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NACC Gains Corporate Sponsors, Prize Money

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Support for the 2004 National Angus Carcass Challenge (NACC) continues to grow. At press time comes news of three additional corporate sponsorships that help increase cash and prizes to \$25,000, including a grand prize of \$5,000 and a John Deere Gator.™ The new sponsors joining CAB, Drovers and the American Angus Association Beef Record Service (BRS) are:

- ARCASS ► Farnam Co. Inc. Makers of the official NACC ear tag, Farnam is better known for its Z® tag system. The company contributes cash and prizes and looks to the future with its high-retention, two-piece tags that fit electronic identification (ID) applications.
- ► **Merial Inc.** Taking on a familiar role in support of high-quality beef, Merial® SureHealth[™] joins the NACC group

with funding for cash prizes and up to \$5,000 bonus winnings when calves are SureHealth™ certified.

▶ John Deere FoodOrigins. The John Deere Gator awarded as the grand prize

is part of a full sponsorship that includes cash and exclusive rebates on the allied AgInfoLink system for enrolling feedlots.

In conjunction with the sponsorship news, NACC Contest Coordinator Rod Schoenbine announced

an increase in NACC rewards as well. "All cash awards have increased," he says, "That includes incentives for CAB-licensed feedlots, Angus seedstock producers, and state or regional Angus associations."

The NACC is open to all Angus producers, but only through the CAB

partner network. Calves must be enrolled in a licensed feedlot and ear-tagged with individually numbered NACC tags from Farnam prior to harvest. Regardless of cow herd genetics, the American Angus Association registration number(s) of the sire(s) represented in the entered lot of cattle must be provided.

Minimum entry is only 40 head, and those can be from multiple owners acting as a team. A maximum of two harvest dates (one shipping sort) will be allowed per entry pen, and 95% of each pen must be harvested to be eligible for prizes. All cattle will automatically receive tag transfer data, which will include ear-tag number, hot carcass weight, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) quality and yield grades, and Certified Angus Beef® (CAB®) certification status. NACC winners will be determined by placing official USDA harvest data on a fixed-value contest grid and dividing that total by the total pounds produced in the pen.

If you have questions or need assistance, or if obtaining Angus sire registration numbers is holding you back, contact Schoenbine at (330) 345-2333. Official 2004 NACC rules and guidelines, contest grid, and current prize-package details can also be accessed online at www.cabfeedlots.com.