

FOOT SCORE GUIDELINES

Claw Set (5 is ideal)

Extremely weak, open, divergent claw set. Unsound.

1



Slight tendency for claws to curl. One claw may be slightly larger than the other.

6



Open, divergent claw set. Marginally unsound.

2



Tendency for claws to curl, with one claw larger than the other.

7



Moderately open/divergent claw set.

3



Moderate scissor claw and/or screw claw. Curling of one or both claws. Near crossing of claws. Marginally unsound.

8



Slightly open/divergent claw set.

4



Extreme scissor claw and/or screw claw. Pronounced curling of one or both claws. Crossing of claws. Unsound.

9



Ideal. Symmetrical claws, with appropriate space between claws.

5



Access AAA Login at angus.org to submit scores.

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FOOT SCORE GUIDELINES

Foot Angle (5 is ideal)



1

2

3

4

5



6

7

8

9

Claw Set (5 is ideal)



1

2

3

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5



6

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8

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ANGUS

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American Angus Association®
FOOT SCORE GUIDELINES



Buyers who make significant investments in cattle genetics expect them to last. Proper foot structure is essential to an animal's longevity, and Angus is leading the U.S. cattle industry in assessing an issue pertinent to all breeds – structural soundness.

The American Angus Association accepts foot scores from its members through a simple system aimed at the development of future decision-making genetic tools.

Breeders can score feet using two categories: foot angle and claw set. Problems with either area can affect soundness, and tools developed by the Association will assist producers in evaluating seedstock for their ability to propagate sound hoof structure.

Visit AAA Login at www.angus.org to get started.



Guidelines

- 1** Animals must be scored prior to hoof trimming.
- 2** When there is variation among an animal's feet, score the worst foot.
- 3** Score yearling bulls and heifers
 - bulls must be between 320 and 440 days
 - heifers must be between 320 and 460 days
- 4** Older females can be scored following guidelines used when collecting mature weights.
(Note: Foot structure changes as animals age. Scores will be adjusted for age as part of the analysis. Scores should describe the animal as they are at the time of scoring, without consideration of age).
- 5** Large groups of 18-month or 2-year-old bulls can also be submitted, if available.

FOOT SCORE GUIDELINES

Foot Angle (5 is ideal)



1 Extremely straight pasterns. Very short toe. Unsound.



6 Slightly shallow heel and long toe.



2 Straight front and rear pasterns. Marginally unsound.



7 Moderately shallow heel and long toe. Somewhat weak pasterns.



3 Moderately straight front and rear pasterns.



8 Shallow heel and long toe. Marginally unsound.



4 Slightly straight front and rear pasterns.



9 Extremely shallow heel and long toe. Extremely weak pasterns. Unsound.



5 Ideal. Approximately 45-degree angle at pastern joint. Appropriate length of toe and depth of heel.

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