

Cattle Round Robin Questions

General Information:

1. What do you call an intact adult male bovine called? An adult female? A baby?
(Bull, cow, calf)
2. A castrated male bovine?
(steer)
3. What are the main products that cattle are raised for?
(meat, milk)
4. What is a group of cattle called?
(herd)
5. What is product made from the hide of cattle?
(leather)
6. Name the four compartments of the stomach.
(rumen, reticulum, omasum and abomasum)
7. What is a Latin name for cattle?
(Bos Taurus)
8. What is the polled trait in cattle?
(an inherited gene that suppresses horns)

Beef

1. Name 3 common large breeds of beef cattle?
(Angus, Hereford, Charlois, Limousin, Simmental, Shorthorn, Highland)
2. What is the type of meat that comes from cattle?
(beef)
3. What part of the beef is used to make hamburger?
(the chuck, any trimmings from all cuts of beef)
4. About how many pounds of grain would you feed a steer for every 100 pounds of weight?

(about 2.5 pounds)

5. Where do the most expensive cuts of beef come from?
(loin, rib, round, rump)
6. What percentage of protein should the grain be for cattle?
(12-16%)
7. What is the importance of marbling?
(Flavor and juiciness)

Dairy

1. Name 3 common breeds of dairy cattle.
(Jersey, Guernsey, Brown Swiss, Holstein)
2. An inflammation of the mammary gland results in?
(Mastitis)
3. What milk component is most important for cheese?
(Protein)
4. Which breed of common Dairy cattle produce the highest butterfat content?
(Jersey)
5. What is a condition that occurs in high producing dairy cattle that is caused by low blood calcium?
(milk fever)

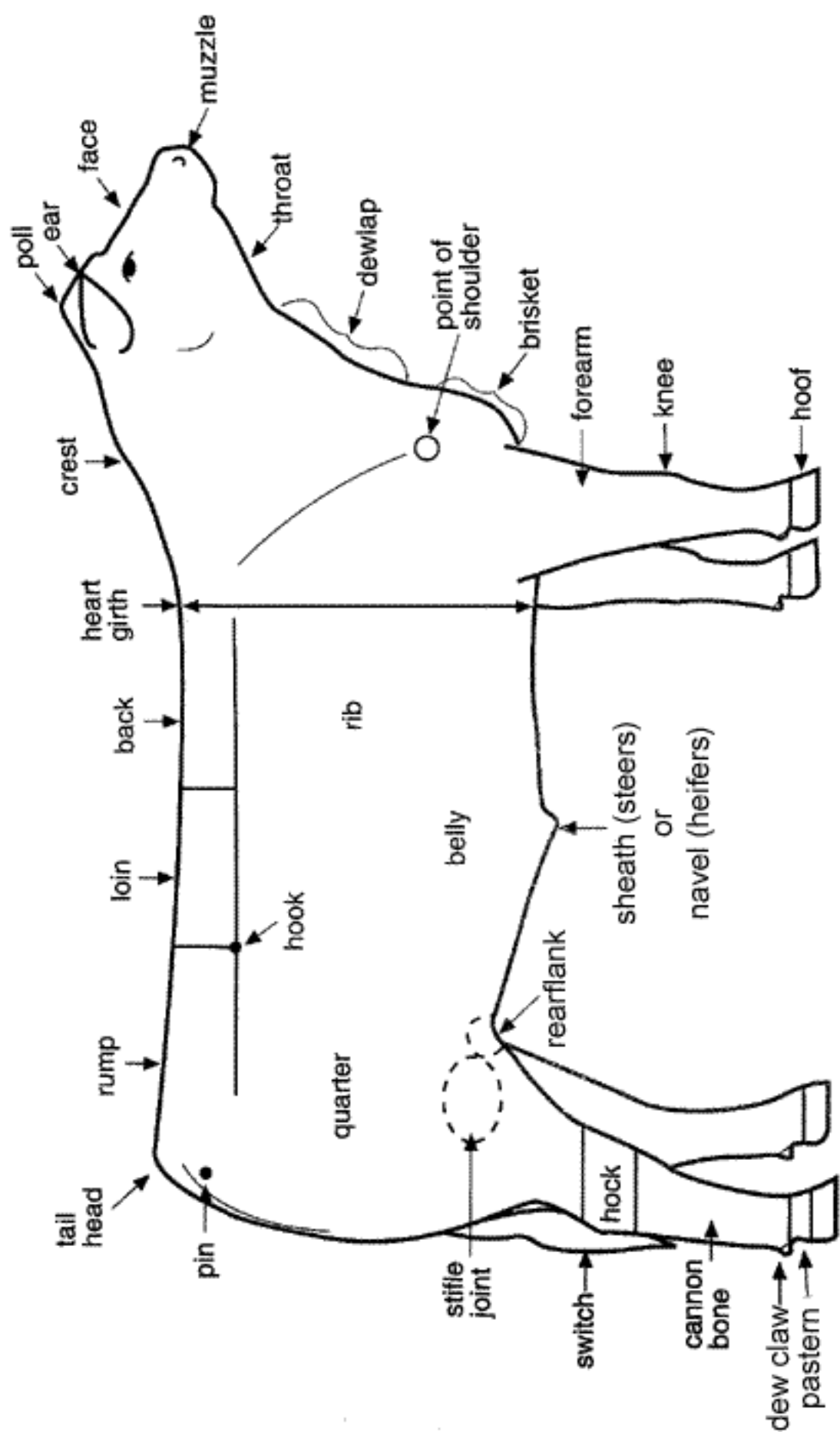
Breeding, Care, Health:

