

ORGANIZATIONS

Stock Judging Teams



Advanced



Senior



Junior

At the present time much emphasis is placed on stock judging at this school. It is realized that if agriculture is to remain profitable and permanent, more stock must be raised. Little or no progress can be made in stock raising, however, unless one is able to select his breeding animals intelligently.

To be able to select breeding stock wisely necessitates a fair degree of familiarity with at least the class of stock in question and some experience in comparing and forming opinions of considerable numbers of individuals. Stock judging gives practical experience and training in this.

The work begins with a study of a text book. Then the students are set to work judging animals. Score cards are used at first. These help the beginner to arrive at a correct conclusion and to know the relative importance of the various external characteristics. Four animals are to be placed 1st, 2nd, etc., according to merit keeping in mind the purpose for which they are intended.

After gaining some proficiency in this the boys place the animals without using score cards. A placing card is used on which is indicated the placing of the animals and reasons for placing them that way.

Considerable interest is aroused by the judging contests. On Feb. 12 a contest was held for the purpose of determining who should represent each of the classes in a later contest, those blundering the least being chosen. The class team having the highest average standing in the final contest wins a fine silver cup, given by Mr. Selvig.