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American Milking Devon Cattle Association

Established in 1978 to promote the conservation of American Milking Devon cattle as a triple purpose breed by maintaining a breed registry, encouraging knowledgeable and responsible breeding, and educating the public about the historic role of American Milking Devon Cattle, as well as their place in a healthy sustainable agriculture.

Properly cared for Milking Devons will work for you, not you work for them.-- Diurna Kibbe



AMDCA Judging Clinic- November 16, 2019

One of many nice AMD's critiqued at the AMDCA Event held at Bardwell Farm in Remsen, New York. The event was hosted by Drs. Steve and Jude Burton and their son, Seth Burton.

To stop receiving the newsletter or if you have suggestions, content or announcements to be included, please contact Tom Slater
patriotsretreatfarm@yahoo.com

Feature Article: AMDCA Judging Clinic- November 16, 2019

Courtesy of Dr. Drew Conroy, Edited by Thomas Slater

Why Judge Livestock?

Visually evaluating cattle based on physical traits observed in the animal is a qualitative skill that takes practice and requires an understanding of cattle body parts. Using visual evaluation can help identify the traits that are desired in the animals for their health, longevity, and high production levels as well as provide a tool in selecting animals to be kept for breeding and those that will be sold or culled from the herd.

Disadvantages of Visual Evaluation – it is not a perfect science, there are biases, and I have mine, and judging can tend to focus on traits certain people want in their animals, which could be a detriment to the diversity of genetics in the population. Phil Sponenberg has written and talked about this with regard to rare breeds.

With some training in qualitative evaluation of dairy cattle, all of these can be seen in less than a minute by simply looking at an animal providing insight on the animal's:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| -Age | -Production Capacity |
| -Size | -Body Condition |
| -Weight | -Stage of Lactation |
| -Health | -Body Capacity |
| -Sex | -Reproductive Capacity |
| -Breed | -Soundness (Feet and Legs) |
| -Possible Family/Lineage | -History, and |
| -Production Level | -Environment it has lived in. |

What Are Some Other Good Reasons To Show Cattle?

- To have fun & meet others who share your passion for the breed
- To Compete and better train your animals for ease of handling
- To be able to compare your animals to others
- To find animals to buy, to market your own animals, or to improve your stock

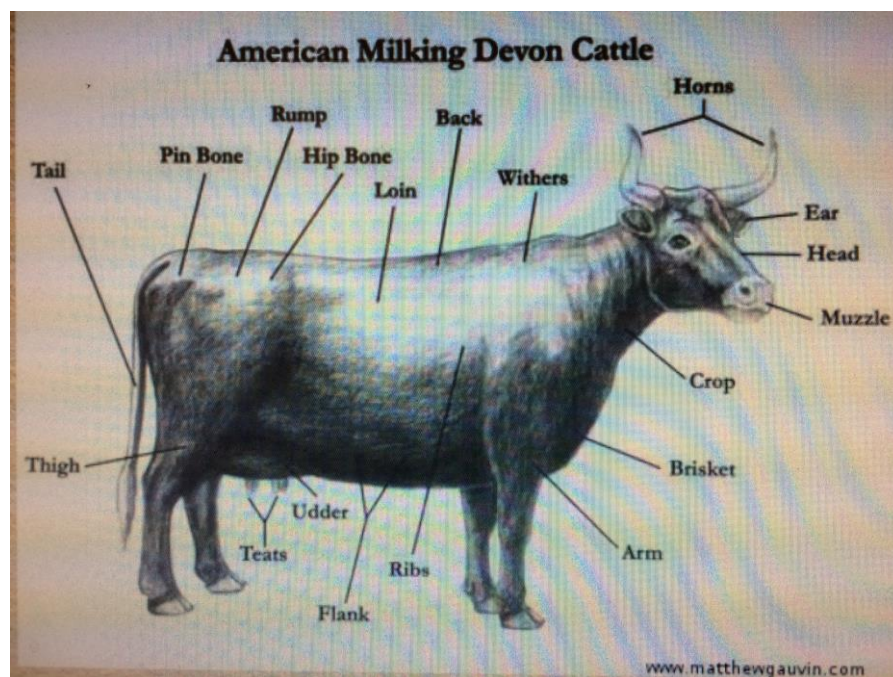
The Ideal Animal

When judging you must have an image of the ideal animal in mind....there is no animal that is perfect or that will get a perfect score, but you still need to keep in mind what makes an animal an excellent example of the breed. Part of this is knowing which body parts are going to affect the health, productivity and longevity of the animal.



This is the ideal American Milking Devon based on the Standard Score Card. It has everything we like in a dairy animal except they are a bit more compact and should carry more flesh, especially in the rump and thighs.

Body Parts – can you identify them?



| British White Cattle Society Recommended Standards | | |
|--|---|--------|
| | Description from UK BWCS herdbook volume 59 | Points |
| Character | The British White is a naturally polled, large and hardy native breed exhibiting the dual characteristics of beef and milking ability. | 20 |
| Colour | Must be white with black or red points, viz Nose, muzzle, 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. The skin showing dark pigmentation. | 25 |
| Head | Free from slugs or rudimentary horns. It should be of a fair length from eyes to muzzle, which should be broad. The heads of bulls should be masculine in character and of cows, fine and feminine. | |
| Body Conformation | 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 or outwards. | |
| Udder | 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 developed. | 5 |
| Skin | Should be fine and handle well | |
| Total | | 100 |

