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www.danishlimousin.dk



The breeding programme of the Danish Limousin Society

The overall aim of limousins in Denmark is to produce a big carcass of high quality with a minimum effort, feed, work and capital. To achieve this goal you have to strive for cattle with high feed efficiency but at the same time with a big growth capacity and good muscularity and high fertility. We want to combine high daily growth with low feed consumption and good beef quality.

A trait of big importance for cows is easy born calves with high vitality thus all calves survive calving. Cows have to be docile and to be good milkers thus the calves are weaned with a high weight. The calves have good appetite and growth ability. It is important that the cows have a strong durability so she will give birth to many calves in her lifetime. This is reached with a strong health, high fertility and the ability to calve easy.

It is important that the calves maintain a high growth after weaning. There is a positive correlation between growth and feed efficiency thus animals with a good appetite also have a good feed efficiency and a high growth. Feed efficiency is the most important single economical factor in the meat production which is why it has to be a priority.

For heifers the goal is early maturity thus they will calve at an age between 24 and 30 month.

Since the purpose of beef cattle is to produce meat logically slaughter quality is a priority to ensure a high price.

Finally it is essential that all animals are docile in order to be easy to handle.



Data on Danish Limousin

There are more than 10.000 pedigree Limousin cows in Denmark.
 Each year more than 55 bull calves are performance tested on the National Teststation in Aalestrup.
 In 2010, 517 limousins were exterior evaluated. In total 7.362 limousins are exterior evaluated.

Full declaration

A Danish Limousin "Proven AI Bull" has passed one of the toughest livestock tests in the world before the bull is given the predicate "Proven AI Bull". This is a bull with a full declaration.

Below is a scheme showing the course from a bull calf enter the performance test until it maybe manage to reach the final goal of being given the predicate "Proven AI Bull" 5 years later.

Age months	Status	Results
7	Bull calves enters the National Test Station	
12	The very best bulls are approved as "Young AI Bull"	Evaluation of test results and pedigree T-index: GROWTH U-index: SLAUGHTER FEF-index: FEED EFFICIENCY Exterior evaluation: CONFORMATION Docility evaluation
24	"Young AI Bull"	800 test inseminations are performed
29	"AI Bull Waiting for final evaluation"	Calvings are registered = BIRTH index
36		Offspring are weighted in the herds = GROWTH index MILK index
36		Offspring (sons) enters the National Test Station
42		Results from slaughter results of calves from the 800 test inseminations = GROWTH index SLAUGHTER index
42		Offspring (sons) finish test at the National Test Station = GROWTH index SLAUGHTER index CONFORMATION index
44 (4 year)		
45		Offspring (heifers) are inseminated = FERTILITY index
55		Offspring (heifers) are calving = CALVING index DOCILITY
60 (5 year)	"Proven AI Bull"	Offspring (cows) are exterior evaluated CONFORMATION index

