FOOT SCORE GUIDELINES

FOOT ANGLE (5 IS IDEAL)

CLAW SET (5 IS IDEAL)

Guidelines:

- Animals must be scored prior to hoof trimming.
- When there is variation among an animal’s feet, score the worst foot for both traits combined.

When to Score:

- Score yearling bulls and heifers.
  (Bulls or heifers must be at least 320 days of age at scoring time.)
- Females can be scored annually.
  (Foot structure changes as animals age. Scores will be adjusted for age as a part of the analysis.
  Scores should describe animals as they are at the time of scoring, without consideration of age.)
- Scores for large groups of 18-month or 2-year-old bulls can be submitted if available.
**FOOT SCORE GUIDELINES**

**FOOT ANGLE (5 IS IDEAL)**

1. **Extremely straight pasterns.**
   - Very short toe. Unsound.

2. **Straight front and rear pasterns.**
   - Marginally unsound.

3. **Moderately straight front and rear pasterns.**

4. **Slightly straight front and rear pasterns.**

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

6. **Slightly shallow heel and long toe.**

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

8. **Shallow heel and long toe.**
   - Marginally unsound.

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

**CLAW SET (5 IS IDEAL)**

1. **Extremely weak, open, divergent claw set.**
   - Unsound.

2. **Open, divergent claw set.**
   - Marginally unsound.

3. **Moderately open/divergent claw set.**

4. **Slightly open/divergent claw set.**

5. **Ideal.**
   - Symmetrical claws, with appropriate space between claws.

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

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

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

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

Access AAA Login at angus.org to submit scores.