1. What is the gestation period of a cow?
(285 days / 9 months, 7 days)
2. What are ear tags for?
(identification of individual cattle in a herd)
3. Name the most important nutrient for all types of cattle?
(water)

4. What percentage of protein should the grain be for cattle?
(12---16%)
5. What is a freemartin?
(a female calf that is born as a twin with a male and is sterile as a result of exposure to hormones produced by the male.)
6. The average estrus cycle length in cattle is?
(21 days)
7. What is the average temperature of cattle?
(101.5)

Diseases and Health:

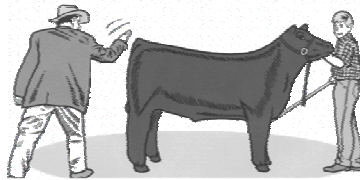
1. What might cause scratching, rubbing, loss of hair, and weight loss?
(Lice)
2. What disorder is characterized by gas distention in the rumen seen on the animal's left side?
(Bloat)
3. What is the cause of White Muscle Disease?
(Lack of selenium and/or vitamin E)
4. What is a contagious skin disease of cattle?
(ringworm, warts)
5. Name a reproductive disease that causes abortions?
(leptospirosis, brucellosis, vibriosis)
6. Name two diseases, which cause the greatest losses in young calves?
(pneumonia and scours)



BEEF CATTLE SHOWMANSHIP

Celina R. Johnson and Brett Kaysen
Colorado State University

Showmanship is more than entering the show arena during the fair or livestock show! It includes all the hard work that exhibitors put into their project from the day they purchase their animal. Showmanship is defined as the ability to present your animal to the best of its genetic ability. Many factors enter into the equation for a successful showman, including proper nutrition, halter-breaking, and daily care and grooming. All the hard work done throughout the project will pay off on show day!



At Home Training:

Successful showman start early! Showmanship begins the day you purchase your calf. Halter-breaking and leading need to be taught early to ensure that your animal is ready for the show. If you are bringing in your calf from an outside source, give your animal time to adjust to the new surroundings. Spend time with the calf initially, to get the calf used to you. A good way to do this is during feeding, just sit or stand in the pen while your animal eats. Here are some helpful hints to assist the gentling and halter-breaking process:




- Start halter-breaking early!
- Rope halters are generally the easiest for people to use. However, most rope halters do not sufficiently relieve the pressure under the chin. You may want to modify your halter so that the lead slides easily and will quickly relieve pressure under the chin.
- Adjust the halter so that the nose piece is about 2 inches below the eye. (see picture)
- Use a small pen (approximately 8' x 8') initially. This will prevent the calf from ever escaping you as the handler, even if the lead is lost. Gradually move to larger pens (if available) as your calf is leading better.
- You can let the calf drag the lead for a couple of days to let them be accustomed to pressure on the lead and giving to it. However, do not leave the halter on the calf indefinitely, as the animal's skin can develop sores.
- When you tie up the calf initially, tie them at their chin height. This minimizes the amount of force they have to pull back and will minimize the chance for a broken halter. While the calf is tied up (for no longer than 15-20 minutes), brush the calf and allow the calf to get used to you. **NEVER LEAVE A TIED ANIMAL UNATTENDED!!!**