| Standard of Excellence and Scale of Points of Devon Cow | |
|--|-----|
| From the American Devon Record Book, 1926 | |
| <p>HEAD moderately long, with a broad indented Forehead, tapering considerably towards the Nostrils; the Nose of creamy-white, the Nostrils high and open, the Jaws clean, the Eye bright, lively and prominent; Throat clean, Ears thin, the Expression being gentle and intelligent; Horns matching, long, spreading, and gradually turned up, of waxy color, tipped with a darker shade.</p> | 10 |
| <p>NECK of medium length, growing from the Head to the shoulders, and spreading out to meet them.</p> | 4 |
| <p>WITHERS fine, Shoulders flat, sloping and well covered.</p> | 6 |
| <p>RIBS well sprung from the Backbone, nicely arched, deep and fully developed.</p> | 8 |
| <p>BACK straight and level from the Withers, to the setting on of the Tail, Loins broad and full, Hips of medium width and on a level with the Back.</p> | 12 |
| <p>RUMPS moderately long and level.</p> | 8 |
| <p>HIND-QUARTERS deep, thick and square.</p> | 10 |
| <p>UDDER not fleshy, coming well forward in line with the Belly, and well up behind; Teats large, and squarely placed.</p> | 20 |
| <p>TAIL thick at the root and tapering, with a brush of strong hair, reaching to the Hocks, and hanging at right angles with the back.</p> | 5 |
| <p>THE UNDER LINE as nearly as possible parallel with the top.</p> | 6 |
| <p>LEGS straightly and squarely placed when viewed from behind, not to cross or sweep when walking.</p> | 5 |
| <p>SKIN moderately thick and mellow, covered with an abundant coat of rich mossy hair of a red color; white about the Udder is admissible, but it should not extend beyond the Navel forward, on the outside of the Flanks or any other part of the Limbs or Body.</p> | 6 |
| <p>Perfection</p> | 100 |

Above is a comparison of the British White Cattle Breed Standard Score Card with the American Milking Devon Breed Standard Score Card. The AMD Score Card was developed in 1926 and this is the standard by which all AMDs are currently judged. The Score Card can and does change in breeds and types of livestock over time to change with the times and demand for certain products or animals. The AMD Score Card has not changed since 1926. Regarding the Score Card, I know that feet and legs are more important to me as a breeder and ox enthusiast who likes Milking Devon Oxen, than the Score Card above states. It is also surprising that skin, ribs and withers rank higher than feet and legs.



Learning to quickly evaluate an animal's strengths and weaknesses can be done by viewing an animal in a photo or live for just 10-30 seconds and writing down or sharing what was seen. This helps train people to look at what is most important and learn to focus their attention on the most important parts of the dairy animal.

The current Milking Devon has many of the same characteristics of animals from nearly 120 years ago

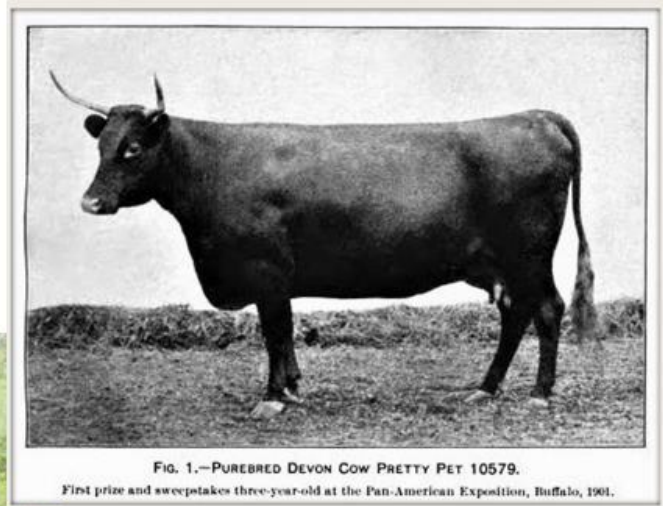


FIG. 1.—PUREBRED DEVON COW PRETTY PET 10579.
First prize and sweepstakes three-year-old at the Pan-American Exposition, Buffalo, 1901.

Examining the Score Card – Let’s take a walk through the Score Card.

HEAD moderately long, with a broad indented Forehead, tapering considerably towards the Nostrils; the Nose of creamy-white, the Nostrils high and open, the Jaws clean, the Eye bright, lively and prominent; Throat clean, Ears thin, the Expression being gentle and intelligent; Horns matching, long, spreading, and gradually turned up, of waxy color, tipped with a darker shade.

10 points, that’s a lot compared to other breed standards



NECK of medium length, growing from the Head to the shoulders, and spreading out to meet them. **4 points**

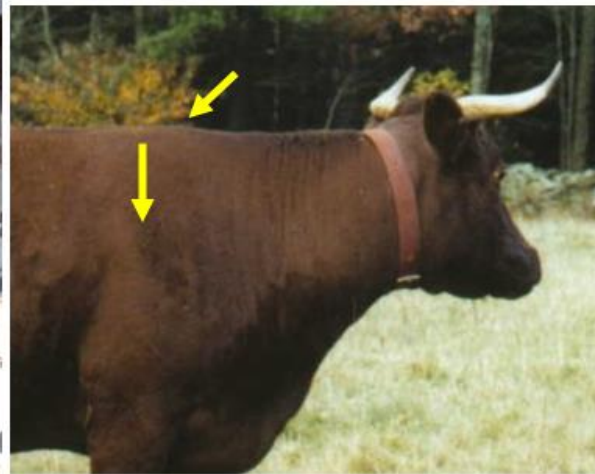
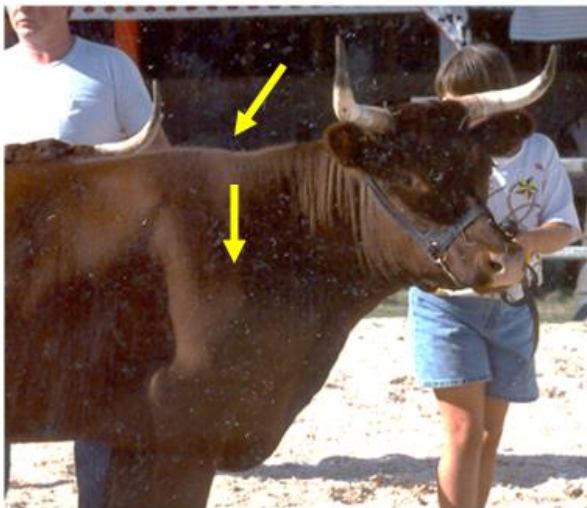


