

DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING ORAL REASONS

BETTER WORDS THAN “BETTER” AND USE “MORE CORRECT” CORRECTLY

BETTER WORDS THAN “BETTER”

If the word “better” is used in giving a set of oral reasons, a better word needs to be substituted in those reasons! Oral reasons need to be specific, and “better” doesn’t give enough detail about why one cow is “better” than another! So, to help you overcome using the word “better”, try using these more specific phrases.

Instead of...Better for udder attachment

TRY this...

- Tighter (or stronger or longer or “snugger”) fore udder attachment

Instead of...Better rear udder attachment

TRY these...

- Higher (or wider or fuller) rear udder attachment
- Higher and wider rear udder attachment

Instead of...Better teat placement

TRY these...

- More squarely place teats, faulting 2 for her wide front teats
- Teats set more squarely beneath each quarter
- More centrally places teats, faulting 2 for her wide front teats

Instead of...Better crease

TRY these...

- Deeper crease
- More clearly defined halving in the udder
- More seam (or crease) through the center of the udder

Instead of...Better udder

- Don’t say ‘better udder;’ if you want to say 2 has a better udder than 3, say “giving 2 an advantage in the udder because she...” then explain the specific advantages

Instead of...Better legs

TRY these...

- More correct set to the hock, faulting 3 for being too straight in the leg
- Less set to the hock, criticizing 2 for having too much set
- Tracks straighter ahead on her rear legs

Instead of...Better topline

TRY these...

- Stronger in the loin
- Leveler through the chine and loin
- Straighter down the topline, especially in the loin

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Better Words than “Better” and Use “More Correct” correctly

Instead of...Better rump

TRY these...

- More nearly level from hooks to pins, faulting 4 for being too high in the pins
- Leveler in the rump, criticizing 1 for being extremely low in the pins
- Wider through the hips and pins

Instead of...Better dairy character

- Don't say 'better dairy character,' instead say, for example: 2 has an advantage in overall dairyness" and then explain the specific advantages (sweep of rib, cleaner thigh, carries less condition,etc.)

Instead of...Better body

TRY these...

- Deeper in the chest (or wider on the chest floor)
- Deeper in the barrel (or more spring of rib)

USE “MORE CORRECT” CORRECTLY!

In an effort to rid their vocabulary of the word “better,” many youth judges have substituted “better” with “more correct,” particularly on the 2-way traits (i.e. traits where extremes are not desirable – rump angle, leg set, teat length and placement). If using the phrase “more correct,” judges should further explain HOW the trait is “more correct.”

Instead of...More correct in the rump

Be MORE SPECIFIC by using phrases like...

- 2 is leveler in the rump, faulting 3 for being too low in the pins
- 2 is more nearly correct in the slope from hooks to pins, criticizing 3 for being high in the pins

Instead of...More correct rear legs or more correct in the leg

Be MORE SPECIFIC by using phrases like...

- 2 has less set to her rear legs, faulting 3 for being too sickle (or having too much set)
- 2 has more flex to her hock as 3 is too straight (or posty) in her rear legs

Instead of...More correct teat placement

Be MORE SPECIFIC by using phrases like...

- 2 has more centrally placed teats, criticizing the wide front teats of 3
- 2 has teats that hang more nearly plumb, faulting the widely placed teats of 3

Instead of...More correct teat size

Be MORE SPECIFIC by using phrases like...

- 2 has more correct teat size and shape, noting the long, cone-shaped teats of 3
- 2 is longer in her teats, criticizing the extremely short teats of 3