- When leading the calf for the first few times – lead them somewhere they want to go, such as food or water.
- When leading, as soon as your calf takes a step in the direction you want it to go, relax the lead and reward the animal with relief of the pressure. Constant pulling will de-sensitize your calf and the calf will become stubborn. Animals respond to a reward system.
- Once the calf is leading and comfortable with being tied up – you can begin the rinsing process and other daily grooming needs for the animal. For more information, see the Colorado State University Fact Sheet - "Successful Fitting and Grooming of Beef Cattle"
- Successful showmanship also involves the proper feeding and care of your project animal. For more information on nutrition, refer to Colorado State University Manual – "Feeding Market Beef".
- Remember – PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT! Introduce your animal to the show stick and show halter well in advance of your show. Your animal needs to be trained how to set its feet up properly and walk with a show halter.

Setting your animals feet:

Your job as a showman is to present your animal to the best of its ability. Setting up the feet properly will allow your animal to look its best! The following series of pictures demonstrate the proper setting up of feet.

Front View of the Animal		
		
Too close The animal appears narrow through the chest floor.	Just right Enhances the animal's natural volume and capacity.	Too wide Appears unnatural and unbalanced
When setting up the front feet – use your own foot as a "brake" when asking the front foot to move forward or use your own foot to push the front foot back (less distracting than trying to maneuver the show stick). With enough practice your animal will almost set themselves up!		

Rear View of the Animal



Too close

The animal appears narrow and the stance detracts from the natural muscling. Also, the feet are not quite square, which enhances the narrowness.



Just right

Enhances the animal's natural muscling and base width.



Too wide

Appears unnatural and unbalanced

When setting up the rear feet – use your show stick point to push the feet back, and the hook to pull the foot forward. With enough practice your animal will almost set themselves up!

Side View of the Animal



Too close

The animal appears short sided and structurally incorrect.



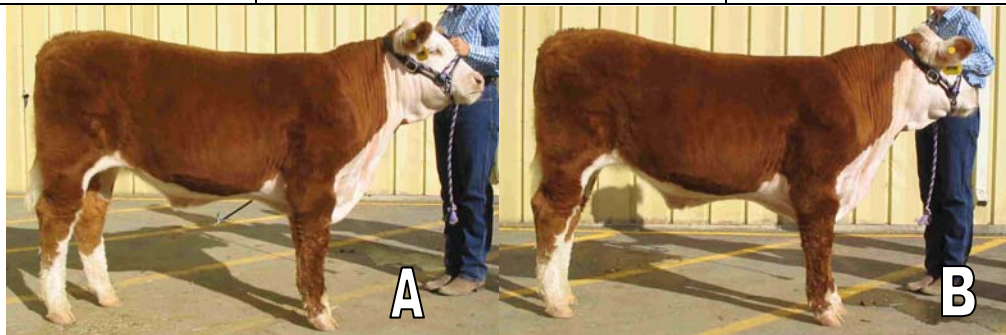
Just right

Enhances the animal's balance and eye appeal.



