

# ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

Compiled by Shauna Hermel, Angus Beef Bulletin

## Important dates for Pathfinder

Launched in 1978, the Pathfinder® Angus Program identifies superior females in the breed based on performance data submitted through Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®). To qualify, a cow must be actively enrolled in AHIR, producing her first calf near the herd's average age for first calving. Second, her first three calves must post a minimum average weaning weight ratio of 105 in a contemporary group with a minimum of five herdmates of the same sex. Lastly, calves must be sired by a registered Angus bull.

All data on females must be received by the end of the business day on Jan. 31, 2021, to be eligible for 2021 Pathfinder status. Pathfinder status will be announced on Feb. 4, 2021.

## At a glance

### December 2020

- 4 Angus University webinar
- 5 Nebraskan Livestock Show entry deadline

### January 2021

- 6-10 Cattlemen's Congress Super ROV Shows
- 8 National Angus Bull Sale
- 9 "Oklahoma Stars" Angus Foundation Gala
- 9-24 Nebraskan Livestock Show
- 15 AHIR Inventory Reporting spring enrollment deadline
- 31 Data deadline for 2021 Pathfinder status

## Inventory Reporting AHIR data

The new Inventory Reporting option for submitting AHIR® data is now open for enrollment. The deadline for spring enrollment is Jan. 15. Herd inventory can be established within your AAA Login account.

The fee is \$2 for each female. Requirements for active females include reporting a calf (birth date, sex, dam information), reason for no calf or disposal code for the cow.

All members enrolled in the Inventory Reporting option will have the opportunity to earn the MaternalPlus® designation. For more information regarding the Inventory Reporting option, contact the American Angus Association at 816-383-5100 or [angus@angus.org](mailto:angus@angus.org).

## December AU webinar

What does Inventory Reporting mean for your herd? At 7 p.m. Dec. 4, Jerry Cassady, director of member services, and Chris Stallo, COO, will highlight key features in an Angus University (AU) webinar. "Investing in Inventory" will cover the requirements of Inventory Reporting, benefits of the program and how it plays a role in the already established MaternalPlus program.

The reporting option was introduced to capture valuable data on all animals, not just the best ones. This helps producers identify higher-performing cows by giving credit to good performers when compared to lesser-performing cattle. For Angus breeders, this capitalizes on an opportunity for genetic improvement.

Join the Association Dec. 4 to learn more about the Inventory Reporting system and what it can do for your Angus herd.

To register for the webinar, visit [bit.ly/investingininventory](http://bit.ly/investingininventory). To view past webinars, visit [www.angus.org/Education/AngusEducation.aspx](http://www.angus.org/Education/AngusEducation.aspx).

## NWSS postponed

The Western Stock Show Association board and National Western Stock Show (NWSS) management made the call to postpone the 115th NWSS by one year and to resume the event in January 2022. The COVID-19 pandemic does not allow for the NWSS to host the annual event and comply with the health and safety guidelines. For information, visit [www.nationalwestern.com](http://www.nationalwestern.com).

## Super ROV, sales move to Cattlemen's Congress

The American Angus Association announces plans to hold its Super Roll of Victory (ROV) Show typically associated with the NWSS during the newly created Cattlemen's Congress in Oklahoma City, Okla.

The tentative Angus schedule is as follows:

### Wednesday, Jan. 6

- Bases Loaded Sale, 5 p.m., Heritage Center

### Thursday, Jan. 7

- Jr. Angus Show, 8 a.m., Jim Norick Arena
- Denim and Diamonds Sale, 5 p.m., Super Barn Sale Arena

### Friday, Jan. 8

- Super ROV Angus Bull Show, 9 a.m., Jim Norick Arena

- Sale of Angus Foundation Heifer Package, 1 p.m., Super Barn Sale Arena
- National Angus Bull Sale, 1 p.m., Super Barn Sale Arena
- A Night at Remington Park, Angus Sale, 5 p.m., Remington Park

#### **Saturday, Jan. 9**

- Super ROV Angus Female Show, 8 a.m., Jim Norick Arena
- Angus Foundation Female Sale, 2:30 p.m., Super Barn Sale Arena
- Oklahoma Star Angus Foundation Gala

#### **Sunday, Jan. 10**

- Angus Bull and Heifer Pen Shows, 8 a.m., Performance Arena

The Skirvin Hilton at 1 Park Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla., will serve as Angus headquarters hotel for the Cattlemen's Congress. A block of rooms has been reserved with a cutoff date of Dec. 3. Visit <http://bit.ly/CC-hotel> to reserve a room.