This cow is not as clean in the head and neck



This cow is longer and cleaner (less dewlap) in the head and neck

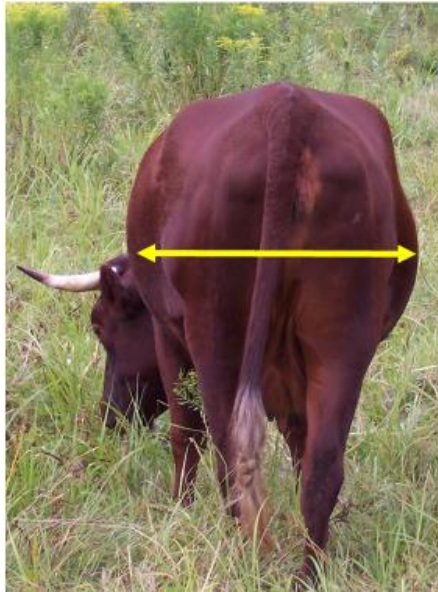
WITHERS fine, Shoulders flat, sloping and well covered. **6 points**



Cow on left is loose in the shoulders & not smooth between the neck, withers and topline

RIBS well sprung from the Backbone, nicely arched, deep and fully developed.

8 points



BACK straight and level from the Withers, to the setting on of the Tail, Loins broad and full, Hips of medium width and on a level with the Back. **12 points**



RUMP moderately long and level. 8 points



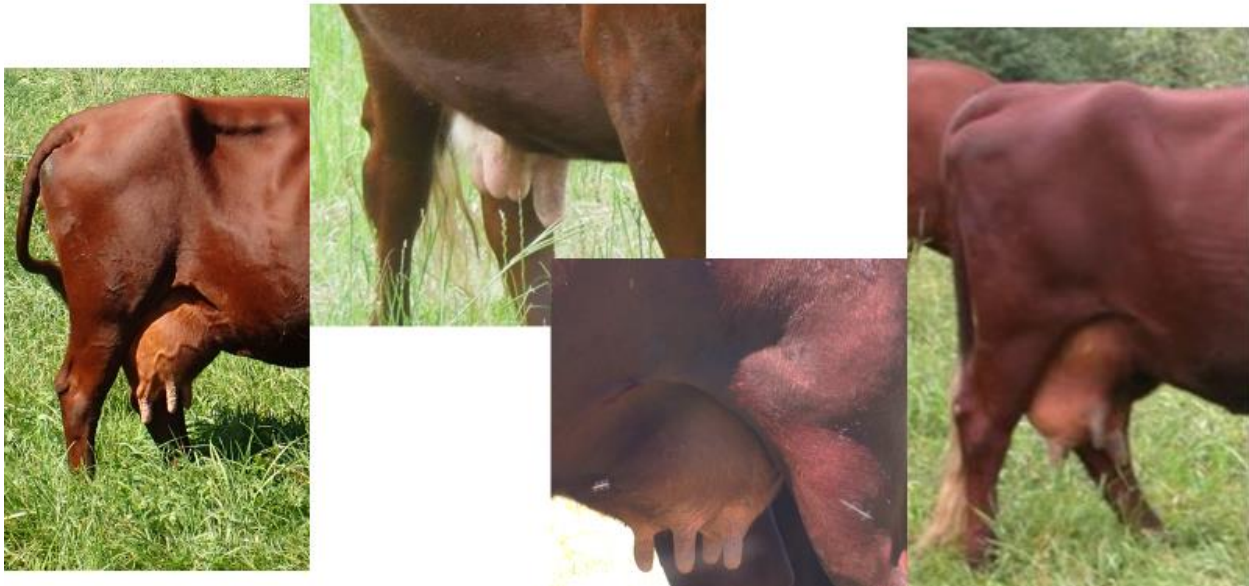
HIND-QUARTERS deep, thick and square 10 points



UDDER not fleshy, coming well forward in line with the Belly, and well up behind; Teats large, and squarely placed. **20 points**



UDDER not fleshy, coming well forward in line with the Belly, and well up behind; Teats large, and squarely placed. **20 points**



TAIL thick at the root and tapering, with a brush of strong hair, reaching to the Hocks, and hanging at right angles with the back. **5 points**



THE UNDER LINE as nearly as possible parallel with the top **6 points**



LEGS straightly and squarely placed when viewed from behind, not to cross or sweep when walking. **5 points**



To view the legs from the side and hoof angle, step away from the animals ?



SKIN moderately thick and mellow, covered with an abundant coat of rich mossy hair of a red color; white about the Udder is admissible, but it should not extend beyond the Navel forward, on the outside of the Flanks or any other part of the Limbs or Body. **6 points**

Rare Breed: Lyndon's Ray Clark Is Leading Expert On Milking Devons

Lyndon Farmer Shares Knowledge At Colonial Williamsburg

Amy Ash Nixon Apr 10, 2019 0



Two heifers 100 years apart, both showing great conformation...look for animals like these

