



# **BRITISH WHITE CATTLE SOCIETY**

## **HERD BOOK**

### **SECTION 2**

#### **RULES**

# CONSTITUTION & GOVERNANCE

1. The name of the Society is the British White Cattle Society.
2. The Society shall consist of the President, Vice President/s and an unlimited number of members whose names and addresses shall be recorded in a Register of Members.
3. The Executive Committee, in which the entire control and management of the Society shall be vested, shall consist of the President, Vice President/s and at least six, but not more than twelve people, who should be elected by the membership. One third of the elected members shall retire in rotation at the Annual General Meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election. The Executive Committee will elect a chairman from amongst its members to serve annually.
4. The President and Vice President/s shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting for a two year term after which they will be eligible for re-election.
5. The Executive Committee shall have power to appoint and dismiss officers, employees or independent contractors to administer the business transactions of the Society.
6. Should a vacancy occur on the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee may co-opt another member of the Society. The co-opted member shall be deemed to represent the vacating member and shall retire when that member's term of office expires.
7. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year. Urgent matters can be discussed and ratified in the interim by e-mail and/or phone conference. The conference will be co-ordinated and responses will be collated and circulated to the Committee by a nominated person. The matter must be noted at the following scheduled meeting.
8. The Executive Committee may appoint sub committees for any special purpose, and may delegate to them such powers they think necessary. The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall be an ex-officio member of all sub committees.
9. An Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint, and at least fourteen days written notice (sent to their last known address) shall be given to every member of the Society. The interval between Annual General Meetings may not be less than 10 months nor more than 14 months. At such meetings a Report and a Financial Statement for the previous year shall be presented, and elections of the officers and Committee members, as required in this Constitution, shall take place.
10. The Executive Committee may at any time and by a notice signed by the President or Chairman (stating the time, place and the specific purpose) summon an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society giving at least fourteen days written notice. No business may be transacted at an Extraordinary General Meeting other than that for which the meeting was summoned.
11. The Executive Committee shall have power to investigate and arbitrate upon disputes between members and/or matters relating to, or connected with British White cattle or members of the Society, and to deal with any matter which may arise and which is not provided for in these Rules. The Executive Committee will not decide upon the financial aspects of a dispute between members.

# RULES

## OBJECTS

1. The objects for which the Society is founded are:-
  - a) To encourage the breeding of British White cattle
  - b) To establish and publish a Herd book for them
  - c) To obtain classes at shows and to recommend judges
  - d) To investigate, determine and settle cases of doubtful and suspect pedigrees
  - e) To advise on matters relating to British White cattle in the United Kingdom
  - f) To promote sales by auction or by private treaty of British White cattle
  - g) To take any action legally incidental or conducive to attainment of any of the above objects

