

# 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.**



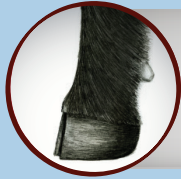
# FOOT SCORE GUIDELINES

## FOOT ANGLE (5 IS IDEAL)



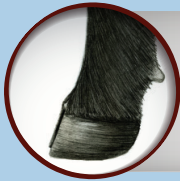
**1**

Extremely straight pasterns.  
Very short toe. Unsound.



**2**

Straight front and rear pasterns.  
Marginally unsound.



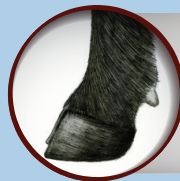
**3**

Moderately straight front  
and rear pasterns.



**4**

Slightly straight front  
and rear pasterns.



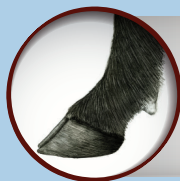
**5**

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



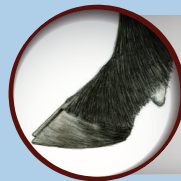
**6**

Slightly shallow heel and long toe.



**7**

Moderately shallow heel and long toe.  
Somewhat weak pasterns.



**8**

Shallow heel and long toe.  
Marginally unsound.



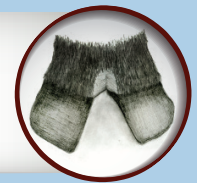
**9**

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

## CLAW SET (5 IS IDEAL)

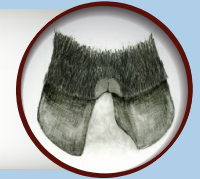
Extremely weak, open,  
divergent claw set. Unsound.

**1**



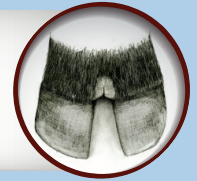
Open, divergent claw set.  
Marginally unsound.

**2**



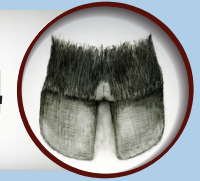
Moderately open/divergent  
claw set.

**3**



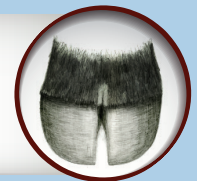
Slightly open/divergent  
claw set.

**4**



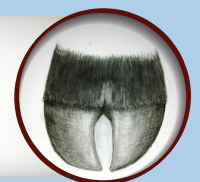
Ideal. Symmetrical claws, with  
appropriate space between claws.

**5**



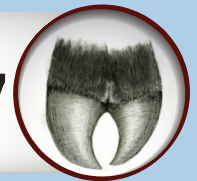
Slight tendency for claws to curl.  
One claw may be slightly larger  
than the other.

**6**



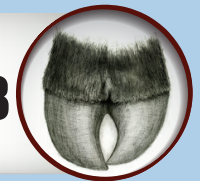
Tendency for claws to curl, with one  
claw larger than the other.

**7**



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

**8**



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

**9**

