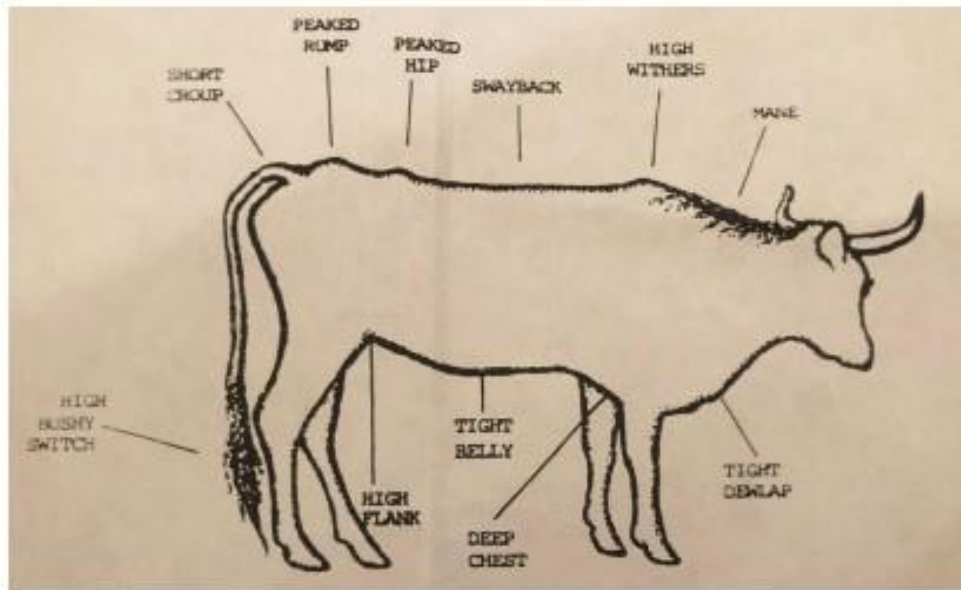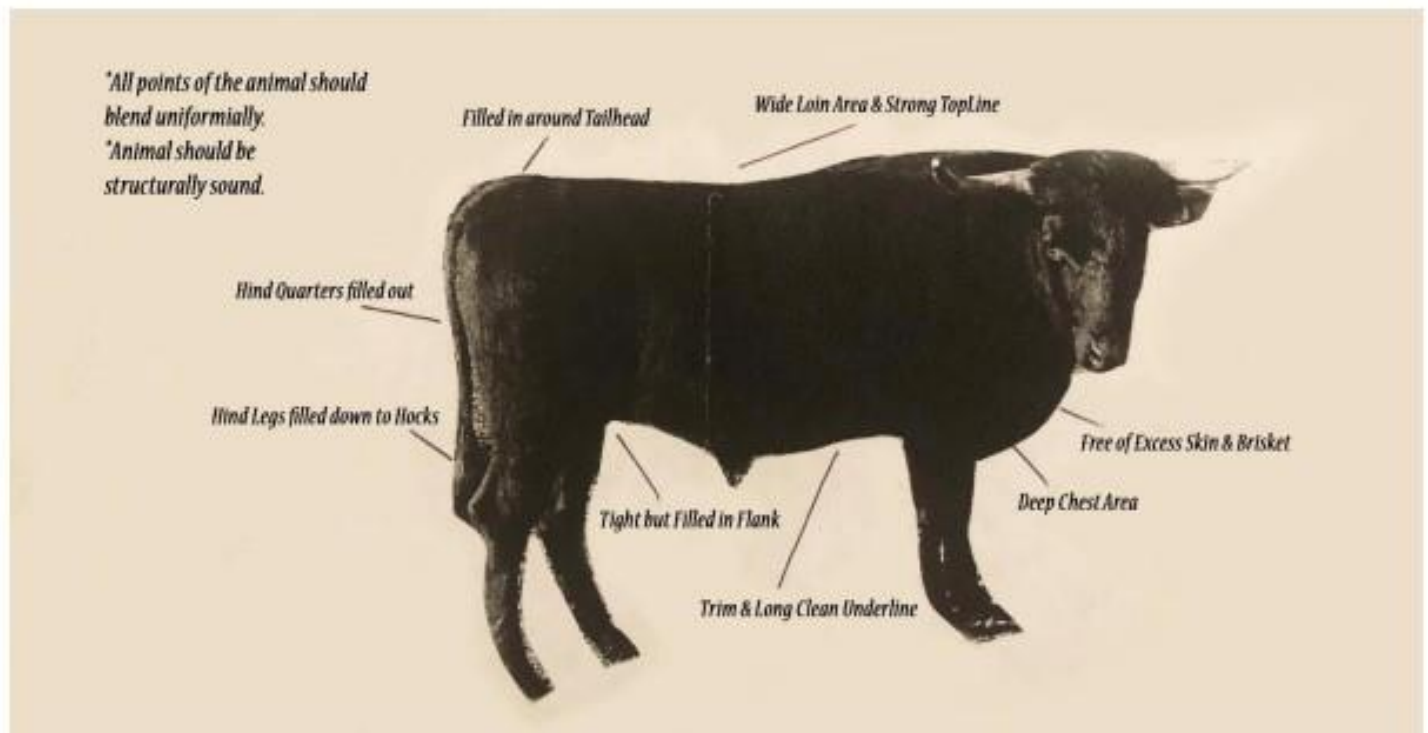# Criteria for the Certified Corriente Beef Program

This program was started in 2020, and still evolving. The NACA has trademarked the CCB logo for all members of the program to use. Below are the criteria of an ideal corriente beef ready to butcher compared to what judges look for when judging a NACA confirmation class.

Specifications in a NACA confirmation class:

Specifications for a CCB animal:

Corriente Market Beef

The object of all market animals is to produce a carcass that results in the maximum amount of lean meat yield with a minimum amount of waste fat.

An ideal corriente beef animal is a combination of many factors. Market beef should be structurally sound. Conformation does play a part in corriente market beef, with an overall meat covering of the animal. The beef should be smooth and balanced from one end to the other.

From the side, the ideal animal should be free of extra leather in the neck and brisket area. The middle should be trim, with a clean long underline. The flank should not be excessively deep. Extra depth and excessive fullness to the flank is nothing but waste fat. The animal should have a thick strong muscular top and wide loin area. A short-coupled animal will result in excessive belly fat and waste. Look for a longer leaner animal, there will be less waste.

The ideal market steer or heifer should be:

1. A structurally sound animal.
2. Free of extra skin leather in the throat area, brisket and dunlap.
3. The middle should be trim, with a long clean underline.
4. The top line should be clean and long, with a wide loin area.
5. Extra depth and excessive fullness to the flank is nothing but waste fat.
6. All points of the animal should blend into the next part.
7. The peaked tail head should be filled in and blend into the loin area.
8. Market or butcher weight will be up to the owner as some cattle develop and mature out quicker than others.
9. Different regions of the country will have different aspects of the conformation guidelines.