

Chapter Ag 93

DAIRY CATTLE GRADES

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Ag 93.01 Definitions. (1) "DEPARTMENT" means the State Department of Agriculture.

(2) "U.S.D.A." means the United States Department of Agriculture.

(3) "D.H.I.A." means any dairy herd improvement association engaged in the maintenance and supervision of milk production records and which is approved by the department as satisfactory for this purpose.

(4) "D.H.I.R." means milk production records maintained exclusively for registered purebred dairy cattle by a dairy herd improvement association under the supervision of a purebred dairy cattle registry association.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9-1-65.

Ag 93.02 Eligibility for grading. (1) Only bovine females of a dairy breed over 4 months of age which show no evidence of beef type crossbreeding shall be eligible for grading under this chapter.

(2) A female born in a multiple birth with a bull shall not be eligible for grading unless she has had a calf or has been examined by a veterinarian and pronounced pregnant.

(3) Any animal which has been altered, disguised or otherwise misrepresented to conceal defects to make it appear to be of greater value than it is shall not be eligible for grading.

(4) D.H.I.R. and D.H.I.A. milk and butterfat production records, if such are available, shall accompany animals which are to be graded. Owner sampler records properly identified may be used. The seller of animals graded shall certify to the accuracy of all production, breeding and identification records, and any other information required to be furnished by him.

(5) To be eligible for grading, the animal shall be identified with an official state ear tag or by registration papers of the appropriate purebred dairy cattle registry association.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9-1-65.

Ag 93.03 Graders. (1) All animals represented as graded as provided for herein shall be graded by a person specifically employed by the department for this purpose.

(2) Graders shall issue a certificate of grade for each animal graded. Such certificate shall be in the form provided by the department and shall contain the date of grading, grade as of that date, and the identification of the sire and dam when required by the grade specifications. This certificate shall be designed in such a way that it does not resemble any existing purebred dairy cattle registration certificate.

(3) Graders shall evaluate animals for physical characteristics on the basis of the "Dairy Cow Unified Score Card", 1957 Revised Edition, published by the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association. Copies of this card are on file at the offices of the department, the Secretary of State and the Revisor of Statutes, and may be obtained from the department at its offices at Hill Farms State Office Building, 4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9-1-65.

Ag 93.04 Grade specifications. (1) WISCONSIN REGISTERED SUPREME.

(a) To be eligible for this grade, animals shall be registered with their breed registry association.

(b) To be eligible for this grade, cows shall meet the following minimums:

1. Animals over 40 months of age shall have an official classification in order to be eligible.

2. Breed classifications:

- a. Ayrshire—Good plus or above
- b. Brown Swiss—Good plus or above.
- c. Guernsey—Desirable or above.
- d. Holstein—Good plus or above.
- e. Jersey—Good plus or above.
- f. Milking Shorthorn—Good plus or above.

3. Production requirements: Animals that have completed one lactation of 365 days or less must have produced 500 pounds of butterfat in a lactation of 365 days or less, regardless of age. Production records must be D.H.I.R. or standard D.H.I.A.

4. A heifer that has not completed a lactation of 365 days or less may qualify for this grade if her dam meets the requirements for production and type classification, and the heifer meets the physical characteristics and weight requirements for the Wisconsin Superior grade.

(c) The registration certificate and transfer shall be provided by the seller for registered animals.

(d) Registered animals not meeting requirements for this grade shall be placed into other grades for which they qualify.

(2) WISCONSIN SUPERIOR D.H.I.A. To be eligible for this grade, all heifers and cows shall meet the following standards and specifications:

(a) *Physical characteristics:* Shall present a very pleasing appearance for type with balance of parts showing strength and breed character. Shall be above average in size, condition and development. Shall be above average in body capacity, dairy character, general appearance, and shall have a good set of feet and legs. The udder of a heifer shall be desirable for age, with no obvious defect of teats or udder. Udder of any animal in milk shall be well-balanced, strongly attached and of good quality. Teats shall be of desirable size and be properly placed on the udder.

(b) *Weight:* Shall conform to the weight requirements for breed and age as provided in Wis. Adm. Code section Ag 93.05.

(c) *Color:* Shall meet breed requirements for registration.

(d) *Sire:* Shall have a registered sire with registered name and registration number provided.

(e) *Dam:* Shall be of the same breed as the sire and the official state eartag number shall be provided.