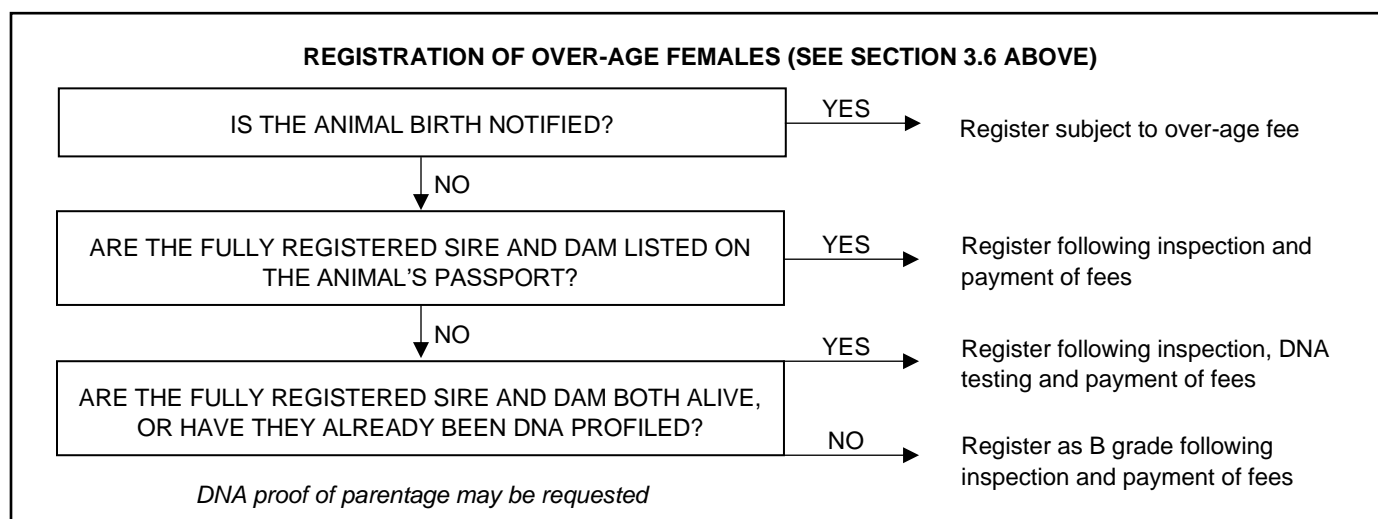
## MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 2.1 Any person favourable to the objects of the Society and willing to conform to its rules shall be eligible for membership, but no person who has been expelled from any other Breed Society shall be elected a member of the British White Cattle Society, unless by special permission from the Executive Committee. All members shall be treated equally and without discrimination and shall have free choice in their selection of breeding animals.
- 2.2 There are two classes of membership. Full Members, (including Junior Members) who enjoy all the privileges and benefits of the Society including the right to vote at General Meetings (any Junior Member under the age of 18 years of age may not vote at General Meetings, but is otherwise considered a Full Member) and Associate Members (including Overseas Members) who enjoy all the privileges and benefits of the Society except the ability to register cattle, and who do not have the right to vote at General Meetings or receive a Herd Book.
- 2.3 Any member may resign from the Society on giving notice to the Secretary in writing. Resigning members will have no claim whatsoever against the Society and will be liable for their subscription for the year in which they resign.
- 2.4 Any member violating the Rules of the Society shall be liable to be expelled by a vote of a simple majority of the Executive Committee. Any member who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, has been guilty or suspected of fraudulent practices in connection with livestock or livestock shows, or has acted in any way derogatory to the interests of the Society or the breed, or for any other reason is deemed by the Executive Committee to be an undesirable member, shall be expelled. No action shall be taken against any member without that member being given the opportunity to explain their actions.
- 2.5 The annual subscription for Full Members and Associate Members will be set from time to time by the Annual General Meeting. The subscription is payable on joining and subsequently on the 1<sup>st</sup> January in each year. The subscriptions of members joining after 1<sup>st</sup> September shall cover the next year's subscriptions as well.
- 2.6 No member whose subscription is in arrears shall be entitled to any privileges of the Society. The membership of any member whose subscription is more than 12 months in arrears will be terminated.

## HERDBOOK & REGISTRATIONS

- 3.1 The Herd Book shall include particulars of the pedigrees of British White cattle eligible to be entered therein, and such other information as the Executive Committee or General Meeting shall from time to time decide.
- 3.2 Members should register a Herd Prefix before, or at the same time as, making their first registration, in addition to which each animal must be given a name which cannot be altered after registration. The Executive Committee shall reserve the right to refuse any name or prefix without having to give a reason.
- 3.3 The fees for registering cattle or a prefix shall be as laid down at the Annual General Meeting from time to time. **NO CERTIFICATES WILL BE ISSUED UNLESS ALL FEES AND THE CURRENT YEAR'S SUSCRPTION HAVE BEEN PAID AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION.**
- 3.4 A calf may only be registered by its breeder, who is deemed to be the bona fide owner of the cow at the time she calves. In exceptional circumstances the Executive Committee may permit registration of animals by a member who is not the breeder.

