

Note: Cowboy went to the Open to the World Steer Show at the Twin Falls County Fair. I hope you got to see him.

Title: SHOWTIME!

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Cowboy weighed-in at the fair weighing 1,236 pounds. His overall a.d.g. was 3.14 lbs per day. He missed my estimated weight goal by 140 lbs. I am sure it did not help that I put 1 bull and 1 heifer in the pen with Cowboy the last 30 days. I increased the grain but I should have separated them more at feeding time.



At the Fair, Cowboy was in class 4 with other steers that weighed between 1,204 and 1,245 pounds. He placed 6th in his class. The judge said that Cowboy was a nice long steer, level topped, and clean fronted. The judge would like to see more muscle in his hind quarters and maybe more finish for his frame. I would agree with that. I was looking at the “Beginning Planning and Record Sheet” that I did in March. Cowboy’s evaluation scores were: average for total muscling, good for trimness, excellent for growth and frame and average for structure and balance. How did he change over the



feeding period? I would give Cowboy average for total muscling, good for trimness, excellent for growth and frame and average for structure and balance. He did not change much with his scores even though he gained over 500 pounds. I could not change the amount of muscling Cowboy had. And with more muscling Cowboy would have been more balanced. Next time I will remember “*what I start with is what I end with*” so I will select an animal with more muscling.

Was Cowboy market ready? Maybe. He should have had 140 more pounds for his frame size however he did have fat patches over his tail head and in his cod area indicating he has fat. Did Cowboy meet Industry ideal? Yes. The industry goal for live weight is between 1,250-1,300 lbs. I will find out soon if Cowboy’s carcass will be Industry ideal.

Here are some questions you can ask yourself.

- ✚ Was the final weight on your steer close to the estimated at initial weigh-in? Why/why not?
- ✚ How did your project do at fair? How did you do in showmanship? Did you do your best?
- ✚ How did your animal change over the feeding period? (muscling, trimness, growth & frame, and structure & balance)
- ✚ Did your project meet Industry ideal?

