

OFFICIAL RULES GOVERNING TYPE CLASSIFICATION

Brown Swiss Cattle Breeders' Association of the U.S.A.

Effective January 1, 2010

I. AUTHORIZATION & ADMINISTRATION

- A. The Brown Swiss Cattle Breeders' Association (BSCBA) has adopted a classification program which includes both Linear Descriptive and Classification Traits.
- B. The rules of this program are hereby presented and will be administered by the Secretary.
- C. In the event that an official classifier, while engaged in classifying a herd, decides to discontinue classifying and leaves before the herd classification is completed due to harassment by the owner or any of his representatives or due to any other unfavorable events or conditions under the control of the owner, such action will be reported to the Board of Directors at their next regular meeting for their consideration and such action as they may determine is needed.

II. SUPERVISION OF CLASSIFIERS

- A. The appointment of the classifiers shall be made by the Executive Secretary. In the interests of standardization, the number of classifiers shall be kept as small as is consistent with the demand for classification.
- B. No classifier shall score any cattle in which he has any pecuniary interest without special authorization. He shall have no financial dealings with the owner of the herd, and under no circumstances shall receive any remuneration from the owner of the cattle classified. The Association shall pay each classifier for his service.
- C. The Association reserves the right to set the date of classification and designate the classifier.

III. ELIGIBILITY

- A. In order to be eligible for official classification, an animal must be recorded in the **Official Herdbook or the Identity Enrollment Herdbook**, including Step I ID and Recorded Females, of the BSCBA. Owner must have completed applications and appropriate fees available for any animals with registrations pending. Tattoo numbers or other permanent ID will be checked to verify these applications.
- B. All females, which have freshened at least once and have not been previously classified after their fifth birthday, must be classified.
(Exceptions to Rule III. Section B)
 1. Should a cow be out-of-condition due to sickness, injury, or abnormal calving, the classifier may, at his discretion, withhold classification and report her condition.
 2. If, for any reason, eligible females will not be available for presentation on the day of classification, the owner shall state the facts in writing and submit them to the BSCBA. Donor dams may be exempt, but if it is desired that they be classified, it is the owner's responsibility to have the animal available, not that of the Association.
- C. **Bulls**, to be eligible, must be two years of age or older at the time of classification. The classification of bulls is optional with the owner.
- D. Should anyone suspect that not all cows have been presented at the completion of a classification, such information shall be submitted to the National Office and an investigation will then be conducted. An official representative of the Association will inspect the entire herd by tattoo number or other permanent ID and submit his findings to the Board of Directors for review and appropriate action. At their discretion, the Board may hold the herd owner liable for the costs of making such an inspection.

IV. APPLICATION

- A. Application for classification shall be made by the owner or his agent on standard forms furnished by the Association and sent to the BSCBA, 800 Pleasant Street, Beloit, Wisconsin 53511-5456.
- B. Herds enrolled in the Brown Swiss Advantage (BSA) or Production and Type Performance Registry (PTPR) Programs shall automatically be included in a group classification schedule.
- C. Herds not enrolled in the BSA/PTPR Programs shall list on an application blank all animals currently in his herd or send in DHI test sheet if on test.
- D. Applications must include all animals currently in the herd. If animals are added to the herd or qualify for classification subsequent to the filing of an application, these animals shall also be included in the classification.
- E. Before applying for classification, the owner shall make certain that the tattoo or other permanent ID of each animal listed is clearly legible and corresponds with that indicated on the Certificate of Registry. At the time of classification up to 10% of the herd may be randomly selected to check tattoos or other permanent ID's.

- F. All applications for classification (individual or group) must be on file in the Brown Swiss office at least 45 days prior to the month of classification.
- G. The owner shall agree to have the Certificate of Registry available on all animals to be classified for the classifier. The date, five breakdown scores, and final rating of all animals classified will be printed on labels to be attached to the Certificate of Registry.

