lower-set and wider than 2.

She carries her width and depth evenly from end to end.

A very pleasing and useful type.

Deep-chested, low-set, and set squarely on his legs.

He carries a good, stylish head, but lacks in fleece and leg of mutton.

Superior width and depth throughout.

Superior balance and quality.

A ram with plenty of ruggedness but lacks the type and quality of the ram I placed above him.

Very stylish, a dense fleece and even covering of flesh.

He is an impressive ram.

A trim-middled, low-set, thick-meated lamb.

He is nearer the ground and smoother than 1, but I placed him second because he lacks width, depth and thickness.

Too long of leg but plenty of bone.

The first pair of ewes was close.

He is a tight-framed, blocky-formed, well-finished lamb.

She is small but smooth and well-formed.

A ram that is more symmetrical throughout.

A short-legged lamb with a wonderful covering.

His excellent fleece and mutton type are outstanding in this class.

She has an acceptable mutton breed character.

Her large deep middle and wide chest indicate an excellent breeding ewe.

A stud ram with massive and rugged proportions fitted for range conditions.

His thick leg of mutton, levelness of lines and wool made him superior to No. 2.

A square-ended frame with masculine style.

A large roomy ewe, with a strong back and good bone.

A "typey"-headed ewe that handles nicely.

Head and Character:

Shows a lot of breed character and type about the head.

A bold-faced strong-headed ram.

Her head indicates a lot of Hampshire character and type.

A well-covered, broad-faced ram with good sex character.

A head and neck that blend smoothly with the body.

Short of neck and wide of head.

A feminine head.

A masculine head.

A breedy head.

A plain head.

Too narrow of face, lacking character and strength.

A short, wide head with a wide muzzle.

An attractive head.

A stylish head and neck.

A clean-cut head but over-refined.

Strongly masculine in the head.

A long, thin-necked ewe with a plain head.

A coarse-headed ram (ewe).

Fore Quarters:

Wide-chested.

A bold front and wide-set legs.

A deep, wide-chested individual indicating constitution.

A wide chest floor.

A wide-chested, bold-fronted ram.

A neck that blends in smoothly with the shoulder.

Shoulder fits up smoothly with the neck.

Neatly laid shoulder.

An open shoulder.

A coarse shoulder.

A prominent shoulder.

Breaks behind the shoulder.

Slack behind the shoulders.

Low behind the shoulder.

Too sharp over the shoulders.

Open at the shoulders.

Smooth and neat of shoulder.

Pinched in the heart girth.

Lacks depth and fullness of heart girth.

A well-sprung fore rib.

Narrow in the fore rib.

Pinched in the fore rib.

Back Rib and Loin:

A strong back.

A straight topline.

A short, wide back.

Great spring of rib and strength of back.

A thickly-muscled, deep-ribbed ram.

Plenty of spread over the back and loin.

Superior width of loin, back and rib.

Carries his width of rib and loin evenly from end to end.

A ewe with a great back and spring of rib.

Lots of spring to the rib.

Trifle more spread of rib than No. 2

A heavily-covered, strong-backed lamb.

Carries his width well back to the dock.

A narrow-ribbed individual.

Shallow-ribbed.

Narrow-loined.

Weak back.

Low in the topline.

Sags in the back.

Loosely fitted in the back and loin.

Lacks strength of top.

Somewhat easy of topline.

A well-balanced top.

A straight underline.

Tucked up in the flanks.

Lacks thickness of loin.

Hind Quarters:

A large leg of mutton.

A plump leg of mutton.

A firm leg that handles well.

A thick leg.

A large leg. A bulging leg.

Well-developed in the hind quarters.

A wide deep-quartered lamb.

A wide, full rear end.

A light leg of mutton.

A leg that is filled down to the hocks.

A plump leg but lacking in firmness.

Thick and firmly muscled in the leg.

Too thin in the leg.

Deficient in the hind quarters.