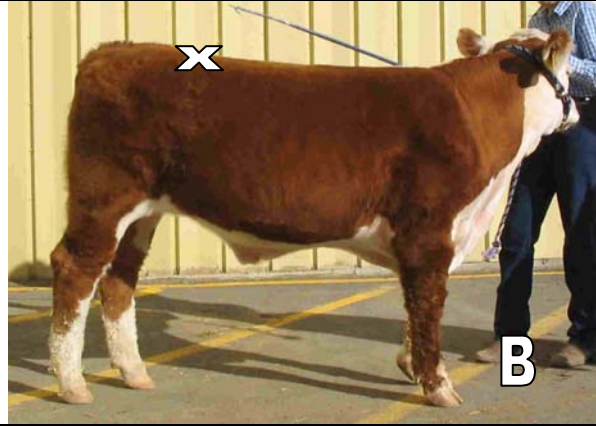
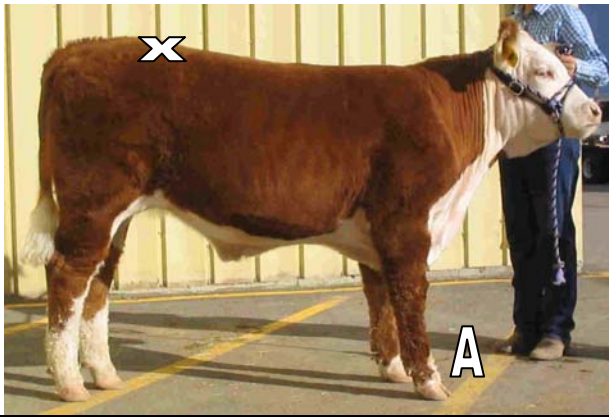
Stretched

Appears unnatural and unbalanced, can cause the animal to appear weak down its top.



When setting your animal up on a side view (or profile), you may either offset the hind legs slightly (A) or set the animal up square (B). If you offset the hind legs, make sure the side closest to the judge is slightly back and the side furthest from the judge is slightly forward. By offsetting the legs, some animals will appear more level down their top and out their hip.

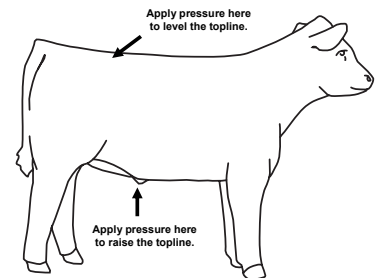
Adjusting the topline ("loining")



Note the calf in photo A – he is round out his hip and slightly hunched. By applying pressure on the loin (denoted with "X"), the calf's loin will drop, providing the illusion of leveling out his hip (photo B).

Additional Uses of the Show Stick:

- When walking your animal, the show stick should be in your left hand with the point down for safety and the lead in your right hand. When you pull into a line, smoothly switch the show stick to your right hand and the lead to your left hand. In the line up, your left hand should be closest to the animal's head.
- Calm the animal: many animals enjoy being "scratched" with the show stick. When you first pull your animal into line and switch the lead and show stick, calmly scratch your animal's belly or brisket (if the belly is sensitive) a couple of times prior to setting up the feet. This gives your animal a chance to relax in line before you start setting up feet.
- Adjust the topline ("loining"): if your calf is weak down its top, apply pressure (carefully, not to upset the animal) to the navel sheath. If your animal is slightly hunched over the top, apply pressure over the loin with the hook of the show stick to bring the top down.
- Control: if your animal is nervous and rushing around the arena, you can use the show stick to gently tap your calf on the nose to slow it down. If your calf is not moving forward and no one is around to help you, gently tap your animal on the rear with the show stick to encourage the animal to move forward.



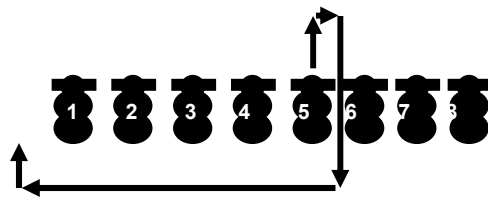
The Scotch Comb:

The scotch comb should be carried in your back pocket or in a leather holder that attaches to your belt. Carry the comb so the teeth point towards you, to prevent injury to someone else if you are bumped. The purpose of carrying the comb is to allow you to re-groom your animal if the hair gets messed up (either by the judge handling the animal or by another animal).

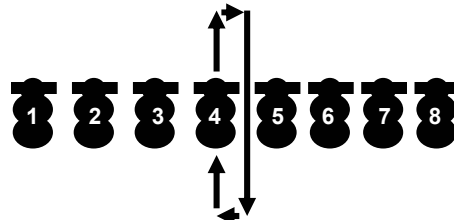
bumping it). Remember – showmanship is about presenting your animal to it's best ability. A good rule of thumb for when the judge handles your animal is to wait until the judge starts to move to the next animal to re-groom the hair.

Showtime!

