

# Judging Males

Bucks are judged primarily on those features that affect their offspring:

- soundness (general appearance),
- body capacity
- dairy character

The [ADGA Unified Scorecard](#) certainly reflects this. Unfortunately, many bucks have not been raised properly or are neglected. Consequently, when they are brought into the show ring they may not present a true picture of their actual ability as a herd sire. When they are in the ring, however, we have no choice but to judge them as we see them. We cannot say, "If this buck had been better fed, he would be large enough..." et cetera.

## **General Appearance** ([See the Ideal Drawings for Bucks](#))

- Strength & masculinity without coarseness
- Lines clean cut
- Proper blending and coordination of parts
- Moves with strength and alertness

## **Dairy Character**

- Angularity
- General openness
- Freedom from beefiness
- Animation

## **Body Capacity**

- Large in proportion to size
- Ample strength and vigor

## **Reproductive Organs**

- Testicles approximately the same size
- Strongly attached scrotum, but not tightly against the body
- Two cylindrical teats of medium size, space well apart

Aside from using only the three categories of the scorecard for bucks, we must also assess evidence of his abilities to reproduce. The reproductive organs should be examined to see that the testicles are approximately the same size. Palpating the testicles will reveal whether there are abnormalities. The buck should have a strongly attached scrotum but not one that is carried up closely to the body, as the heat of the body could affect sperm viability. He should have two cylindrical teats of medium size, spaced well apart.