Deep and full in the twist.

Shallow in the twist.

Cut-up in the twist.

A square-ended ram.

Meats down in the leg to the hock.

Square dock.

Wide and level of rump.

A dock that carries out the width of the body.

Peaked at the dock.

Narrow behind.

Droopy at the dock.

Pinched at the dock.

Too short of rump.

Thick at the dock.

A long, level rump.

Plain about the tailhead.

Patchy at the tailhead.

The tail is set too low.

Cut up in the rear flank.

Tucked-up in the rear flank.

Lacks development in the rear end.

Legs and Bone:

Short of leg.

A low-set lamb.

Close to the ground.

Nearer to the ground than 2.

Long-legged.

Too far off the ground.

Too upstanding.

He is a little longer of leg than 2.

A rugged-boned ram.

Ample quantity and quality of bone.

Too coarse in the joints.

Plenty of substance.

Too much refinement of legs.

A smaller-boned ewe.

Legs set squarely on the corners of the body where they belong.

Stands too close in his front legs.

A knock-kneed ewe.

Sickle-hocked.

Crooked hind legs.

Excellent set of legs with ample bone.

A bit too much length of legs.

Stands well upon his toes.

Strong pasterns.

Weak pasterns.

Finish and Fleshing:

He is the fattest lamb in the class.

He carries a high degree of finish.

He is deeply covered.

A thick covering of flesh.

Highly finished.

Thickly finished.

A high degree of fatness.

Fattest of the four.

A thick, meaty kind.

A wealth of flesh.

Well-fleshed over the back ribs and loin.

A well-conditioned wether and quite smooth.

The kind of flesh that springs under your hand.

The back is firmly covered.

Lots of finish in the region of higher-priced cuts.

A finish that meets the packer demand.

A heavily-muscled ram.

A prime-conditioned lamb.

A deeply-covered, strong-backed lamb.

A lamb with extraordinary handling qualities.

He carries a high degree of finish.

Handles nicely.

High condition.

A lot of natural fleshing. Thickly covered with natural fleshing.

More natural fleshing.

Too light in his natural covering. A thin-fleshed lamb.

He is roughly finished.

The thinnest lamb in the class.

The flesh is flabby and lacks quality.

Her flesh is rough on the side and the rump is patchy.

Not in as high a flesh as the other ewe.

He is bare over the loin, rib, back, etc.

You can feel a ridge (the back bone) from end to end.

Thinly-fleshed over the ribs and shoulders.

A smoothly-covered ewe.

A smoothly-finished frame.

A solid-fleshed, smooth-framed wether.

Firmly covered.

Smoothly finished.

Quality fleshing.

The back has a firm touch.

Neatly-covered with quality flesh.

An even distribution of flesh.

The finish on this ewe contributes to her quality and appearance.

The shoulder point is well-covered.

Quality and Style:

Plenty of quality and style.

Impressed with his style.

Her refined head and neat joints indicated quality.

His carriage and alertness were pleasing.

Wool, hair, and bone of the right kind.

A combination of quality, finish and style.

A stylish lamb with plenty of smoothness and quality.

His even, firm fleshing and trimness indicate quality.

Smooth, clean-cut and stylish.

His coarseness about the head, neck and bone show a lack in quality.

A quality ewe with fine dense bone, soft silky hair and a pink skin.

The masculinity, style and quality are outstanding.

His softness of flesh and blue skin show a lack of quality.

Refined head and quality wool.

Showing feminine refinement and unusual style.

His carriage and manner made him outstanding.

An alert eye, refined ear and clean-cut of face denote quality.

His horns add quality and style to his head.

A bold head but coarse.

Killing Qualities:

He will hang up a neater and firmer carcass.

His firm flesh and tidy middle will yield a neat carcass.

He will make a more desirable killer.

His wide loin, large leg and thick covering should yield a valuable carcass.