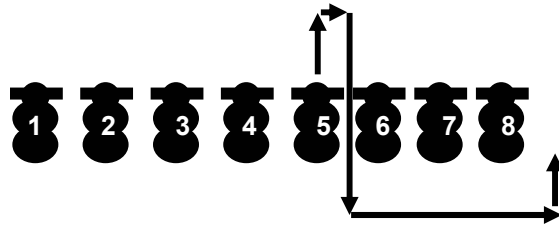
- Inspect the show ring for high and low spots. If you want to present your animal to the best of its ability, you don't want to inadvertently have your animal in a low spot during the show.
- Dress neatly. Professionalism is essential for successful showmanship skills. Ideal clothing includes neatly pressed button down shirt or polo shirt, tucked in to either pressed jeans or slacks. Boots or similar type heavy shoes need to be worn for safety reasons. Hats should not be worn in showmanship competitions.
- Enter the show ring promptly when your class is called. You will need to make sure that you have:
 - Exhibitor number
 - Show stick
 - Leather show halter on your animal
 - Scotch comb
- If you are not in the first class – try to watch the class ahead of you to see what the judge likes or dislikes.
- Judges ring procedure may vary from judge to judge. If you are first in line, pay attention to the ring stewards and the judge to ensure that you are lining up where the judge wants you to. The following series of diagrams demonstrate the proper techniques to change positions in a line.



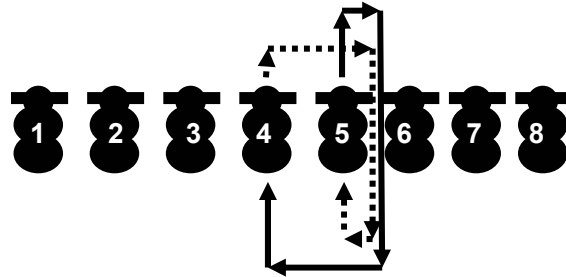
- To move you animal to the front of the line – lead out at least one animal body length, turn across the front of your animal, lead back through the line at least one animal body length and proceed to the front of the line.



- To realign your animal in a position – again lead your animal out at least one animal body length, turn across the front of your animal, lead past the line at least one body length, and return to line.



- To move you animal to the end of the line – lead out at least one animal body length, turn across the front of your animal, lead back through the line at least one animal body length and proceed to the end of the line.



- To switch positions – the lower placing animal (in this case #5) would lead out first (solid line), with the higher placing animal (#4) following. Allow at least one animal length between the animals at all times.
- Be aware! In the show ring, you need to be aware of your surroundings, not just your animal. Be aware of the exhibitors around you, the judge, and the ring steward. Many judges and ring stewards use hand signals to direct exhibitors around the arena, if you are not paying attention, you may miss the signal and miss the opportunity to place higher in the class!!!
- Practice good ring etiquette and sportsmanship at all times. If another exhibitor's animal stops in front of you while walking, assist the exhibitor as best you can. In a head to tail or profile lineup, if more than two animal spaces are vacated in front of you, move your animal forward to assist the judge in evaluating the class. Never purposely block the judge's view of other animals. However if your animal is the one hidden, you will need to move your animal so that it can be seen. Remember to always treat other exhibitors how you would like to be treated yourself – courteously!

▼ Fitting and Showing Dairy Cattle

Preparing the Dairy Calf for Show Day

1. Select your show calf at least three months before the show. Begin halter breaking and put the calf on a feed program to make your calf look its best. Animals that go off-feed before a show will look gaunt and not show well.
2. Get the animal out of the hot sun and control flies six weeks before the show. Keep heifers inside during the day and outside at night.
3. Wash the animal several weeks before the show. This will help remove the dead/dull hair. Don't wash it too often. Washing can cause the hair to be dry. Rinse thoroughly. Left over soap will appear as dandruff.
4. Clean the ears to remove the wax buildup, use rubbing alcohol and then baby oil.
5. Always brush dairy cattle with a rubber curry, or long bristle comb, never a steel curry. Brush animal for three to four weeks before the show.
6. Don't comb the switch until one week before the show. Avoid pulling the hair out of the switch.
7. Add ½ cup of molasses to each pail of water for four to five days before the show, so they will not go off water.
8. Avoid getting the animal over conditioned. Dairy cattle that get patchy do not show as well, and may be faulted.

