

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR BRAHMAN CATTLE – AN APPRECIATION OF DEFICIENCIES - 2018

JUDGING AT SHOWS

1. **WRY FACE OR NOSE**
Light to serious discrimination depending on severity of the problem.
2. **TWISTED MOUTH, OR JAW**
More than a tooth – width from the middle – **DISQUALIFICATION**.
3. **EXCESSIVELY LONG OR SHORT LOWER JAW**
DISQUALIFICATION - where teeth do not bite against the cushion (may not bite more than 5 mm short or exceed the required position by more than 5 cm).
4. **LEGS**
 - a) Patella fixation (incorrectly alluded to as “stringhalt”) (Spasms in the rear legs) – **DISQUALIFICATION**
 - b) Straight hocks – (straight hocks with no curvature) – **DISQUALIFICATION**
 - c) Cow hocks – (hocks turned inward, generally accompanied by toes that point sideways). – Light to serious discrimination depending on the severity of the problem.
 - d) Sickle hocks – (rear legs excessively bent forward from hock joint) – if the extent of the curvature impairs mobility – **DISQUALIFICATION**
 - e) Bent fore-legs – (Knees next to each other (X-shaped legs), toes pointing outwards or bandy-legged – light to serious discrimination – in severe cases **DISQUALIFICATION**
 - f) Bandy legs (bakbene)
 - g) Weak pasterns
 - (a) Serious discrimination – in extreme cases (when ancillary claws touch the ground) – **DISQUALIFICATION**
 - (b) Short, rigid and upright pasterns – Light to serious discrimination – Extreme cases – **DISQUALIFICATION**
5. **HOOVES**
 - (a) Small, twisted toes (often associated with uneven pressure) – serious discrimination
 - (b) Rolling hooves – serious discrimination
6. **LACK OF SIZE**
Light to serious discrimination depending on the severity of the problem. Any signs of excessive pony-like or dwarfish traits – **DISQUALIFICATION**
7. **DEVIATIONS OF SEX ORGANS**
 - (a) Bulls
 - (i) Hypoplasia (one testicle under developed) – **DISQUALIFICATION**
 - (ii) Only one testicle - Cryptorchidism - **DISQUALIFICATION**
 - (iii) Twisted testicles – light discrimination
 - (iv) Small underdeveloped testicles – serious discrimination – in extreme cases – **DISQUALIFICATION** (Use Brahdex Tables as guide-line)
 - (v) Split scrotum – light discrimination
 - (vi) Lack of dominant male traits in a bull – serious discrimination to **DISQUALIFICATION**
 - (vii) Testes’ split must be no more than 5cm
 - (b) Cows
 - (i) Small underdeveloped sex organs – serious discrimination
 - (ii) Excessive development of fore-quarter, short neck, prominent rump, rigid fat accumulation of rump, hips, pin bones and uneven accumulation of fat on other body parts, little udder

development. When all these traits are present in one animal, and as a result the animal shows a complete lack of femininity – **DISQUALIFICATION**

- (iii) When any of the above-mentioned traits occur separately in a female animal – serious discrimination.

8. DEVIATIONS IN OTHER TRAITS

(a) SHEATH / PREPUTIUM IN BULLS

- (i) Loosely hanging sheath – serious discrimination, in extreme cases – **DISQUALIFICATION**
(ii) Y-shaped sheath – **DISQUALIFICATION**

(b) PIGMENT AND COLOUR

A lack of black pigment in skin – **DISQUALIFICATION**. A deviation in pigment may, however, occur in one of the following body parts, namely, muzzle, eye-muscle, hooves and tail switch or skin around anus or vulva. The presence of the following colour is regarded as a **DISQUALIFICATION**:

- (i) Gruella (a dirty brownish colour)
(ii) Brindle
(iii) Albino (a total lack of pigment)

- (c) **DOCILITY** (a nervous tendency) – Serious discrimination in extreme cases **DISQUALIFICATION**

(d) TEATS IN COWS

- (i) Balloon-shaped teats (bottle-shaped teats) – Serious discrimination to **DISQUALIFICATION**
(ii) Uneven teat placement – Light to serious discrimination
(iii) Uneven teat size – Light to serious discrimination

(e) UDDER

- (i) Weak udder attachment – Light to serious discrimination
(ii) Weak udder shape - Light to serious discrimination