The Effects of Age

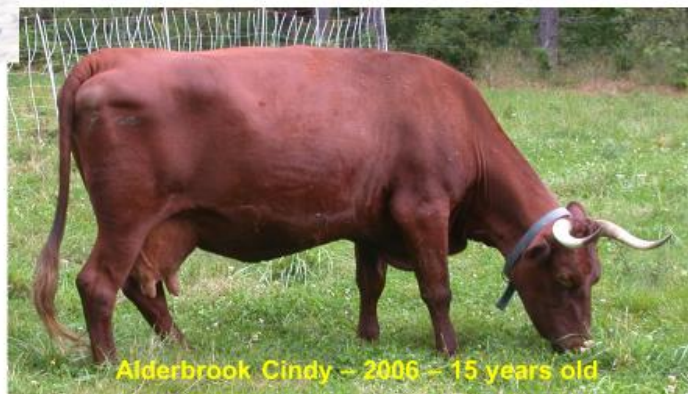
Cattle change with age
The udder drops and
the body becomes
deeper



Alderbrook Cindy 1999 – 8 years old



Alderbrook Cindy – 2003 – 12 years old



Alderbrook Cindy – 2006 – 15 years old

Emphasize the Positive

For beginning judges, it is often easier to see the major faults of animals, especially when one has limited experience in viewing animals on farms or in shows. Evaluating major defects or faults in the animals can help a judge at any level quickly make a decision as to whether the animal has enough merit or quality to place in the show or for a farmer deciding which animals are to be kept in the herd or culled. Some faults are extreme, and will affect an animal's ability to move, reproduce, and produce milk without problems. Examples would be heifers that are extremely weak in the legs, especially the rear legs. A cow could remain productive for more than a decade, but in order to do so they have to be able to support an udder that could weigh over 50-100 pounds, meaning the rear feet and legs have to be strong enough to do so. Animals with extremely weak pasterns or those that are sickle hocked as heifers, will not have the conformation that would allow them to last in a modern dairy herd.



Fannie From Bardwell Farm

Realize a common challenge is that beginning judges tend to focus on the negative characteristics of animals. In judging and presenting either written or oral reasons, we try to **always emphasize the positive attributes** animals have over the animals below them in a show, not faulting every animal in our reasons.

Lessons from 39 Years of Judging

- 1) A judge needs to be consistent, follow a similar pattern of viewing every animal. If you have a bias, which we all do, still **be consistent**;
- 2) A judge needs to provide reasons for why they judged a group of animals, preferably using the correct body terminology and scorecard;
- 3) A Judge needs to thoroughly look over every animal, in the same manner...front view, side view and rear view, watch them on the move;
- 4) A Judge needs to be positive, not simply pointing out every animal's fault(s);
- 5) A Judge needs to be confident. If you are influenced by whose animal you are judging or who is in the audience...it will cause problems. I would rather be known as a judge who is consistent, gives clear reasons, and understands the importance of the body parts and how they affect the animal;

- 6) Place a class of cattle, stating why you place every animal over the next one in line, instead of saying why you placed one below another. For example:
I placed cow number 1 over 2 because she has a more attractive udder, held up higher on her body, with a smoother stronger fore-udder, she also walks on a more correct set of hind legs, with a stronger pastern and hoof angle, and finally she is more correct in the head and neck, being both long and feminine in both.

Problems Drew Has Faced as a Judge Over the Years

- **Thinking it is easy** – it's not...you have to place the class with someone on top and someone at the bottom.
- **Sharp Practice** – people trying to deceive the judge and superintendent of the show.
- **Exhibitors or Parents** who argue with the judge while he/she is in the ring.
- **Struggling to find a placing I am happy with...** You have to think about the scorecard and think about the animal you would buy if you had the money to purchase only one of the two you are struggling with in making a decision.
- **Not being Encouraging:** Always compliment something about every animal...meaning provide a positive statement for those placing lower than others with a compliment on their animal or showmanship skills.
- **Keeping it Professional** - Not following the standard good judges use in being comparative, using the correct terminology and methodical in my reasons and placings.

FINAL EXAM JUST FOR FUN

Question 1: Which of the following statements would be most appropriate when giving reasons on a cow class placing in the show ring:

- A) Cow 1 places over 2 because she is skinny, has a shiny hair coat, has big teats, and an udder that is really big.
- B) Cow 1 places over 2 for her greater depth of body, more correct fore-udder attachment, stronger pasterns, and overall strength of topline.
- C) Cow 2 simply looks like a bulldog with long legs, her carcass isn't fit to be ground up and placed between two sesame seed buns.
- D) Cow 2 is fatter, less angular, weak in the loin, and has a bag that hangs between her legs like a wet grain sack. Cow 1 is simply a better choice.

Question 2: In giving reasons it is important to do which of the following:

- A) Be accurate, descriptive, creative, use proper terminology, and talk clearly.
- B) Be accurate, complete, able to visualize the cows, descriptive, and use proper emphasis.
- C) Be accurate, complete, comparative, able to visualize the cows, and use proper emphasis.
- D) Be complete, descriptive, memorize the reasons, and don't worry about little details.
- E) Be creative, random, use little trivial details and try to baffle the audience with your creativity.

ANSWERS: Question 1:B; Question 2:C

Authors Note: These materials come in part from an Open Education Resource I developed and teaching materials from my dairy judging course at the University of New Hampshire over the last 30 years.

<https://www.oercommons.org/authoring/29160-judging-and-evaluating-dairy-cattle/view> or just do an Internet search for “OER Dairy Cattle Evaluation”

NEW AMD OWNER/BREEDER ATTENDS JUDGING CLINIC



David Atherton, his wife Erica Wellington, and their two dogs moved to Poultney, Vermont from Bozeman, Montana in October 2019. David's background is in Physics and Business and Erica is a Genetic Counselor; both are new to farming and raising cattle. After many months of research, the ruggedness and beauty of the American Milking Devon drew them to the breed, and before the moving boxes were unpacked they purchased two heifers. They look forward to

enjoying all three purposes of the breed: milk, meat and draft.

