

Introduction	1
Why Judge Livestock?	3
Breeds of Livestock	3
Livestock Judging	5
Basics	7
Placing Card	7
Class of Livestock	8
Livestock Judging Contest	8
How to Begin	8
Developing a Judging System	8
Oral Reasons	11
How Good Are Your Oral Reasons?	13
Rules for Giving Oral Reasons	14
Importance of Accuracy	14
Organization of a Set of Reasons	14
Sample Notes	17
Reasons Format	17
Transitions	18
Sample Set of Reasons	18
Delivering a Set of Oral Reasons	19
Terminology for Oral Reasons	20
Beef Cattle	21
Breeds of Beef Cattle	23
Parts of Beef Cattle	26
Handling Market Steers	31
Beef Cattle Terminology	32
Performance Data for Beef Cattle	35
Production Situations for Beef Cattle	37
Sample Oral Reasons for Beef Cattle	40
Junior Yearling Brangus Heifers	40
Limousin Heifers	41
Market Steers	41
Performance Limousin Bulls	42

ii **Mississippi 4-H Livestock Judging Manual**

Sheep	43
Breeds of Sheep	45
Parts of Sheep	47
Handling Market Lambs	50
Sheep Terminology	52
Performance Data for Sheep	55
Production Situations for Sheep	57
Sample Oral Reasons for Sheep	59
Dorset Ewes	59
Market Lambs	59
Swine	61
Breeds of Swine	63
Parts of Swine	65
Swine Terminology	68
Performance Data for Swine	71
Production Situations for Swine	72
Sample Oral Reasons for Swine	74
Market Hogs	74
Hampshire Gilts	75
Glossary	77