

PERFORMANCE REPORT

Compiled by Heather Lassen, special projects editor

This column features the performance leaders in central bull tests hosted across the country. To access a state-by-state listing of central bull tests, visit our Virtual Library online at www.api-virtuallibrary.com/CentralBullTests.htm. The listing includes contact information, links to test websites, current test schedules and dates of upcoming tests.

Edisto Forage Bull Test Announcement

The Edisto Forage Bull Test has announced the schedule for its 2021 test. The 168-day test features a senior and junior division and will be conducted at the Edisto Research and Education Center near Blackville, S.C. The test station has a capacity of 90 bulls.

Eligible birth dates for the senior division are Dec. 1, 2019, to Jan. 31, 2020. To be eligible for the junior division, bulls must have been born between Feb. 1 and March 31, 2020. Nominations are due Nov. 1, 2020.

Bulls will be received Dec. 3, and will be weighed on test Dec. 15. Interim weights will be recorded Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 9, April 6 and May 4, 2021. Final weights are scheduled for June 1. Qualifying bulls will sell in the test sale Oct. 9.

For more information contact Scott Sell at 912-682-9590 (cell), 803-284-3684 (fax) or gsell@clemsun.edu, or visit the test website at <https://www.clemson.edu/extension/bulltest/edisto/>.

Virginia BCIA Culpeper Senior Bull Test

On-test report (July 14)

Bulls were weighed on test July 14 for the Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Association (BCIA) Culpeper Senior Bull Test, conducted

at Glenmary Farm, Rapidan, Va.

The 112-day test features bulls born between Aug. 15 and Nov. 30, 2019. The bulls are fed a silage-based ration for a target average daily gain (ADG) of 3.5 pounds (lb.).

The 94 Angus bulls from 19 consignors averaged 868 lb. with an average weight per day of age (WDA) of 2.93 lb. going on test. All 114 bulls averaged 871 lb. and had an average WDA of 2.94 lb.

Interim weights are scheduled for Sept. 8 and Oct. 6, and final weights will be recorded Nov. 3. The test sale will be hosted on Dec. 12.

New this year, the sale will follow a video auction format. Bulls will be brought to the sale facility for buyer viewing; however, they will not be put through the ring during the sale.

For more information please contact Scott Greiner at 540-231-9159 or sgreiner@vt.edu, or visit the test website at <https://www.bcica.apsc.vt.edu/>.

NC BCIP Butner Bull Test

On-test report (July 21)

Bulls were weighed on test July 21 at the Butner Beef Cattle Field Laboratory for the North Carolina Beef Cattle Improvement Program (BCIP) Butner Bull Test.

The bulls were born between Aug. 15 and Nov. 15, 2019, and were received at the test station July 8.

Consigned by 11 producers, the 51 Angus bulls weighed 815 lb. on average, and had an average WDA of 2.77 lb. All 59 bulls averaged 808 lb. going on test and had an average WDA of 2.76 lb.

The bulls will be fed a corn silage-based ration with protein and energy added to balance the ration to 12% crude protein and 70% total digestible nutrients (TDN).

Interim weights are scheduled for Sept. 15 and Oct. 13. Bulls will be weighed off-test Nov. 9-10, and qualifying bulls will sell in the test sale Dec. 18 at the Granville County Livestock Arena at Oxford, N.C. For more information contact Greg Shaeffer, station manager, at 919-471-6872, or visit the test website at <https://beef.ces.ncsu.edu/beef-bull-test/>.

Calhoun Bull Test

On-test report (July 22)

Bulls were weighed on test July 22 following a 21-day warm-up period for the University of Georgia Calhoun Bull Test. To be eligible for the 112-day test, bulls must have been born between Sept. 1 and Nov. 30, 2019.

The 82 Angus bulls averaged 877 lb. and had an average WDA of 3.05 lb. All 107 bulls averaged 867 lb. and had an average WDA of 3.01 lb. Interim weights are scheduled to be recorded Aug. 18, Sept. 15 and

Oct. 13, with final weights for the 112-day test recorded Nov. 9-10. The Calhoun Beef Cattle Seminar will be hosted Dec. 3, before the 51st Annual Calhoun Bull Test Sale on Dec. 4.

