



*The following letter was written by David Danciger of Tybar Ranch, Carbonate, Colo., in response to the article, "Breeding Fire and Ice" by Darrh Bullock of the University of Kentucky. This article was published on pages 194-196 of the November 1994 Angus Journal.*

The article, "Breeding Fire & Ice," is a revelation to the many breeders skeptical of the value of EPDs. I, for one, want to thank all those responsible for the article being in the *Angus Journal*.

Thank you Darrh Bullock and American Angus Association for straightening me out on a very important subject. I had long been under the impression that breeding one of those fantastic AI sires with beautiful EPDs to a poorly EPD endowed cow would produce an animal whose offspring's EPDs would wander

literally from "fire to ice," or from EPDs like those of the sire to those of the dam.

Well, as it happened, I had been ignoring my mistaken conception. I felt I had no choice but to make every attempt to improve the EPDs to which my cows had unknowingly laid claim, even though the calf might not breed "true." I figured eventually my cows' EPDs would gradually become similar enough to their male mates that the desired dependability and predictability would become a reality.

It's simply great to know that the sire and the dam do not have to share virtually the same EPDs to produce "true breeding" progeny. Now that I have learned the truth of the matter, I can continue to provide every EPD deprived cow with a sire who is heavily endowed with the kind of EPDs she has been dreaming of. Every self-respecting cow wants a great calf, regardless of her own genetic makeup.

I hope all cattle breeders will take the time to read the complete article.

*David Danciger*

**WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT!**

"What's Your Beef?" column serves as a forum for Angus breeders and industry experts to express their opinions on current issues and topics of breed improvement and performance programs.

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