- 3.5 Breeders may choose between either full registration or birth notification, one of which must be made within THREE months of birth. The animal's official UK ear tag number must be quoted in all cases.
- 3.6 Full registration may be made to the Society up to the age of EIGHTEEN months old, providing the calf has been previously birth notified within THREE months of birth as specified above. Registrations can be made in writing by using the Society's approved form or online computer system. Incorrect or incomplete applications, or where the appropriate fee has not been paid, will not be accepted. Females over the age of 18 months old may be accepted for registration depending on conditions laid out by the Executive Committee (see diagram below).
- 3.7 The Society will publish annually a full list of fees. Registration fees vary depending on the age of the animal at the time the correctly completed application and fee is received by the Society.
- 3.8 If the sire of the calf is not owned by the breeder of the calf, a certificate of natural service signed by the owner of the sire WILL be required. IF THE CALF IS BRED BY A.I., THE A.I. CERTIFICATE MUST BE SENT AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION. When a cow or heifer is purchased in-calf, the purchaser must obtain either the relevant A.I. certificate or a signed certificate of service from the vendor.
- 3.9 A thirty day interval must be observed between two different bulls running with females, or the resulting calves may not be accepted for registration unless satisfactory DNA sire verification can be provided.
- 3.10 Description of marking of cattle to be used in connection with registrations must be one of the following:-  
 White, black points, standard markings  
 White, black points, over-marked  
 White, black points, under-marked  
 White, black points, mis-marked  
 In appropriate cases the words "red points" may be substituted for "black points".
- 3.11 When an animal is accepted for registration, the Secretary will issue a pedigree certificate, in any format and upon such conditions as the Executive Committee may set down. Coloured certificates (pink) will be issued for cattle entered into the Grading Up Register (GUR) and the progeny of GUR 'D' cows until they have passed any required inspection.
- 3.12 The transfer of any registered animal will be recorded on payment of the relevant fee. No animal bred from a transferred bull or cow will be accepted for registration unless the transfer of such bull or cow has been registered in the books of the Society. The onus of reporting the transfer to the Secretary, and the responsibility for payment of transfer fees shall be upon the vendor of the animal or animals concerned. THIS MUST BE DONE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF SALE.
- 3.13 Any animal, male or female, born from registered British White parents that develops horns must be de-registered, and notification will be published in the following year's Herd Book.
- 3.14 Any animal of either full or grading-up pedigree that develops scurs, defined as horn like growths, fastened only to the skin, and not attached to the skull, must be re-registered to a "B" grade. Notification will be published in the following year's Herd Book and the letter "S" will be recorded in the Herd Book against the relevant entry. On no account should scurs be removed.



# REGULATIONS FOR GRADING UP REGISTER

- 1 The grading up register shall be published as a supplement to the Herd Book.
- 2 The abbreviated formula indicating entry in the Grading up Register shall be G.U.R.
- 3 Entries for the grading up register shall be made on coloured cards, breed or cross of dam to be stated. If applying for inspection to enter the G.U.R. at 'B' grade, the registration should be applied for in the same way but the certificate will not be issued until an inspection has been passed.
- 4 If a cow or heifer calves after the date the inspection has been applied for, that calf will be allowed to be registered at 'C' Grade or full pedigree depending on the dam's status.
- 5 All grading up registrations must have a Herd Prefix, and will be entered in a similar manner to and be subject to the same conditions as Herd Book registrations.
- 6 Each grading up registration entry shall comprise prefix and name of animal, section letter, date of birth, sire, dam and name of breeder.

## GRADING UP REGISTER FOR ANIMALS OF PARTLY HERD BOOK REGISTERED BRITISH WHITE BLOOD

(Note: This grading up scheme comes into operation for animals born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 1992. To conform with E.E.C. decision 84/4/419)

### BASE COW REGISTER

GRADE 'A': First cross female (half-bred) of any age. One parent must be a registered full pedigree British White male or female. The other parent must be a male or female of BEEF OR DUAL PURPOSE TYPE suitable for the establishment of a grading up programme.

SECTION 'A' OF THE GRADING UP REGISTER WAS CLOSED ON 31.12.95.

REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE ALLOWED WHERE THE NON PEDIGREE PARENT IS A DAIRY TYPE.

Please refer to the secretary for details of what breed or crosses will not be acceptable. These cattle must be described as British White crosses, not pedigree grading up cattle.

### GRADING-UP REGISTER

For the registration of grading-up females to become eligible after the third generation for the registration in the Herd Book proper.

ALL FEMALES IN SECTION B, C, AND D, TO BE PRONOUNCED BRITISH WHITE TYPE AND EXHIBIT ACCEPTABLE COLOUR MARKING.

GRADE 'B': This will be either a female of unknown parentage of any age conforming to breed standards as approved by a Society Inspector or a female sired by a registered pedigree British White bull, whose dam is registered in the Base Cow Register (A Grade).

GRADE 'C': Second cross female, the dam must be a Grade 'B' female registered in the Grading Up Register, sired by a registered Pedigree British White bull.

GRADE 'D': Third cross female, the dam must be a Grade 'C' female registered in the Grading Up Register sired by a registered pedigree British White bull.

FULL PEDIGREE Fourth cross MALE or FEMALE, the dam must be a Grade 'D' female registered in the Grading Up Register, sired by a registered Pedigree British White bull. Subject to passing inspection by an official BWCS inspector.

ALL CALVES ENTERED IN THE GRADING UP REGISTER WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME RULES & REGULATIONS AS FULL PEDIGREE CATTLE, EXCEPT WHERE STATED.