A room block has also been set up at the Fairfield Inn and Suites Marriott/OKC Airport. To reserve before the Dec. 27 cutoff, call 405-604-3223. Request the American Angus Association rate of \$70 plus tax.

### **National Angus Bull Sale**

The 2021 National Angus Bull Sale will be Friday, Jan. 8, at 1 p.m. in the Super Barn Sale Arena during the Cattlemen's Congress in Oklahoma City, Okla. All consignments will be genomic tested; will possess a complete set of expected progeny differences (EPDs) and dollar value indexes (\$Values); and must be free of any genetic conditions recognized by the American Angus Association.

All bulls born before Jan. 1, 2020, will have passed a complete breeding soundness examination (sometimes referred to as a BSE), physical and semen, within 30 days of the sale.

For more information about the sale, contact Jeff Mafi, sale manager, at 816-344-4266.

### **Angus Foundation Heifer**

The Angus Foundation Heifer Package will kick off the National Angus Bull Sale. The sale will be Friday, Jan. 8, at the Cattlemen's Congress in Oklahoma City.

This year's heifer offering presents a special opportunity to purchase a choice of the 2020 crop of heifers from Benoit Angus, Esbon, Kan.

The offering includes 30 days of insurance from American Live Stock Insurance Co., Batavia, Ill.; transportation to the buyer's ranch provided by Lathrop Livestock Transportation, Dundee, Ill.; and an advanced reproductive technology package from Trans Ova Genetics, Sioux Center, Iowa.

See page 90 for a feature on the Benoit family's operation.

### **Angus Foundation gala planned**

One-of-a-kind auction items, food, fun and Angus cattle will complement the incredible venue of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, Saturday, Jan. 9, in Oklahoma City. The "Oklahoma Stars" Gala will raise money for the Angus Fund in support of the Angus Foundation's mission of funding youth and educational programs such as Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD), Raising the Bar, Beef Leaders Institute (BLI) and academic scholarships.

The event will include a social hour, dinner, music and a live auction. All are invited to attend.

The registration deadline is Dec. 30. To register, visit [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org).

For more information contact

Thomas Marten, Angus Foundation executive director, at 816-383-5100 or [tmarten@angus.org](mailto:tmarten@angus.org).

### **The Nebraskan Livestock Show**

Entries are due Dec. 5 for the Nebraskan Livestock Show to be hosted Jan. 9-24 at the Nebraska State Fairgrounds in Grand Island, Neb. The event is offered as an alternative to the NWSS for cattlemen to exhibit, promote, market and sell their livestock.

The tentative schedule for Angus includes:

#### **Thursday, Jan. 14**

- Check in Hill cattle and Pen cattle, 7 a.m.

#### **Friday, Jan. 15**

- Nebraskan Jr. Angus Breeding Heifer Show, noon, Five Points Bank Arena

#### **Saturday, Jan. 16**

- Nebraskan Angus Female & Bull ROV Show, 9 a.m., Five Points Bank Arena

#### **Sunday, Jan. 17**

- Nebraskan Angus Bull & Heifer Pen Show, 2 p.m., Aurora Coop Pavilion

For more information, visit [www.theNebraskan.org](http://www.theNebraskan.org) or call 308-385-3927. A list of available hotels is included under the accommodations link of the website.

### **Angus Beef Bulletin**

Advertising deadlines are fast approaching for the February issue of the *Angus Beef Bulletin*. The space reservation deadline is Jan. 3; materials deadline is Jan. 10; and the issue will arrive in mailboxes Feb. 15-20.