V. FEES

A. Group Herd Classification

1. Herds which have enrolled in and paid for the BSA/PTPR Program will be classified once each calendar year during the regular tours conducted from March through November. No additional classification fees will be required except for bulls.
2. For herds not enrolled in the BSA/PTPR Programs, the fee shall be \$12 for each animal scored with a minimum of \$100 per herd. (There will be a minimum herd fee of \$30 for junior members.) Where a whole herd of one to three cows are taken to a neighbor's herd, the minimum herd fee will be \$50. The travel expenses for the classifier will be paid by the Association.
3. Additional expenses incurred to classify ET donor dams housed off the farm will be assessed to the owner if he requests the animal be classified.
4. Regular group classification tours shall be set up in an area or state at least once per calendar year on a 9-9-18 month interval between schedules. Herds may score an additional time in the months of December, January, or February in the year which contains the 18-month interval. Herds that choose the option to score in the December, January, or February additional tour, provided they scored the entire herd during the last regular tour, are not required to score the entire herd, but must classify all unscored females. They also have the option to score any additional cows in the herd they wish to have reevaluated at that time. For BSA/PTPR herds, the per cow fee will be \$10 and for other herds \$12 per cow (\$100 herd minimum, \$30 minimum for Juniors).
5. Fees are to accompany the completed application.

B. Special Herd Classification

1. A breeder may request a special classification to have his herd classified at a specific date outside the regular group schedule. The fees shall be a \$500 herd fee plus \$10 per head for BSA/PTPR herds and \$12 per head all other herds. There will be no additional fees for travel expenses of the classifier or per diem.
Note: Classifiers for all special classifications shall be designated by the Association. In the event that a herd owner refuses the first classifier, a second classifier will be appointed. If this classifier is also refused, an additional fee of \$250 will be added to the normal fee for a special classification.
2. A special classification arranged for a herd in an area where a group tour is planned, three months in advance of the group tour or within three months of completion of the group tour must use the same classifier, if available, as used for the group tour. The breeder will have no right of refusal.
3. The initial classification of a herd may be performed at a time other than the specified tour dates for that area if economically feasible at the standard group rate.

C. Foreign Classification

The fees for foreign classifications will be \$12 per cow (\$100 minimum) plus travel expenses and per diem for the classifier.

D. Export Classification

Animals being exported and dams or sires of animals being exported may be classified on an individual basis. Fees for such classification shall be \$50 for the first animal and \$10 for each additional animal at one location, plus the classifier's expenses.

E. Multiple "E" Special Classification

Females at least ten years of age and eligible for Multiple "E" may be scored on an individual basis without special classification of the entire herd. Fees are \$50 for the first animal and \$10 for each additional animal at one location, plus the classifier's expenses.

F. Classification at a show

1. Must be scheduled by prior arrangement to occur during the regular tour in that area.
2. The entire milking herd must be at the show and presented to the classifier

1. STATURE

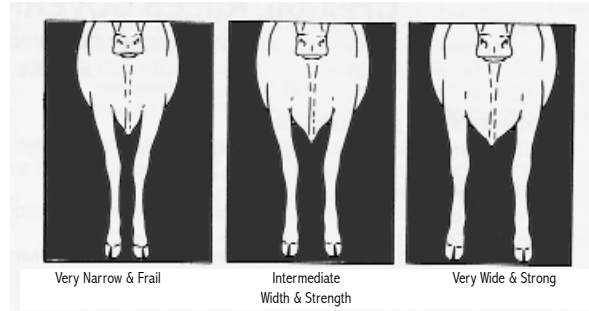
Measures height at the hips. For each 1" change from 56"(= 5 points) the point assignment shall change by 1.

1-Very Short 52" 3-Short 54" 5-Intermediate Height 56" 7-Tall 58" 9-Very Tall 60"

2. STRENGTH (Chest & Body)

Measures chest depth and width, heart girth, and bone mass in relation to the rest of the cow.

