

Dairy Cow Handbook

BREED CHART OF CHARACTERISTICS

AYRSHIRE: Strong and robust, showing constitution and vigor, symmetry, style and balance throughout, and characterized by strongly attached, evenly-balanced, well-shaped udder.

HEAD	Clean cut, proportionate to body; broad muzzle with large, open nostrils, strong jaw; large, bright eyes; forehead, broad and moderately dished; bridge of nose straight; ears medium size and alertly carried.
COLOR	light to deep cherry red, mahogany, brown, or a combination of any of these colors with white, or white alone, distinctive red and white markings preferred.
SIZE	A mature cow in milk should weigh at least 1200 lbs.

HOLSTEIN: Rugged, feminine qualities in an alert cow possessing Holstein size and vigor.

HEAD	Clean cut, proportionate to body; broad muzzle with large, open nostrils; strong jaw; large, bright eyes; forehead, broad and moderately dished; bridge of nose straight; ears medium size and alertly carried.
COLOR	Black and white or red and white markings clearly defined.
SIZE	A mature cow in milk should weigh a minimum of 1500 lbs.

BROWN SWISS: Strong and vigorous, but not coarse. Size and ruggedness with quality desired. Extreme refinement undesirable.

HEAD	Clean cut, proportionate to body; broad muzzle with large, open nostrils; strong jaw; large, bright eyes; forehead, broad and slightly dished; bridge of nose straight; ears medium size and alertly carried.
COLOR	Solid brown varying from very light to dark. Muzzle is black encircled by a mealy colored ring, and the tongue, switch and hooves are black.
SIZE	A mature cow in milk should weigh 1500 lbs.

GUERNSEY: Size and strength, with quality and character desired.

HEAD	Clean cut, proportionate to body; broad muzzle with large, open nostrils; strong jaw; large, bright eyes; forehead, broad and slightly dished; bridge of nose straight; ears medium size and alertly carried.
COLOR	A shade of fawn with white markings throughout clearly defined. When other points are equal, clear (buff) muzzle will be favored over a smoky or black muzzle.
SIZE	A mature cow in milk should weigh at least 1150 lbs.

JERSEY: Sharpness with strength indicating productive efficiency.

HEAD	Proportionate to stature showing refinement and well chiseled bone structure. Face slightly dished with dark eyes that are well set.
COLOR	Some shade of fawn with or without white markings. Muzzle is black encircled by a light colored ring, and the tongue and switch may be either white or black.
SIZE	A mature cow in milk should weigh about 1000 lbs.