For more information please contact Jason Duggin at 706-728-4354 or 229-386-3683, or visit the test website at <http://bit.ly/PT-Calhoun>.

IBEP Summer 2020 Bull Test 63-day report (July 21)

32 bulls were delivered April 28 to the Feldun-Purdue Ag Center near Bedford, Ind., for the Indiana Beef Evaluation Program's (IBEP's) summer 2020 bull test. The bulls were born between May 1 and Oct. 31, 2019, and are being fed a forage-based diet with a target gain of 3.25 lb. per day.

Going on test the 18 Angus bulls averaged 730 lb., and all 32 bulls averaged 733 lb.

HIGH-ADG ANGUS Lot 421; owner: Kerley Beef Farm, Simpson, Ill.; sire: Basin Payweight 1682; ADG: 3.86 lb.; ADG ratio: 125; WDA: 2.49 lb.; WDA ratio: 87; wt.: 826 lb.; test index: 110

HIGH-WDA ANGUS Lot 403; owner: Hall's Angus, James Hall, Eddyville, Ill.; sire: Vermilion Spur B024; ADG: 2.86 lb.; ADG ratio: 93; WDA: 3.43 lb.; WDA ratio: 120; wt.: 1,145 lb.; test index: 104

HIGH-INDEXING ANGUS Lot 404; owner: Hall's Angus; sire: KCF Bennett Fortress; ADG: 3.38 lb.; ADG ratio: 110; WDA: 3.40 lb.; WDA ratio: 119; wt.: 1,060 lb.; test index: 113

ANGUS AVERAGES (18 HEAD) ADG: 3.08 lb.; WDA: 2.85 lb.; avg. wt.: 924 lb.

OVERALL AVERAGES (32 HEAD) ADG: 3.12 lb.; WDA: 2.90 lb.; avg. wt.: 929 lb.

Interim weights were scheduled to be recorded Aug. 18. Final weights will be recorded Sept. 20-21. The test sale will be Oct. 17 at the Springville

Feeder Auction. Bulls must perform in the top two-thirds of the test on the performance index and pass a structural soundness and disposition evaluation in addition to a breeding soundness exam to qualify for the test sale.

For more information, contact Nick Minton, beef systems specialist, at nminton@purdue.edu or 812-279-4330; Brad Shelton, station manager, at sheltonb@purdue.edu or 812-279-8554; or Donna Lofgren, performance records and website, at dlofgren@purdue.edu or 765-494-6439. Information is available on the test website, <https://ag.purdue.edu/ansc/ibep/>.

IBEP Winter 2020 Bull Test Announcement

Nominations are due Sept. 25 for the IBEP Winter 2020 Bull Test also conducted at the Feldun-Purdue Ag Center near Bedford. The 86th IBEP Performance Test will feature bulls born Jan. 1-April 30, 2020. If space is available, a senior division for bulls Nov. 1-Dec. 31, 2019, will also be included.

Delivery will be accepted Oct. 27 for bulls to be weighed on test Nov. 17. The bulls will be fed a ration balanced for a target ADG of 3.25 lb.

Interim weights will be collected Dec. 15, Jan. 19 and Feb. 16. Bulls will be weighed off the 120-day test March 22. Those qualifying will sell in the test sale April 17 at the Springville Feeder Auction.

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Georgia HERD Program Announcement

The University of Georgia has announced the schedule for its Heifer Evaluation and Reproductive Development (HERD) Programs at Tifton and Calhoun.

During the HERD program, the heifers will be evaluated on performance, reproductive traits and disposition. They will be fed a ration of hay plus a supplement designed for optimum growth and development, and will be fed to gain 1.50 to 1.75 lb. per day.

The heifers will be heat-synchronized and artificially inseminated (AI) to Connealy Comrade 1385 or GAR Prophet, followed by 45 days of exposure to bulls selected by HERD staff.

Nominations are due for the 22nd Tifton HERD Program Sept. 1, and eligible heifers were born Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 2019. Heifers will be received Oct. 5 and will sell in the Tifton sale April 20, 2021.

Heifers eligible for the 21st Calhoun HERD Program were born Dec. 1, 2019, through Feb. 29, 2020. Nominations are due Nov. 1. Delivery of the heifers is scheduled for Dec. 3, and the sale is scheduled for June 2, 2021. 