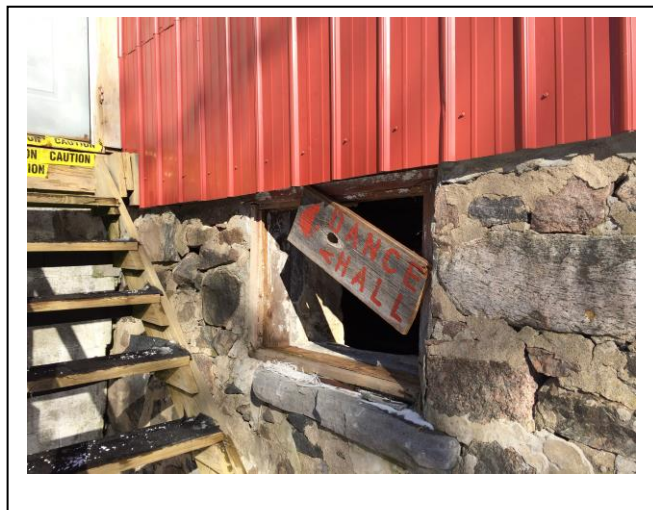
AMDCA Judging Event Held at Bardwell Farms

Written by Editor Thomas Slater



Hosts Dr. Steve Burton, Dr. Jude Burton and Seth Burton

Saturday November 16th turned out to be a brisk day in Remsen, New York but that didn't stop 28 Devon lovers from the States of New York, Vermont, Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Virginia and Pennsylvania from joining the Burtons on their farm to experience a judging clinic run by Dr. Drew Conroy. Dr. Conroy is a Professor of Animal Science and Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. The Association wishes to thank the Burtons for being such gracious hosts and for allowing their cattle to be the focus of the day—not an easy thing when they are being critiqued. The cattle were exceptionally well-behaved.



AMDCA Judging Event Held at Bardwell Farms (Continued)

The day started with a gathering in the amazing barn which has a history of being host to many barn dances. It even had a stage on one end. After some opening remarks from Dr. Conroy, everyone proceeded to the pasture where various Devons were examined and critiqued. The event was a combination of lecture followed up by practical application questions from Professor Conroy for participants to answer. The Burtons have managed to pull together a nice herd from several locations which provided some diversity for participants to experience firsthand, all in one location.



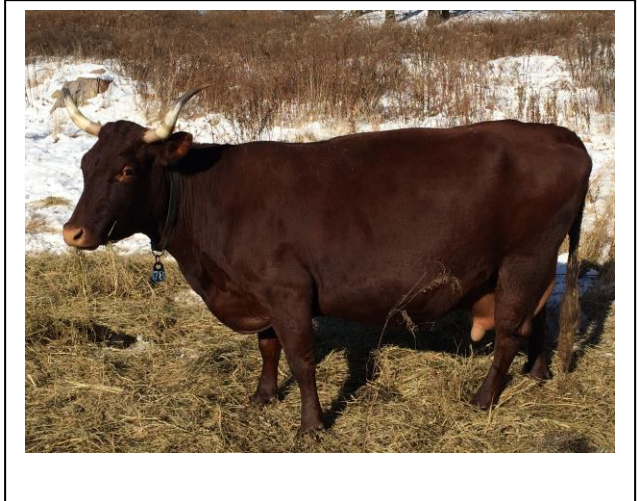
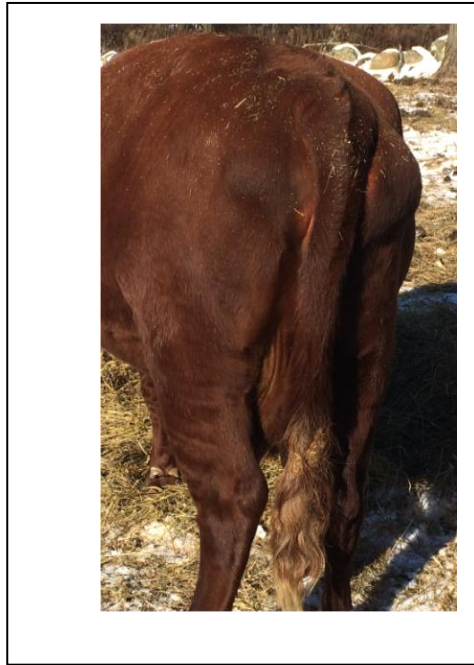
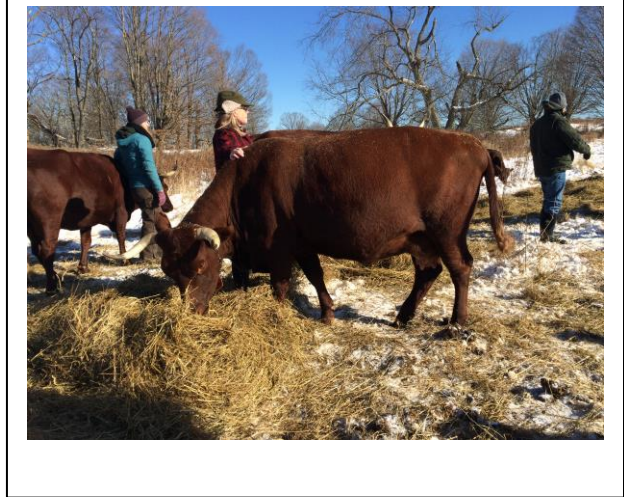
After the field experience the group retired to the barn for a great catered lunch and some fellowship. Once lunch was finished the group gathered around the fire the Burtons had prepared (and which was happily maintained by some of the children present) to process what we had learned.

One of the major Association purposes for the event is to begin the process of developing judges who are familiar with the AMD breed, the AMD Breed Standards and who can competently judge

these rare breeds in the future. By all measures this event was highly successful.









