

Chapter ATCP 158

DAIRY CATTLE GRADES

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Note: Chapter Ag 93 was renumbered chapter ATCP 158 under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 1., Stats., Register, April, 1993, No. 448.

ATCP 158.01 Definitions. “Department” means the state of Wisconsin department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.

(2) “U.S.D.A.” means the United States department of agriculture.

(3) “D.H.I.” means a dairy herd improvement association’s program for creating, maintaining, and supervising milk production records which is approved by the National Cooperative Dairy Herd Improvement Program and by the department as satisfactory for this purpose.

(4) “D.H.I.R.” means milk production records maintained exclusively for registered 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; am. (1), (3) and (4), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1–1–83.

ATCP 158.02 Eligibility for grading. (1) Only bovine females of a dairy breed over 4 months of age which show no evidence of beef type cross-breeding 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. milk and butterfat production records, if available, shall accompany animals which are to be graded. Properly identified non-official D.H.I. records, including owner-sampler records, may be used. The seller of animals to be graded shall certify to the accuracy of all production, breeding and identification records, and any other information required to be furnished by the seller.

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

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9–1–65; am. (4), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1–1–83.

ATCP 158.03 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”, 1971 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 801 West Badger Road, P.O. Box 8911, Madison, Wisconsin 53708.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9–1–65; am. (3), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1–1–83.

ATCP 158.04 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—Desirable or above.
- f. Milking Shorthorn—Desirable or above.

3. Production requirements: Regardless of age, animals that have completed one lactation of 305 days or less shall have produced the Wisconsin official D.H.I. current year’s average number of pounds of butterfat. Production records must be D.H.I.R. or official D.H.I.

4. A heifer that has not completed a lactation of 305 days or less may qualify for the Wisconsin Registered Supreme grade if her dam meets the production requirements of subd. 3. and the appropriate breed classification rating in subd. 2., 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. 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 s. ATCP 158.05.

(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 305 days or less may qualify for the Wisconsin Superior D.H.I. grade if she is obtained from an official or nonofficial D.H.I. herd with an average butterfat production not greater than 100 pounds less than the Wisconsin official D.H.I. average butterfat production for the current year, and her dam meets one of the following production requirements:

- a. 2-year old or 1st calf—not less than 80% of herd average.
- b. 3-year old or 2nd calf—not less than 90% of herd average.
- c. 4-year old or 3 or more calves—herd average or above.

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

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

- (a) There are no production requirements.
- (b) Registration of the sire is not required.

(4) WISCONSIN PREFERRED D.H.I. To be eligible for this grade, animals shall be prospects for a very good rating in breed characteristics and production requirements 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 s. ATCP 158.05.

(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:* Shall meet the same requirements for production as the Wisconsin Superior D.H.I. 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., except that there are no production requirements for this grade.

(6) WISCONSIN STANDARD. To be eligible for this grade, animals shall be prospects for a good rating in breed characteristics and production requirements 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 s. ATCP 158.05.

(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) 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 s. ATCP 158.05.

(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; am. (1) (b) 2.e. and f., 3. and 4., (2) (f) 1., (3) (intro.), (4) (intro.), (d) and (f), (5), (6) (intro.) and (b), (7) (b), r. and recr. (3) (b), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83.

ATCP 158.05 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.* (6 months before through 2 months after calving).

Table I

	NUMBER OF MONTHS PREGNANT						AFTER CALVING		
	Months	4 Months	5 Months	6 Months	7 Months	8 Months	8-1/2 Months	Week or less	2 Months
<i>1. Holstein and Brown Swiss</i>									
Superior	1000	1025	1050	1075	1100	1125	1175	1075	1100
Preferred	950	975	1000	1025	1050	1075	1125	1025	1050
Standard	900	925	950	975	1000	1025	1075	975	1000
Utility	800	825	850	875	900	925	975	875	900
<i>2. Guernsey, Ayrshire and Milking Shorthorn</i>									
Superior	795	815	835	855	875	900	925	850	875
Preferred	770	790	810	830	850	875	900	825	850
Standard	720	740	760	780	800	825	850	775	800
Utility	645	665	685	705	725	750	775	700	725
<i>3. Jersey</i>									
Superior	670	690	710	730	750	775	800	725	750
Preferred	645	665	685	705	725	750	775	700	725

Standard	595	615	635	655	675	700	725	650	675
Utility	520	540	560	580	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. <i>Holstein and Brown Swiss</i>				
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. <i>Guernsey and Ayrshire</i>				
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. <i>Jersey</i>				
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; am. (2) (a) and r. and recr. table 1, Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83.

ATCP 158.06 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 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; n correction in (2) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 1., Stats., Register, April, 1993, No. 448.

ATCP 158.07 Fees. The department shall establish and collect fees sufficient to cover actual labor costs and reasonable and necessary travel expenses incurred in providing grading services under this chapter.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1965, No. 116, eff. 9-1-65; renum. (1) and am., r. (2), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83.