

LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Patrick Davis

MU Extension

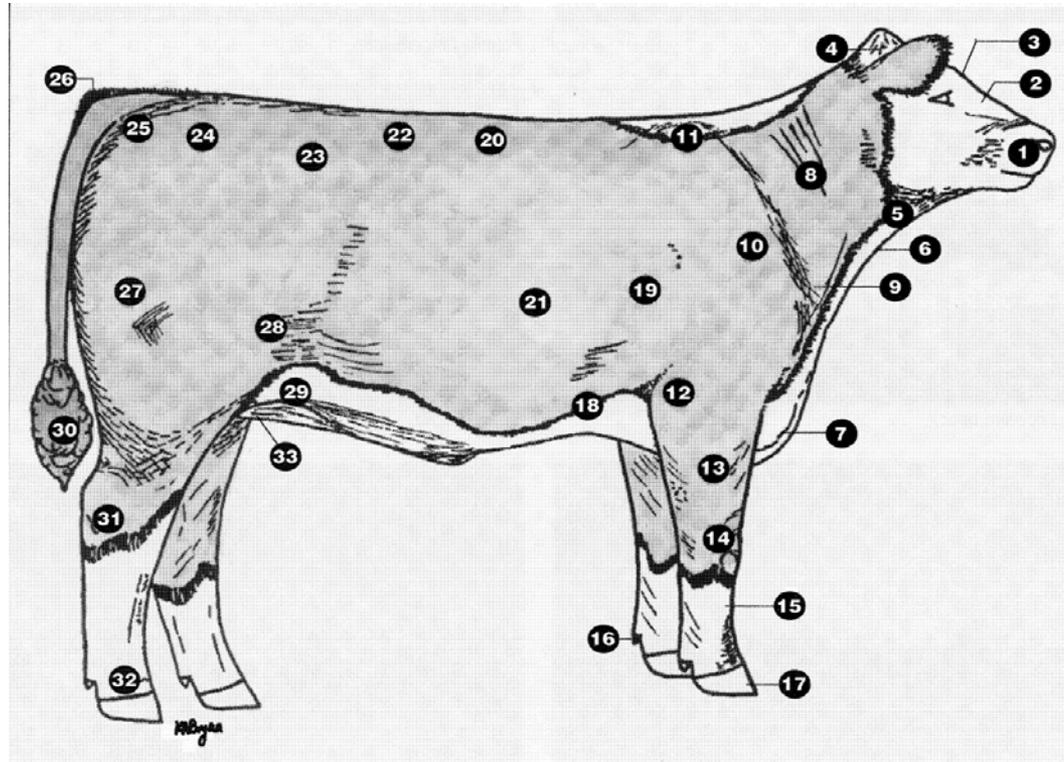
Johnson County Livestock Specialist

Introduction

- Terminology
- Note taking
- Judging classes

Cattle

- Market
 - Steers and heifers
- Breeding
 - Heifers and Bulls



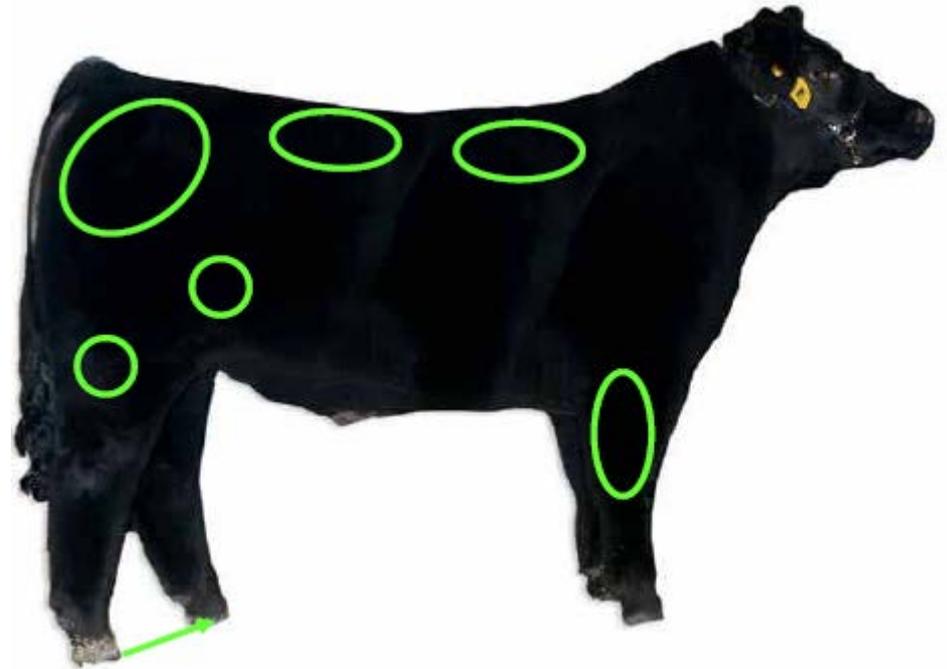
1 muzzle
2 face
3 forehead
4 poll
5 throat
6 dewlap
7 brisket
8 neck
9 point of shoulder
10 shoulder
11 top of shoulder
12 elbow

13 forearm
14 knee
15 cannon
16 dewclaw
17 hoof
18 lower forerib, fore flank
19 forerib
20 back or top
21 rib
22 loin
23 hook or hip
24 rump

25 pin bone
26 tailhead
27 quarter
28 stifle
29 rear flank
30 switch
31 hock
32 pastern
33 udder (cow, heifer),
cod (steer),
scrotum (bull)

Market Cattle

- Priorities
 - Muscle
 - Forearm
 - Loin
 - Ribeye
 - Hip
 - Stifle
 - Quarter
 - Base Width

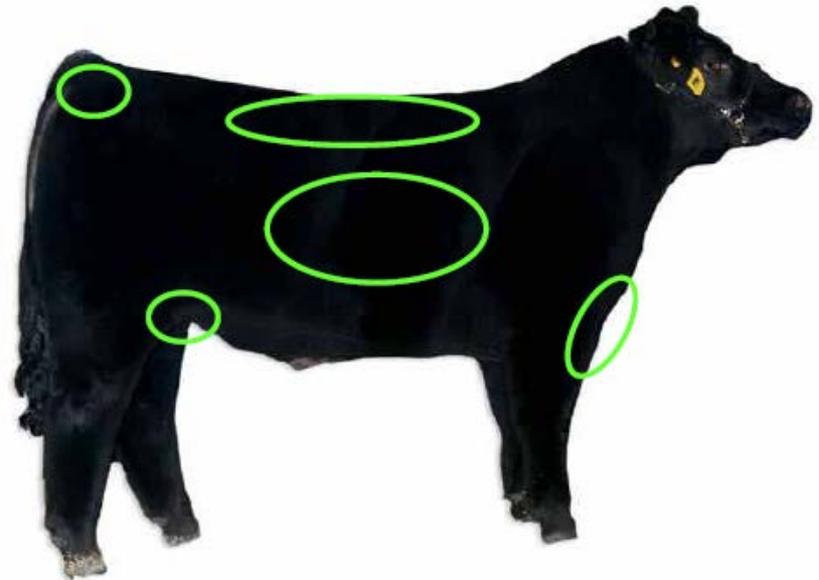


Market Cattle

- Priorities

- Finish

- Brisket
 - Down Top
 - Over Ribs
 - Around Tailhead
 - Drop to flank
 - Cod or udder fat