A. Appearance of the Calf (see general appearance of all animals)

1. **Cleanliness** (*see beef calves*)
2. **Grooming Dairy Calves** (*see beef calves*)
3. **Clipping Dairy Calves** (*see beef calves*)
 - Clip the head, neck, ears, tail, udder (on cows) and elsewhere clipped as needed. Begin

clipping at the point of shoulder to the top of neck. Blend all clipper lines.

- Clip hair inside and outside the ears
- Clip front and rear legs to give the appearance of greater flatness of bone and to remove stains.
- Trim toplines to improve straightness.
- Withers are clipped to a sharp point to improve angularity.
- Clip the tail from about 4 inches above the long hairs of the switch and blend into the tailhead where the tail lies between the pinbone.
- Body clipping is acceptable, however do not body clip from October through April in North Dakota.
- Each breed may be different so check breed manual for other clipping instructions.
- Trim the hooves at least two weeks before the show, if needed.

4. Condition and Thriftiness

Condition and thriftiness, showing normal growth, being neither over conditioned or too thin.

B. Showmanship in the Ring (see all animals)

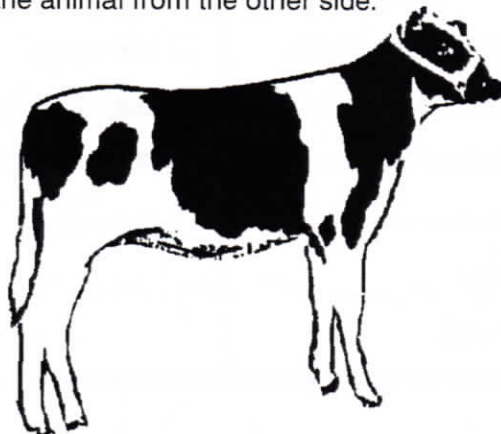
1. Leading

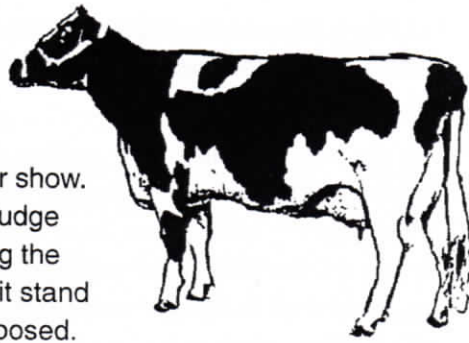
- Use a halter of the right type for showing dairy cattle, fitting properly and placed correctly on the animal. The nose band needs to fit across the bridge of the nose midway between the eyes and the muzzle. A leather halter with leather or chain lead is preferred in the show-ring. Train the calf using nylon or like rope.
- Enter the ring walking forward and leading at natural pace around the ring in a clockwise direction. Walk opposite the head on the left side, holding the lead strap with the right hand quite close to the halter. Hold the strap neatly, but naturally (not coiled), gathered in one or both hands.

- Holding close to the halter or with the hand inside the halter ensures a more secure control of an animal.
- As the judge studies your animal, the preferred method of leading is walking backwards slowly, facing the animal. Hold the lead strap in the left hand with the remainder of it neatly, but naturally, gathered in one or both hands. At all other times, walk facing forward at a quicker pace. When given the signal to pull into line, move quickly to that position in the ring. Lead at a comfortable pace with the animal's head held high enough for impressive style, attractive carriage and graceful walk.
- Position the animal with the halter as much as possible. You can apply pressure on the lead strap and shoulder point to back the animal.

2. Posing in the Ring

- When posing and showing an animal stay on the animal's left side. Stand faced at an angle to the animal in a position far enough away to see the stance of her feet and her topline.
- Pose the animal with the front feet squarely placed. The hind leg nearest the judge is posed slightly behind the other one when showing heifers or bulls. The hind leg nearest the judge needs to be far enough ahead to allow the judge to see both the fore and rear udder when exhibiting cows.
- Train the animal so the exhibitor can move it quickly and easily into the correct pose. The position of the rear legs needs to be reversed when the judge walks around to view the animal from the other side.





- Do not over show. When the judge is observing the animal, let it stand when well posed.
- Face the animal uphill, if possible, with her front feet on a slight incline. Always move quickly into line when given the signal by a judge.
- When the judge requests that the placing be changed, lead the animal forward, back through the same hole then place the animal in the new position requested from the rear of the line.
- Always turn into the animal, never pull the head toward you when turning.