(f) *Production requirements:*

1. A heifer that has not completed a lactation of 365 days or less may qualify for this grade if she originates from a herd with 400 pounds or more butterfat, yearly average, in standard or owner sampler D.H.I.A., and her dam shall meet one of the following requirements: Actual record of 500 pounds or more butterfat in 365 days or less at any age, or actual record in 305 days or less:

- a. 2-year old or 1st calf—80% of herd average or above.
- b. 3-year old or 2nd calf—90% of herd average or above.
- c. 4-year old or 3rd calf or over—herd average or above.

2. A cow of this grade shall meet the production requirements for the dam of a heifer prescribed in subparagraph 1 of this paragraph.

(3) **WISCONSIN SUPERIOR.** To be eligible for this grade, heifers shall meet all of the standards and specifications set forth for the Wisconsin Superior D.H.I.A. grade, except that:

- (a) There are no production requirements.
- (b) Cows (animals which have completed a lactation of 365 days or less) are not eligible for this grade.

(4) **WISCONSIN PREFERRED D.H.I.A.** To be eligible for this grade, animals shall be very good prospects for type and production and shall conform to the following standards and specifications:

(a) *Physical characteristics:* May be slightly less desirable than Wisconsin Superior, but shall be above average in size, condition, body capacity, dairy character and general appearance, and shall have good feet and legs. Udder of a heifer shall be desirable for age, with no obvious defect of teats or udder. Udder of an animal in milk shall be well-balanced, strongly attached and of good quality. Teats shall be of desirable size and be properly placed on the udder.

(b) *Weight:* Shall conform to the weight requirements for breed and age as provided in section Ag 93.05. ✓

(c) *Color:* No discernible evidence of crossbreeding.

(d) *Sire:* Shall be registered sire of a dairy breed.

(e) *Dam:* Shall be of same breed as the sire.

(f) *Production requirements:* Shall meet the same requirements for production as the Wisconsin Superior D.H.I.A. grade.

(5) **WISCONSIN PREFERRED.** To be eligible for this grade, animals shall meet all of the standards and specifications for Wisconsin Preferred D.H.I.A., except that there are no production requirements for this grade.

(6) **WISCONSIN STANDARD.** To be eligible for this grade, animals shall be good prospects for type and production and shall conform to the following standards and specifications:

(a) *Physical characteristics:* Shall be average in size, condition, body capacity, dairy character and general appearance, with no serious defect of feet or legs. A heifer shall have no obvious defects of udder or teats. The udder of an animal in milk shall be reasonably well-balanced and attached, with teats of acceptable size.

(b) *Weight:* Shall conform to the weight requirements for breed and age as provided in Wis. Adm. Code section Ag 93.05. ✓

- (c) *Color*: No discernible evidence of crossbreeding.
 (d) *Sire*: Shall be of a dairy breed.
 (e) *Dam*: Shall be of same breed as the sire.
 (f) *Production requirements*: No production records shall be required.

(7) **WISCONSIN UTILITY**. To be eligible for this grade, animals shall be fair prospects for commercial dairy replacements and shall conform to the following standards and specifications:

(a) *Physical characteristics*: Below average in size and development and markedly lacking in one or more of the following: body capacity, dairy character, general appearance, feet and legs. A heifer shall have no serious defect of udder or teats. The udder of an animal in milk may be markedly lacking in quality, balance, attachment, teat size or placement.

(b) *Weight*: Shall conform to the weight requirements for breed and age as provided in Wis. Adm. Code section Ag 93.05.

(c) *Color*: Shall show no discernible evidence of a beef cross.

(d) *Sire*: Shall be of a dairy breed.

(e) *Dam*: Shall be of a dairy breed.

(f) *Production requirements*: No production records shall be required.

(8) **UNDERGRADE**. Any animal which has been graded that does not meet the requirements for any of the grades prescribed in this chapter shall be designated Undergrade.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9-1-65.

Ag 93.05 Weights. (1) All animals shall be weighed; however, if a scale cannot be provided, taped weights may be used. Tapes used shall be U.S.D.A. approved for measurements and weights.

(2) Minimum weight requirements for the grades prescribed in this chapter shall conform to the following tables of weights expressed in pounds:

(a) *Heifers* (two months before to two months after calving).