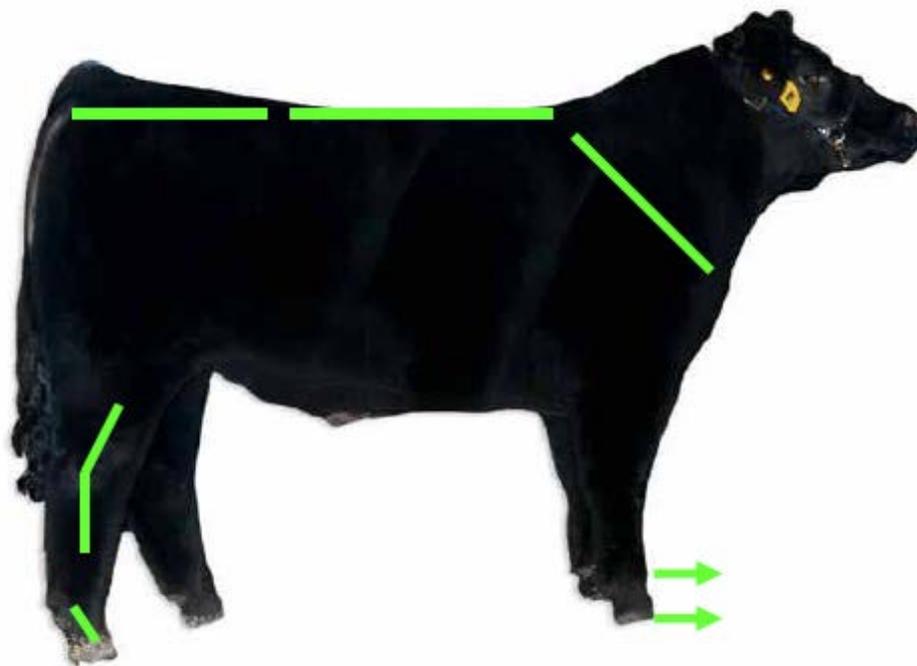


Market Cattle

- Priorities

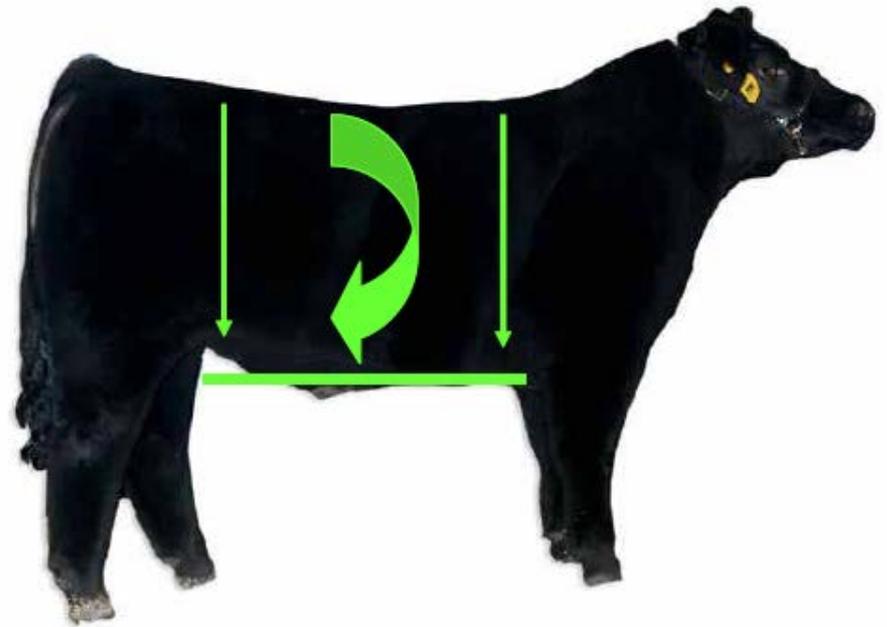
- Evaluating Structure

- Front foot alignment
 - Shoulder angle
 - Strength of topline
 - Levelness and length of hip
 - Set to hock
 - Set to pastern
 - Heaviness of structure



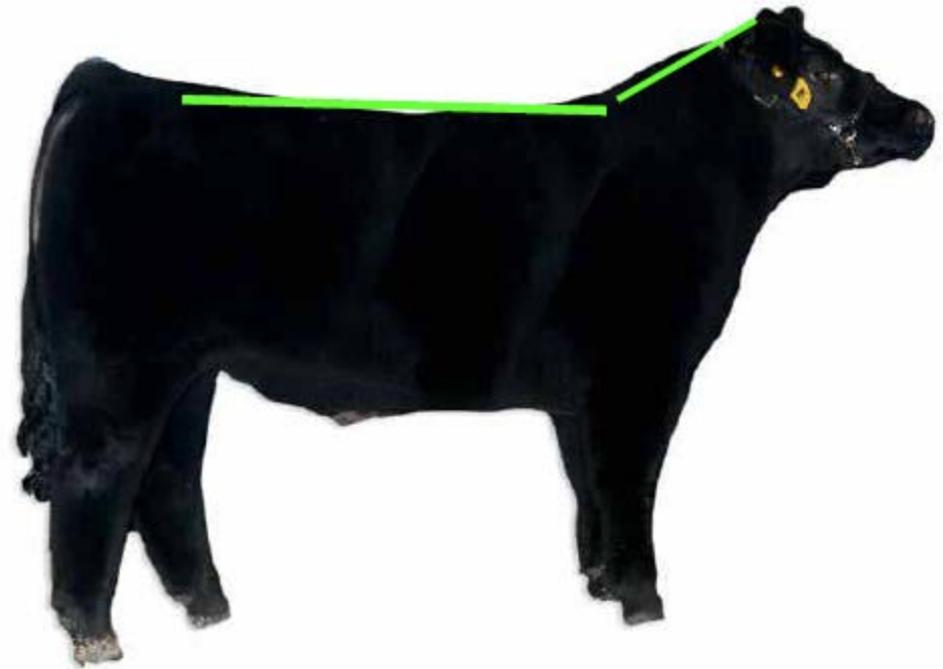
Market Cattle

- Priorities
 - Evaluating Rib/Feeding Ability
 - To ensure feedlot efficiency and correct fat deposition
 - Width of chest
 - Depth of body
 - Rib Shape
 - Uniformity of body depth



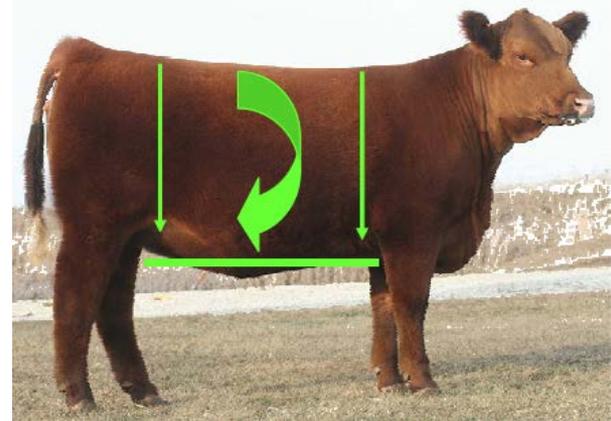
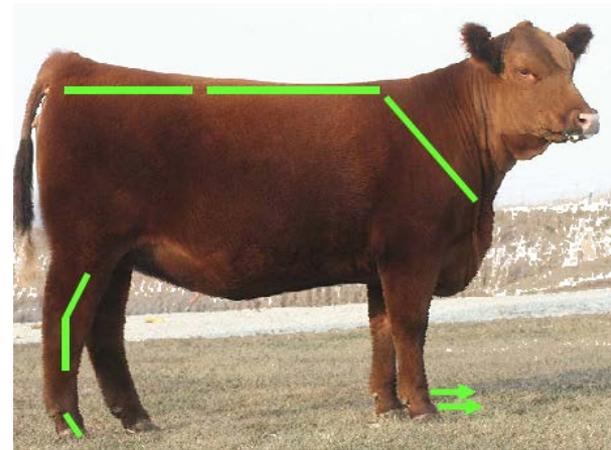
Market Cattle

