

MEMBERSHIP TIPS

by Jerry Cassady
director of member services



Data submission

For years, progressive registered Angus breeders have capitalized on improving the genetic progress of their herds through performance measurements by enrolling and participating in the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) program.



AHIR is available for registered Angus breeders who are serious

about making genetic progress in their herds through the use of performance records. The records submitted to the Association through AHIR include weights and measures, as well as carcass and ultrasound data if available.

The records submitted are utilized in the weekly Angus National Cattle Evaluation to calculate genetic prediction tools such as expected progeny differences (EPDs) and \$Value Indexes. These tools are provided to Association members and their customers and can then

be used to make more informed breeding decisions.

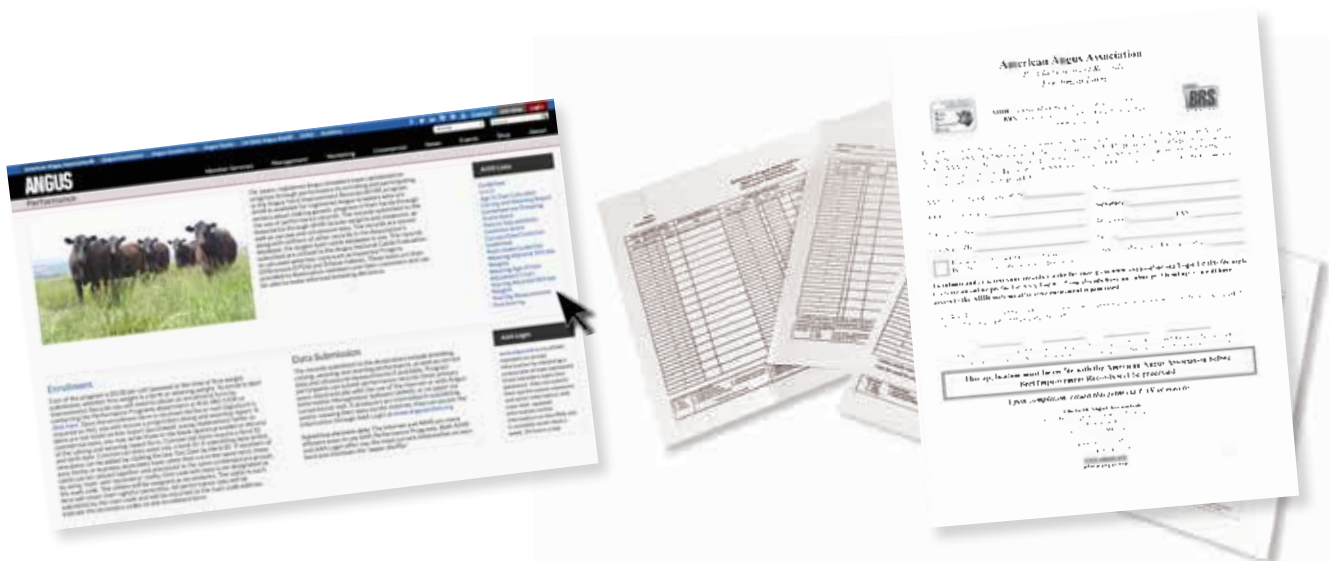
Program participants can submit performance records three primary ways: electronically with the use of their AAA Login, with Angus Information Management Software (AIMS), or on paper via conventional mail. AAA Login and the AIMS software are more efficient ways to use AAA Performance Programs. Both AAA Login and AIMS offer you the most current information on your herd and eliminate the “paper shuffle” and the need for conventional mail.

If producers are interested in submitting and/or viewing their data via the Internet, they can access the information through AAA Login at


www.angusonline.org or by purchasing the AIMS software.

What about the cost of the AHIR program? The cost is \$3 per calf assessed at the time of first weight submission, whether first weight is a birth weight or a weaning weight. This is important to remember, as for years the program fee was associated with the weaning weight. Therefore, as birth weights are submitted, you will now be assessed the AHIR fee at that time.

For a comprehensive look at the AHIR program and all it has to offer our members, go to www.angus.org/Performance/AHIRDefault.aspx or contact the Member Services Department at 816-383-5100.



Member Services updates

1. A member request was made to create an option for transferred hard copy papers to be returned directly to the buyers. The American Angus Association Board of Directors approved to have staff create an option for members to have hard copy papers mailed directly to the buyers at a fee of \$3 per transferred certificate. This option will now be available for all to utilize starting with the current fall sale season.
2. Rules of the American Angus Association were reviewed by the Board of Directors and metrics were presented by Association staff regarding the increasing need for corrections relating to parentage. Discussion focused on the recent increasing trends, administration options and educational opportunities for our membership. The Board of Directors approved to adopt and utilize a best practices statement (see sidebar) and to increase the DNA parentage correction fee to \$5 beginning Jan. 1, 2019. If you have any questions, please contact the Member Services Department at 816-383-5100. We are always here to assist you in any way we can. 

Parentage best practices

When submitting calves with unknown parentage, or if you use multi-sire pastures, it is highly recommended that you test the calf for parentage prior to registering. At the time you submit the DNA sample on the calf for parentage testing, the calf will be assigned a temporary number (BIR Number). Then provide all possible sires by creating a sire group. This will allow the DNA to direct the system to determine the correct sire, allow us to make the correction on the calf's weight data, and then you can submit the registration application and register the calf correctly. This procedure will ultimately save you time and extra effort.

To create a sire group, go to Member Login/My Herd/Animal Groups/Create Sire Group. In the 'Sire Group Identifier' box type in the name for your sire group. An example would be 2018 sires, North Pasture, etc. Click on 'Add New Sire' and type in the registration numbers for your sires. Click on 'Save' when finished. If you need to add additional sires you can do that by clicking on 'Add Additional Sires.'



NVAFA
2018 Fall Female Classic Sale
with a special group from Legacy at Pine Hill

Saturday, October 27, 2018 • 12 Noon
Woodside Farm South • New Market, VA

Selling 60 lots of quality Angus cattle including cow-calf pairs, bred heifers, open heifers and show heifer prospects.

For more information or to request a sale book, please contact Chuck Alexander at 540-533-5669 or Dave Mullins at 317-503-2798. More information available at www.nvangus.org.