

Dissecting a performance registration certificate

BY JOHN CROUCH

A newly transferred Performance Registration Certificate (PRC) is the most important document a new owner receives upon the purchase of Angus seedstock. This PRC contains the most up-to-date performance data available on the animal itself and close relatives in the pedigree. At a glance the PRC seems rather complicated; however, closer examination with a little study provides valuable information. For the benefit of new members and to assist in customer relations, let's dissect the PRC and see what all those numbers mean.

1. The top portion of the certificate provides the animal name, registration number, sex, tattoo, breeder and first owner. The breeder is the member who owned the dam at the time the animal was conceived; whereas, the first owner was the dam's owner of record when the calf was born.
2. Next appear all expected progeny differences (EPDs) available on the animal in question except those for carcass merit. They are addressed in Section 7.

EPDs are numeric expressions of the differences in genetic merit for animals. The following is a listing of EPDs in section 2 and their units of measurement:

- Birth, weaning, and yearling weight, expressed in pounds;
- Maternal weaning weight, expressed in pounds;
- Yearling height, expressed in inches;
- Mature daughter weight, expressed in pounds;
- Mature daughter height, expressed in inches; and
- Scrotal circumference, expressed in centimeters.

Each EPD is followed by an accuracy (ACC) value that indicates the degree of reliability of the EPD. Accuracy values range from 0 to 0.99; the higher the accuracy, the more reliable the EPD. Accuracy values take into account the number of records included in the calculation of the EPD and the distribution of those records across contemporary groups. Accuracy values of less than 0.10 indicate the EPD was calculated totally

from information on the sire and dam. Accuracy values of 0.10-0.37 usually indicate the EPD was calculated from the individual record of the animal plus pedigree information.

In some instances an "I" will appear before the EPD, indicating it is an "interim" EPD. Interim EPDs are in-house calculations of genetic merit on cattle that have not been processed through National Cattle Evaluation or on cattle that have insufficient information to generate a National Cattle Evaluation EPD. Accuracy values that accompany interim EPDs are derived from a percentage of the accuracy of the sire and a percentage of the accuracy of the dam.

3. Just below the EPD block appears an "as of" date. This is the date of the most current National Cattle Evaluation, from which the EPD was calculated, at the time the PRC was requested.
4. Next appears a three-generation pedigree of the animal. Embryo-transplant animals will show a plus (+) sign before the registration number. A pound (#) sign before the registration number indicates the animal is a Pathfinder. (Listings of Pathfinders and the requirements of such can be found each year in the April or May issue of the Angus Journal. Information about the Pathfinder program is also available via the Association's Web site at www.angus.org.)
5. To the right of the pedigree appear the current EPDs of the sire and dam of the animal.
6. Below the pedigree information is a data block that contains performance on the individual and various relatives.

A. The first line is the individual information on the animal. For example, this bull was calved unassisted (calving-ease score of 1). He had a birth weight ratio of 112, 12% heavier than the average of the 17 calves in his group. His weaning weight ratio was 111, 11% heavier than the same group of 17 calves. His yearling ratio was 110; however, there were only 7 of the 17 calves in his weaning group carried on to yearling in his management group.

B. The production section of Line B reflects the performance of his progeny. In the calving-ease columns, only records from first-calf heifers are used. The maternal section deals with daughters of the bull and their respective records.

C. The production and maternal sections of Line C consider the records of progeny of the sire and production records of his daughters.

D. The production and maternal sections of Line D considers, likewise, the records of the progeny of the dam and the production records of her daughters.

7. The carcass EPD section of the data block lists available EPDs for progeny carcass traits for the individual, the sire and the dam.

These include the following:

- Carcass weight, expressed in pounds;
- Marbling, expressed as a percentage of a USDA marbling score;
- Ribeye area, expressed in square inches;
- Fat thickness, expressed in inches; and
- Percent retail product, a way of expressing yield grade as a percent of hot carcass weight.

8. Section 8 lists the name of the recorded owner, and service sire information reported on transferred females.
9. Section 9 provides space to officially transfer the animal to a buyer.
10. This block lists genetic defects or genetic code factors that, when applicable, will precede the registration number of any animal in the pedigree. Further information on these codes can be obtained from the American Angus Association's Breeders' Reference Guide.
11. At the bottom of the certificate appears the registration number of the animal, the date the certificate was issued from the Association offices and the file number of the office transaction.

Worth having

In this era of many breeds of black beef cattle, the only way of being sure of the Angus genetics you purchase is through a properly transferred PRC. Not getting this certificate would be like buying a new truck and not receiving the title. The cost to transfer a registered animal is minimal, especially if transferred within 30 days of purchase.



