Evaluating
BEEFMASTER
Cattle

Beefmaster: Built for...

Heterosis  
Adaptability  
Maternal Excellence  
Your Pay Check  
Your Future

Beefmaster Breeders United
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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)
Feet & Leg Placement - Front Leg Set

Correct

Over at the Knee (Buck Kneed)

Back at the Knee (Calf Kneed)

Weak Pasterns

Bowlegged

Knocked-Kneed

Correct

Splayfooted (Toed Out)

Pigeon-Toed (Toed In)

Feet & Leg Placement - Rear Leg Set

Extremely Straight (Posty)

Correct

Extremely Curved (Sickled)

Bowlegged

Correct

Cow Hocked

Feet & Leg Placement Diagrams provided by South Dakota State University’s College of Agriculture & Biological Sciences Department of Animal & Range Sciences

Terminology for Evaluating Cattle

**Advantages**

**General**
- Stouter/Stouter Constructed; Nicer Balanced;
- Growthy/Growthier; Leveler Topped and Hipped; Eye Appealing; More Dimensional; and Cleaner Chested and Fronted

**Muscle**
- Heavier Muscled; Thicker Topped; Wider Tracking;
- Deeper Quartered; More Muscular Expression Loin/Rump/Stifle/Quarter; Wider Based; Squarer Hip;
- Squarer from Hooks to Pins; and Set Wider at Pins

**Structure**
- More Desirable Slope of Shoulder; More Angle to Shoulder; More Structurally Correct; Easier Moving;
- Freer on the Move; Squarer on Feet and Legs; More Athletic on the Move; More Flex off - Hocks/Pasterns/Both Ends; and Better Fills their Track on the Move

**Frame**
- Larger Framed; Smaller Framed; More Future Growth and Outcome; and Moderate Frame

**Volume & Capacity**
- Bolder/Wider Sprung - More Outwards Slope to Rib;
- More Spring of Fore Rib; Deeper Ribbed; Higher Volume;
- Deeper through Rear Rib of Flank; Wider Based; and Bigger Ribbed

**Condition**
- Easier Fleshing; Freer of Fat through the Lower 1/3;
- Trimmer through Brisket/Flank/Udder; More Desirable Condition; and Softer Appearing

**Breeding Cattle**

**Heifers**
- More Feminine; More Feminine through her Head, Neck and Shoulder; Smoother Blending through her Front End; Blends Smoother from Shoulder to Fore Ribs; and Cleaner in Navel or Underline

**Bulls**
- More Masculine; Tighter Sheath; More Testicular Development; More Powerful; Stouter; More Desirable Scrotal Shape; and More Correct Angle to Underline

**Criticisms**

**General**
- Needs More Size; Poorly Balanced; Lacks Growth;
- Weak Topped; Less Eye Appealing; Deep Chested; and High Flanked

**Muscle**
- Light Muscled; Narrow Topped; Narrow Tracking;
- Shallow Quartered; Narrows from Hooks to Pins;
- and Set Narrow at Pins

**Structure**
- Straight Shoulder; Structurally Incorrect; Restricted in Movement; Tight Hip; and Short Strided

**Frame**
- Smaller Framed; Larger Framed; and Lacks Growth, Less Outcome

**Volume & Capacity**
- Narrower Made; Flatter Ribbed; Less Volume; and Narrower Based

**Condition**
- Harder Fleshing; Wastier; Excessive Degree of Condition; Wasty through Brisket/Flank/Udder; and Less Condition

**Breeding Cattle**

**Heifers**
- Coarse Fronted; Short Necked; Wastier Navel; Wasty Fronted; Round Shouldered; and Thicker Necked

**Bulls**
- Refined; Loose Sheath; Less Testicular Development; Twisted Testicle; Pendulous Sheath; Wastier Sheath; Finer Boned; Small Footed; and Short Necked