



Department Of Agriculture Adopts Standards For Feeder Cattle Grades

The U S Department of Agriculture today announced adoption of official U S standards for seven grades of feeder cattle, effective Sept 25

These grades, established by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, are Prime, Choice, Good, Standard, Commercial, Utility, and Inferior. They are determined by an evaluation of the factors associated with a feeder animal's logical slaughter potential, and the animal's indications of thriftiness

The new feeder grades, proposed by AMS's Livestock Division on May 24, 1963 closely conform to current U S standards for slaughter cattle

The Livestock Division's original proposal would have established six feeder grades — Fancy, Choice, Good, Medium, Common, and Inferior. However, in response to industry requests, minor modifications were made in the grade names in order to maintain uniform grading terminology between feeder cattle, slaughter cattle, and beef carcasses

The proposed Fancy and Common grade names have been changed to Prime and Utility, respectively. The Medium grade has been divided into two separate grades on the basis of maturity. Younger animals will be designated Standard while more mature feeders will be graded Commercial

As a result of these changes, names of the top six grades of feeder cattle will be the same as the top six grades of slaughter cattle. A feeder animal which qualifies for the Choice grade, for example, has the potential for developing into a

Choice grade slaughter steer. Tentative USDA standards now used for grading feeder cattle were last revised in 1942

These standards serve as the primary basis for Federal and Federal-State market news reporting, and for appraising the grade of feeder cattle in everyday trading by the livestock industry. Also, several States utilize the tentative Federal standards as a guide in the conduct of officially-graded feeder cattle sales

The new official grade standards will more uniformly and realistically reflect present day market quality and value, AMS officials said

While the USDA currently has no official grading service for feeder cattle, the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 authorizes establishment of such a service if needed by the industry to facilitate marketing

The new standards will be published in the Federal Register Aug 26. Copies of the standards may be obtained from the Livestock Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U S Department of Agriculture, Washington, D C. 20250

● Editor Named

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one form or another for most of his 40 years. This experience began with 12 baby chicks raised in a box with an electric light bulb, at about age 10, grew to 500 layers plus vegetables, both for a retail market, as a teenager, and included caring for 6,000 Rhode Island Reds on a poultry breeding farm in Connecticut

Don's academic training was extended over a 15 year period. This training began with two years at the University of Connecticut, 1946-48. Next he completed the two-year course in Poultry Husbandry at the Long Island Agricultural & Technical Institute, Farmingdale, N.Y. graduating in 1950. It was 1957 before he returned to school, and this time it was to the University of Rhode Island. He received his B.S. in Agriculture from this institution in 1959. Don next worked for the Poultry Science Department of that University as a graduate assistant, and in this way earned his MS in Poultry Science in 1961. At this point Don decided that he had about all the formal education he was interested in for the moment, and decided to get back to work

Don's military service included a stint in the U.S. Maritime Service, and two years in the Medical Corps with the Army. He received his honorable discharge in April 1946 after serving in the Okinawa campaign.

He is married and has a 15-year old daughter, Laura, who is a sophomore at Manheim Township High School. His wife is a school teacher

Don is a member of the Lancaster County Poultry Assn., and serves on the membership committee for that organization. He is also a member of the Lancaster County Swine Producers Assn.

When you meet Don around the county, take a minute to say hello. He'd like very much to know you.

Local Guernsey High Records

The American Guernsey Cattle Club announced this week that the following local Guernsey breeders had cows making high records

Harry W. Blessing, Breezy Inn Farms, Wrightsville, Pa., has a Junior 4-year old, April, with a completed DHIR production record of 11,490 lbs milk, and 521 lbs butterfat in 281 days at two times a day milking

Dr. George T. Pack, Wrightsville, has three registered Guernseys recently completing AR production records on 2 and 3 times a day milking. These were Lauxmont Diadem, 12,146 lbs milk, 588 lbs fat in 305 days; Lauxmont Papavera, 13,101 lbs milk, 601 lbs fat in 305 days; Lauxmont Aspidistra, 9,940 lbs milk, 521 lbs fat in 305 days

Raymond F. and Louise A. Witmer, Willow Street, has a junior four-year old, Penn Del Reliable Amber, with a DHIR production record of 11,350 lbs of milk, 573 lbs fat in 305 days with two times a day milking

H. H. McConnell, Honey Brook, has three registered Guernseys that completed DHIR production records with two times a day milking. Bel-nemus Emory Ruth, 10,720 lbs milk, 524 lbs fat in 285 days; Meetinghouse MS Pie N Belle, 9,670 lbs milk, 415 lbs fat in 296 days; Meetinghouse Lane Fame Felice, 9,580 lbs milk, 453 lbs fat in 305 days.

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