American Angus Association

REGISTRY NUMBER

8974207 GR



①

Certifies That
 NAME OF ANIMAL: P S POWER PLAY
 BREED: BRED FOR
 SEX: BULL
 TATTOO LEFT EAR: 197 | RIGHT EAR: 197
 DATE CALVED: 4/02/77
 MEMBER CODE: 436275
 MEMBER CODE: 436275
 PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIV UNIVERSITY PK PA
 FIRST OWNER: PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIV UNIVERSITY PK PA

②

EXPECTED PROBABLY DIFFERENCES	BIRTH WEIGHT		WEANING WEIGHT DIRECT		WEANING WEIGHT MATERNAL		YEARLING WEIGHT	
	EPD	ACC	EPD	ACC	MILK EPD	ACC	DAUGHTERS	COMB. VALUE
	+2.5	.99	+25	.99	+5	.99	7016	+17

③

AS OF 1/799
 SIRE: EMULOUS T N 70 4701597
 BIFFLES EMULOUS 775 6274681 R
 BIFFLES PRINCESS 381 4470068
 EARLY SUNSET EMULOUS 6DE # 8890783
 EDWIN ERISON OF ANGUS GLEN -264560-
 EARLY SUNSET PRIDE 88 10099786
 PRIDES BEAUTY GRANT LODGE 10 -123111-
 GEORGIUS OF GRAHAM 21 5090936
 MENTEITH OF GRAHAM 37 # 6329603
 DAM: GRAHAM DUCHESS 5 5079038
 P S MENTEITH BLANCHE 205 8511577
 COLOSSALS IMAGE 6375664
 P S BLANCHE 415 7074946
 STARES BLANCHE 3532824

⑤

	SIRE	
	EPD	ACC
BIRTH	-1.3	.99
WEANING	+15	.99
MILK	+5	.99
YEARLING WT	+28	.99
YEARLING HI	+6	.99
MATURE WT		
MATURE HI		
SCROTAL CIRC	-4.0	.65
LAMB		
EPD		
ACC		
BIRTH	+3.1	.88
WEANING	+7	.85
MILK	+5	.81
YEARLING WT	+15	.84
YEARLING HI	+3	.81
MATURE WT		
MATURE HI		
SCROTAL CIRC		

④

⑥

A
B
C
D

PATHFINDER

MILKING SMP	CALVING EASY				WEANING				YEARLING				CALVING EASY				WEANING				CASCAD WBT ACC	MILKING ACC	PUBTY ACC	TAY THICKNESS ACC	% SPOTL PRODUCT ACC
	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST	TEST							
INTV			17	112	17	111	7	110																	
PROG	650	1044	1220	71	736	29	784	4606	1303	32126	+5	-.14	-.07	+0.04	-.5										
SIRE PROG	455	1131	1587	1001	790	101	968	9102	4585	1.2	7278	100	.93	.94	.92	.91	.91								
DAM PROG	110	1.1	2340	97	432	58	243	28	252	665	410	4436													
INTV			17	112	17	111	7	110																	
PROG	650	1044	1220	71	736	29	784	4606	1303	32126	+5	-.14	-.07	+0.04	-.5										
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⑦

⑧

NAME AND LOCATION OF REGISTERED OWNER: SUMMITCREST FARMS SUMMITVILLE OH
 SERVICE BULL NAME: _____

MEMBER CODE: 548333
 MULTI-OWNED: 3
 FULL NO.: _____ TRF. NO.: _____

TRANSFER

I (we) hereby transfer of registration on the records of the Association to:
 NAME: _____ MEMBER CODE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ TOWN: _____ ST: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
 DATE OF SALE: _____ IS _____ SIGNATURE OF TRANSFEROR: _____ X
 If above animal is a female, serviced prior to Date Of Sale, Date of Service or exposed period as follows:
 Service date, if known: _____ NATURAL ARTIFICIAL
 Pasture exposure: From _____ to: _____
 If the above animal is female and sold with A.I. Breeding Privilege to seller's bull, certify by checking box, Sold with A.I. Breeding Privilege.
 I certify that the above service conforms with the ownership provision of Section VIII of the Rules governing artificial insemination, if applicable, as follows:
 Immediate relative full-time employee _____
 SIGNATURE OF OWNER OF RECORD OF SERVICE BULL IF NOT SELLER OF FEMALE: _____

⑩

Genetic Defect or Genetic Test Codes:
 S - Spinalectomy
 H - Harelip
 D - Doublehorn
 M - Ocular defects
 T - Testicular defects
 H - Horn defects
 P - Tail
 A - Harelip defects, check last for kind.
 L - Defect for Defect: Frames without producing abnormal calves.
 G - Folds
 W - Folds
 All animals that have been reported and named prior to the issuance of this certificate as carriers of genetic defects or genetic factors are coded with the above codes. Animals with an "X" will have been previously tested and are certified to carry no genetic defects or genetic factors for which they are coded. These codes represent a reporting of information on file when this certificate was issued and does not indicate that any animal, coded animal, is free of genetic defects or genetic factors.



The animal described in this Certificate was raised in the American Angus herd book in accordance with application verified by First Owner to conform to the By Laws and Rules of Registration of this Association. Certificate and entry are made subject to the right of correction and amendment.
 REG. NO. 8974207
 1/14/99 00003

American Angus Association
 3201 FREDERICK BOULEVARD
 ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI 64506
 Richard J. Spader
 EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT