



Theodore Halbach

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Ted Halbach is a Faculty Associate in dairy management at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Department of Animal & Dairy Sciences. Since joining the University's staff in 1998, he has coordinated and supported dairy youth programs throughout Wisconsin, taught courses in dairy cattle evaluation and dairy management and coached the UW-Madison's highly successful dairy cattle judging team. Three of his judging teams won the National Intercollegiate Dairy Cattle Judging Contest and UW enjoyed a 0.917 winning percentage, top among all competing universities, during his tenure as coach (1998 to 2010). Halbach now coaches the University's North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge Team.

At UW, Halbach has initiated several innovative and award-winning extension programs including Badger Dairy Camp, "The Rules are Black and White" dairy show ethics video and booklet, and the Dairy Cattle Judging Made Easy interactive CD-ROM. In 2014 he authored the Hoards' Dairyman publication Learning Linear. He now coordinates Wisconsin's 4-H and FFA state dairy cattle judging programs.

Prior to UW, he was an owner and co-manager of Marana Dairy Farms in Arizona from 1985 until 1997. The farm milked 600 registered Holsteins and Brown Swiss. Its Holsteins won Premier Breeder Awards at five Western National Shows, and both Holsteins and Brown Swiss from the farm were nominated for All-American. The herd was dispersed in 1997 in a sale that at the time ranked as the second-highest grossing U.S. registered sale on record.

Halbach served on the Holstein Association USA board of directors. In subsequent years he has worked on the type committees for both the Holstein and Brown Swiss breeds and chaired Purebred Dairy Cattle Association committees charged with revising both the Dairy Cow Unified Scorecard and the Showmanship Evaluation Card. He has extensive judging experience having placed state, regional, and national shows for several of the breeds. Judging assignments have also taken him internationally to Brazil, Puerto Rico, and Ecuador.

Top five most significant judging experiences:

- Coached 3 national champion collegiate judging teams at UW-Madison
- Committee Chair of the 2009 PDCA Dairy Cow Unified Scorecard revision
- Committee Chair of the 2012 and 2016 PDCA Showmanship Evaluation Card revisions
- Conference leader for the America's Judges Workshop in Ecuador
- Member of the 2003 All-Time All-American judges committee

Besides judging type conformation classes, this judge also enjoys:

- Youth Shows
- Showmanship