



Association Highlights

► by *Shelia Stannard*, director of communications and events

Cattlemen's Boot Camp in Oklahoma this month

There is still time to register for the Cattlemen's Boot Camp scheduled for Dec. 18-19 at Oklahoma State University (OSU), Stillwater, Okla. The Boot Camp is sponsored by the American Angus Association, Angus Foundation and OSU.

Leading industry experts will address the various topics of reproduction, nutrition, carcass quality and adding value to the herd during the session that begins at noon Dec. 18.

Enrollment is limited to allow for small-group interaction, so register today by contacting the Association at (816) 383-5100. Registration is just \$75, which includes meals and materials. For more information, visit www.angus.org.

Don't miss this month's webcast

An educational webcast will be conducted Tuesday, Dec. 12, beginning at 8 p.m. Central time. Sally Northcutt, Association director of genetic research, will present "It's Yearling Time," providing an overview of the various data to measure and collect, including ultrasound information.

Viewers will need a high-speed or DSL internet connection to listen to and view the presentations. Register for a free and private account at www.liveauctions.tv prior to the start of the webcast. Once on the site, go to "Create a new user." Fill in the brief information form to create a unique user name and password, and you are set to view the webcast.

There is no charge to register. Past webcasts are archived on the Association's home page.

Association continues Outreach Seminars

A series of Outreach Seminars is being planned in an effort to increase communication between Association staff and members throughout the country. Watch www.angus.org for an updated schedule.

Association staff will provide industry updates to the members while informing them of changes and enhancements to Association programs and services. Members are encouraged to attend to provide feedback and input.

Seminars scheduled include the following.

- Dec. 8, Kearney, Neb., 1:30 p.m., Holiday Inn Convention Center, in conjunction with the Nebraska Angus Association Annual Meeting. A Dutch-treat lunch will be available prior to the Outreach Seminar. Scott Johnson will also conduct an Angus Information Management Software (AIMS) seminar at 10 a.m.
- Dec. 11, Jackson, Mo., 6:30 p.m., Extension Office Conference Room.
- March 16, 2007, Clemson, S.C., 4 p.m. The Outreach Seminar will take place prior to the South Carolina Angus Association Annual Meeting and Banquet.

Spring Sire Evaluation Report available

The spring 2007 Sire Evaluation Report will be available online later this month at www.angus.org. Accessing the report online is the fastest and easiest way to get the latest performance information on sires in the Angus breed. It allows you to specify ranges of expected progeny differences (EPDs) and to sort bulls that qualify in those ranges. This evaluation also includes the dollar value indexes (\$Values), expressed in dollars per head, to assist commercial beef producers in selection decisions.

If you would like to receive an e-mail notification when the new evaluation is released, sign up at www.angus.org/sireeval/sireeval_signup.html. Active members who returned their blue request cards to receive a printed copy of the fall 2006 report will receive the spring 2007 report automatically. All other members and commercial

ASSOCIATION FEES

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 weaning weight)	\$3
Artificial insemination (AI) service certificate	\$10
Regular annual membership	\$30
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.

BREEDER'S REFERENCE

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

Symbol	Meaning	Symbol	Meaning
#	Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire	HG	Horn gene
+	Embryo transfer calf	R	Red
^	Cell clone	X	Multiple defects, check list for kind
%	Split-ET	F	Tested for defect printed without producing abnormal calves
@	Clone-ET	GDF	Produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a genetic defect or genetic factor
S	Syndactyly	WT	Wild Type Color Gene
H	Double muscling		
D	Dwarfism		
M	Osteopetrosis		
HI	Heterochromia irides		

producers who want a printed report must request it by contacting Brenda Schafer at (816) 383-5144 or bschafer@angus.org.

Make plans for the National Western

It's time to finalize your plans for the 101st National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo. Angus activities take place the first week with hundreds of entries expected for the Super-Point Roll of Victory (ROV) show on the hill, and the carload and pen shows in the yards. Following is a schedule for your reference.