2020 Mid-Atlantic Regional Gathering September 25-27, 2020

Milking Devon, like most rare breeds, do not have a rich history of large shows and competitions, which is what makes our annual Mid-Atlantic gathering so rewarding. Every breeder who participates, whether as an exhibitor or as a visitor, comes away with both a shared value as well as their unique experience. Here is what several 2019 participants had to say **“in their own words.”**

“This year’s show was exciting to be a part of. The competition was great and it was a pleasure talking and meeting with other Devon breeders both new and old. Talking to other breeders is, in my opinion, the best part of the show. Comparing notes or listening to stories of others is always fun. Many of this year’s competitors have been showing for years and it shows in their presentations. Since we are still relatively new to the show world it was nice to see how others prepared and got their cattle ready. Having Darin as a judge was also a delight. I thought he did well and judged a very fair show. Although we didn’t have the results we wanted, having numerous competitors to compare our cattle to was helpful to us. It showed us what we need to work on. Overall this year’s show was fun to be a part of and we are looking forward to next year!”
Samantha Hughes, Coach & Livestock, Colonial Williamsburg



Samantha Hughes

“My family and I had a great time exhibiting at the 2019 Mid-Atlantic Regional Show. I grew up demonstrating working cattle but exhibiting show cattle was a first for all of us this year. My daughter, Lily, had shown two Milking Devon heifers in 4-H this year but she had the only Milking Devon cattle and only competed against a couple others in the all other breeds category. The Mid-Atlantic show offered a unique opportunity to show with a number of Milking Devon cattle and we all enjoyed the experience. We actually started preparing for the trip soon after we had attended the 2018 Mid-Atlantic Regional Show as spectators.

Lily worked daily with her heifers all summer and I challenged her with a new bull calf somewhat last minute. I periodically worked with a yearling heifer and older cow as well. Other planning included fulfilling the entry requirements, sourcing hay, putting together efficient tack, planning a “pretty cow” contest costume and building a farm display. When the big day came,

2020 Mid-Atlantic Regional Gathering (Continued)

neither Lily nor I could sleep so we got an early start and had an uneventful 500 mile trip to Doswell. The State Fair of Virginia provided great facilities for the cattle and could not have been more welcoming and helpful. I must also commend the Virginia State Police for an excellent job managing crowds and traffic.

Friday was a nice day to settle in, relax and visit with the other breeders and visitors to the fair. The four other directors and I also took the opportunity to hold a small gathering with the membership in attendance to answer questions and provide updates on various topics. Saturday, being show day, was a long day but all went well.

Lily’s work paid off and the calves behaved beautifully for her. Sunday morning Lily led the calves for the card grading event and I enjoyed listening while many of the cattle were being evaluated. Finally, Lily and her heifer donned their costumes and participated in the pretty cow contest before we packed, said our goodbyes and headed for home.



Lily Van Ord and her heifer in the pretty cow contest

I believe the event provides a great many exciting opportunities for members regardless if they are an exhibitor or a spectator. I would encourage members to participate however suits them

but please do consider participating. The event has a lot of potential for the future and the more people that share in it, the better it will be.” Andrew Van Ord, Ox Hill Devons, PA



Mark Winslow

“The 2019 AMD Regional Show in VA provided an agricultural venue for exhibition of our Devon cattle. The opportunity to compete with other AMD breeders met our expectations. The AMD show also served as an opportunity for breed evaluation, ranking and commentary regarding our current breeding program as well as insights for our future herd. All

exhibitors/participants/fair officials were warm and welcoming. Kim and I look forward to the

2020 Mid-Atlantic Regional Gathering (Continued)

2020 AMD show including sharing our steer and oxen knowledge.” Mark Winslow, Marston Homestead, ME

“I was able to attend both the Show Day and your Grading Clinic the following day. Seeing Devon cattle from eleven different herds was a great help to adjust my Angus trained eye to a Milking Devon paradigm. Seeing the AMD cattle at the Regional Show has been a huge help to me as we make decisions regarding the Milking Devons at AK/NCF. Thanks again to you and your fellow AMD breeders for the show, I expect to be there again this year.” Eugene Roberts, Board Member & Chair of Livestock Committee, Accokeek Foundation/National Colonial Farm, MD

The 2020 Gathering is shaping up to be an even more rewarding experience. Planning for 2020 with the State Fair is moving forward, with numerous adjustments and additions. Preliminary plans are for:

The **Youth Showing & Fitting** to be moved to Friday. Some very good news is that out-of-state 4-H kids will be able to enter and compete in the Fair’s youth programs, including scholarships.

The **Milking Devon Regional Competition** will lead off the Fair’s Dairy Show Saturday morning. Bios for two very experienced judges have been given to both the AMD Board and the State Fair. Two additional classes for cows are being added. The new cow classes will include: 1) 2-year olds; 2) 3-4 year olds; 3) 5-7 year olds; and 4) 8-year old and older.

There is strong support for the Fair to host an **Oxen Competition** on Saturday afternoon. This would be a “first ever” for the Fair. The event, if held, will be judged by Mark Winslow a long-time Milking Devon breeder and a renowned ox teamster. Mark has provided the technical knowledge enabling positive conversations in the planning phase for this event.

Scoring / Card-Grading of individual AMD is planned for Sunday morning, as in prior years.

Pretty-Cow Contest will be Sunday early afternoon, same as prior years.



New AMD Breeder Terry Greer of Greer Hill Farm in Blackstone, Virginia, visited the Regional Show. His herd consists of seven heifers and one bull. He was drawn to the Devons due to their history, being the first cow in America. He enjoys helping restore the breed.

2020 Mid-Atlantic Regional Gathering (Continued)

We have seen the level of interest and participation grow exponentially these past two years from 31 head in 2018 to 52 head in 2019. It is reasonable to project that we may have 70 AMD participating in 2020. For those breeders wondering, should I invest the time and effort to exhibit my Milking Devons, I say – where else can you go to:

- ✓ Have your cattle evaluated twice (competitively & individually against the breed standards)
- ✓ Meet and become friends with breeders from across the eastern half of the country
- ✓ Have a page dedicated to your operation in the association's newsletter (see Nov. 2019)
- ✓ Have an enjoyable and relaxing time listening to AMD chewing their cuds!

