

AYRSHIRE CATTLE.

As several readers of the *Journal* have expressed a desire for the breed-points of Ayrshire cattle, the standard adopted by the Ayrshire Cattle-breeders' Association of New Zealand is herewith published, together with a diagram illustrating the points of an Ayrshire cow, which, indeed, may be utilized in determining the desirable points of a dairy cow of any breed.

SCALE OF POINTS FOR AYRSHIRE COW.

<i>Head</i>	8
Forehead—broad and clearly defined	1
Horns—wide set on and inclining upward	1
Face—of medium length, slightly dished, clean-cut, showing veins	1
Muzzle—broad and strong without coarseness, nostrils large	1
Jaws—wide at the base, and strong	1
Eyes—full and bright, with placid expression	2
Ears—of medium size and fine, carried alert	1
<i>Neck</i> —fine throughout, throat clean, neatly joined to head and shoulders, of good length, moderately thin, nearly free from loose skin, elegant in bearing	3
<i>Forequarters</i>	11
Shoulders—light, good distance through from point to point but sharp at withers, smoothly blending into body	2
Chest—low, deep and full between the back of forelegs	6
Brisket—light	1
Legs and feet—legs straight and short, well apart, shanks fine and smooth, joints firm; feet medium size, round, solid and deep	2
<i>Body</i>	13
Back—strong and straight, chine lean, sharp and open-jointed	4
Loin—broad, strong, and level	2
Ribs—long, broad, wide apart, and well sprung	3
Abdomen—capacious, deep, firmly held up with strong muscular development	3
Flank—thin and arching	1
<i>Hindquarters</i>	11
Rump—wide, level and long from hooks to pin-bones, a reasonable pelvic arch allowed	3
Hooks—wide apart and not projecting above back nor unduly overlaid with fat	2
Pin-bones—high and wide apart	1
Thighs—thin, long and wide apart	2
Tail—long, fine, set on a level with the back	1
Legs and feet—legs strong, short, straight when viewed from behind, and set well apart; shanks fine and smooth, joints firm; feet medium size, round, solid, and deep	2
<i>Udder</i> —long, wide, deep, but not pendulous nor fleshy; firmly attached to the body; extending well up behind and far forward; quarters even; sole nearly level and not excessively indented between teats, udder-voins well developed and plainly visible	20
<i>Teats</i> —evenly placed, distance apart from side to side equal to half the breadth of udder, from back to front equal to one-third the length; length $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $3\frac{1}{2}$ in., and not less than 2 in., thickness in keeping with length, hanging perpendicular and slightly tapering, and free flow of milk when pressed	12
<i>Mammary Veins</i> —large, long, tortuous, branching, and entering large orifices	5