Tuesday, Jan. 9

2 p.m. Junior Angus Heifer Show — Stadium Arena

Wednesday, Jan. 10

8 a.m. Super-Point ROV Angus Female Show — Stadium Arena

Thursday, Jan. 11

9 a.m. Judging Angus Sale Cattle — Stadium Arena

2 p.m. National Western Angus Bull Sale, preceded by the sale of the Angus Foundation Heifer Package — Beef Palace Auction Arena

6:30-8:30 p.m. Angus Reception at the Denver Center Performing Arts — Transportation provided from Denver Marriott City Center Hotel

Friday, Jan. 12

8 a.m. Super-Point ROV Angus Bull Show — Stadium Arena

Saturday, Jan. 13

8:30 a.m. Angus Carload & Pen Shows — Livestock Center Auction Arena (note earlier time)

For more information about events going on at the NWSS, go to www.nationalwestern.com.

NWSS hotel information

The Angus headquarters for the NWSS is the Denver Marriott City Center Hotel. A special Angus room rate of \$90, plus tax, has been negotiated. Call the hotel directly at (303) 297-1300 to make reservations. Request the American Angus Association room block to get the special rate. All reservations must be made by Dec. 27.

Visit with staff in Denver

All Angus producers attending the NWSS are encouraged to stop by the Association's Listening Post in the yards. Association staff will be on hand daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.,

Foundation Heifer Package to sell in Denver

Frank and Belinda VanderSloot, owners of Riverbend Ranch, Idaho Falls, Idaho, will donate the 2007 Angus Foundation Heifer, set to sell during the NWSS in Denver, Colo.

Riverbend Rita R125, a January 2005 daughter of Bon-View New Design 1407, will headline the package. She is bred to Mytty In Focus and is due to calve in March 2007.

The sale of the package will precede the 2007 National Western Angus Bull Sale, set for 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11, in the Beef Palace Auction Arena at the National Western Complex. In addition to the heifer, the buyer receives:

- ▶ 30 days of free insurance from American Live Stock Insurance Co., Geneva, Ill.;
- ▶ free transportation to the buyer's farm or ranch provided by Lathrop Livestock Transportation, Dundee, Ill.; and
- ▶ a flush and three embryo implants into the buyer's recipient cows from Trans Ova Genetics, Sioux Center, Iowa.

For more information about the heifer package or ways you can contribute to the Angus Foundation, log onto www.angusfoundation.org, contact Milford Jenkins, president of the Angus Foundation, at (816) 383-5100, or visit with any regional manager.



Riverbend Rita R125

Wednesday through Saturday, to visit with producers about Association programs and to hear what industry issues producers are thinking about. Be sure to stop by to chat and have a cup of coffee.

In addition to the Listening Post, Association staff will also be available to visit with producers at the Association booth on the hill. Scott Johnson, director of AIMS, will be in the booth Wednesday through Friday to answer any questions about AIMS.

Still time for "end-of-tax-year" charitable gifts

Charitable gifts to the Angus Foundation in support of its education, youth and research programs are appreciated regardless of the time of year the gift is made by the donor. Oftentimes, however, charitable giving decisions are made at year-end once an individual or couple knows their income tax situation for that respective calendar (tax) year.

As a reminder, one should pay special attention to timing when it comes to year-end gifts. In accordance with Internal Revenue Service (IRS) guidelines, 501(c)(3) charities such as the Angus Foundation will recognize the U.S. Postal Service's postmark denoted on the outside of the carrier envelope used by the donor in transmitting the gift to the charity.

In order to qualify for tax savings on this year's tax return, your gift must be completed by Dec. 31. For cash gifts, this means your gift must be personally delivered or mailed to the Angus Foundation in an envelope postmarked no later than Dec. 31.

Foundation to sponsor YCC participant

Every year, the Angus Foundation selects one participant to sponsor on the Young Cattlemen's Conference (YCC) tour. Sponsorship by the Foundation covers flight costs and registration fees. Incidental costs and meals are not covered by the Foundation sponsorship.

The applicant must be between the ages of 25 and 50 and must be a member of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA). This will be the fifth year that the Angus Foundation has provided this opportunity to an Association member.

YCC provides a venue to help develop future leaders in the beef industry. The conference aids in developing leadership skills in young Angus breeders and allows them to participate in a program that will expose them to many aspects of the cattle industry.

Applications for the 2007 YCC are available on the Angus Foundation web site, at www.angusfoundation.org. Applications are due at the Angus Foundation on Friday, Jan. 5, 2007.

Angus gifts available for the holidays

Still looking for the perfect holiday gift for the Angus enthusiast on your list? Shopping online at www.angusonline.org/store offers many options.

You will find a variety of practical and pleasant items available — complete with photos, descriptions and prices — that you can purchase online with a Visa or MasterCard.

If you don't have access to the internet, call the Association at (816) 383-5100 to discuss the items with someone. But, don't delay.

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December is a busy time to ship items, and you won't want your holiday gifts lost en route to you.

Important junior information

Although summer shows are months

away, those months will be here before you know it. A comprehensive mailing that includes show schedules, rules and entry forms will be mailed to junior members in January. This booklet will include all regional preview shows, regional shows, the National

Junior Angus Show (NJAS) and Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference information. This information will also be posted online at www.njaa.info.

Note changes to NJAS deadlines

With the NJAS earlier next year, July 1-7, 2007, the ownership and entry deadlines have been moved up to May 15, 2007. Please note that there are no exceptions to the deadlines.

Summer internships

The Association and Angus Productions Inc. (API) will offer summer internships to college students who want to learn more about breed association and publication work. The paid internships will last approximately 10-12 weeks. Application deadline is Feb. 1, 2007.

The Association's communications department is offering two internships — a public relations internship and a communications internship — to junior- or senior-level students majoring in ag journalism or ag communications who have an interest in the livestock industry.

The Junior Activities Department employs a college sophomore, junior or senior to assist in the planning and execution of junior Angus shows and leadership events.

API offers an editorial internship with the *Angus Journal* and *Angus Beef Bulletin* to a college junior or senior who is pursuing a degree in ag journalism or ag communications.

For more details, see "Next Generation" on page 40.



Encourage customers to enroll in Premium Value Challenge

AngusSource® introduced the Premium Value Challenge as a way to recognize producers who have received significant premiums for their calves. To enter, a producer participant must submit a completed AngusSource customer feedback form (CSTR 100) to the American Angus Association via mail or e-mail. The price, weight, number of head, method of sale and location sold should be submitted. Both steers and heifers are eligible and will compete in separate divisions. Mixed sex lots of cattle are not eligible.

Weight classes [in pounds (lb.)] will be divided as follows:

Steers: 400-500; 500-600; 600-700; 700-800; 800-900; 900-up

Heifers: 400-500; 500-600; 600-700; 700-800

Only AngusSource Process Verified Program (PVP) cattle qualify for the awards, and one prize will be awarded per lot enrolled.

"We are trying to reward producers who have seen the value by enrolling their cattle in the AngusSource program," says Ty Groshans, assistant director of commercial programs. "The Premium Value Challenge allows us the opportunity to see the real value of AngusSource calves in the marketplace."

Entered cattle must have sold for \$5 per hundredweight (cwt.) premium over Cattle-Fax mid-range regional price for the week to be eligible. State winners will be determined quarterly, and winners will be determined by ranking eligible entered lots from highest to lowest premiums received compared to other producers within the state of origin.

Cattle selling for the largest premium over Cattle-Fax for the quarter, within the state and weight class as one lot, will receive an AngusSource wind shirt. To qualify for the wind shirt, the seller must have sold a minimum of 40 head of enrolled AngusSource cattle that were entered as one lot and subsequently submit selling information within 90 days of the date of sale.

For more information about AngusSource or the Premium Value Challenge, call (816) 383-5100 or e-mail angussource@angus.org.

UP FRONT

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derive less than 10% of our income from Angus cattle; 25% derive more than 10% but less than 50% of our income from our Angus operations.

We have computers, but most of us do not keep computerized herd records. We have access to the internet and e-mail.

From a marketing standpoint we utilize consignment sales and production sales; however, the majority of our cattle are sold through private treaty. We rely primarily on advice from family, friends and neighbors, as well as other seedstock producers. We also rely on and make use of Association services

such as AAA Login, the *Sire Evaluation Report*, Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIRSM), Association commercial programs, Angus Information Management Software (AIMS) and the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA).

Eighty percent of us currently own fewer than 20 Angus females, but have land resources to have more. In fact, almost 75% of us plan to own more than 20 cows in the next five years, and 18% plan to stock more than 50.

We are excited about the future and about our forthcoming involvement with

this great breed and the progressive breeders who are fellow members of the American Angus Association. We are thankful that the Association and Angus breeders have had a banner year. As we enter the holiday season we wish our new Angus family the most joyous Christmas ever and the continuation of prosperity in 2007.


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