# INSPECTION REGULATIONS

1 Inspectors may be appointed by the Society to uphold their rules and standards for the grading up register, for bull inspections and at any sale where the cattle are to be sold under the auspices of the British White Cattle Society. Invitation to carry out an inspection will be made in writing.

## 2 GRADING UP INSPECTIONS

Applications for inspection must be sent with the relevant fee to the Secretary. Inspections cannot be arranged until fees have been paid; the allocated inspector(s) will then make an appointment with the breeder as soon as is convenient. Cattle will not be inspected before 9 months of age and 'D' Grade offspring should be inspected by 18 months. Those applying for entry into the 'B' Grade can be inspected at any age.

When applying for females to enter the 'B' Grade the normal registration fee will apply, with the maximum female registration fee applicable for any female over 12 months old.

When applying for the male or female offspring of a 'D' Grade cow, the normal registration fees will apply. Bulls must be notified by three months (as usual) but an inspection cannot be applied for until the registration fee is paid. Both male and female applications must be made before the age of 12 months.

There will be fixed fees for the inspection of females entering at 'B' Grade (see separate list of fees – these may be reviewed annually).

At 'B' Grade stage the inspector will be looking for a female who conforms to a three-quarter bred British White type. The conformation must be of a beef or dual purpose type and with no physical defects. Colouring and markings must be within the acceptable range as stated in the Breed Standard.

The male or female offspring of 'D' Grade cows must conform to the Breed Standard in conformation and markings. The animal must also be physically sound with no sign of defects or abnormalities. On being passed for full pedigree status by the inspector, they will be issued with a pedigree certificate endorsed 'passed inspection' instead of their coloured certificate. Should a female offspring of a 'D' Grade cow fail inspection, they may either be represented within one year under a different inspector or registered in the 'D' Grade. Rejected males will not be registered.

## 3 BULL INSPECTIONS

Any bull born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 must be inspected and approved by the Society before any progeny from it may be registered. Such inspections should be carried out between the ages of 9 and 18 months old. The criteria for any bull to be approved for breeding will be decided by the Executive Committee from time to time and notified to the Members.

Bulls must be notified in writing within 3 months of birth. Registration must be completed within 18 months of birth.

In the case of male offspring of 'D' Grade cows, the Society bull inspection criteria will apply as with any other bull.

### **BULLS MUST NOT BE USED FOR PEDIGREE BREEDING UNTIL THEY HAVE PASSED INSPECTION**

## 4 SALE INSPECTIONS

At any sale where the cattle are to be sold under the auspices of the British White Cattle Society, two inspectors may be appointed to carry out an inspection of the animals.

Prior to the sale, inspectors will be provided with a set of sale inspection guidelines, to be advised by the Society and to be circulated to the members so that they may be aware of the criteria before entry.

Should any animals fail inspection, buyers will be made aware at the time of sale that although they may still be sold through the sale ring, those particular lots will not be auctioned under the auspices of the BWCS.

The decision made by the inspectors on the day of the sale shall be final.

# EMBRYO TRANSPLANT (E.T.) REGULATIONS

## GENERAL

- 1 No calf born by E.T. will be registered in the BWCS Herd Book unless all the conditions stated in these regulations have been satisfied in full.
- 2 Members intending to use E.T. shall first notify the Breed Secretary in writing, so that the eligibility of animals can be verified and advice given on the administrative procedures to be followed.

## QUALIFICATIONS

- 3 The donor cow shall be of Full Pedigree or Grade 'D' status, registered with the BWCS, and DNA tested by the agency approved by the ministry. A COPY OF THE DNA CERTIFICATE OF THE DONOR COW MUST BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY WITH THE NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO FLUSH THE COW.
- 4 The service sire (natural or A.I.) shall be of Full Pedigree status, recognised and DNA tested as for the donor cow.
- 5 The recipient dam's ear tag number and breed or cross must be recorded for documentation purposes with the BWCS.
- 6 No more than TWO males of the same parentage (sire and dam) got by E.T. may be registered in any 12 month period, such period commencing on the date of registration of the first animal.

## PROCEDURES FOR EMBRYO REGISTRATION

- 7 An embryo registration form obtained from the Secretary (see para. 2) must be completed in full, giving details of each embryo which is either frozen or implanted, and signed by the Veterinary Officer who carried out the flushing.
- 8 The embryo registration form, completed and signed, must be sent to the Breed Secretary within THIRTY DAYS of the date of embryo collection (flushing) together with the relevant A.I. certificates.
- 9 The owner of the donor dam shall be responsible for providing TWO copies of the embryo registration form. One (the breeders copy) is for use when registering the resulting progeny. The second copy shall be held by the E.T. unit for recording purposes. Photo-copies will be accepted.

