Making Beef Out of Dairy

(A supplemental piece to the "Making Beef Out of Dairy" fact sheet)

A group of dairy-beef steers and heifers born and raised on the same farm were evaluated for live and carcass performance. The animals were raised, housed, managed, and fed the same from birth to harvest. Approximately 650 head of dairy beef cattle are marketed per year from the farm. Photos of the animals were taken before and after harvest.

Data was collected on 17 dairy-beef cross steers (n=10) and heifers (n=7). All of the steers and heifers were sired by the same Simmental-Angus cross bull with the genetic capacity to pass on desirable carcass traits. Cattle sex, birthweights (BW), weaning weights (WW), and average daily gains (ADG) from birth to weaning were recorded by the farm. One missing birthweight was recorded as an average birthweight of the group data was collected on. Calves were weaned at 60 days of age. Animals were grown out until approximately 1,400 pounds.

52306 Steer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.3	12.0	Prime	2.78

52307 Steer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.5	12.3	Low Choice	3.2

52313 Heifer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.5	14.3	Choice	2.67

52371 Heifer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.6	11.9	High Choice	3.43

Document created by Aerica Bjurstrom, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Kewaunee County. Carcass photos taken by Lyssa Seefeldt, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Marquette County. Carcass data collected and live photos taken by Aerica Bjurstrom

UW Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension

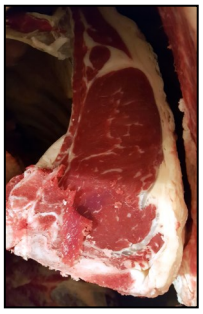
Making Beef Out of Dairy *(A supplemental piece to the "Making Beef Out of Dairy" fact sheet)*

52396 Steer

Carcass image not available

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.4	17.0	Low Choice	1.5

52399 Steer



Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.3	14.6	Choice	2.02

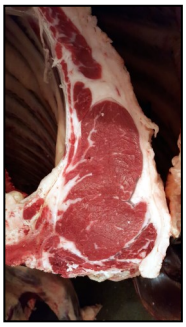
52407 Heifer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.5	13.0	Choice	3.01

52417 Steer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.3	12.1	Low Choice	2.36

53966 Heifer



Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.4	14.6	Choice	2.14

52395 Steer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.5	12.1	High Choice	2.92

© 2017 Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as the Division of Cooperative Extension of the University of Wisconsin-Extension. University of Wisconsin, U. S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title VI, Title IX, and ADA requirements.

Document created by Aerica Bjurstrom, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Kewaunee County. Carcass photos taken by Lyssa Seefeldt, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Marquette County. Carcass data collected and live photos taken by Aerica Bjurstrom

UW Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension

Making Beef Out of Dairy *(A supplemental piece to the "Making Beef Out of Dairy" fact sheet)*

52372 Heifer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.7	11.5	Prime	3.64

52377 Heifer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.5	15.6	Prime	1.89

52383 Steer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.3	12.5	Choice	2.64

52384 Heifer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.5	13.3	Prime	2.63

52386 Steer

Backfat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.7	14.2	Prime	3.11

52365 Steer *(live photo not available)*

Back fat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.4	12.6	High Choice	3.0

52422 Steer *(live photo not available)*

Back fat	Loin Muscle Area	Quality Grade	Yield Grade
0.3	13.9	Choice	2.04

© 2017 Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as the Division of Cooperative Extension of the University of Wisconsin-Extension. University of Wisconsin, U. S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title VI, Title IX, and ADA requirements.

Document created by Aerica Bjurstrom, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Kewaunee County. Carcass photos taken by Lyssa Seefeldt, Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Marquette County. Carcass data collected and life photos taken by Aerica Bjurstrom

UW Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension