

THE BRINDLE COLOUR IN CATTLE IN RELATION TO RED.

By CHR. WRIEDT,
Grenlund, Grorud, Norway.

PROF. J. WILSON has suggested that brindle is the heterozygote between black and red, or dun. From Wilson's data S. Wright has concluded that there is a special unanalyzed factor for brindle. Wilson has mentioned that dark coloured Jerseys crossed with red cattle give brindled offspring.

In Tranekjær in Denmark I have examined about 100 crossbreds from Jersey bull and the red cows of the Danish islands and none of these were brindle.

The colours in the Telemark breed in Norway are red and brindle. In this breed the segregation of black is very rare.

At the agricultural schools of Sjøve and Buskerud the agricultural teachers Lalim and Meland have under my cooperation examined the colours of parents and offspring in the herds of pure bred Telemarks. The results are given in the following table:

	Red	Brindle
Brindle × Brindle	4	24
Brindle × Red	14	21
Red × Red	12	0

In these crosses no black individuals occurred, while according to Wilson's hypothesis we should expect 7 black from the mating brindle × brindle. This, taken together with the rarity of black in the whole Telemark breed, gives a clear indication that brindle is a clear cut dominant to red. In these data no certainly homozygous brindled individual is recorded, but in a brindled bull, Tom, we have a possible homozygote. Nesheim, the former leader of the school at Sjøve, has told me that he cannot remember that Tom has given offspring of any colour other than brindle, whether he was mated with red or brindled cows.

LITERATURE CITED.

- WILSON, J. 1909. "The colours of Highland Cattle." *Sci. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc.* N. S. Vol. XI. p. 66.
- WRIGHT, S. "Colour Inheritance in Mammals, VI. Cattle." *Journ. of Heredity*, Vol. VIII. p. 521.