

# April 2011 Prospect Heifer Class

**Placing: 4-3-2-1**

**Cuts: 2-5-3**

I placed the class of prospect heifers 4-3-2-1. As I approached the class, it quickly sorted into two pairs.

I started out with the broodier appearing, powerful, higher volume females. From there it is structural integrity, depth of body, and look that sorts the black heifer over 3. Here is the biggest footed, most durable made heifer in the class. Furthermore, she carries significant depth from fore to rear rib while being a longer spined female. 4 further separates herself on the move as she most fluidly moves across the ring setting her foot down in the right holes. If her phenotype serves her right I expect her to offer longevity and production to this stockman. Even so, she is a heavier fronted heifer that is pinched in her heart. This is where the brockle heifer excels. I can certainly see where some may prefer her clean fronted, up headed, balanced appearance. Still she finds a home in second for me as she is smaller footed, shorter hipped female making her set her foot down harder on the move, while being shallower through her lower one third.

Never-the-less, in a middle pair of contrasting type and kind, the brockle heifer's power and capacity takes advantage in my mind. 3 is simply a bolder sprung more capacious heifer that comes squarer out of her hip. To add to this, as I study her from the ground up she is more rugged in her bone work, better balanced, and more eye appealing in her design, being deeper and bolder about her rib. Yes, the Angus heifer is a feminine featured female that is up headed and extended through her front end. Still, she is 3<sup>rd</sup> in a class of this caliber as here is a shallower bodied, frailer designed heifer that is more 2 dimensional in her appearance.

Finally, in a closer concluding pair of later maturing heifers I opted for the soundness, femininity, and balance of the Angus heifer. 2 is longer and more athletic in her stride. This is because she is more angular and set back in her shoulder. Additionally, 2 is a longer bodied heifer that is more uniform in her lines, while being more extended and cleaner about her front end. Sure, the Hereford heifer comes bolder out of her rib and displays a powerful hip. Still, she stands last as here is a short bodied, off balanced female that is too far forward in her shoulder

Thank You.

*Kaysa Richards*