Redesigned in 2018, the *Bulletin* is a four-color magazine that provides commercial cattlemen management and marketing information.

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**CURRENT ASSOCIATION FEES**

Following are the correct fees for various American Angus Association services. Be sure to send the correct amount of money with the work being requested, as incorrect payments are the main cause of delays.

**REGISTRATIONS**

- Applications for animals less than 4 months of age .....\$7
- Applications for animals 4-10 months of age.....\$9
- Applications for animals 10-12 months of age .....\$14
- Applications for animals more than 12 months of age .....\$27

**TRANSFERS**

- Applications received less than 30 days from sale date .....\$5
- Applications received 30-60 days from sale date.....\$7
- Applications received more than 60 days from sale date .....\$12

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) fee (per first weight submitted) .....\$3
- Artificial insemination (AI) service certificate.....\$10
- Regular annual membership .....\$80
- Regular annual membership with Angus Journal subscription.....\$130
- Lifetime membership (optional to pay in three \$500/year installments).....\$1,500
- Junior annual membership (less than 21 years of age).....\$20
- Embryo-transfer (ET) calf..... regular registration fee plus \$10
- Cell-clone transplant calf..... regular registration fee plus \$50

Rules of the American Angus Association are included in the Breeder's Reference Guide. Free copies are available from the Association. An online version is available through the "Rules and Forms" link at [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org).

**BREEDER'S REFERENCE**

Symbols are used with a registration number to denote important information about an animal.

**SYMBOL MEANING**

- # Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire
- + Embryo transfer calf
- ^ Cell clone
- % Split-ET
- @ Clone-ET
- \* Parentage qualified to both parents and the mating

The American Angus Association currently recognizes the following genetic conditions:

**CODE MEANING**

- AM Arthrogryposis multiplex
- CA Contractural arachnodactyly
- D2 PRKG2 gene mutation for dwarfism
- DD Developmental duplication
- DM Double muscling
- DW Dwarfism
- HG Horn gene
- HI Heterochromia irides
- M1 nt821 mutation for double muscling
- NH Neuropathic hydrocephalus
- OH Oculocutaneous hypopigmentation
- OS Osteopetrosis
- RD Red gene
- SN Syndactyly
- WT Wild type color gene

The following single-letter descriptors appearing after a genetic condition code shall have the following meaning:

- P - refers to a "potential" carrier based on an ancestor known to carry that specific mutation.
- F - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be "free" of that specific mutation.
- C - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a "carrier" of that specific mutation.
- A - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a carrier of two copies of that specific mutation. It may or may not exhibit the phenotype associated with that genetic condition.

The following letter designations describe cases in which there is more than one genetic condition present:

- XF - Free of more than one genetic condition.
- XC - Carrier of more than one genetic condition.
- XA - Affected of more than one genetic condition.
- RTF - Recessive trait free (produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a genetic defect).

To reserve an advertising space, contact your regional manager or advertising executive. You can view back issues online at [www.angusbeefbulletin.com/extra/abb-back-issues.html](http://www.angusbeefbulletin.com/extra/abb-back-issues.html).

**DNA submission**

Following a routine review of the DNA collection process, handling charges for improperly submitted samples have been updated and terms and conditions have been clarified.

**Meat spoke**

The first season of the *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Meat Speak podcast, launched in 2019, was full of beefy content: 30 episodes, 22 guests and 60% of the top downloads came from the 14 meat science segments. Meat geeks, farmers and ranchers, culinary personalities and those in the restaurant business listen in to conversations led by CAB team members and guests.

Taking a cue from what generated the most interest last year, Season 2 launched Sept. 30 with a focus on science and butchery and a new co-host: CAB Meat Scientist Diana Clark. She joins Bryan Schaaf and Chef Tony Biggs as they explore things like the names of beef cuts to "The Great Sausage Discussion."