## PROCEDURE FOR REGISTRATION OF AN E.T. CALF

- 10 The registration of each calf got by embryo transplant shall be subject to the same conditions in respect of registration periods as calves born to their natural dam.
- 11 The registration fee for a calf got by E.T. shall be twice that payable for a calf born to its natural dam.
- 12 The owner of the calf requiring registration shall forward to the Secretary, within THREE MONTHS of the birth of the calf (see para. 13).
  - a) Registration card with the letters E.T. inserted on the pedigree/grading up line and the ear number of the recipient dam in the top right hand corner
  - b) Copy of embryo registration form with details of calf completed alongside recipient dam
  - c) The appropriate fee (see paras. 11 & 13)A DNA profile of the calf from an approved agency may be requested by the Society before registration is allowed. The decision to DNA test will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 13 Late registration will be charged at double or treble the standard E.T. fee in the same way as late registration of natural-born animals. **N.B. all bulls have to be birth notified within 3 months to be eligible for later registration.**
- 14 All animals got by E.T. are to be identified by the letters E.T. following the Herd Book number wherever this is used.

## REPORTING CHANGES OF CIRCUMSTANCE

- 15 The Secretary of the BWCS is to be informed of the following WITHIN 30 DAYS:-
  - a) In the case of a frozen embryo:
    - i) Transfer of ownership
    - ii) Embryo thawed and implanted
    - iii) Embryo destroyed
  - b) In the case of a recipient dam, in-calf
    - i) Transfer of ownership
    - ii) Destruction
  - c) In the case of an E.T. calf
    - i) Loss of calf at any time prior to registration

- 16 Changes of circumstance are to be notified on an embryo amendment form, copies of which are available from the Secretary.
- 17 In the event of a frozen embryo or recipient dam being sold, a copy of the relevant embryo registration will be sent to the new owner by the Secretary, on being notified of the details required in para. 15 above.
- 18 Export or import of embryos must be in accordance with the regulations set out by H.M. Customs and Excise, the British White Cattle Society and all other relevant legislation.
- 19 If a donor female is offered for sale, it is the vendor's responsibility to declare:-  
a) Date of the most recent flushing  
b) Number of registered E.T. progeny  
c) Number of Recipients pregnant  
d) Number of frozen embryos in store
- 20 The Executive Committee of the BWCS shall have the power to revise or amend these regulations at any time if they consider it to be in the interest of the breed, provided that due notice is given to members.
- 21 These regulations and any amendments thereto, shall take effect THREE calendar months from the date shown below.

**DATE** 18<sup>th</sup> November 1987  
**AMENDED** 27<sup>th</sup> October 1992, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019

## **SHOW RULES AND STANDARDS GOVERNING THE EXHIBITION, INSPECTION, DESCRIPTION AND JUDGING OF BRITISH WHITE CATTLE**

- 1 No cattle can be shown as British White at approved and recognised breed shows unless they are registered in, or entered for, the Society's Herd Book. ONLY FULL PEDIGREE AND 'C' AND 'D' GRADE FEMALES CAN BE SHOWN AS BRITISH WHITE CATTLE.
- 2 All cattle must be entered for show under their registered name with the Herd Book reference and the exhibitor must be the owner and responsible for their description.
- 3 Breeders and judges should aim at the best combination of milk and beef qualities. The judge, in his final award, to give greatest weight to conformation but particular attention should always be given to breed type.

