

HARMONIZATION OF THE EUROPEAN TYPE CLASSIFICATION FOR THE BROWN BREED

Linear type traits



The Linear Type Classification System was developed in the 80's and it soon proved to be a system that would have made easier the comparison of type classification at international level.

The international harmonization was started in 1995 when some common criteria to define sixteen type traits were chosen for Europe. This made possible the comparison of the type genetic indexes and improved the understanding of these indexes all over Europe.

In 2007 the Executive Committee of the European Federation of the Brown breed approved the guidelines to develop an European classification score card. Since 2008, the Technical Committees of the member countries have adopted these guidelines and uniform classification criteria have been in use in Europe. Together with this decision, the Executive Committee decided to set up an European group of judges formed by one / two judges from each member country with the aim to develop common European show judging criteria.

The main technical rules used by the European Brown classifiers to classify the type of Brown cows are presented below.

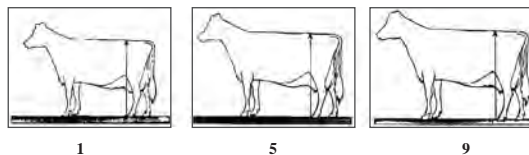
Harmonized european breakdown scores for the brown breed

Linear traits list / points range	Breakdown Scores	Final Score	Weight %	OPTIMUM (recommended)	
Rump /stature	1-9	FRAME	25%	5%	143-148
Strength	1-9	FRAME	(60-99 points)	7%	8
Body depth	1-9	FRAME		7%	8
Back line	1-9	FRAME		6%	7
Rump length	1-9	RUMP	10%	2%	8
Rump angle	1-9	RUMP		4%	5
Thurl width	1-9	RUMP	(60-99 points)	2%	8
Thurl position	1-9	RUMP		2%	7
Rear legs side view	1-9	Feet & Legs FUNCTIONALITY	25%	8%	5
Hock quality	1-9	Feet & Legs FUNCTIONALITY	(60-99 points)	4%	9
Pasterns	1-9	Feet & Legs FUNCTIONALITY		6%	6
Heel height	1-9	Feet & Legs FUNCTIONALITY		7%	8
Fore udder length	1-9	Udder	40%	3%	8
Fore udder attachment	1-9	Udder	(60-99 points)	4%	9
Rear udder width	1-9	Udder		3%	9
Rear udder height	1-9	Udder		4%	9
Udder cleft	1-9	Udder		4%	7
Udder depth	1-9	Udder		8%	7
Udder balance	1-9	Udder		4%	5
Teats length	1-9	Udder		2%	5
Teats diameter	1-9	Udder		1%	5
Teat direction	1-9	Udder		2%	5
Fore teat placement	1-9	Udder		3%	6
Rear teat placement	1-9	Udder		2%	5

Linear traits harmonization - The scale ranging from 1 to 9

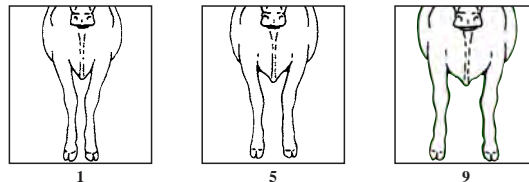
RUMP STATURE

1. very small (cm 135)
3. small
5. intermediate (cm 145)
7. tall
9. very tall (cm 155)



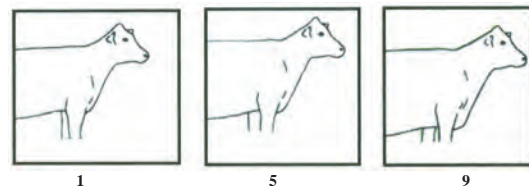
STRENGTH

1. very weak and narrow
3. weak and narrow
5. quite strong and wide
7. very strong
9. extremely strong and wide



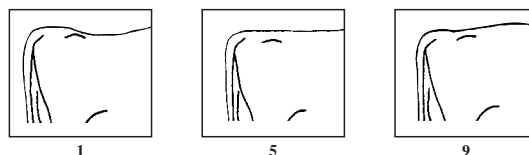
BODY DEPTH

1. very shallow
3. shallow
5. average depth
7. deep
9. very deep



BACK LINE

1. very weak and curved
3. weak
5. average flatness and strength
7. strong
9. very strong and raised



RUMP LENGTH

1. very short (cm 43)
3. short
5. average (cm 53)
7. long
9. very long (cm 63)



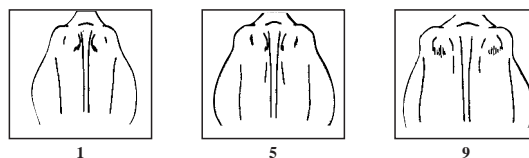
RUMP ANGLE (side view)

1. hooks much higher than pins (5 cm)
3. hooks and pins on the same level
5. slight slope towards hooks (5 cm)
7. average slope towards hooks
9. very strong slope towards hooks (15 cm)



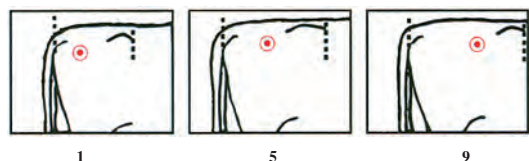
THURL WIDTH (at hooks)

1. very narrow
3. narrow
5. average narrowness
7. wide
9. very wide



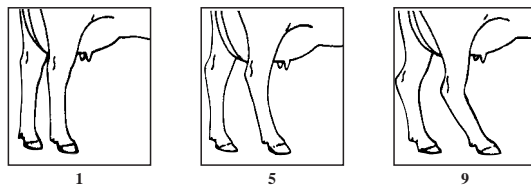
THURL POSITION

1. quite behind (= 12 cm behind the mid-rump length)
3. behind
5. population average (= 6 cm behind the mid-rump length)
7. ahead with respect to the population average
9. quite ahead with respect to the population average



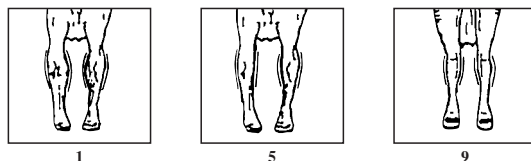
REAR LEGS (side view)

1. very straight and posty
3. almost straight at hocks
5. average angle
7. average sickleness
9. very sickled



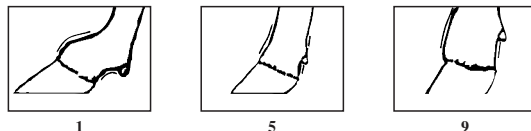
HOCK QUALITY

1. coarse and narrow (forward and backward)
3. coarse
5. average flatness
7. quite flat
9. very flat and wide (forward and backward)



PASTERNS

1. weak
3. quite weak
5. intermediate
7. strong
9. extremely strong



HEEL HEIGHT

1. very short (1 cm)
3. short
5. average height (3 cm)
7. quite high
9. very high (6 cm)



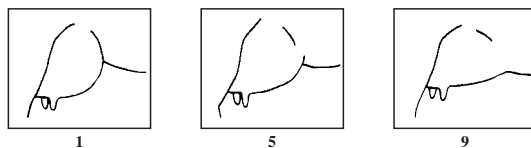
FORE UDDER LENGTH

1. very short (10 cm)
3. short
5. enough long (20 cm)
7. average long
9. extremely long (30 cm)



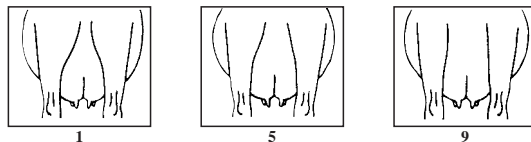
FORE UDDER ATTACHMENT

1. extremely loose, weak or broken
3. very loose
5. strong attachment
7. very strongly attached
9. extremely tight and strongly attached



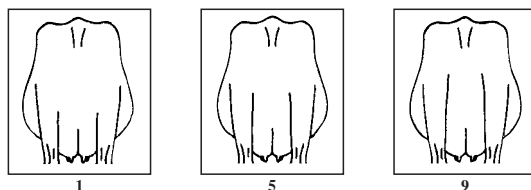
REAR ATTACHMENT WIDTH

1. very narrow (11 cm)
3. narrow
5. average narrowness (16 cm)
7. wide
9. very wide (21 cm)



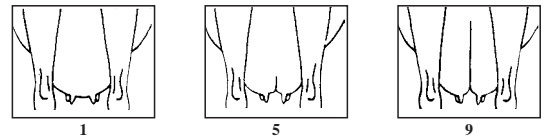
REAR ATTACHMENT HEIGHT

1. very short
3. short
5. average height
7. high
9. very high



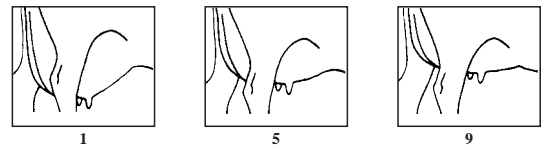
UDDER CLEFT

1. no ligament or broken
3. no middle cleft
5. sharp cleft (2.5 cm)
7. strong cleft
9. very deep cleft (5 cm)



UDDER DEPTH

1. flat floor, much lower than hocks (0 cm)
3. floor as high as hocks
5. slightly higher than hocks (10 cm)
7. much higher than hocks
9. very high, little volume (20 cm)



UDDER BALANCE

1. extremely low rear, tilted up
3. moderately low rear
5. level udder floor
7. moderately low front
9. extremely low front, tilted down



FORE TEATS LENGTH

1. very short (3 cm)
3. short
5. average length (5,5 cm)
7. long
9. very long (8 cm)



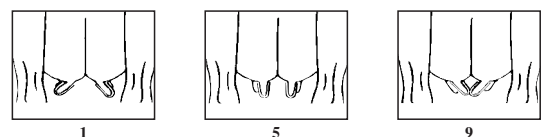
TEATS DIAMETER

1. very thin (1,5 cm)
3. thin
5. average (2,5 cm)
7. large
9. very large (cm 3,5)



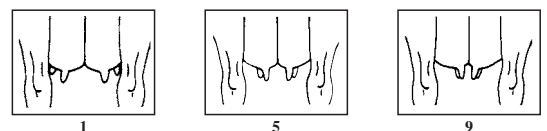
TEAT DIRECTION (rear view)

1. very wide, divergent
3. wide, divergent
5. central and straight
7. narrow, convergent
9. very narrow, convergent



FORE TEAT PLACEMENT

1. extremely wide - on the outside of quarters
3. placement toward outside of quarters
5. centrally placed - straight
7. placement toward inside of quarters
9. extremely close - on the inside of quarters



REAR TEAT PLACEMENT

1. extremely wide - on the outside of quarters
3. placement toward outside of quarters
5. centrally placed - straight
7. placement toward inside of quarters
9. extremely close - on the inside of quarters

