

Feedlot Steers Class #1

Evaluated by: Celina Johnson

Placing: 4-3-2-1

Cuts: 3-5-3

I placed this class of feedlot steers 4-3-2-1. In the top pair of steers comparable in finish, I placed 4 over 3 due to his advantage in muscling. Ideally, I would like to see 4 more structurally correct through his shoulder, however, the bald-faced steer shows more shape and natural thickness down his top and through his hip, and stands wider based when viewed from the rear. He should hang a carcass with the highest percent of saleable product in the class.

No doubt, 3 is more structurally correct, particularly through the shoulder and deeper bodied. However, he is narrower topped and flatter through the quarter than the class winner, so he is second.

It is easily 3 over 2 in the middle pair. He is the nicer balanced steer that better combines yield and quality grade. He is freer of waste through the lower 1/3 of his body and shows more muscle expression down his top and through his quarter.

In the bottom pair, it's 2 over 1 due to his advantage in market readiness. He is carrying more finish over his fore and rear rib and should be safer into the choice grade.

I realize that 1 is the leaner. However, he is the least market ready as he runs out of finish over his rear rib. He is also the lightest muscled, narrowest made steer in the class that should hang the least amount of red meat, so he is last.