- Priorities
 - Balance and Eye Appeal
 - Proportional animal
 - Animal fits together correctly
 - Length of neck
 - Levelness
 - Smoothness
 - Attractiveness



Breeding Cattle

- Priorities
 - Functionality
 - Structural Correctness
 - Optimal Rib Shape Design
 - Depth of rib
 - Spring and shape of rib



Breeding Cattle

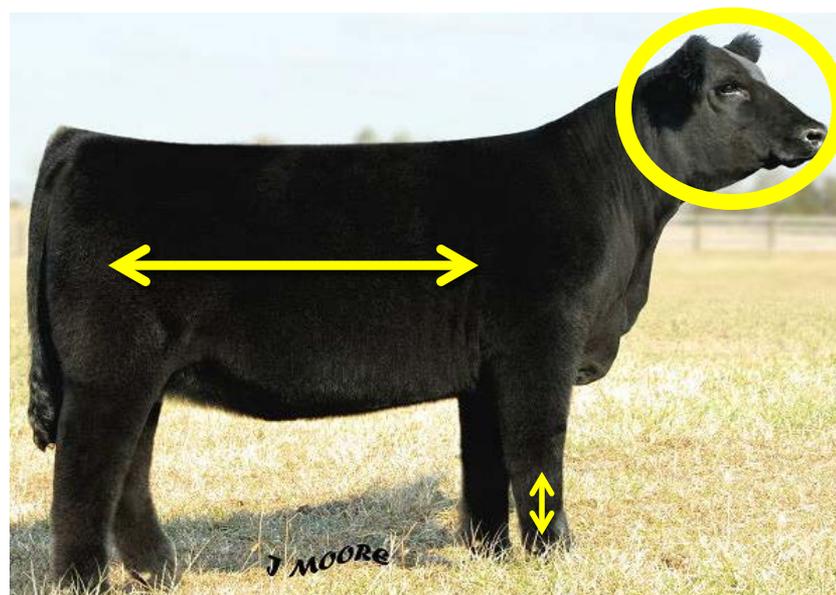
- Priorities

- Growth performance

- Sell cattle on a per pound basis
 - Optimal frame size to limit mature weight and maintenance cost

- Evaluating growth performance

- Length of face
 - Length of cannon
 - Length of body
 - Weight of animal

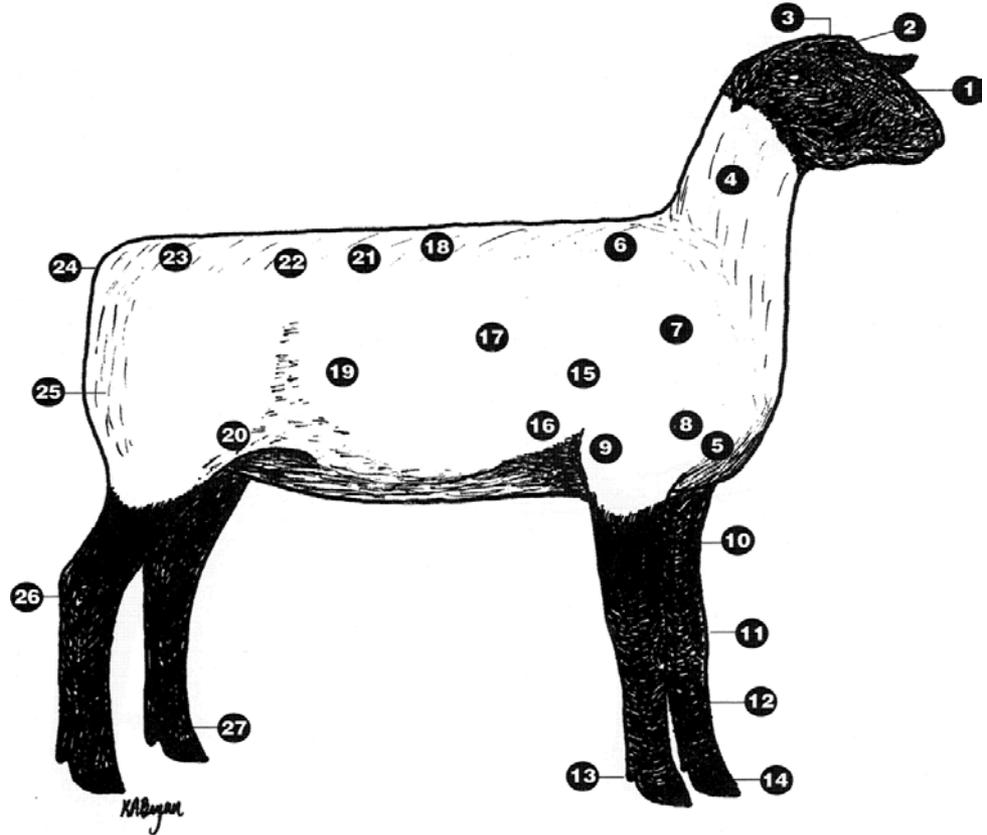


Breeding Cattle

- Balance and Eye Appeal
 - Similar to the market steer
 - Attractiveness with refinement through the head, neck, and shoulders
- Muscling
 - Similar to market steer but you want it proportionate
 - Make sure a heifer looks like a heifer and a bull looks like a bull

Sheep

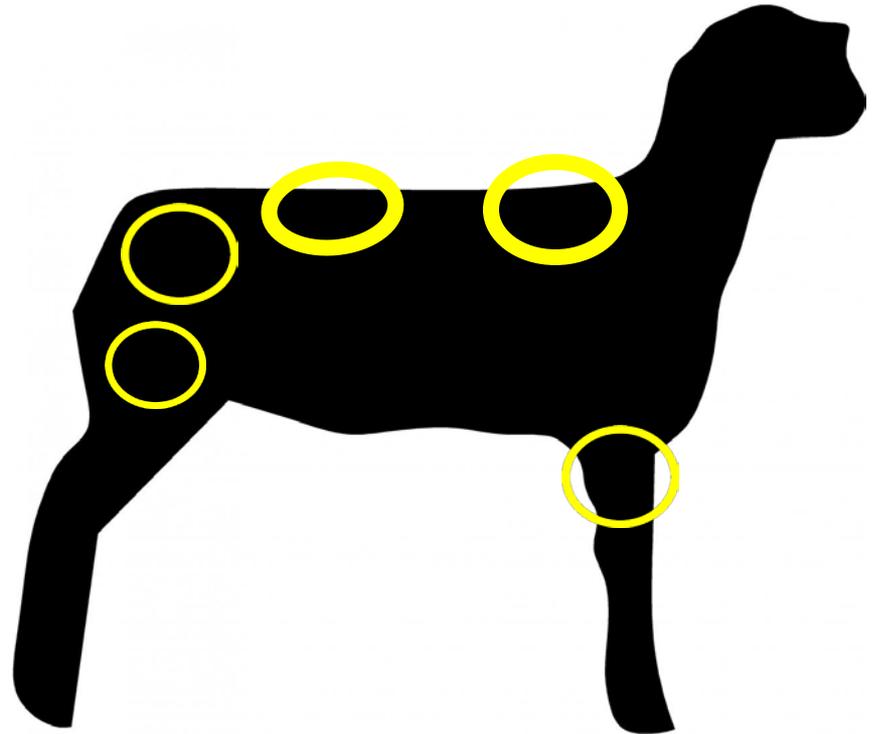
- Market sheep
 - Wethers
 - Ewes
- Breeding Sheep
 - Ewes
 - Rams



- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1 face | 10 forearm | 19 middle |
| 2 forehead | 11 knee | 20 rear flank |
| 3 poll | 12 cannon | 21 loin |
| 4 neck | 13 dewclaw | 22 hip |
| 5 breast | 14 foot | 23 rump |
| 6 top of shoulder | 15 forerib | 24 dock |
| 7 shoulder | 16 lower forerib | 25 leg |
| 8 point of shoulder | 17 rib | 26 hock |
| 9 elbow | 18 back or top | 27 pastern |

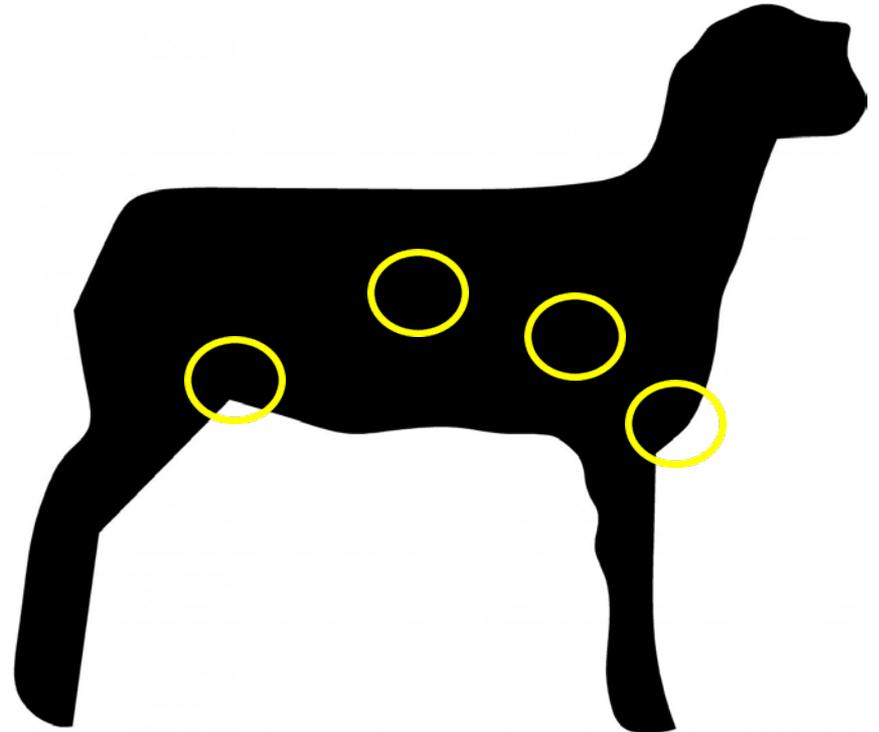
Market Sheep

- Priorities
 - Muscling
 - Forearm
 - Rack
 - Loin
 - Hip
 - Leg
 - Base Width



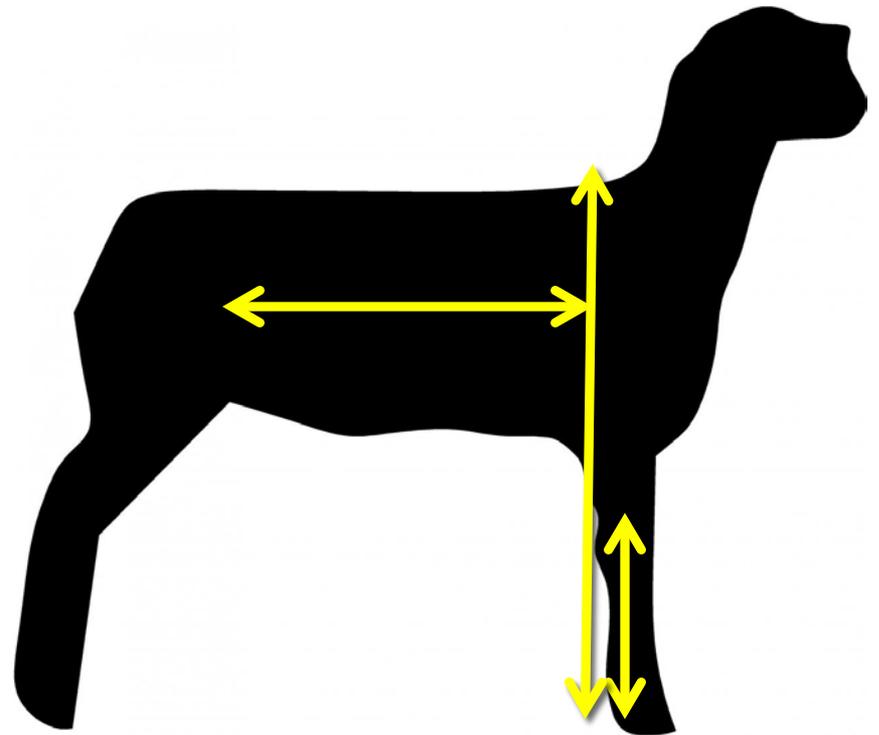
Market Sheep

- Priorities
 - Finish
 - Breast/Chest Plate
 - Forerib
 - Over Ribs
 - Flank
 - Twist



Market Sheep

- Priorities
 - Growth
 - Length of cannon bone
 - Height at top of shoulders
 - Length of body
 - Weight