I encourage anyone thinking about either exhibiting or attending the 2020 gathering to feel free to reach out to breeders who participated in 2019 to get their perspective on the return on their investment of time and effort. If you are thinking about attending, please shoot an email to me so that I can add you to my mailing list and keep you apprised of decisions as plans are finalized.

oldgierpenfarm@yahoo.com Mark your calendar: **September 25-27, 2020**

IN THE NEWS

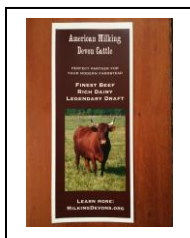


AMD Breeder and AMDCA Webmaster, Lawrence Gilley, and his Devons made the cover of the January 20th issue of Country Folks Magazine. The cover is followed by a great article on page 3 where Lawrence shares some history of the breed, his interest in breed preservation, his journey establishing his farm as well as some of his husbandry practices.



EVENTS YOU JUST SHOULDN'T MISS

- **AMDCA ANNUAL MEETING-** The Annual Meeting of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association will be held on **Saturday May 9th, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.** at the Tunbridge Town Hall, in Tunbridge, Vermont. In addition to the regular annual business, there will be elections for Directors. All members are strongly encouraged to attend as many policy issues are discussed and decided at the Annual Meeting. Membership determines policy at the Annual Meeting that is subsequently implemented by the Board of Directors.



Brochures Available- The Association has recently had a new batch of American Milking Devon Cattle brochures produced and is offering them free of charge to AMDCA members. If you would like some, please contact Association Secretary Andrew Van Ord. His contact information is on the last page of this newsletter.

ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

IMPORTANT!! TWO NEW FORMS INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER AND ALSO AVAILABLE IN FILLABLE FORMAT ON THE AMDCA WEBSITE

Forms are available in regular and fillable format on the AMDCA Website :

<http://www.milkingdevons.org/forms.html>

Membership Form- Reminder: 2020 Membership Dues OVERDUE NOW- For your convenience a membership form is attached to this newsletter.

Membership Policy - Membership is open to any individual or organization interested in furthering the purposes of the Association. An organization shall designate an individual to represent it at business meetings of the Association.

There shall be three categories of membership;

1. Voting Members, consisting of all members owning registered Milking Devon cattle.
2. Non-Voting Associate Members, who wish to further the purposes of the Association. The annual dues for these two categories as established by the Board (currently \$20) shall be due and payable on or before December 31 of each calendar year. Lapsed members shall be reinstated on payment of current year dues.
3. Non-Voting Junior Members, a category open to those under 18 years of age for a single dues payment (currently \$20), can access all membership services as the established fees.

Only Voting Members are entitled to vote at membership meetings. Except for voting rights, no distinction shall be made between the three membership categories as to the availability or cost of services provided. At the Annual Meeting of 2016, the membership passed a MOTION that members not in good standing by April 1st of each year will not receive an election ballot.

New Registration Form- Due to the changes in Registration Policy, a new Registration Form has been created and approved by the Board of Directors. A copy of the new form is attached for your convenience. Failure to use the new form will result in the return of your application unprocessed.

Call For Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the position of Director (member of the Board of Directors) for the term May 2020 through May 2023. Voting will be by mail, and ballots will be counted and results announced at the Annual Meeting in May.

As an all-volunteer organization, AMDCA depends on its Directors to both manage the organization and do much of the actual work. The Board meets monthly by telephone. In addition, the Association hosts one or more Regional Gatherings each year, which the Directors are urged to attend. Directors must be voting members, i.e., must own registered American Milking Devon cattle and have paid their dues for the current year.

The terms of two Incumbent Directors expire this year. Both incumbents, Ray Clark and Andrew Van Ord, are seeking re-election.

If you wish to put a name in nomination, please submit the following information not later than Friday, March 13th, 2020 to Bruce Farr, 51 Catamount Rd., Northwood, NH 03261; or e-mail farrviewsouthfarm@yahoo.com

1. The nominee's full name,
2. A statement of the nominee's background, qualifications and his/her philosophy and goals for AMDCA. Please limit this information to ½ page.
3. A statement *signed by the nominee* that he/she is a voting member and agrees to serve if elected.
4. The nominee's record of attendance at Annual Meetings and regional meetings over the past three years.

All nominations will be acknowledged and the Nominating Committee will ensure that all complete nominations received by the above deadline are placed on the ballot.

Buying Registered Cattle- It has come to the attention of the Association that some AMD buyers are not receiving their transfer registration papers in a timely fashion as the result of sellers not submitting the appropriate paperwork to the Registrar. Some of these buyers reach out to the Association to seek assistance in rectifying the situation. The Association, however, has no authority to intervene in this type of situation. The buyer and seller should discuss the transfer paperwork **prior to the sale being completed**, and if at all possible, the buyer should receive a copy of the paperwork the seller is forwarding to the Registrar at the time the cattle are physically transferred. A potential buyer could contact the Registrar prior to a purchase to ascertain whether a seller actively registers cattle. No personal information beyond "YES THEY ACTIVELY REGISTER CATTLE" or "NO THEY HAVEN'T ACTIVELY REGISTERED CATTLE" regarding a seller will be given out by the Registrar. In order to maintain the integrity of our breed registry, the Registrar cannot register animals without the proper paperwork.