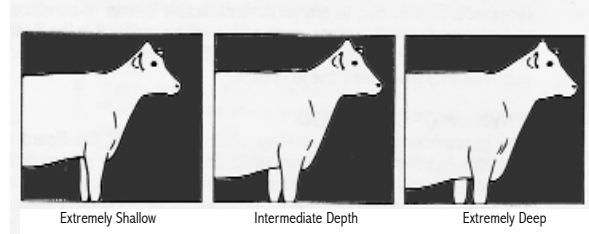
- 1 - Very narrow & frail
- 3 - Narrow & frail
- 5 - Intermediate width & strength
- 7 - Wide & strong
- 9 - Very wide & strong



3. BODY DEPTH

Measures overall depth primarily at the ribcage in relation to the rest of the cow.

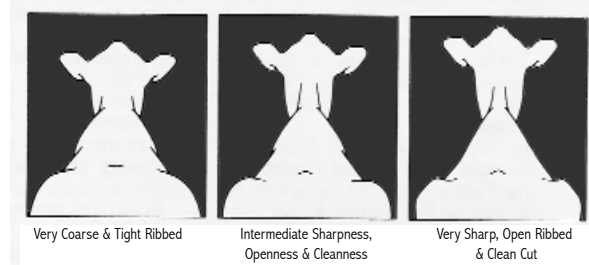
- 1 - Extremely shallow
- 3 - Shallow
- 5 - Intermediate depth
- 7 - Deep
- 9 - Extremely deep



4. DAIRY FORM

Structure includes evidence of milking ability, including cleanness, sharpness, openness of rib, flatness of bone, and length of neck.

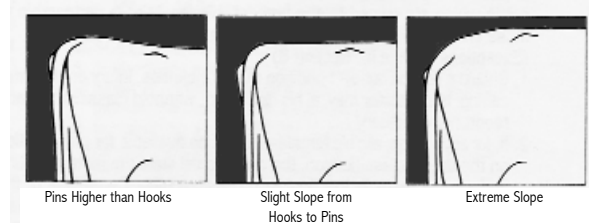
- 1 - Very coarse & tight ribbed
- 3 - coarse & tight ribbed
- 5 - Intermediate sharpness, openness, & cleanness
- 7 - Sharp, open ribbed, & clean cut
- 9 - Very sharp, open ribbed, & clean cut



5. RUMP ANGLE (Side View)

Measures the degree of slope from hooks to pins.

- 1 - Pins higher than hooks - 2" reverse slope
- 3 - Pins level with hooks
- 5 - Slight slope from hooks to pins - 2" slope
- 7 - Moderate slope - 4" slope
- 9 - Extreme slope - 6" slope



6. THURL WIDTH

Measures the width of thurls in relation to the rest of the cow.

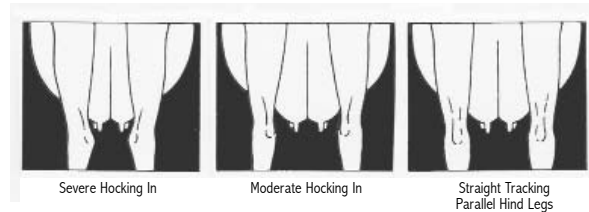
- 1 - Extremely narrow at thurls
- 3 - Slightly narrow at thurls
- 5 - Intermediate width at thurls
- 7 - Moderately wide at thurls
- 9 - Extremely wide at thurls



7. REAR LEGS (Rear View)

Scored as the animal walks or stands.

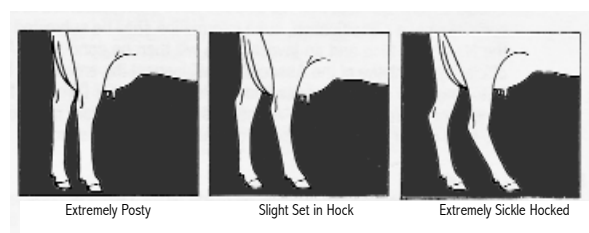
- 1 - Severe hocking in
- 4 - Considerable hocking in
- 6 - Moderate hocking in
- 8 - Straight tracking, parallel hind legs
- 9 - Slight hocking out



8. REAR LEGS (Side View)

Scores the amount of set of the leg.

