Breeding Heifer Terminology

Rib/Volume

Desirable

- Possesses the softer look of a more maternal brood cow
- Combines the basics of a functional female
- More useful in her basic build
- Broodier appearing

- Look of a brood cow prospect
- Easier keeping
- Lower input replacement

- Offers more depth, rib, and flesh
- More moderate framed
- More sensibly sized
- Lower maintenance at a mature cow state
- Offers more fleshing ease
- More depth and shape to her rib
- Set wider at her pins
- More advanced in her body depth

- More expansive in her forerib
- Deeper in her heart and flank

- Comes out of her spine with more shape to her upper rib
- More productive in her chest and rib

- Apparent weight per day of age advantage
- Higher performing
- Deeper in her flank and forerib
- More productive appearing
- Most correct in the arch and curvature to her rib
- More depth and shape to her rib
More advanced in body depth
Powerfully made
Comes wider and fuller to her pins
Deeper in heart and flank
Bolder ribbed
Wider in general makeup from her chest floor to her pin

More opened up in center cavity
More forage adaptability
Brood cow candidate
Easier maintaining

Roomier middled
Fuller sprung in her rib cage
3-D rib
More pulled apart thru the floor of her chest
More uniform depth from fore to rear rib
More moderate in her frame with more rib and fleshing ability
Wider sprung, deeper ribbed and should be a more efficient converter of low quality feedstuffs and/or crop residues
Easier maintaining as a mature cow

More value as potential replacement female
More apt to make cut as replacement female

More desirable in size and maturity pattern and should likely inject more 3-D growth into her progeny

Could more readily maintain condition in gestation and lactation
Bolder hearted
I see her maturing into a powerful brood cow who should......
She should prove to be the sensible, problem free brood cow (herd replacement)
She is more sensible/conservative/reasonable in her frame

It's a matter of simple, practical brood cow character that keeps 3 over 4 in the bottom pair,
Reads with a truer shape to her upper rib
Undesirable

- Shallower bodied in relation to her frame size
- Obviously harsher conditioned and thus, would likely be harder keeping
- Due to her maintenance requirements should spend less time in herd
- Hardest doing, highest input brood cow
- Least value to today’s ____ breeder
- Higher maintenance brood cow
- From a cattlemen’s perspective, I personally don’t see her as the right kind

Balance/Eye Appeal

Desirable

- Highest quality
- Phenotypically attractive
- More youthful and fresher in her appearance
- Blends in smoother from her shoulder to her forerib
- Eye appealing
- More extended thru her front third
- Cleaner patterned
- Attractive profiling
- More correctly balanced
- Nicer balanced
- Smoother patterned
- Straighter lined
- Offers more balance
- Attractive body pattern
- Stronger topped
- More refined thru head and neck
- More uniform in her body depth from fore rib to flank
- More correct in her topline and leveler out her hip
Set higher at her pins
• More feminine thru her front end
• More desirable udder that is more correct in its teat size
• More extended about front end
• Cleaner chested

Layed in neater at her shoulder
• Profiles with more length of spine and hip
• Cleaner and more angular fronted
• Smoother, flatter, cleaner shouldered
• More extension in front 1/3
• More feminine in bonework
• Higher tying from neck to her shoulder
• A very neat, feminine heifer that exhibits tremendous balance
• Sounder in udder attachment

For me, she sets the standard in regard to balance, quality, and female look and character
From a breeder's viewpoint, I see her as having more practical cow character
She has the unique combination of practical cow character with (those extra pieces of) show-ring quality and attractiveness
• She has more female quality

Undesirable
• Low pinned
• Redesign her front end
• Carries more neck and shoulder
• Bulky in shoulder and neck
Structural Correctness/Movement

Desirable

- Bigger fronted and heavier boned
- More correct from hock to ground
- Travels on the widest base with the biggest foot
- Travels with more flex and reach out of her hip and hock
- Travels with more strength and coordination at the lead
- Sets down a truer hind leg
- Tracks out on the widest base
- More fluid in her stride
- Toes straighter up front
- Takes a longer, freer stride out of both ends
- Strides with more reach and flex to her hock and pasterns
- Laid back further in her shoulder
- Tracks away with more width and substance of bone
- Offers more flex and give to her hock and cushion to her pasterns
- Takes a longer and more authoritative stride
- Stouter at her foundation
- Sets down more accurate from hock down
- Tracks out on a wider base
- More appropriate in her frontal base width
- Laid back further in her shoulder
- Covers the surface
- Presents a more collected look when viewed on the move
- Truest moving
- More appropriately set from hock to ground
- Stood squarer from knee to ground
- Appreciate her strength and mass
- Appreciate her design and structure
- Leveler from hooks to pins
- Straighter traveling
- More hind leg stability
- Moved out with good foot placement
- Sounder tracking and more fluid in her movement
- Holds herself together more correctly on the move
- More functional appearing heifer that had more flex to her hock
- Blends smoother from her shoulder to her body
- More comfortable on the move
- ...thus enabling her to have more reach when in motion
- More slope to shoulder and consequently takes a longer more correct stride off both ends
- Still, it becomes a matter of fundamental soundness that keeps 3 over 4 in the bottom pair
- Perhaps her biggest advantage is witnessed at the lead. She's the sounder footed female who is more correct out of her hip and off her hind leg
- She is more correct in the angle of her shoulder and thus takes a longer step up front
- She's just the bigger, sounder footed female who more consistently meets her stride
- She tends to cover her track on a more consistent basis
- Flatter out of her tailhead

Undesirable

- Needs nmore front to rear balance
- Coarse shouldered
- Slightly off in hip and hind leg
- Steeper from hooks to pins
- More tentative as she steps
- Was splay footed, stood closest at hocks and moved narrower off both front and rear legs
Thickness/Muscle