AMDCA Website- AMDCA hosts a website under the direction of Webmaster Lawrence Gilley. The website contains Breeder Information, Breed History, a Calendar of Events, a For Sale Section, Association Information, Member Services, Semen Sales, Frequently Asked Questions and Relevant Links. During 2019, the website received an average of 668 (779)* visits a month or a total of 8,020 (9,342) visits. The average number of visitors was 496 (567) per month. The average number of pages viewed was 1,782 (2,224) a month. The average number of unique page views was 1,256 (1,495) per month. 80% (82%) of the visitors each month were people who had not previously visited the website. The most frequently viewed pages were: For Sale, Breeders, Breed, FAQ, and Semen. The most frequently updated information is the For Sale page and the Breeders list. The website consistently shows up in search engine results at or near the top. We encourage you to use our website as it is kept current with Association-related business. Lawrence's contact information and the web address can be found on the contact page of this newsletter.

*2018 figures are provided in parentheses for comparison

Ray's Corner- On Devon Health

Quotes and advice from Director Ray Clark

It's calving time again and it's a good idea to treat the navels of newborns with a seven percent (7%) iodine solution to prevent infection. A lighter percentage solution is not as good. Vetericyn is good too and promotes fast healing, but it doesn't seem to have the same bacteria kill effect as the seven percent iodine solution. Ray uses a spray bottle and treats the day the calf is born and then a couple days later. Ray cautions those working around cows with newborns to be very careful. Always leave yourself a way to get away, as normally friendly cows can become aggressive around their newborns.

White muscle disease presents in cattle when they stand on the tips of their feet and they can die from it. It's caused by a lack of selenium. The availability of selenium in the ground varies across the country, so you need to know what the selenium availability is in your area. Local feed suppliers can usually provide you with information regarding the minerals in your area. Too much selenium is not good either, so the balance needs to be locality appropriate. In order for selenium to be utilized by cattle, it needs to be accompanied by vitamin E. Copper is also an essential mineral for Devons. Ray feeds a mineral mix all winter long that includes selenium, vitamin E and copper. In general, it takes three pounds of dry matter (good quality hay) per 100 pounds of body weight per day just to maintain a cow. To increase the body weight, it takes more.

This time of year, ringworm can also be a problem if you keep your cattle inside. Normally it presents around the eyes and can be difficult to treat without damaging the eyes. Generally ring worm will run its course, go away and never come back again. However, if you have any concerns you should consult your veterinarian.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER IS MARCH 15th, 2020.

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Association Contact: Please direct questions to Ray Clark at (802) 626-8306
Website: <http://www.milkingdevons.org>

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This newsletter is provided to AMDCA members in the United States and Canada for information and educational purposes. The views, opinions and recommendations expressed herein are those of individual contributors and are not endorsed by, or represent the policy of AMDCA or its Directors, Officers and volunteer staff. Members must use their own judgment in deciding whether farming management practices described herein are safe and appropriate for their particular circumstances.

FEEDBACK- Your comments, ideas and "constructive" criticism are always welcome. I would like to know what topics interest you that could become feature articles. The best way to reach me is through e-mail patriotsretreatfarm@yahoo.com . If you don't have e-mail call me at (518) 868-9328 or mail me at Thomas H. Slater, 303 Cripplebush Rd., Central Bridge, NY 12035. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this newsletter.

AMERICAN MILKING DEVON CATTLE ASSOCIATION
The Registrar, 610 East Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook, CT 06498

REGISTRY APPLICATION

Registration Fees:

< 1 yr. \$5.00; 1 yr. but < 2 yrs. \$10.00; 2 yrs. but <3 yrs. \$25.00; 3 yrs. but <5 yrs. \$50.00

Transfer: \$5.00 Name of New Owner _____

Address _____ State _____ Zipcode _____

Phone number _____ Email _____ Date of Transfer _____

NAME _____ TATTOO _____

SEX _____ TWIN _____ SEX OF OTHER TWIN _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

SIRE _____ NUMBER _____

PATERNAL GRANDSIRE _____ NUMBER _____

PATERNAL GRANDDAM _____ NUMBER _____

DAM _____ NUMBER _____

MATERNAL GRANDSIRE _____ NUMBER _____

MATERNAL GRANDDAM _____ NUMBER _____

ARTIFICIAL SERVICE _____ NATURAL SERVICE _____

IF Artificial Service, attach breeding receipt

IF Natural Service, give dates between which bull had access to dam: FROM _____ to _____

OWNER OF SIRE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

OWNER OF DAM: _____

(At time of breeding) ADDRESS: _____ STATE _____ ZIPCODE _____

In making this application, I hereby subject myself to all the provisions of the Constitution, bylaws, and rules of registry of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association as they now exist or may from time to time be amended, knowledge of which I now have or will immediately acquire. **I GUARANTEE THAT ALL MATTERS STATED HEREIN ARE TRUE.**

OWNER _____ **ADDRESS** _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIPCODE** _____ **SIGNATURE** _____

American Milking Devon Cattle Association

610 East Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook, CT 06498

2020

Please check one.

- \$20 - Voting Member – individuals who own registered Milking Devon cattle
- \$20 – Non-Voting Associate Member – individuals interested in furthering the purposes of the Association
- \$20 – Non-Voting Junior Member (one time dues payment, non-voting, under 18 years old)

Make checks payable to the American Milking Devon Cattle Association.

Send completed form and check to:

Bonnie Hall, Registrar, 610 East Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook, CT 06498

Voting members: Please circle if you **do not** wish to be listed in the on-line breeder's list

[NO] Do not include me in the on-line breeder's list.

Please circle "no" below to indicate information you wish **to omit** from the on-line breeder's list.

[No] NAME: _____

[No] FARM/ORG: _____

[No] ADDRESS: _____

[No] PHONE: _____

[No] E-MAIL: _____

[No] WEBSITE: _____

Note: A current membership is required for inclusion in the breeder's list, for voting at the annual meeting and for registering cattle and for transferring the registration of cattle Please ensure that your membership is up to date.