- 1 - Extremely posty
- 3 - Nearly straight in hock
- 5 - Slight set in hock
- 7 - Moderate set in hock
- 9 - Extremely sickle hocked

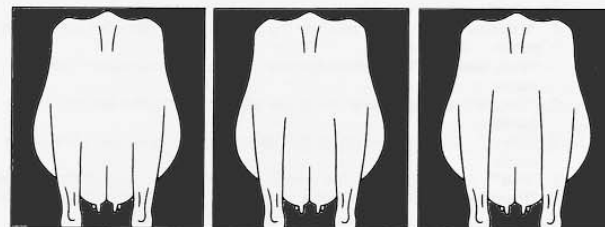




Extremely Low Angle & Extremely Shallow Heel Intermediate Angle & Average Depth of Heel Extremely Steep Angle & Extremely Deep Heel



Extremely Loose, Weak or Broken Attachment Strong Attachment Extremely Tight & Strongly Attached



Extremely Low Intermediate Height Extremely High



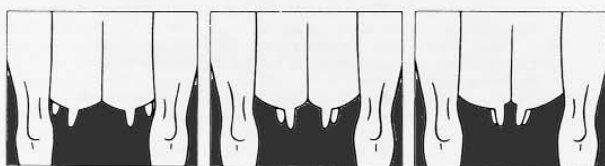
Extremely Narrow Intermediate Width Extremely Wide



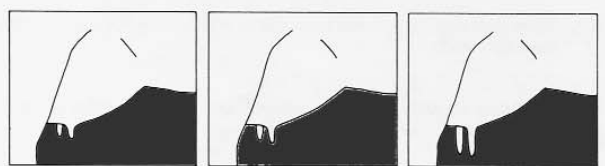
Negative Cleft, Broken Support Defined Halving and Cleft Extremely Deep Cleft



Extremely Deep - Below Hock Slightly Above Hock Extremely High - Shallow



Base of Front Teats Extremely Wide Placement Slightly Towards Outside Base of Teats Extremely Close



Extremely Short Intermediate Length Extremely Long

9. FOOT ANGLE

Measured on the first inch down from the hair line ($3^0 = 1$ point).

- 1 - Extremely low angle - 33^0
- 3 - Moderately low angle - 39^0
- 5 - Intermediate angle - 45^0
- 7 - Moderately steep angle - 51^0
- 9 - Extremely steep angle - 57^0

10. FORE UDDER ATTACHMENT

Measures strength of attachment of the fore udder to the body wall.

- 1 - Extremely loose, weak, or broken
- 3 - Very loose, weak
- 5 - Strong attachment
- 7 - Very strongly attached
- 9 - Extremely tight & strongly attached

11. REAR UDDER HEIGHT

Measured at the top of secretory tissue in relation to the mid-point of the pins and the point of the hock.

- 1 - Extremely low
- 3 - Low
- 5 - Intermediate height (2" above the midpoint)
- 7 - High
- 9 - Extremely high

12. REAR UDDER WIDTH

Measured at the top of the crease between the leg and udder.

- 1 - Extremely narrow - $4\frac{1}{2}$ "
- 3 - Narrow - 6"
- 5 - Intermediate width - $7\frac{1}{2}$ "
- 7 - Wide - 9"
- 9 - Extremely wide - $10\frac{1}{2}$ "

13. UDDER CLEFT

Measures the depth of cleft of the udder ($\frac{1}{3}$ " per point).

- 1 - Negative cleft, broken support
- 2 - Flat
- 3 - Slight cleft - $\frac{1}{3}$ "
- 5 - Defined halving & cleft - 1"
- 7 - Deep cleft - $1\frac{2}{3}$ "
- 9 - Extremely deep cleft - $2\frac{1}{3}$ "

14. UDDER DEPTH

Measured from the point of hock as viewed from the rear in relation to the floor of the udder (1" per point).

