

TABLE 1	Comparisons between Holstein steers, native steers and heifers
Item	Holstein steer characteristic
Management	
Colostrum feeding	Less likely to have sufficient or any
Preconditioning prior to feedlot	Always
Energy density of feedlot starter diet	Greater
Risk for founder	Less
Water consumption at equal live weight	Greater
Agility on concrete	Less
Bedding requirement	Greater
Shelter requirement	Greater
Duration in feedlot until finished	Longer because entry weight is lighter
Genetics	
Inbreeding coefficient	Greater (6.8%)
Inbreeding coefficient – Jersey	Greater (7.7%)
Growth performance	No direct selection pressure
NEm requirement	20% greater
Frame score	Large frame
Frame score – Jersey	Medium frame
Health	
Respiratory disease incidence – Southwest	Less
Respiratory disease incidence – Midwest	Greater
Metabolic disorders – Southwest	Greater
Risk for liver abscesses	Greater
Digital dermatitis incidence	Greater
Bloat incidence	Greater
Behavior	
Temperament	More gentle; more curious
Temperament – bulls	Dangerous
Group size preference	Smaller
Incidence of bullers in large pens	Greater
Opportunity for stags	Greater
Carcass	
Harvest-ready weight range, avoiding grid discounts	Greater
Packer hip height maximum	Implemented
Dress (%)	Less
Muscle-to-bone ratio	Less
Longissimus muscle area	Less
Longissimus muscle shape	Elongated
Subcutaneous fat thickness	Less
Meat quality	
Beef tenderness	No difference
Beef tenderness – Jersey	More tender
Cooked beef aroma	No difference
Cattle market economics	
Value per live weight	Less
Value per live weight – Jersey	Less than Holstein
Packer interest in harvest	More selective