Some basic pieces of equipment that may be used for training and showing your dairy animal.

Necessary	Optional
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric clippers <input type="checkbox"/> Polypropylene training halter <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy show halter <input type="checkbox"/> Scotch comb <input type="checkbox"/> Non-detergent soap <input type="checkbox"/> Soft bristle brush <input type="checkbox"/> Comb for tail <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber curry comb <input type="checkbox"/> Pail for water <input type="checkbox"/> Hay <input type="checkbox"/> Feed	<input type="checkbox"/> Steel curry comb <input type="checkbox"/> Horn and hoof rasp <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chisel <input type="checkbox"/> Lining comb <input type="checkbox"/> Show adhesive <input type="checkbox"/> Hair spray <input type="checkbox"/> Baby powder <input type="checkbox"/> Rubbing alcohol <input type="checkbox"/> Baby oil

Dairy Sample Questions from “Animals In Pursuit”

Q. What is the most common breed of dairy cow?
A. Holstein

Q. What is the cows first milk called?
A. Colostrum

Q. What are three of the six nutrients animals need?
A. Carbohydrates (energy), fats, protein, vitamins, minerals and water

Q. How soon before the show should an exhibitor begin fitting and training animals?
A. 2 months

Q. What is a male dairy animal called?
A. Bull

Q. One group of mammals eats meat and are called carnivores. What is the group that eats grass and grains called?
A. Herbivores

Q. What are three common breeds of dairy cows in the United States?
A. Holstein, Guernsey, Jersey, Brown Swiss, Ayrshire, Milking Shorthorn

Q. What special ingredient in colostrums helps fight infection and disease in the newborn calf?
A. Antibodies

Q. What is the nutrient that eventually becomes part of muscle, bone and blood?
A. Protein

Q. What purpose is served by covering a dairy show animal with a blanket?
A. Loosens the hair and keeps the animal clean

Q. What is a gestation period?
A. The time between conception (mating) and parturition (giving birth)

Q. What breed of dairy cow came to the United States from Holland?
A. Holstein

Q. What two colors is the Holstein breed?
A. Black and White

Q. What is the process called whereby milk is heated to a high temperature?
A. Pasteurization

Q. Which vitamin keeps eye and body cell linings healthy and working?
A. Vitamin A

Q. What is an excellent point to blend into on the rear legs when clipping?
A. Blood view in the hock region

Q. How long is a dairy cows gestation period?
A. Approximately 280 days

Q. What breed of dairy cow were first raised on the Island of Guernsey in the English Channel?
A. Guernsey

Dairy Sample Questions from "Animals In Pursuit"

Q. What are the two parts of a cows hoof?

A. Sole, heel and claw

Q. What is the process called whereby the fat in milk is broken into very small parts so it will not float to the top?

A. Homogenized

Q. The lack of which vitamin causes night blindness in cattle?

A. Vitamin A

Q. What piece of equipment may be used to trim a cows hooves?

A. Hoof trimmer, nipper, hoof knife, chisel and mallet

Q. What should be dipped in iodine after the birth of a calf?

A. Calf's navel

Q. What breed is the smallest of all the dairy breeds?

A. Jersey

Q. Cows of what breed are known for their yellow milk?

A. Guernsey

Q. In dairy cattle what is the mother called?

A. Dam

Q. What is a good source of carotene to provide Vitamin A to cattle?

A. Green leafy grass and yellow corn

Q. Which direction should the cow be led in the ring?

A. Clockwise

Q. What is the process called when the egg from the cow and the sperm from the bull are joined?

A. Fertilization

Q. Switzerland is the origin of what dairy breed?

A. Brown Swiss

Q. What is the father of a calf called?

A. Bull

Q. What are the tiny cells in a cows udder called?

A. Alveoli or Alveolus

Q. What is another name for Vitamin C?

A. Ascorbic Acid

Q. Which direction should the showperson walk in relation to the cow?

A. Backward

Q. What is the weight of a newborn calf?

A. 70-100 pounds

Q. The Ayrshire breed of dairy cow first came from what country?

A. Scotland