

Ewe Scorecard (Updated 5/1/25)

Mammary System (40)

Strongly attached and suspended above the hocks, indicating adequate capacity, ease of milking and production over a long lifespan

Subcategories

***Udder Depth & Support (10)**

Udder support holds the entire udder snugly to the body and well above the hocks. Consideration given to age and number of lactations.

***Fore-udder (5)**

Firmly attached, indicating capacity and extending moderately forward on the belly without excess nonproductive tissue.

***Rear-udder (9)**

Capacious, uniformly wide and deep to the udder floor and moderately curved in side profile. The attachment should be high (close to the vulva), with a wide arch and continue down the thigh.

***Medial Suspensory/Udder Cleft (5)**

Clearly but not excessively defined halves, indicating a strong medial suspensory ligament

***Balance & Symmetry (3)**

Halves should be even in size, soft, pliable and collapse well when empty

***Teat Size & Placement (8)**

Two teats of uniform size, cylindrical in shape and of suitable length for milking. They should point down and be situated on the udder floor, allowing for ease of milking.

Dairy Strength (25)

The ewe should display a combination of strength and dairyness that supports both production and longevity. She should be neither frail nor excessively beefy. Dual purpose breeds may show more meat-type.

Subcategories

***Body Capacity/Strength (10)**

The body should be wide, starting in the chest and extending back to the rump and rear leg set, and deep, showing moderate brisket and the belly increasing in depth from the heart girth back to the flank. Body capacity will

be evident even in the head, with a wide, deep muzzle, leading back to a wide hind skull.

***Dairy Type (15)**

The ewe should show an angular, refined and clean bone structure without coarseness or frailty. Neck should be long, lean and blending smoothly into the shoulder. Ribs should be well sprung, widely spaced, flat and the rear ribs angle towards her flank. Thighs should be moderately incurving in side profile, and out curving from the escutcheon in rear view to provide ample room for an udder. Skin should be loose and pliable. Body condition should be appropriate for the stage of lactation.

Structural soundness (35)

A balanced ewe showing femininity, longevity and ease of mobility. Height and size should be consistent with the breed standards in purebreds.

Subcategories

***Feet & Pasterns (5)**

Pasterns should be strong and moderately upright, yet flexible. Feet should have a deep heel. Toes pointed directly forward and not splayed.

***Rump & Rear Legs (12)**

A wide and long rump that is uniformly wide and nearly level from thurl to thurl, with a gentle slope from hips to pinbones. Hips set smoothly and level with the back, and thurls set two thirds the distance from hips to pinbones. Well defined and wide pinbones with the tail head slightly above and smoothly set between the pinbones. Tail appropriate for the breed standards. Rear legs wide apart and straight from the rear, and moderately angulated in side profile through the stifle and hocks.

***Front End (10)**

Prominent withers with shoulder blades and elbows set firmly to the chest wall without gaps at the crops. Front legs straight, wide apart and squarely placed.

***Back (5)**

Strong, level and straight, with a wide loin

***Balance (3)**

Displaying a long bone pattern throughout and structures proportionate. Withers should be even with the hip or slightly taller. Vulva should be normal in size and shape.

Total 100 points