- 1 - Extremely deep - below hock - 2" below
- 3 - Level with the hock
- 5 - Slightly above hock - 2" above
- 7 - Floor well above hock - 4" above
- 9 - Extremely high - shallow - 6" above

15. TEAT PLACEMENT (Rear View)

Measures placement of front teats on the quarter.

- 1 - Base of front teats extremely wide
- 3 - Placement moderately toward outside (wide)
- 5 - Placement slightly toward outside
- 6 - Centrally placed
- 7 - Placement slight toward inside (close)
- 9 - Base of teats extremely close

16. TEAT LENGTH

From average of $2\frac{1}{4}$ ", a $\frac{1}{4}$ " change adjusts score 2 points.

- 1 - Extremely short - $\frac{3}{4}$ "
- 3 - Moderately short - $1\frac{1}{2}$ "
- 5 - Intermediate length - $2\frac{1}{4}$ "
- 7 - Moderately long - 3"
- 9 - Extremely long - $3\frac{3}{4}$ "

VI. RECLASSIFICATION

- A. No herd or individual cow shall be reclassified within three months of the previous classification.
- B. All cows previously classified must be presented for reclassification unless their last classification occurred at 5 years of age or over.
- C. Cows previously classified may be passed if they are dry or were previously classified in their current lactation.

VII. LINEAR DESCRIPTIVE TYPE TRAITS

- A. Pictorial description and scale of linear type traits are presented in the center two pages of this brochure.
- B. Standards for linear descriptive type traits. Each trait is scored on a scale of 1 to 9.
- C. No consideration shall be given for age of animal nor stage of lactation.
- D. Management Trait - supplied by breeder, data not publishable; used only for sire evaluation.
 1. Milking Speed: scored on a scale of 1 to 8.
1 = slow 8 = fast

VIII. SUPPLEMENTAL TRAITS

- A. When applicable the following faults will be indicated.
 1. Strutting teats.
 2. Tailhead high or coarse.
 3. Weak loin.
 4. Close at hock.
 5. Udder Tilt

IX. CLASSIFICATION TRAITS

- A. There are five classification breakdown traits as described in the Brown Swiss Dairy Cow Score Card. Each trait is given a numerical score between 50 and 99 points and a corresponding rating as listed in section X.A. Each breakdown trait will be weighted as indicated in parenthesis in determining Final Score. Consideration can be given for age of animal and stage of lactation.
 1. **Strength and Substance (15)**
 2. **Dairy Quality (15)**
 3. **Rump (10)**
 4. **Mobility (20)**
 5. **Udder System (40)**
- B. Final Score - will reflect the degree to which the animal approaches the optimum expression of the five breakdown traits. The final score will be calculated from the numeric value traits weighted as above.
- C. **Bulls** will be scored for the following breakdown traits with weighting in parenthesis. Strength and Substance (25), Dairy Quality (25), Rump (20) and Mobility (30). They will also be scored for the first 9 linear traits.

X. CLASSIFICATION STANDARDS

- A. The Final Score is numerical and will be categorized according to the following standards:
 1. **"Excellent"** - Animals which score 90 to 94 points.
 2. **"Very Good"** - Animals which score 85 to 89 points.
 3. **"Good Plus"** - Animals which score 80 to 84 points.
 4. **"Good"** - Animals which score 75 to 79 points.
 5. **"Fair"** - Animals which score 65 to 74 points.
 6. **"Poor"** - Animals which score 60 to 64 points.
- B. Maximum Score:
 1. First lactation "V89"
 2. Second lactation "E91"
 3. Third lactation "E93"
- C. Requirements for 93 & 94 point cows:
 1. For a cow to score "E93"
 - a. Must be third lactation or later
 - b. Must be milked out
 - c. Must be walked
 2. For a cow to score "E94"
 - a. Must be currently scored "E93"
 - b. Must be in at least fourth lactation
 - c. Must be different lactation than when scored "E93"
 - d. Must be different classifier than when scored "E93"
 - e. Must be milked out
 - f. Must be walked
 - g. Before final score is official, classifier must call the office as soon as practical, to verify the cow is eligible to be "E94". Inform the owner the score is unofficial until the office calls him verifying approval of final score.
- D. Cows become permanent on the first score after their fifth birthday.
- E. Dry cows are not scored unless they have no previous classification or are eligible for another multiple "E"

