

DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING

A. Dairy suggestions for county/area event:

1. Select and schedule the judge or judges as soon as possible. Preference should be given to judges who have previously handled events. Please include in your contact a suggested payment to defray their expenses.
2. Be sure you have verification in writing from the judge(s) that he/she has accepted the assignment.
3. Select and contact the dairy farm(s). Be sure farms have enough cow numbers to allow for selection of good classes. Since oral reasons will be required on four cow classes in the state contest, it is recommended that at least two or three classes of written or oral reasons be used in area contests.
4. Two weeks before the contest, send a reminder notice to judge(s) concerning location and time to meet.

B. State Event

1. Participants in the State Event will judge 6 - 8 classes of lactating dairy cows and dairy heifers. Oral reasons will be given on four of the classes of lactating cows. Two or three classes of older cows and one or two classes of younger cows will be used for the reasons classes.
2. Each participant will be given 15 minutes to place and take notes on each class in the state event.
3. Each participant will be allowed two minutes to give each set of oral reasons. Notes cannot be used while giving oral reasons.
4. Animals will be designated by number: 1-2-3-4.
5. Fifty points will constitute a perfect score on a placing class and on a set of oral reasons.
6. The overall team ranking will be determined by totaling all scores of the top three team members. All four team members will be eligible for individual awards.
7. Ties (based on the three highest contestants' scores that went into making the tie) will be broken by the following criteria for each division:
 - (a) **Individual rank** - If two or more contestants have the same total points score, it will be broken by total reasons score.
 - (b) **Team rank** - If two or more teams have a combined total score that is the same, the tie will be broken by a combined total reasons score.
 - (c) If still tied for either Individual and/or team rank, the contestant or team having the highest placing score in the class(es) with the lowest total cuts, will be listed first.
 - (d) If still tied, the contestant or team with the highest total placing score (adding together the placing scores on reasons classes) on reasons classes, will be listed first.
 - (e) If still tied, the contestant or team with the highest single class reason score will be listed first.

- (f) Ties for individuals and teams in the oral reasons category will be broken such that the contestant or team with the lower total placing score (adding together the placing scores on reasons classes) on reasons classes, will be listed first.

If all of the above fail, duplicate awards shall be given.

8. Group Leaders. A group leader shall be in charge of each group to move the contestants, to assist in supervising the class, to see that the animals are properly exhibited, and to answer any questions, which may not pertain to the actual placing of the animals under consideration.
9. Nearby school students and interested volunteers unaffiliated with the dairy contestants will be selected as leadsmen for the 20 animals exhibited in the state event. If sufficient holders are not present for a class, the animals will be judged in stanchions.

C. All Indiana 4-H Team

Following the state dairy judging contest, an "all Indiana" 4-H team will be formed to compete at the dairy judging contest in Louisville, KY. The top twenty 4-H individuals in the state dairy judging contest (who are not a member of one of the top three 4-H dairy teams at the state contest) will be invited to dairy judging practices in the summer and at the Indiana State Fair to form a state dairy judging team that will represent Indiana at the North American International Livestock Exposition. 4-H members qualifying for this team must be at least 14 years of age in order to meet national contest age requirements.

4-H members trying out for the "all Indiana" 4-H team are required to attend one of the three dairy judging workshops held during the summer. One practice will be held in northern Indiana, one in the central part of the state, and one in the south. A final required workout will be held at the Indiana State Fair. Four individuals and one alternate will be selected by the coach to make up the "all Indiana" team that will represent Indiana at the North American in Louisville, KY. In addition, the top three teams from the state dairy judging contest will be invited to these workouts.

In the event that the 1st place 4-H dairy judging team at the state contest is not eligible to compete at the National Dairy Judging Contest in Madison, WI, then the coach of the "all-Indiana" team would be next in line to select the national contest of his/her choice for the "all Indiana" team to attend that year. If an individual on the state winning team (that has passed up the opportunity to represent Indiana at the National 4-H Contest in Madison, WI) is in their last year of eligibility, they will be invited to try out for the "all Indiana" team for an opportunity to compete at the National Contest, if the coach of the "all Indiana" team chooses to take the "all Indiana" team to the National Contest.

The Purdue University Dairy Judging Coach will serve as the coach of the "all Indiana" team and will be assisted by a person(s) of his/her choice. Other 4-H dairy coaches will also volunteer their time and effort in getting 4-H members to workouts and assist with the program.

D. Suitable References:

1. Techniques in Judging Dairy Cattle, available from: Dennis Hartman, 2709 Mt. Vernon Lane, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060 (costs \$3.25).
2. Hoard's Dairyman Judging Guide, available from: Hoard's Dairyman, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 (cost \$1.00 plus \$.70 postage)
3. Dairyman's DHI Manual, available from herds on test or Bob Jones, 208 Poultry Building, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907
4. Dairy Cattle Judging Techniques by G. W. Trimberger and W. M. Etger, available from bookstores serving Purdue students or Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey (costs \$24.95).
5. Dairy Cattle and Dairy Goat Evaluation and Judging, Oregon State University, 4-H 709. Available from Purdue Mailing room through the County Extension Office.

6. Evaluating Dairy Cattle Using Production, Genetic, and Visual Estimates, ID 177, 1988, Purdue University. Available from Purdue Mailing Room through the County Extension Office. Cost \$1.00/copy
7. Teaching 4-H Oral Reasons, EM 4789, Washington State University, 1987. See last four pages in back of this 4-H/FFA Ag. Judging Handbook.
8. "Judging Dairy Cattle" - Video Tape VC--2072 - available from Purdue Film Library, Phone (317) 494-6742) through the County Extension Office.
9. Dairy Cattle Reasons - Video tape - available from Dr. David Dickson, University of Wisconsin, 637 Extension Building, 432 N. Lake Street, Madison, Wisconsin, 53705.

E. Supplemental/Optional Reference Items

- "Judging Dairy Cattle" a color slide set, cassette of oral reasons and a dairy judging manual are available through Vocational Education Productions. Call 1-800-235-4146 for details.
- More emphasis is to be placed on sire selection, pedigree analysis, and DHIA reports along with visual appraisal on a parallel with the format of the National Dairy Contest.