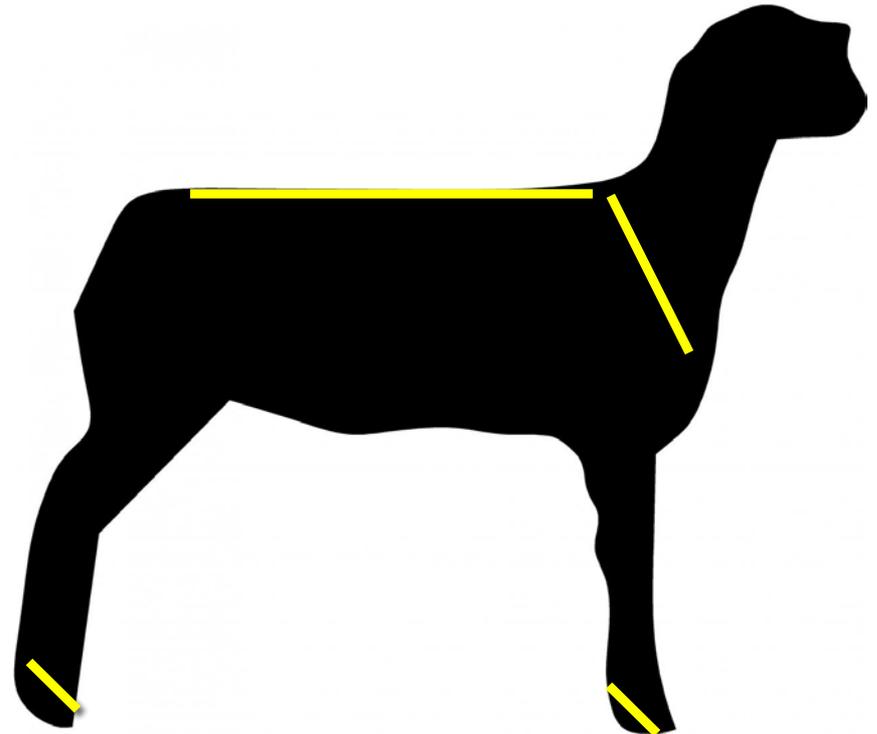


Market Sheep

- Priorities

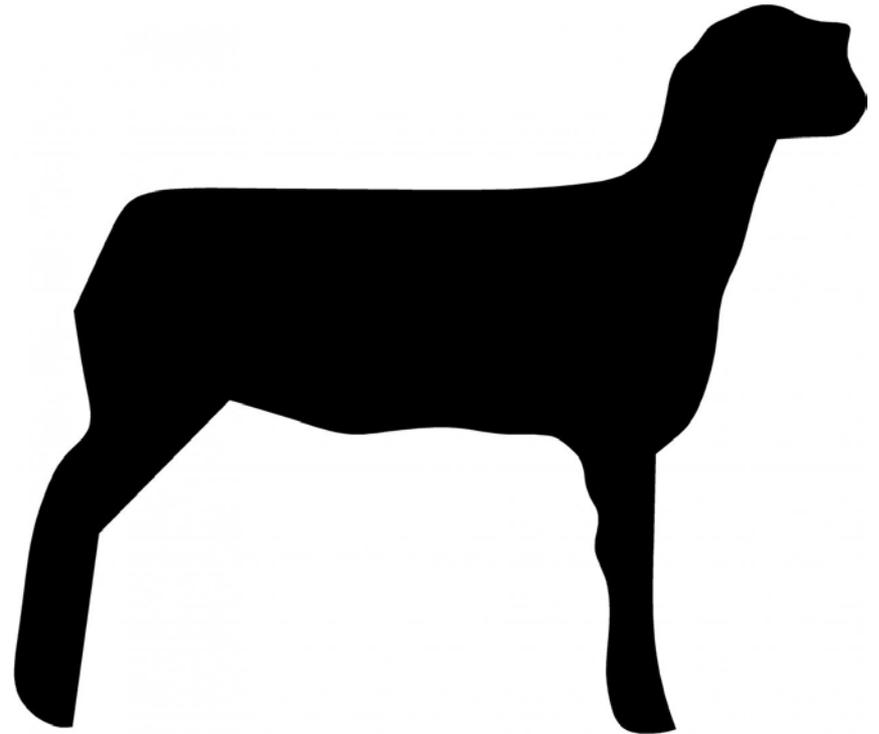
- Skeletal Correctness

- Proper angle to shoulder and knee
 - Appropriate set to pastern
 - Levelness of top and dock set
 - Square set from hock to ground from behind
 - Heaviness of structure



Market Sheep

- Priorities
 - Balance and eye appeal
 - Similar to other species
 - Tight chested
 - Smooth long front end
 - Level design
 - Rib shape



Breeding Sheep

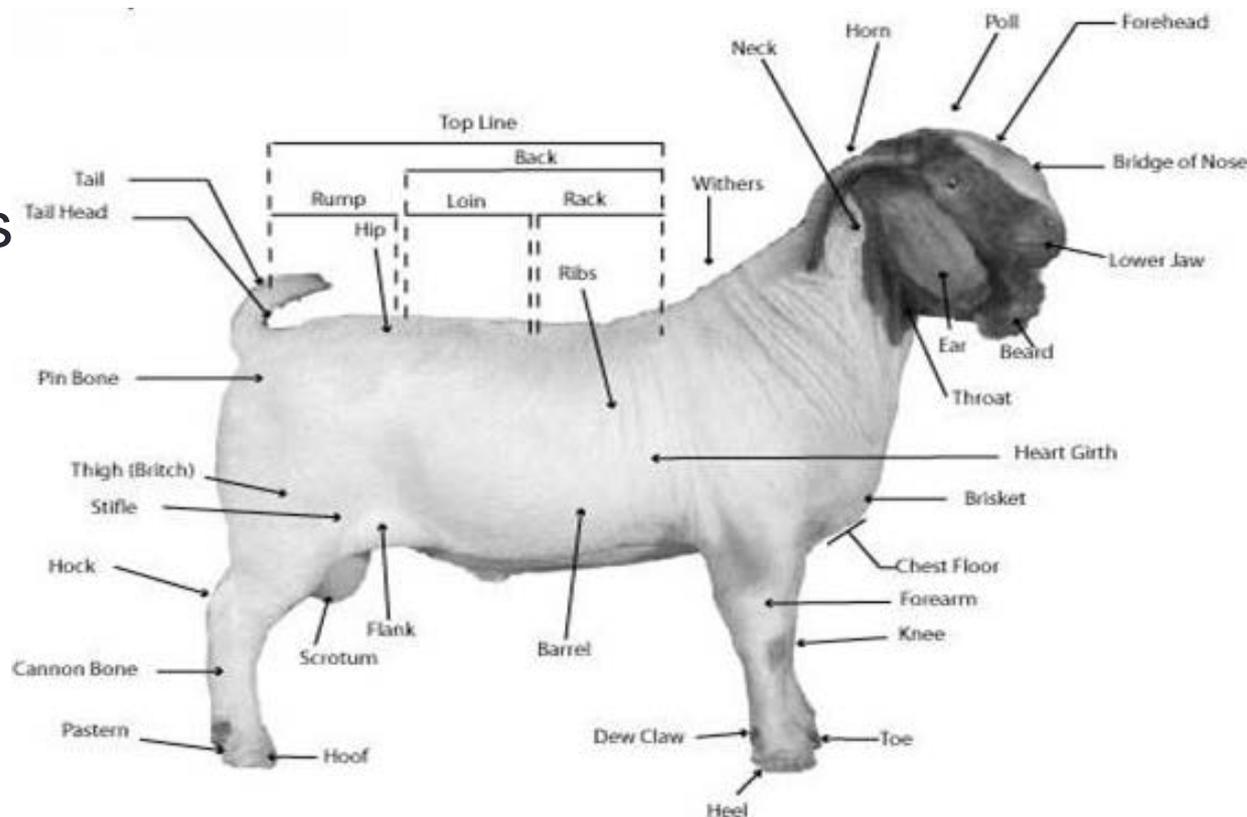
- Priorities
 - Growth and Performance
 - Ability to offer future growth
 - Length of cannon bone, face, and body
 - Functionality
 - Similar to breeding cattle
 - Rib shape, structural correctness, strength of pasterns, length of stride

Breeding Sheep

- Priorities
 - Balance and Eye Appeal
 - Proportionate
 - Long, smooth front end
 - Clean thru shoulder and chest
 - Level design
 - Muscle
 - similar to market lamb

