



NFL Draft 2020 Scouting Report: WR Jerry Jeudy, Alabama

**WR grades can and will change as more information comes in from Pro Day workouts, Wonderlic test results leaked, etc. We will update ratings as new info becomes available.*

**WR-B stands for "Big-WR," a classification we use to separate the more physical, downfield/over-the-top, heavy-red-zone-threat-type WRs. Our WR-S/"Small-WRs" [are](#) profiled by our computer more as slot and/or possession-type WRs who are typically less physical and rely more on speed/agility to operate underneath the defense and/or use big speed to get open deep...they are not used as weapons in the red zone as much.*

Well, I just spent a chunk of the day poring over **Jerry Jeudy** tape and data...and I did not expect to end up with the following reaction: I don't know if **Jerry Jeudy** is all that great.

Now, please note that I went into this study thinking the Jeudy-Lamb-Jefferson trio were all similar sized, similar speed WR prospects -- but that Jeudy was going to come out as the best of the bunch in my studies. He did not. My computer models say he's running third among the three.

I'm already taking heat for being a **CeeDee Lamb** dissenter. For being a **Justin Jefferson** 'shoulder shrug', and now I'm really digging myself a hole -- I don't believe Jeudy is all that great either.

Now, please notice that I'm hitting the word 'great'. I'm not saying he's not 'good'. He's a legitimate NFL wide receiver. I just don't see where he is all that great...and in a draft with so many terrific, unique WR prospects -- I'm left wondering why Jeudy has such over-the-top attention. Well, okay, I'm not really wondering - I know why, it happens all the time -- he went to Alabama and people saw him on TV and the echo chamber analysts keep chirping about it, and a star is created. Blah, blah, blah...

I wish the TV football analysts would beat the drum and replay the same 3-4 highlight plays and howl with delight trying to top each other on how much they love **Chase Claypool** or **Michael Pittman** or **Denzel Mims** or **Tyler Johnson** or any one of the other talented WR prospects in this draft. I've already detailed my feelings about this and beaten it to death in my Lamb and J. Jefferson reports, so read those first for more context, I guess.

I really thought we'd grade Jeudy better, but watching the tape closer and after having spent a ton of time studying Lamb-Ruggs-Jefferson before Jeudy, so I had more comparisons fresh in my mind's eye, I saw something with Jeudy that scared me...something I didn't see with the others.

I'm going to start talking about Jeudy comparative to Lamb-J. Jefferson a lot, and to set the table why...here's a quick comparison:



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6'1.2"/202, 33.0" arms, 9.13" hands, 4.43 40-time, 37.5" vertical = **Jefferson**

6'1.0"/193, 32.1" arms, 9.50" hands, 4.45 40-time, 35.0" vertical = **Jeudy**

6'1.5"/198, 32.3" arms, 9.25" hands, 4.50 = **Lamb**, 34.5" vertical = **Lamb**

They are all approximately the same size, same hands/arm size with approximately the same 40-time speed. They also mostly all skipped the agility drills and the bench press at the NFL Combine. In general, they are the same human form/athlete. If you buy that premise...what differentiates them?

For me, watching them and making my own judgements...

-- Jeudy appears the quicker cut, better route runner potential. He breaks off his routes/changes directions better than the others.

-- Jeudy shows more strength in that he pushes around press corners off the snap better than the other guys.

-- Jeudy is a tough enough player, but Jefferson is probably the toughest (takes the biggest hits and holds on, makes more contested catches in traffic). Lamb does not love the contact as much. He was rattled a bit by Baylor DBs hitting him every time they could.

-- They all have good hands. I'd say Lamb has the best hands and best back shoulder and jump ball catching ability. Jefferson the better 'in traffic' concentration hands. Jeudy works slants fine, and works the middle more often than the other guys.

I really thought Jeudy was the slightly better version of all these guys initially, but then I started to see something that bothered me...and I think NFL evaluators see it too and are a bit worried, which is why you hear 'his stock is falling' comments after the Combine.

What bothered me is when you focus on Jeudy against NFL corners – you start to see 'not that special' peeking through. It's easy for Jeudy to roll up sweet plays against New Mexico State and Arkansas, etc., when playing on a Harlem Globetrotters' good offense -- with an elite QB, an elite O-Line, and elite coaching staff, and working with three other NFL caliber wide receivers. Jeudy doesn't have to carry this passing game nor does he get the best corner on him always nor is he double teamed – you can't double anyone on Alabama. **Tyler Johnson** or **Denzel Mims** might have the kitchen sink thrown at them by opponents, because they ARE their team's passing game. They are working, producing under much tougher circumstances.

If you only watched **Jerry Jeudy** vs. LSU and Auburn, the two best defenses he faced in 2019, ones with multiple NFL DBs, you would wonder what the big deal is with Jeudy – and that's with him covered one-on-one. The LSU game is the most frightening for Jeudy – several drops because legit NFL corners were draped on him OR as he gator-armed passes over the middle because **Grant Delpit** was looking to kill him if he caught one on a slant. It's easier beating up on Duke's secondary. It's not as comfortable



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against an LSU or Auburn, who have their entire starting DB units as top NFL draft prospects for 2020 or later years.

What kind of DBs do you think Jeudy is going to face in the pros? Not the Duke or New Mexico State or Arkansas or Southern Miss ones. Why do I name those teams? Those four games in 2019 represented eight of Jeudy's 10 TDs on the season. I'm just saying...

As an evaluator, I'm not even looking at tape of Jeudy versus So Miss or Duke or New Mexico state or Arkansas, etc. Why bother? I'm looking strictly at his toughest opponents/matchups – LSU and Auburn. In those two games, Jeudy was very 'human' and struggled at times. Especially, against LSU...which makes sense because they have top 25-50 OVERALL draft prospects all over the field. Against LSU and Auburn, Jeudy averaged 5.0 rec., 48.5 yards, 0.50 TDs...and there was a good amount of bubble screens to get those numbers. It's just two games, but it's just 'solid' numbers...not 'wow'. However, the output is not my main worry after watching these two specific games for Jeudy.

It's not that Jeudy's numbers were lower vs. Auburn and LSU, as a major case against him – it was that the tape was even less 'wow' than the numbers. Jeudy struggled to separate from REAL NFL-like corners and when in heavy traffic or tight coverage...he dropped passes or couldn't come down with catches he had his hands on. The 2019 LSU and Auburn games – the defenses didn't seem all that fazed by Jeudy nor did they have a difficult time covering him. And for his part, Jeudy was not the best Alabama receiver on the field in these games...he may not have been in the top three.

When I look at **Jerry Jeudy**, I see a slightly bigger/tougher but less accomplished hands/receiver version of **Calvin Ridley**. I'd rather have Ridley as my choice (and I'm not a huge Ridley guy either)...but with Ridley or Jeudy – I see a number of WR prospects just as fast, just as tough/tougher, better producers in less ideal circumstances...so, why would I want to waste expensive draft capital on Jeudy, just because he went to 'Alabama' (where he was arguably the 4th-best WR on the team, seriously...and that's not a massive knock, it's just Alabama is/was stacked).

Jeudy is a 'good' with flaws WR prospect for the NFL. Worthy of being drafted and starting...but there are some concerns (hands/fight/interior work), and those concerns may have him starting out a lot slower in the NFL than Lamb or Jefferson or 5+ other better WR prospects.

One off the field note – Jeudy doesn't strike me as the sharpest guy I've ever come across, when looking at his various interviews. Not a massive red flag, but a reddish tinted one.



Jerry Jeudy, Through the Lens of Our WR Scouting Algorithm:

Jeudy caught 24 TD passes the past two seasons. 14 of the 24 (58%) of those TDs were caught against Arkansas or all out-of-conference foes (Louisville, Ark. State, Duke, So Miss, New Mexico St.) – in 7 games with those teams.

He had big tallies in bowl games – 5.0 rec., 138.7 yards, 1.0 TDs per game...the big chunk coming from his 200+ yard performance against Michigan in his final game at Alabama. Put up numbers in bigger TV games – that is good and helps push his national draft stock.

One career carry for 1 yard...not known for his jet sweep ways.

