

Name: _____

Date: _____

BOS TAURUS BEEF BREEDS

“TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE”

A breed of livestock is a specific group of animals that share a similar physical appearance, characteristics, and behaviors that differentiate them from other within that same species. But — have you heard of Bos taurus and Bos indicus when referring to cattle breeds? Do you know the difference? Bos taurus refers to the breeds that originated in Europe and Bos indicus refers to cattle that originated in tropical regions such as Asia, Africa, and India. Combined, there are more than 800 breeds of cattle worldwide — 50 of them found in the United States.

Within this activity, you will be playing the simple game of “two truths and a lie”. Each of the Bos taurus breeds that we have included within this activity have three facts associated with them — two are correct and one is incorrect. It is your job to determine which fact is the incorrect one. Good luck!

ANGUS

1. Angus cattle are polled
2. American Angus Association is the largest breed association in the United States
3. Angus cattle originated in Italy

HEREFORD/POLLED HEREFORD

1. Hereford cattle originated in Herefordshire, England.
2. In 2001, the American Hereford Association and the American Polled Hereford Association merged into one breed association, which registers both polled and horned animals.
3. Polled Hereford cattle were developed in Iowa by Warren Gannon.

CHIANINA

1. Purebred Chianina cattle overseas are white in color with black skin pigment.
2. A commonly used term for this breed is "Chi" and it's pronounced like "key".
3. Chianina cattle originated in Scotland.

MAINE-ANJOU

1. Maine-Anjou cattle originated in France.
2. Maine-Anjou cattle were a result of breeding Hereford bulls with Mancelle cows.
3. The American Maine-Anjou Association's headquarters is in Platte City, MO.

SIMMENTAL

1. The term "Sim Solution" refers to Simmental influenced cattle that are crossed with other breeds, typically Angus.
2. Simmental cattle will always been black in color.
3. Simmental cattle are known for their fast growth rates, cutability, and heavy muscling.

CHAROLAIS

1. Charolais cattle are known for their high growth rates and heavy muscling.
2. The American International Charolais Association's headquarters is in Indianapolis, IN.
3. The Charolais breed is one of the oldest French breeds of cattle

SHORTHORN

1. Purebred shorthorn cattle are red, white, or roan in color and can only be polled.
2. Shorthorn cattle originated in Northern England.
3. To qualify as a ShorthornPlus, they have to have 1/4 to 7/8 Shorthorn in their pedigree.

Name: _____

ANSWER KEY

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ANGUS

1. Angus cattle are polled
2. American Angus Association is the largest breed association in the United States
3. Angus cattle originated in Italy (Scotland)

HEREFORD/POLLED HEREFORD

1. Hereford cattle originated in Herefordshire, England.
2. In 2001, the American Hereford Association and the American Polled Hereford Association merged into one breed association, which registers both polled and horned animals. (1995)
3. Polled Hereford cattle were developed in Iowa by Warren Gannon.

INCORRECT FACT IS RED



CHIANINA

1. Purebred Chianina cattle overseas are white in color with black skin pigment.
2. A commonly used term for this breed is “Chi” and it’s pronounced like “key”.
3. Chianina cattle originated in Scotland. (Italy)

MAINE-ANJOU

1. Maine-Anjou cattle originated in France.
2. Maine-Anjou cattle were a result of breeding Hereford bulls with Mancelle cows. (Shorthorn bulls)
3. The American Maine-Anjou Association's headquarters is in Platte City, MO.

SIMMENTAL

1. The term “Sim Solution” refers to Simmental influenced cattle that are crossed with other breeds, typically Angus.
2. Simmental cattle will always been black in color. (Were typically red and yellow with white faces — Today, they are mostly black or black with a white face.)
3. Simmental cattle are known for their fast growth rates, cutability, and heavy muscling.

CHAROLAIS

1. Charolais cattle are known for their high growth rates and heavy muscling.
2. The American International Charolais Association's headquarters is in Indianapolis, IN. (Kansas City, MO)
3. The Charolais breed is one of the oldest French breeds of cattle

SHORTHORN

1. Purebred shorthorn cattle are red, white, or roan in color and can only be polled. (They can be horned as well)
2. Shorthorn cattle originated in Northern England.
3. To qualify as a ShorthornPlus, they have to have 1/4 to 7/8 Shorthorn in their pedigree.