Goats

- Market goats
 - Wethers or Does
- Breeding Goats
 - Bucks and Does



Market Goats

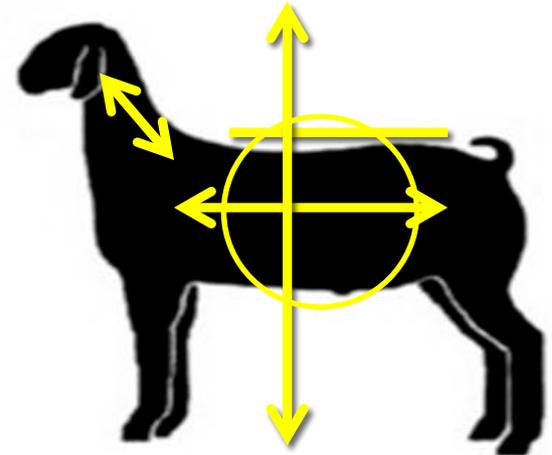
- Priorities

- Scale

- Longer bodied
 - Bigger outlined, taller fronted, growthier
 - Youthful later maturing
 - Leveler designed

- Structure and Skeleton

- Straight in lines
 - Square
 - Rib and body shape, production oriented
 - Longer fronted, nicer profiling, attractive design

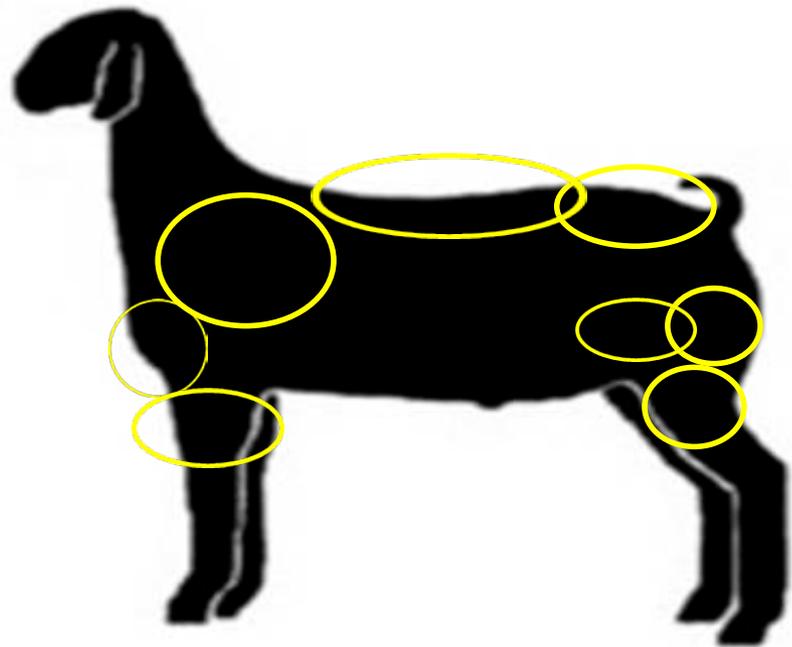


Market Goats

- Priorities

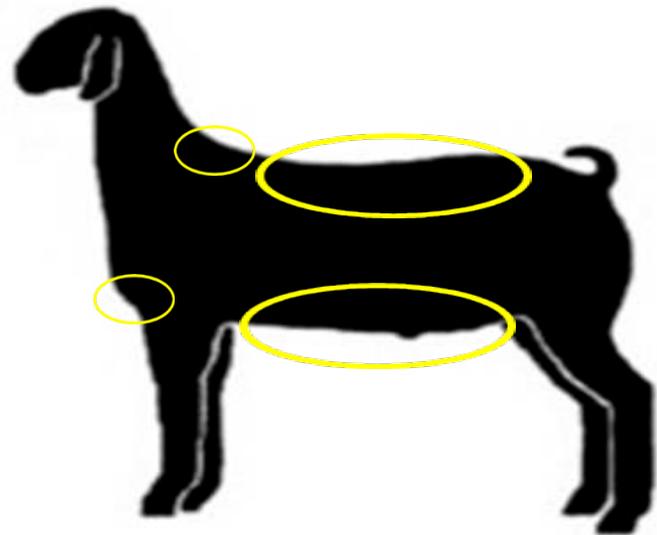
- Muscle

- Loin
 - Rump
 - Chest
 - Rack
 - Forearm
 - Thigh
 - Shoulder
 - Leg
 - Rump
 - Base
 - Stifle



Market Goats

- Priorities
 - Leanness
 - Brisket
 - Withers
 - Topline
 - Lower 1/3



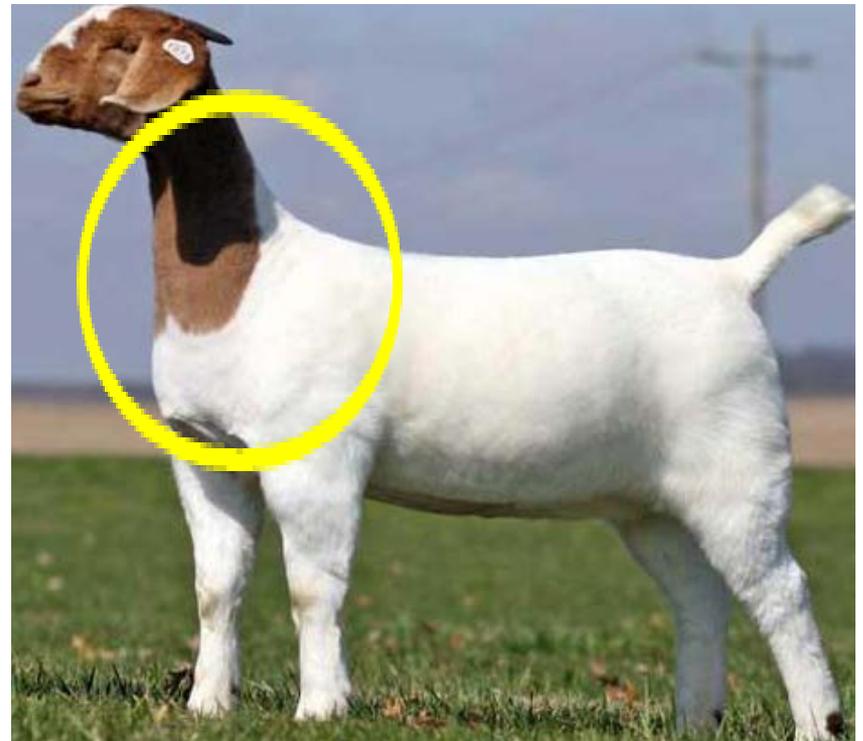
Breeding Goats

- Priorities
 - Similar to market goats
 - Size and Scale
 - Skeleton and Structure
 - Muscle
 - Condition
 - Easy fleshing
 - Lean
 - Volume
 - Rib shape, depth of body, capacity, width, flank depth and uniformity