If **Justin Jefferson** gets dinged, as a prospect/producer because of his great offense/**Joe Burrow** to work with, and he should to some degree – why aren't we questioning Jeudy working on an all-star team of WRs and RBs with a franchise QB at Alabama? Or that his biggest games in that offense seemed to happen outside the SEC?

NFL Combine measurements:

6'1"/193, 9.5" hands, 32.1" hands

4.45 40-time, 4.52 shuttle

35" vertical, 10'0" broad

The Historical WR Prospects to Whom Jerry Jeudy Most Compares Within Our System:

It has to be **Calvin Ridley**, with a twist – nearly the same size, very fast, very sleek, productive Alabama stars. I would argue Ridley was the much better technician at receiver, the more confident one. Jeudy the more physical of the two (not a monster, just works tougher into tackles and blocking). You'd rather have the fast technician over the fast-tougher guy.

T.J. Jones as a comp is not out of the question either...a slightly smaller but similar athlete and output as Jeudy, but not as much hype for Jones...who went on to be perpetually hurt but had moments, but never enough to get consistent NFL work.



2020 NFL DRAFT SCOUTING REPORT

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<u>WR Score</u>	<u>Draft Yr</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Power Strngth Metric</u>	<u>Speed Agility Metric</u>	<u>Hands Metric</u>
6.486	2020	Jeudy	Jerry	Alabama	6	1.0	193	6.85	8.62	7.08
6.991	2018	Ridley	Calvin	Alabama	6	0.4	189	5.51	8.98	8.16
4.697	2014	Jones	T.J.	Notre Dame	5	11.5	188	5.79	8.66	8.88
5.453	2019	Mitchell	Dillon	Oregon	6	1.2	197	7.14	6.33	8.33
5.499	2015	Diggs	Stefon	Maryland	6	0.0	195	7.50	7.12	8.88
6.980	2005	Clayton	Mark	Oklahoma	5	11.0	193	7.53	9.61	7.59

**A score of 7.0+ is where we start to take a Small-WR prospect more seriously. A score of 8.50+ is where we see a stronger correlation of a Small-WR going on to become NFL good/great/elite. A score of 10.00+ is more rarefied air in our system and indicates a greater probability of becoming an elite NFL Small-WR.*

All of the WR ratings are based on a 0–10 scale, but a player can score negative, or above a 10.0 in certain instances.

Overall WR score = A combination of several on-field performance measures, including refinement for strength of opponents faced. Mixed with all the physical measurement metrics, rated historically in our database.

“Power-Strength” = A combination of unique metrics surrounding physical-size profiling, bench press strength, etc. High scorers here project to be more physical, better blockers, and less injury-prone.

“Speed-Agility” = A combination of unique metrics surrounding speed, agility, physical size, mixed with some on-field performance metrics. High scorers here project to have a better YAC and show characteristics to be used as deep threats/create separation.

“Hands” = A combination of unique metrics surrounding on-field performance in college, considering the strength of opponents played. Furthermore, this data considers some physical profiling for hand size, etc. High scorers here have a better track record of college statistical performance, and overall this projects the combination of performance and physical data for the next level.

2020 NFL Draft Outlook:

I think Jeudy's stock is starting to fall among the NFL for all my reasons and then just this class has so many neat, better options later...why spend up on Jeudy? Still, Jeudy has a lot of draft goodwill...although not as much as Lamb-Ruggs. He's going to fight Higgins-Jefferson as the #3 WR draft status and maybe even the one off the board 3rd, around picks #25-50. Remember when **D.K. Metcalf**



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and **A.J. Brown** were everyone's #1-2 ranked WR prospects in 2019 all pre-draft season? Both wound up being taken second half of the 2nd-round.

NFL Outlook:

I think Jeudy might struggle a bit out of the gates but will eventually be a solid/capable WR...just not the star everyone proclaims. I think **CeeDee Lamb** might deserve a similar label, but I see more NFL ability in Lamb's work than in Jeudy's. Lamb will not bust on the low side...but Jeudy, well...I'm not saying it's impossible...

The safe bet on Jeudy's NFL journey – a fine WR who gets more chances and money and respect than he should because of his pre-Draft misdiagnosis/scouting (see: Sammy Watkins).

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