

# Beef Cattle

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# Breeds



UTAH  
COUNTY

Extension  
**UtahState**University





# Angus

This breed originated in Scotland. These animals are polled with a black, smooth coat. They are known for their carcass quality and milking, mothering, and reproductive abilities.



# Beefmaster

This breed was developed by the Lasater Ranch then headquartered in Texas in 1908. Modern Beefmasters have slightly less than 1/2 Brahman blood and slightly more than 1/4 of Hereford and Shorthorn breeding. Traits for which the breed was developed are known as the Six Essentials- weight, conformation, milking ability, fertility, hardiness, and disposition.

No selection has been made to characteristics that do not affect the carcass, such as horns, hide, or color.



# Belgian Blue

These cattle originated in central and upper Belgium. The color can be white, blue roan, or sometimes black. The Belgian Blue is a large sized animal with a rounded outline and prominent muscles in the shoulder, back, loin, and rump. This breed is gaining acceptance with dairy producers for dairy beef crosses. The breed is known for its quiet temperament. Some sources state poor calving ease scores are a concern and many purebred cows deliver by cesarean due to double muscling.



# Brahman

This breed was developed in the Southwestern United States by crossing Zebu cattle from India with British breeds. The color of these animals varies from light gray or red to almost black. They are known for their ability to withstand heat and insects.



# Brangus

This breed was developed by the USDA Experiment Station in Jeanerette, Louisiana, in 1932. Registered Brangus must be  $\frac{3}{8}$  Brahman and  $\frac{5}{8}$  Angus, solid black and polled. The Brangus breed was created to combine strengths of the Brahman and Angus breeds.



# Charolais

**This breed was developed in France and imported into the United States from Mexico in 1936. These animals are large and white. They are noted for their fast growth and lean meat.**



# Chianina

This breed was developed in Italy and was originally white with black skin pigmentation. Today, they can be any color. They are a large breed that can stand six feet tall. They are noted for their working, mothering, and beef producing abilities.



# **Gelbvieh**

**This breed originated in Germany. They are solid cream to reddish-yellow in color. These animals are known as a general-purpose breed with good milking abilities.**



# Hereford

**This breed was developed in England and brought to the United States in 1817. These animals have red bodies with white faces. They are known for their foraging ability, vigor, hardiness, and quiet dispositions.**



# Limousin

**This breed originated in the west-central part of France. They are solid-to golden-red in color with lighter circles around the eyes and muzzle. When slaughtered at an early age, these animals yield a high percentage of lean meat with a minimum amount of fat.**



# Maine-Anjou

This breed originated in the northwestern part of France. The coloring is a very dark red with white markings on the head, belly, and rear legs and tail. The Maine-Anjou evolved as a dual-purpose breed, with the cows used for milk production and the bull calves fed for market.



# Murray Grey

This breed originated in southern New South Wales, Australia. The preferred color is silver-gray, although there are numerous variations in the shading of gray. They are a polled breed and are known for good mothering and milking abilities and good growth rates for calves.



# Piedmontese

This breed originated in the Piemonte region of Northwest Italy from the Auroch and the Zebu breeds. They are white or pale gray with black points. This breed is known for their double muscling.



# Pinzgauer

This breed first appeared in Salzburg, Austria, in the 1600s. Horned or Polled, Pinzgauers have pigmented skin under a chestnut red coat and white markings on the back, tail, and barrel. They are known for above average weaning weights, gainability, feed conversion, and easy calving ability.



# Polled Hereford

**This breed was developed in the United States from the Hereford breed. Except for the polled trait, these animals exhibit the same characteristics as the Hereford breed and are registered through the American Hereford Association.**



# Red Angus

The Angus breed originated in the British Isles and recorded reference to the appearance of red cattle dates back to 1805. Hugh Watson of Keilor, Scotland, arbitrarily decided that black was the proper color for the Angus breed, and therefore disregarded red ones. Red Angus possess the same qualities for which Black Angus are known and the only difference is that they are red in color.



# Red Poll

**This breed originated in the counties of Suffolk and Norfolk, England. These cattle are polled and blood red in color. Current selection criteria on Red Poll in the United States are primarily for beef production or easy fattening.**



# Salers

**This breed is native to the Auvergne region of south France. They are typically horned and dark mahogany red in color. They are known for rapid gain, hardiness, and adaptability.**



# **Santa Gertrudis**

**This breed was developed on the King Ranch in Texas. These animals are  $\frac{5}{8}$  Shorthorn and  $\frac{3}{8}$  Brahman. They are known for their growth rate, long life, and hardiness.**



# Scotch Highland

**This breed has origins in the Scottish Highlands. They may be red, black, yellow, dun, or silver-white in color. Despite long horns, long hair, and an unusual appearance, Scottish Highland cattle are considered even-tempered animals. This is a disease-resistant breed with lean, well-marbled, and flavorful meat.**



# Shorthorn

This breed was brought to the United States from England in 1783. These animals can be red, white, or roan in color. They are noted for their good disposition, mothering, and milking abilities.



# Simmental

**This breed was imported into the United States from Switzerland, France, and Germany. Originally they were known for being red and white spotted but have evolved and can be any color today.**

**They are noted for their fast growth, milking abilities, and meat quality.**



# Tarentaise

This breed originated in the Tarentaise Valley in the French Alpine Mountains. These animals are solid wheat colored, ranging from cherry to dark blonde, and they have black hair around the eyes and pigmented udders and teats. They are noted for easy calving due to adequate pelvic capacity and small calves.



# Texas Longhorn

**This breed originated from Spanish Andalusian cattle. These animals have long horns and several different color patterns. They are known for their longevity, hardiness, strong survival instincts, and resistance to disease and parasites.**