TABLE I

| | Before Calving | | | After Calving | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------|--------------|---------------|----------|
| | 2 Months | 1 Month | Week or less | Week or less | 2 Months |
| 1. Holstein and Brown Swiss | | | | | |
| Superior..... | 1100 | 1125 | 1175 | 1075 | 1100 |
| Preferred..... | 1050 | 1075 | 1125 | 1025 | 1050 |
| Standard..... | 1000 | 1025 | 1075 | 975 | 1000 |
| Utility..... | 900 | 925 | 975 | 875 | 900 |
| 2. Guernsey and Ayrshire | | | | | |
| Superior..... | 875 | 900 | 925 | 850 | 875 |
| Preferred..... | 850 | 875 | 900 | 825 | 850 |
| Standard..... | 800 | 825 | 850 | 775 | 800 |
| Utility..... | 725 | 750 | 775 | 700 | 725 |
| 3. Jersey | | | | | |
| Superior..... | 750 | 775 | 800 | 725 | 750 |
| Preferred..... | 725 | 750 | 775 | 700 | 725 |
| Standard..... | 675 | 700 | 725 | 650 | 675 |
| Utility..... | 600 | 625 | 650 | 575 | 600 |

(b) *Open heifers and heifers less than 7 months pregnant.* Superior heifers shall conform to the weight for age in this table. Preferred heifers may weigh 10% less, Standard 15% less, Utility 20% less.

TABLE II

| Age (months) | Weight (lbs.) | | | Estimating Weight from Heart Girth Measurement | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|----------------------|
| | Holstein and Brown Swiss | Guernsey and Ayrshire | Jersey | Weight (lbs.) | Heart Girth (inches) |
| 4..... | 270 | 205 | 160 | 200 | 40 |
| 6..... | 380 | 300 | 250 | 300 | 46 |
| 8..... | 500 | 400 | 350 | 400 | 51 |
| 10..... | 600 | 495 | 440 | 500 | 55 |
| 12..... | 700 | 575 | 520 | 600 | 59 |
| 14..... | 775 | 645 | 580 | 700 | 62 |
| 16..... | 850 | 710 | 630 | 800 | 65 |
| 18..... | 915 | 765 | 680 | 900 | 68 |
| 20..... | 975 | 820 | 725 | 1000 | 71 |
| 22..... | 1040 | 870 | 770 | 1100 | 73 |
| 24..... | 1100 | 920 | 820 | 1200 | 75 |

(c) *Cows (in normal milking condition).*

TABLE III

| | Superior | Preferred | Standard | Utility |
|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| 1. Holstein and Brown Swiss | | | | |
| 3-year old or 2nd calf..... | 1200 | 1150 | 1075 | 975 |
| 4-year old or 3rd calf..... | 1300 | 1250 | 1150 | 1050 |
| Mature..... | 1350 | 1300 | 1200 | 1100 |
| 2. Guernsey and Ayrshire | | | | |
| 3-year old or 2nd calf..... | 925 | 900 | 850 | 775 |
| 4-year old or 3rd calf..... | 975 | 950 | 900 | 825 |
| Mature..... | 1000 | 975 | 925 | 850 |
| 3. Jersey | | | | |
| 3-year old or 2nd calf..... | 800 | 775 | 725 | 650 |
| 4-year old or 3rd calf..... | 850 | 825 | 775 | 700 |
| Mature..... | 875 | 850 | 800 | 725 |

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9-1-65.

Ag 93.06 Prohibitions. (1) No person shall sell or offer for sale or represent any dairy cattle as graded cattle unless such cattle have been graded by a department grader in accordance with this chapter.

(2) No person shall misrepresent the grade of any dairy cattle, nor shall he represent any dairy cattle as being of a grade provided for herein unless such cattle have been graded by a department grader in accordance with this chapter.

(3) No person shall use any terminology with respect to the quality of any dairy cattle which is deceptively similar to the grade terminology provided for herein.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9-1-65.

Ag 93.07 Fees. (1) The department shall establish and collect fees sufficient to cover the actual cost of the grading service provided for herein.

(2) Unless the actual cost is greater, a minimum fee of \$10 shall be charged. Fees shall be at the rate of 50 cents per head up to 100 head and 25 cents per head thereafter for all cattle graded during a single working day, plus actual expenses and mileage at the rate provided by statute for travel by state employes.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9-1-65.

Ag 93.08 Advisory board. The director of the department shall annually appoint an advisory board to advise him on the administration of this chapter.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9-1-65.

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