XI. MULTIPLE EXCELLENT PROGRAM

The "Multiple Excellent" program recognizes cows that remain "Excellent" in Final Score to an advanced age. Each additional multiple "E" requires an additional lactation from the previous "E".

- A. A cow classified "Excellent" for the first time shall be designated "E". Minimum 2nd lactation.
- B. An "E" cow which is reclassified and retains her "E" rating shall be designated a "2E" cow. Minimum age - 5 years.
- C. A "2E" cow which is reclassified and retains her "E" rating shall be designated a "3E" cow. Minimum age - 9 years.
- D. A "3E" cow which is reclassified and retains her "E" rating shall be designated a "4E" cow. Minimum age - 12 years.
- E. A "4E" cow which is reclassified and retains her "E" rating shall be designated a "5E" cow. Minimum age - 15 years.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS RULES AND TERMS

- A. In classifying a cow with a defective quarter when the opposite half of the udder is normal, if the defective quarter is definitely the result of injury or disease, the cow is not to be penalized.
- B. In classifying a cow with one or more quarters admittedly defective at the time of first calving, the udder rating shall be at least one category below that which the cow would receive if the quarter were normal.
- C. If it is evident that a cow was born with only three teats or with two teats grown together, such cows are to be classified "Poor" in Udder.
- D. **Bulls** born with only one testicle shown are to be classified "Poor" for Final Score.
- E. When applicable, the following conditions and miscellaneous traits are used and will be reported with the classification rating.

10 Dry	20 Small	37 Coarse Hock
11 Stale	22 Low Front	42 Thurls Too Far Back
12 Abnormal Calving	25 Blindness	43 Narrow Pins
13 Blemished Udder	30 Front Feet Toe Out	50 Short Fore Udder
14 Congested Udder	32 Shallow Heel	56 Chronic Edema
15 Out of Condition	35 Weak Pasterns	61 Teats Close on Side
16 Springing	36 Crampy	62 Undesirable Teat Shape

XIII. RESEARCH DATA COLLECTION

The collection of data on Oxytocin Use and Udder Quality is for research purposes, all data will be strictly confidential, and individual cow data or herd data will not be published in any form. For each cow, the classifier will ask if the cow was given oxytocin on a regular basis during her most recent lactation and will ask the owner to rank the udder quality.

OXYTOCIN USAGE:

- 0 or blank = No
1 = Yes
9 = Don't know

UDDER QUALITY STANDARD:

- 1 - Meaty
2 - Thick & Hard
3 - Somewhat Coarse
4 - Slightly Coarse
5 - Fairly Pliable
6 - Soft & Silky
7 - Very Pliable
8 - Completely Collapsible

XIV. ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES

- A. The classification of each animal evaluated shall be permanently recorded in the office of the BSCBA. The date of classification, five breakdown traits, and Final Score will be available to be applied to the animal's Certificate of Registry.
- B. A Classification Cow Summary for each herd is printed at the time of classification. After an animal is scored the ratings shall be used in Sire Performance Summaries.
- C. Registration certificates submitted to the National Office for cancellation received prior to or at the time of classification will be eliminated from the herd averages. The scores will be used for sire summaries and the normal fee charged.

XV. Any infractions or violations of the Classification Rules will be reported to the Board of Directors for action.

XVI. Matters not covered by these rules will be administered by the Secretary of the Association.

The Brown Swiss Cattle Breeders' Association of the U.S.A.

800 Pleasant Street, Beloit, Wisconsin 53511-5456
Phone: (608) 365-4474 Fax: (608) 365-5577