



Frame Size Matters

Frame score is a convenient way of describing the skeletal size of cattle. Most animals should maintain the same frame score throughout their life, while actual height increases with age. This allows one frame score value to be used regardless of when the animal was evaluated. However, the frame score can change for animals that mature earlier or later than average animals within their frame group.

Environmental factors can also alter an animal's growth rate from its genetic capability, and hence can alter its eventual height. Nutrition level is a major factor. Cattle fed less than adequate nutrition will grow more slowly and achieve a smaller size than that which the tables indicate, while cattle fed extremely high levels will grow faster but generally not much taller than the height indicated in the tables.

The height or 'frame' of cattle of a given age is closely related to maturity type.

Early maturing—small framed (frame score 1 and 2):

Generally short in every skeletal dimension.
Short legged and short bodied.
Generally show a tendency towards waste.
Lack rapid growth potential.
Can still show good muscle expression.
Generally reach market potential at low carcass weights

Moderate maturing—average framed (frame score 3, 4 and 5):

Average growth potential rising to good growth for frame 5's.
Generally good length of body and, particularly in British breeds, can have good muscle development.
Generally reach market potential at carcass weights with 9–12 mm of fat.

Late maturing—large framed (frame score 6, 7 and 8):

Much larger cattle with high growth potential, and lean.
Non-continental breeds of this size generally lack muscle expression.
Reach market potential much later at carcass weights with 9–12 mm of fat.
Suitable for long feedlot feeding if structurally sound, reasonably muscled and with the potential to marble.

Very late maturing—extreme framed (frame score 9, 10 and 11):

Huge cattle with extreme growth potential, and usually extremely lean.
It is doubtful if animals of this size will achieve enough fat for any quality market.

Remember frame size and maturity as you select your calves. In addition, keep in mind the environmental and nutritional factors that affect your cattle's growth and conditioning.



Grooming Pop Quiz

1. Foam improves the manageability of the hair coat?
2. A gentle calf is essential for successful fitting?
3. Use extreme care when clipping the rear legs?
4. Clipping the hair immediately above the tail can emphasize the stifle?
5. If a calf is heavy fronted, trim the hair in the rear flank closely?
6. The hair coat conditioner should be completely dried before clipping?
7. If a calf is full ribbed, leave the hair long?
8. Leave the hair longer in problem areas?
9. The top line must match the sides?
10. On the head, clip a straight line from the mouth to the eye?

Answers:

1. True
2. True
3. True
4. False, the hair immediately about the hock
5. False, leave the longer hair in the rear flank
6. True
7. False, trim the belly and underline hair closely
8. True
9. True
10. True



Featured Livestock Judging Team

Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College



Introducing Our New Judge

Dustin Warren: Sunroy, Texas (left)
Clint McWaters: Sebring, Florida (right)

Special Thanks To This Months New Newsletter Subscribers

3 New Subscribers for the Month:

Beef Cattle Project

Things you will need, wear, use, or need to show beef cattle.



- steer
- fin
- heifer
- blocking
- grooming
- fitting
- showmanship
- feeding
- beef
- washing
- showing
- walking
- comb
- stick
- cowboy
- halter
- condition
- belt
- hat
- class
- boots
- number
- auction
- market
- angus
- hereford
- crossbred
- trailer
- parents



Understanding Extra-Label And Off-Label Usage In Medications!

By: Ryan Harrell

Often times you hear of people trying various illegal medications or injections to win a livestock show. The following is the definition of extra-label and off-label uses of medications.

Extra-label definition- use of a drug in a way or for a purpose not specified on the label, or more practically the documents provided by the manufacturer. In the case of an adverse reaction the responsibility for any loss incurred rests with the veterinarian, not the manufacturer. Extra-label use is common in veterinary practice because of the large number of animal species being treated and because many of the diseases encountered in companion animals require drugs which have been registered for use only in humans.

Off-label definition- a drug that is prescribed for uses, periods of time, or at dosages that are not FDA-approved.

Depending on the medication, use, dose, and implementation, it can be considered illegal and unethical to use these products for its unintended uses. Who is to blame? Is it the veterinarian or the client using the medications incorrectly to try to gain the advantage over the competition? It is always a constant battle for state fairs, national shows and committees to understand what unethical practices are being tested in the field. The goal is to attempt to change the rules, create new drug tests, and eliminate unethical practices before they become and epidemic.

What should you do if you see someone potentially using an extra-label or off-label medication?

- Tell the proper authorities.
- Inform a veterinarian.
- Request for the FDA to review the product or potentially pull the product, if it is later causing harm to people or the food chain.



Featured June 2013 Prospect Crossbred Steers

Official Placing: 3-4-2-1
Cuts: 3-2-4

For more information on the June 2013 Prospect Crossbred Steer Class of the month, visit our home page. Each month The Judging Connection.com features a class of the month and a judge from our directory. The public is allowed to vote on the class of the month. The official results of the class is determined from the featured judge of the month.



Featured June Judge

Brandon Creamer
Montrose, Colorado

Brandon judges Cattle.

Brandon was a member of the Colorado State Livestock Judging Team and attended Northeastern Junior College. Brandon has judged several cattle shows at all levels throughout the United States, as well as produce several national national champions at the National Western, American Royal, Western National Angus Futurity, Arizona National, NAILE, Atlantic National, National Junior Angus Show, Cow Palace, Western Idaho State Fair, and the Dixie National Junior Show.

Brandon is also the livestock judging coach for the Tri River 4-H team



Featured Livestock Judging Individual

Breanna Lawyer
(Blackhawk College East)



Swine Flu Update

Indiana health officials are reporting that four people became ill with the flu after visiting the local county fair over the past week.

Hoosiers are encouraged to wash their hands frequently if they attend a fair, and especially if they're in close contact with animals.

The four patients all visited the local county fair, and tested positive for variant influenza A H3N2v. At least two of them had contact with swine. The same flu strain was identified in Indiana last year, with a total of 138 cases in 2012.

Human infections with H3N2v are rare but have most commonly occurred after close proximity to live infected pigs, such as working with them in barns and livestock exhibits at fairs. Influenza viruses are not transmitted by eating pork and pork products.

According to the State Board of Animal Health, thirteen pigs at the fair tested positive for H3N2. It is not uncommon for pigs to be infected with swine influenza viruses but not show any signs of illness. If ill with influenza they typically recover.

Symptoms of variant influenza A include: fever, cough, sore throat, chills, headache and muscle aches. Diarrhea and nausea may occur in children. Symptoms can begin approximately one to four days after being exposed to the illness and last from two to seven days.

As several county fairs will open in the next few weeks, State health officials are increasing surveillance for influenza-like illness.