His trimness and thickness of fleshing indicate a high dressing per cent.

He will make the best killer in the class because he is the fattest, trimmest and firmest lamb.

He will be a higher killer.

He will have a higher dressing per cent.

He will dress out higher.

He will produce a more desirable carcass.

He will have the least dressing per cent.

He will make the poorest killing lamb.

He will yield a very undesirable carcass.

He will make the poorest killer in the class and have the least dressing per cent.

Wool and Skin:

He has a long, dense fleece with ample crimp.

The finest fleece in crimp but a little open. Lacks crimp. Poor crimp.

A fleece with character, length and density but lacks uniformity.

A uniform fleece in length and crimp. A coarse, open fleece.

He possesses a long staple with good density but the wool lacks in fineness and character.

His length of staple, character and uniformity are outstanding.

A superior fleece in density, length, and covering.

Plenty of wool covering.

A ewe with excellent mutton qualities but her fleece is too short, rather coarse and open.

The softness, crimp and uniformity in his fleece is outstanding in this class.

Plenty of crimp and elasticity.

Uniform in both length and fineness.

Showing trueness in uniformity (referring to uniformity of fiber from base to tip).

Ample crimp for the breed.

A strong fleece throughout with no weak spots.

A bright, clean fleece.

Excellent quality and combing wool.

A sound fleece. Lacks soundness.

Too many black fibers.

A dark skin coupled with black wool makes it the poorest fleece in the class.

A very "kempy" fleece.

Number two's fleece is "harsh" and lacks character.

Contains too much foreign matter.

Hairy on the breech.

"Runs out" on the leg.

Poor in uniformity.

The wool is rather dull and lifeless.

Tender wool (defective wool).

Weak spot in the wool.

Deficient in softness.

Burry wool. (Wool that contains burrs.)

Braid wool (coarse grade of wool).

Too much breech wool.

Cotted fleece (matted or tangled fibers).

Defective wool (damaged fleece).

Frowsy wool (dry, wasty wool lacking character).

Stained wool.

Staple wool (combing western wool).

A pure fleece containing no hair, black or brown fibers or kemp.

The fleece is free from stains.

Too many heavy tags and sweat locks.

His fleece shows life.

Good color—bright.

Excessive yolk.

Poor condition.

Lofty wool (springy wool, full of life).

Her skin and fleece are in excellent condition.

The yolk is evenly distributed.

A flesh-pink skin. The skin indicates prime condition.

A good distribution of yolk and moderate in quantity.

A heavily "marked" ram. A smooth ram (referring to folds).

Too many folds on the neck. Too many pin wrinkles on the body.

Too heavily "marked."

Her fleece is in excellent condition.

The wool is too coarse on the hind quarters in comparison to fore quarters.

Her fleece shows a uniform and prominent crimp from base to tip.

Sample Reasons for Placing Class of Fat Wether Lambs

I place this class of Fat Wethers 1-2-3-4.

I place No. 1 at the top of this class and over No. 2. No. 1 is fatter, more thickly fleshed, wider in the loin and rump, carrying a uniform thickness from front to rear and has a blockier more compact body. He has a plumper, fuller leg-of-lamb that carries down deep and full in the hock. He has a smooth, firm finish that carries uniformly over back and ribs.

I place No. 2 next and over No. 3 because he is a more compact thicker lamb, has a more level rump and a wider thicker fleshed loin and back. I will grant that No. 3 has a plumper leg-of-lamb.

I place No. 3 third and over No. 4. I consider this my closest placing. I placed No. 3 over No. 4 because he is plumper and deeper in the leg-of-lamb and is straighter in his topline and lower set. I will grant that No. 4 is a little better finished over the ribs.

I placed No. 4 at the bottom of this class because he is lightest in the leg-of-lamb, is somewhat upstanding and does not carry the thickness of body which I would like to see.

For these reasons, I place this class of fat lambs 1-2-3-4.

NOTES

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