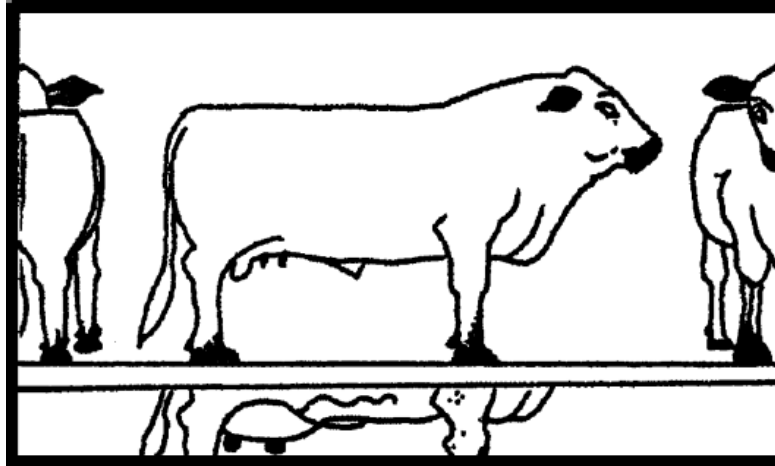
### **STANDARDS**

<b>CHARACTER</b>	The British White is a naturally polled, large and hardy native breed exhibiting the dual characteristics of beef and milking ability.
<b>COLOUR</b>	Must be white with black or red points, viz. nose, muzzle, and pigment round the eyes, ears, teats of cows or rudimentary teats of bulls, hooves and splash or spots of colour on the front of each fetlock. It is preferable that the skin should show dark pigmentation.
<b>HEAD</b>	Shall be free from slugs or rudimentary horns. It should be of a fair length, from eye to muzzle, which should be broad. The heads of bulls should be masculine in character and of cows fine and feminine.
<b>BODY</b>	Animals should be functional and free moving on sound feet, with a long level top line not rising at the root of the tail, broad and expanding over loins to hips, pin bones well apart especially in the bulls. The shoulders gently sloping and well set in, the ribs well sprung. The underline should be level. The hindquarters long from hook to pin, buttocks being well fleshed down to the hocks, which when viewed from the back, should be straight, turning neither inwards nor outward.
<b>UDDER</b>	Level, well developed but not pendulous, the teats of moderate size, set evenly and pointing to the ground. It is important that the rudimentary teats of bulls should be wide set and well developed.
<b>SKIN</b>	Should be fine and handle well.

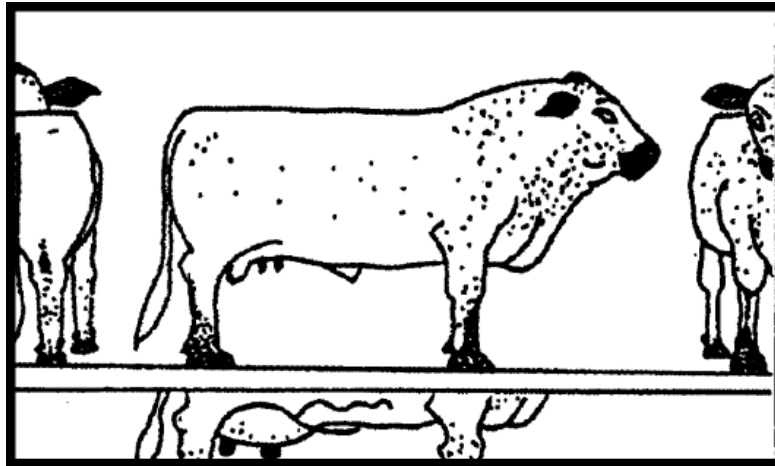


# COLOURATION DIAGRAMS

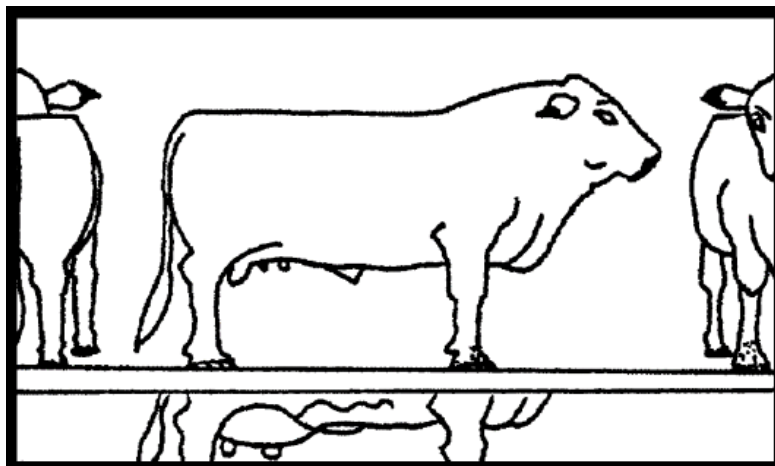
Diagram of Points – P.C.S. Standard



STANDARD MARKING



OVERMARKED ("STRONG MARKINGS")



UNDERMARKED ("WEAK MARKINGS")

"MISMARKING" IS ALSO ACCEPTABLE, WHERE THE ANIMAL APPEARS OVERMARKED IN THE BODY BUT COULD ALSO HAVE, FOR EXAMPLE, ONE OR MORE WHITE CLAWS ON THE BACK FEET.