



Angus Stakes

► by *Shauna Rose Hermel*, editor

Board meets in Saint Joseph

The American Angus Association Board of Directors met in Saint Joseph, Mo., June 2-4, during the final stages of production on this issue. I reserved my column to provide a quick overview of what happened. We'll present the full "Board Action" in August.

Angus derivative

The Angus derivative concept was thoroughly discussed within the Breed Improvement Committee and presented to the full Board. After consideration by the full Board, discussion of the Angus derivative concept was tabled.

Certified Angus Beef LLC

Congratulations to John Stika, who has been named director of packing in addition to his current responsibilities with Supply Development. Stika will be moving to Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) headquarters in Wooster, Ohio.

Larry Corah explained that, due to budget cutbacks by the state of Ohio, a grant to help fund the DNA project was not approved. Staff is regrouping and evaluating how best to move forward.

Commercial relations

The Board addressed finding a more complimentary description for commercial producers who receive a properly transferred registration certificate. In the past, we've referred to this group as the nonmember bull buyers. The Board changed the group designation to that of affiliate bull buyers.

Goal No. 6 of the Association's Long-Range Plan is to create programs that add value for commercial producers who receive a properly transferred registration certificate. To help attain that goal, the Commercial & Industry Relations Committee approved issuing semi-annual expected progeny difference (EPD) updates on bulls to affiliate bull buyers. The first updates will be sent at the completion of the Fall 2002 National Cattle Evaluation (NCE). Affiliate bull buyers will receive a summary that lists updated EPDs on bulls they have purchased.

The committee also recommended an extension to the existing Angus Beef Record Service (BRS) to allow for the submission of "group data" from commercial cow herds.

Accuracies of EPDs

The Breed Improvement Committee reviewed a report on birth weight (BW) EPD changes in high-accuracy sires. The report pointed out that sires whose EPDs change significantly from one NCE to the next tend to have the majority of their progeny represented in the three largest contributing herds. The committee decided to hold birth and weaning weight accuracy values at 0.85 until less than 50% of the progeny data on

that sire is derived from the total of the three largest herds. This will be implemented for the Fall 2002 Sire Evaluation Report, which is scheduled to go online July 15.

Show swap in Louisville

James Fisher, director of activities and junior activities, reported that the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) has approved a schedule change for the Angus show this November. Cow-calf pairs and bulls will show Monday, Nov. 18; females will show on Tuesday. The move was made to avoid delays in the annual meeting scheduled for Monday afternoon.

National advertising campaign

The 2002-2003 national advertising campaign will continue the award-winning "Black Hide" campaign (see "Newsmakers," page 178). The upcoming campaign will deliver a profitability message by focusing on five basic areas of the Angus business: Angus bulls, Angus females, Angus BRS, the *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) brand, and the southern United States.

Interns join staff for summer

Four interns have joined the staff in Saint Joseph for the summer. See "Newsmakers," (p. 62) for an introduction.

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Correction

My apologies to John Patterson. In the May *Angus Journal* ("Addressing Derivative Questions," page 70), we incorrectly listed him as president of the Montana Angus Association. Mr. Patterson is vice president. Doug Stevenson is president.

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