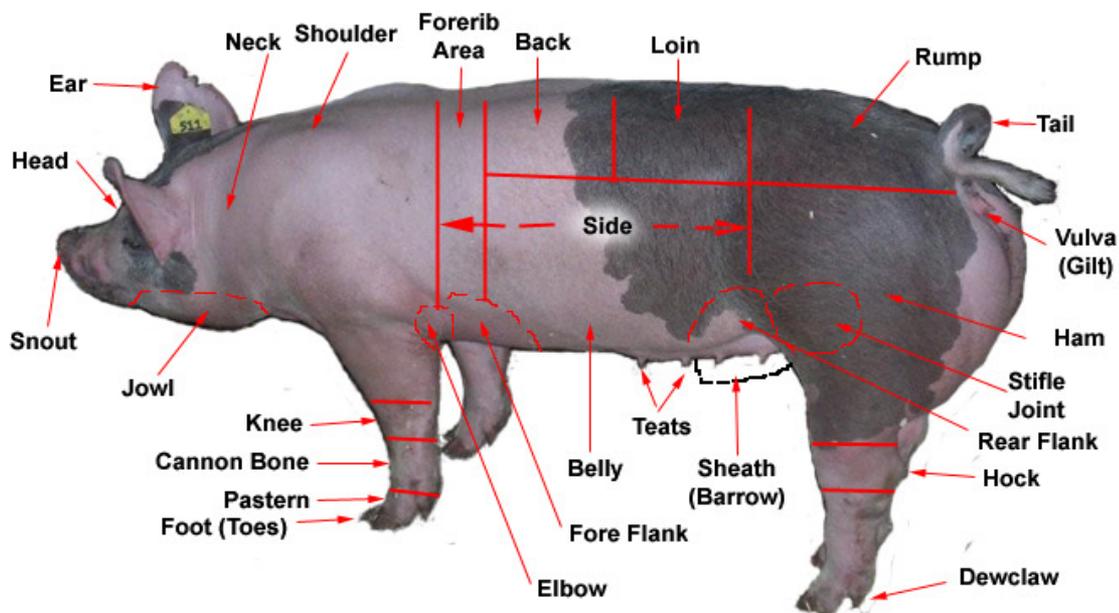
Breeding Goats

- Priorities
 - Maternal characteristics
 - Feminine
 - Smooth tight shoulder
 - Broody
 - Long clean front
 - Durable



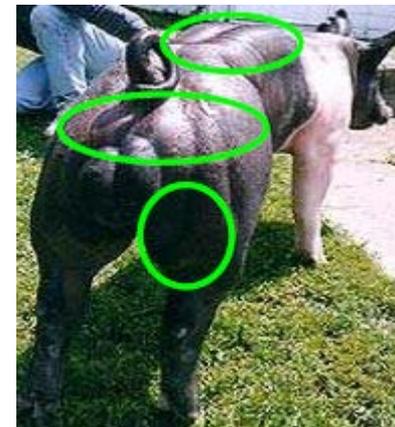
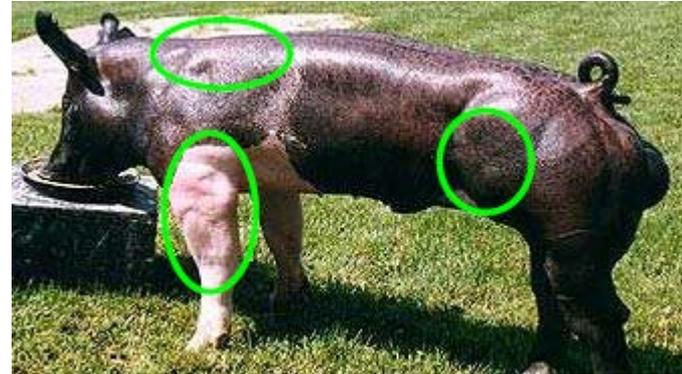
Swine

- Market hogs
 - Gilts
 - Barrows
- Breeding Swine
 - Boars
 - Gilts



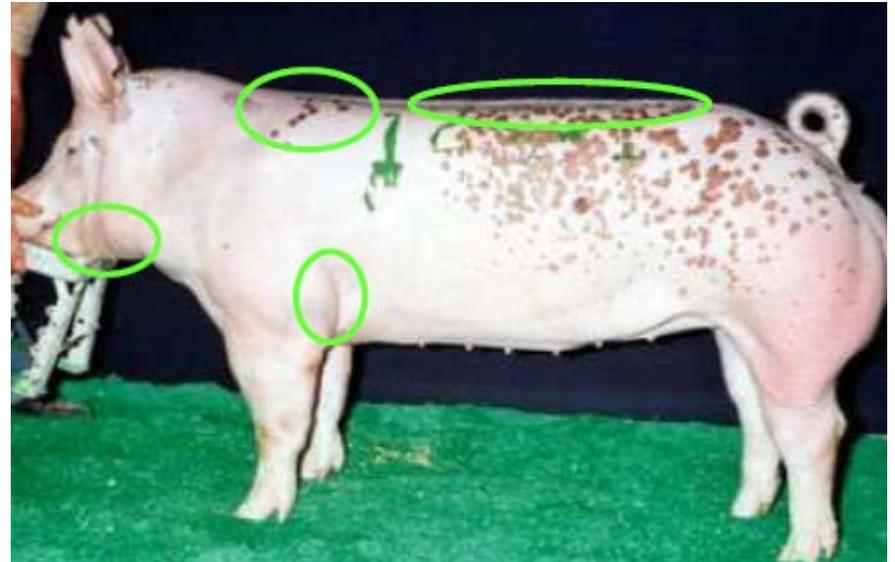
Market Hogs

- Priorities
 - Muscle Content
 - Forearm
 - Blades
 - Loin
 - Ham-Loin Junction
 - Hip
 - Stifle
 - Ham



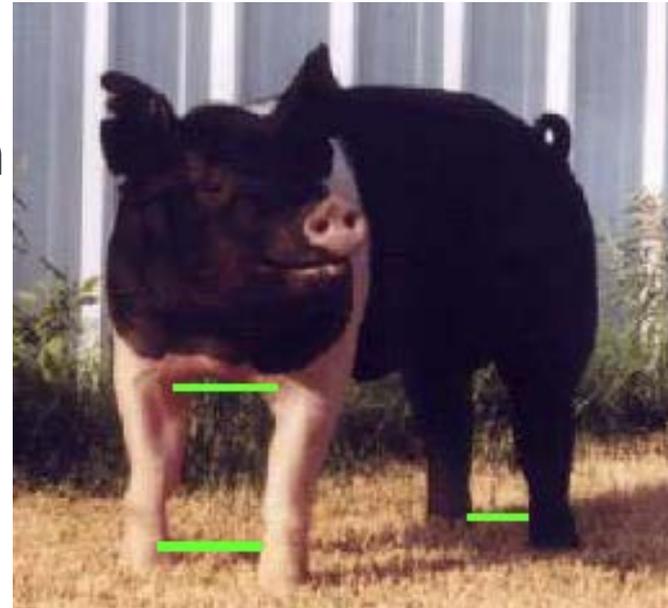
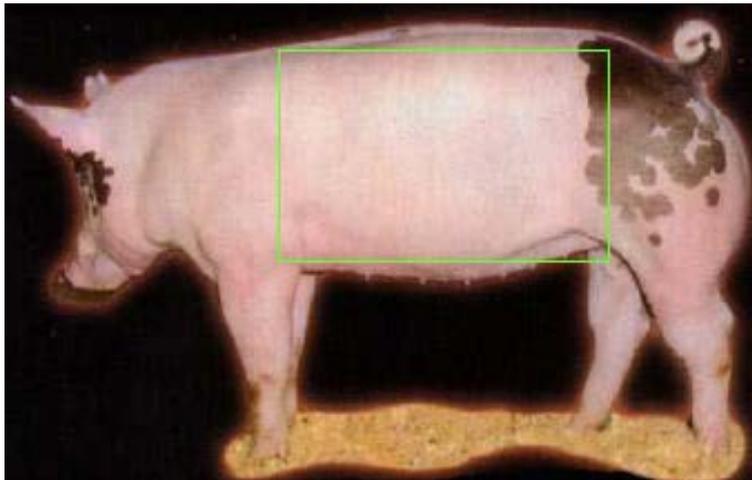
Market Hogs

- Priorities
 - Leanness
 - Jowl
 - Over blades
 - Elbow pocket
 - Loin Edge
 - Seam of Ham
 - Lower one-third of body



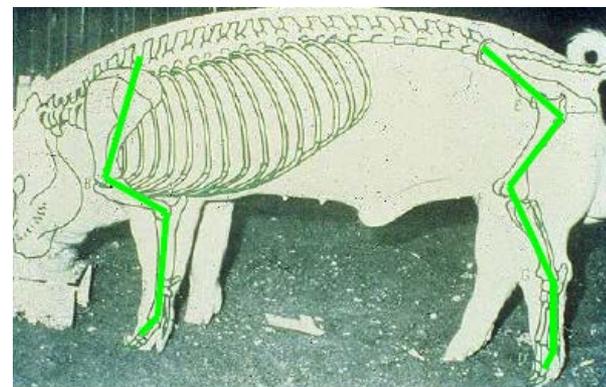
Market Hogs

- Priorities
 - Skeletal Width and Dimension
 - Chest and base width
 - Rib Shape

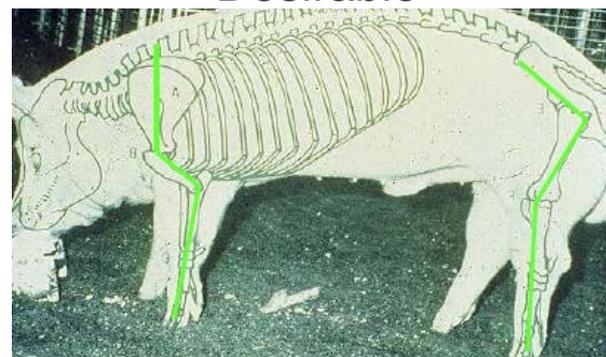


Market Hogs

- Priorities
 - Structural correctness
 - Proper angle to scapula
 - Backward set and relaxed knee design
 - Correct angle to pastern
 - Looseness of hip and hock
 - Heaviness of Structure
 - Even and Wide Foot Design



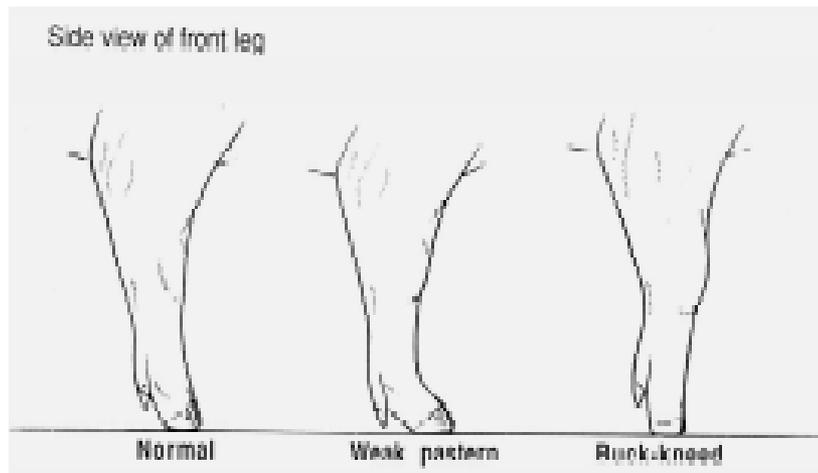
Desirable



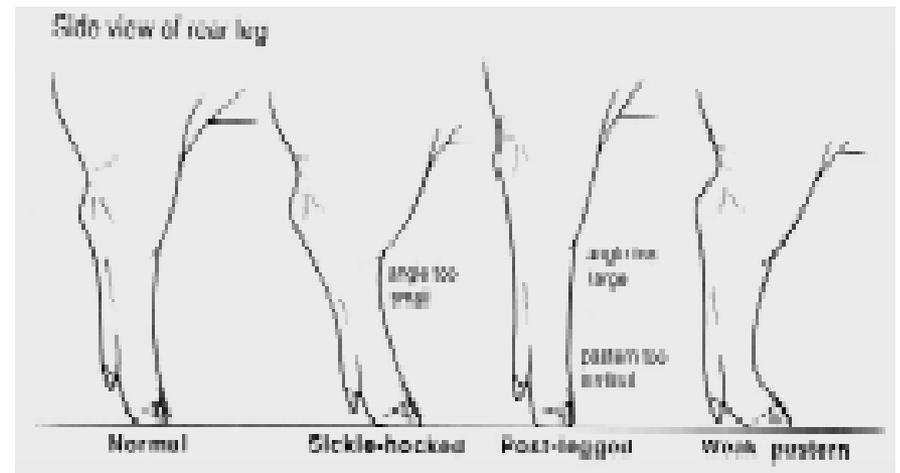
Undesirable

Market Hogs

Front Legs



Rear Legs



Market Hogs

- Balance and eye appeal
 - Proportionate
 - Level design
 - Youthful appearing
 - Hair coat and appearance



Breeding Gilts

- Priorities
 - Structural Soundness
 - Rib shape, body depth, base width
 - Adequate conditioned
 - Structurally correct
 - Growth performance
 - Genetics need to be fast growing and efficient
 - Adequate maturity
 - Adequate muscled



Breeding Gilts

- Priorities
 - Maternal characteristics
 - Vulva
 - Uprturned and adequate size
 - Underline
 - Teats should be right size and spacing (no pin nipples)
 - At least 6 on each size and they should be uniform



Note Taking

Class 1: Market Hogs 1-2-4-3

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Black-belted Gilt | Lean, Heavy Muscled |
| 2. White Barrow, erect ears | Large Framed, Big Boned |
| 3. Red Gilt, down ears | Light Muscled, Fat |
| 4. White Barrow, down ears | Small Framed, Fat, Sound |

1/2	leaner, trimmer middled fuller ham wider based carcass with more % lean	2/1	larger framed later maturing - more excess trim lacks the cutability
2/4	bigger outlined pounds heavier more production oriented heavier carcass	4/2	soundest of 4 - early maturing 1 of 2 fattest pigs
4/3	heavier muscled structurally correct	3/4	larger framed - lightest muscled 1 of 2 fattest poorest composition

Judging Classes



1



2



3



4



Placings and Reasons

My preferred alignment of the Market steers is 2341. Starting the class with a pair of heavier muscled, more complete steers, and of the pair I preferred the added advantages in expression to align him over 3. 2 is a long patterned, trimmer conditioned steer that measures longer and wider out of his hip. I appreciate the softer, more market ready look of 3 yet he also gets plainer in his design and a little courser fronted.

However despite these criticisms, 3 is a heavier muscled more correctly finished steer that has more volume and expression of muscle out of his hip and due to his external indicators suggest that he should be safer to role the choice stamp. I realize that 4 is bolder ribbed, however the Hereford is also the heaviest finished, shortest coupled steer in the class.

In my concluding pair of lighter muscled steers I still preferred the body and depth of 4. He is deeper bodied, bolder sprung steer that has a softer look and is closer to a marketable endpoint, I understand that they yellow steer is longer bodied cleaner designed, yet he is the flattest, narrowest made, lightest muscled steer in the class.

References

- www.ans.iastate.edu/clubs/judging/livestock/Basicsppt.pdf
- <http://www.unce.unr.edu/4H/programs/stem/files/pdf/LivestockJudgingManuaMissouri.pdf>
- <http://www.slideserve.com/nike/livestock-judging-reasons-are-not-all-the-same>
- a1300d-pennsylvania-4-h-livestock-judging-manual.pdf

Questions