"Chef Tony brings his culinary knowledge, Bryan shines as a storyteller and Di's passion for meat science and education make this a podcast you don't want to miss," says Paige Clayton, digital marketing specialist for the brand. "They take a deep dive into the what, why and how about all things beef."

Subscribe on Apple Podcasts, Google Play or Spotify, or visit [www.certifiedangusbeef.com/podcast](http://www.certifiedangusbeef.com/podcast).

## Black Books available

Request your two free 2021 Angus Black Books now. The pocket-sized books include a calendar and space to keep management records on your cow herd. Additional books are available for \$3.25 each.

To order, call 816-383-5100 or email [blackbooks@angus.org](mailto:blackbooks@angus.org).

## Historic Angus Herd Award

Active members who have been in the continuous production of registered Angus cattle for 50 years or more are eligible to apply for the Association's Historic Angus Herd Award. Awards are presented throughout the year.

The herd must be owned by the original member or their immediate family, and documentation of herd records must be provided.

Qualifying herds are presented an official certificate and recognized in the *Angus Journal*.

Download an application or view a listing of recipients honored since the program was started in 1988 at [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org).

## Affordable ID

Cattle producers looking for affordable ways to identify their herd can visit [www.customcattletags.com](http://www.customcattletags.com), a service provided by the Association.

Custom Cattle Tags provides high-quality, low-cost, customized ear tags, Tissue Sampling Units (TSUs) and 840 radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags for cattle producers all across the United States. For producers having a sale, Custom Cattle Tags is your source for sale tags.

## Looking for an internship?

The American Angus Association offers opportunities for college students to further their education

and gain experience with the world's leading beef cattle association.

Paid summer internships offer students an opportunity to build upon writing, editing, photography and organizational abilities while developing industry knowledge. The internships being offered are:

**Angus Journal:** This writing-intensive opportunity offers the chance to join a multimedia effort, which includes the *Angus Journal* print publication and the *AJ Daily* electronic newsletter, as well as the *Angus Journal's* website and social media presence. Many duties can be anticipated, including traveling to industry events. Experience in news and feature writing, editing and photography are strongly suggested.

**Communications:** From print stories to video scripts, photography, graphic design and more, the communications intern will truly gain valuable ag communications experience. Applicants should have writing and design skills and have completed coursework in news and feature writing, editing and design. Experience in photography, video and social media would be helpful.

**Events and Education:** The intern will assist in planning and executing youth events hosted by the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA), including preparations, correspondence and coordination for junior shows and events. Applicants should be a self-starter, detail-oriented and outgoing, with the ability to work well with others. Livestock and event planning experience is a plus, but not required. Travel to the 2021 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference and other NJAA events can be expected.

**Angus Genetics Inc.:** Students

pursuing their master's degree or Ph.D. in animal breeding and genetics should apply for the Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) summer internship. The intern will have the opportunity to work with one of the world's largest beef genomic databases. The internship will be focused on research that involves data analysis. Candidates should have experience in analyzing animal breeding data sets and genomic data.

**Angus Beef Bulletin:** Angus Media is finalizing an internship structure with the *Angus Beef Bulletin* that will likely include a part-time schedule on a quarterly basis. Look for details to come.

Students interested in applying should send a résumé, cover letter and references to [careers@angus.org](mailto:careers@angus.org) by Feb. 1, 2021. Visit [angus.org/careers](http://angus.org/careers) for internship descriptions and requirements.

## Talon Internship student applications due Dec. 1

Those viewing this issue online may still have time to apply for an outstanding internship opportunity. The Angus Foundation, through the Angus/Talon Youth Education Learning Program Endowment Fund, will pair motivated youth with host Angus ranches to give a valuable, hands-on, educational experience for an eight- to 10-week term during summer 2021. Applications are available online and due back to the Angus Foundation by Dec. 1.

College sophomores, juniors, seniors, graduate students and recent college graduates who do not exceed the age of 25 on date of application and are majoring in an agriculture-related field of study, will be eligible to apply for this paid internship position.

For more information and to apply, visit [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org). 