Desirable

- Powerfully made
- Stouter featured
- Offers more natural thickness
- Stouter hipped
- More total top and volume
- More shape and dimension to her top
- Thicker quartered
- Worked a greater volume of muscle thru her quarter
- Deeper quartered, thicker rumped heifer who has more dimension to her top
- Longer from hooks to pins and smoother in her muscle shape
- Has more thicknesss from hooks back and more shape from pins down
- She possesses the most width and spread down her top and continues this muscling advantage to all portions of her quarter
- Travels wider at the ground

Undesirable

- Tapered from hooks to pins
Bull Terminology

Masculinity

*Muscle, balance, volume, and structural correctness phrases can be incorporated from steer and heifer terminology; however, there are a few terms unique to bull sets*

- More rugged in his appearance
- Stouter featured and more masculine in his appearance
- More correct in his testicular carriage
- Cleaner sheathed
- More advanced in his testicular development
- More massive
- Massively constructed
- Greater longevity on the plains of Kansas and be a more functional terminal sire
- Moderate framed bull with larger scrotal circumference and daughters should reach first estrus sooner
- Sounder traveling with larger SC and thus should cover more cows
- I envision him as the sounder breeding herdsire for the operation (testicle and structure advantage)
- His replacement daughters should inherit.....& thus be more valuable within their respective herds
**Cattle Performance Terminology**  EPD's as 10 points

**Genetic Profile**

- Impressive genetic script
- It is her kind as well as her genetic evaluation which suggests....
- If she breeds true to her genetic expectations....
- She reads more progressive on paper
- Should prove more scenario adaptable
- Most genetic promise
- Most complete performance information
- I'd expect his daughters to be the most likely to retained
- She offers the most promise on paper
- She should prove a more valuable replacement
- She offers more profit potential to this operation
- Within the given scenario
- Greater impact on future generations
- Most adaptable to the seedstock/commercial operation
- Genetically capable
- Transfer more genetic potential
- Inject most genetic improvement into the ___ breed
- Should increase longevity in the herd
- He should contribute more growth/maternal ability/carcass ability to the next generation

**Undesirable**

- Possessed the least genetic strength for growth
- Potentially produce the poorest performing progeny
- I just don't foresee him generating enough improvement in the next calf crop

Indeed...
**Growth** (Indicators: WW, YW)

- His offspring should prove more efficient through the feedlot phase
- He should sire progeny more marketable as growth sires
- His feedlot bound progeny should experience more efficient gain
- He is more progressive in his growth genetics
- He clearly offers more genetic growth
- He should prove to have a greater impact on the future generations in terms of growth
- Genetic growth
- Direct growth
- Return more dollars to the retained owner
- Growth genetics
- Superior in his growth EPDs
- Performance oriented sons to be in greater demand by the commercial clientele
- Most extreme in frame size
- Excelled in all performance traits
- Charts higher W and YW, thus her progeny should enter the feedlot at heavier weights and maintain this advantage until their endpoint
- Should be more marketable as a potential growth dam
- Charts more post-weaning growth and progeny should offer more profit potential thru retained ownership
- He should make a significant impact on growth in the next calf crop
- He is unique in his birth to yearling spread, which should inject/infuse more value into his calf crop
- This, plus his complimentary growth figures suggest....
- I’d expect his terminal progeny to experience less days/time at the bunk
Calving Ease (indicators: BW, CE, DCE, GL)

- The potential calving ease sire (id)
- She is more moderate in her BW value
- He may likely be a more typical choice for use on heifers
- She should require less restraints in sire selection
- Most conservative birthweight
- A more confident choice on virgin heifers
- Lower more manageable birthweight
- Her sons would sire calves that would require less calving assistance
- Cause less dystocia to first-calf heifers
- More breeding flexibility as he posts a lower BW
- Most marketable as potential calving ease heifers
- Below breed avg BW
- He’s better suited for use on heifers/ He’s the calving ease sire of the class

Maternal Strength (indicators: M, MM, MWW, TM)

- I would expect her to wean off more pounds of calf due to milk
- His more maternal daughters should prove more functional as replacements as...
- She offers more maternal strength on paper
- The more maternally oriented female (id)
- He should have a greater impact on maternal strength in his daughters
- A higher proportion of his more maternal daughters should be kept as replacements
- Lower input more replacement favorable daughters
- Her daughters would be expected to have a greater milking ability

Endpoint Value (indicators: carcass and ultrasound EPDs)

- His cull progeny should excel on a grid rewarding both quality and yield grades
- His progeny should obtain a more desirable combination of quality and yield grade
- He is clearly more progressive in his genetic evaluation for carcass traits
- He should have a greater impact on the endpoint value of his cull offspring
- His offspring should grant more incentive on a grid rewarding quality (or YG)
- He should reveal the greatest impact on the carcass merit of his cull offspring
- He should reveal the greatest impact on the carcass merit of his cull offspring
- Terminal aspects of this operation
- Offspring should be more efficient thru feedlot phase
- Endpoint value
- Least terminal genetic ability from caracss standpoint
- Feedlot cattle which excel for their gradeability
- His market bound progeny should inherit......
- His market bound progeny should see an advantage in feedlot gain and carcass quality/cutability

**Scenario Incorporation**

- I'd expect his sire group to spark more buyer interest and increase revenue at the spring production sale
- His production sale consignment should inherit the look and balance of traits needed to target both the purebred and commercial cattlemen
- Obviously this ranch is seeking a herdbull that can increase the maternal value in the next generation
- Clearly 1 and 2 offer the most earning potential
- I see her/him as having more earning potential for this commercial/seedstock operation