



Performance Report

► Bull test reports and other performance-related items

■ LSU Beef Bull Evaluation Test Alexandria, La.

28-day report (Nov. 22, 2006)

The 97th Louisiana State University (LSU) Beef Bull Evaluation Test began Oct. 25 with 53 bulls representing five breeds and 14 breeders. Thirty-eight bulls are Angus. The cattle are being group-fed in 10 pens. Weights will be taken at 28-day intervals for the 112-day test. "Gains were variable during the first period," says Danny Coombs, professor at the LSU Dean Lee Research Station, Alexandria, where the bulls are being tested. "This was anticipated, and gains should stabilize as the feeding period continues." Several bulls have been treated for coccidiosis. All bulls were treated with Cydectin® Oct. 25.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 10; owner: Warren Bryan, Bryan's Twin Oaks Plantation, Ruston; sire: SAV 8180 Traveler 004; ADG: 6.96 lb.; wt.: 898 lb.

Angus averages (38 head)—ADG: 4.69 lb.; wt.: 852 lb.

Overall averages (53 head)—ADG: 4.59 lb.; wt.: 859 lb.

Bulls will be weighed off test Feb. 14, 2007, and qualifying bulls are scheduled to sell March 3. For more information, contact Coombs at (318) 473-6528 or dcoombs@agcenter.lsu.edu. Information is also available on the test web site, www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/research_stations/Deanlee/Features/bull_test_station/.

■ Edisto Forage Bull Test Blackville, S.C.

On-test report (Nov. 13-14, 2006)

"The 78 bulls delivered ... for the 2007 Edisto Forage Bull Test already appear to be the best set of bulls to start an Edisto test — excellent weaning performance, EPDs (expected progeny differences) and lots of muscle," Larry Olson, Extension animal scientist and bull testing program coordinator, said. "Quality is very deep in all breeds. Delivery day temps indicate that the health of the bulls was also very good."

High-WDA Angus—Lot 27; owner: Black Crest Farms, Billy McLeod, Sumter, S.C.; sire: Rito 7Z24 of 4M8 Cal T; WDA: 3.63 lb.; WDA ratio: 123; wt.: 928 lb.

Angus averages (57 head)—WDA: 2.94 lb.; wt.: 839 lb.

Overall averages (78 head)—WDA: 2.97 lb.; wt.: 849 lb.

The second weigh period was scheduled for Dec. 12, 2006. For more information contact Olson at (803) 284-3343, ext. 231,

lolson@clermson.edu, or visit the test web site at www.clemson.edu/edisto/edisto.html.

■ OBI Angus Test No. 62 Stillwater, Okla.

84-day report (Nov. 10, 2006)

Born in November-December 2005, bulls on Oklahoma Beef Inc. (OBI) Angus Test No. 62 went on test Aug. 18, 2006. The bulls were fed twice daily in fenceline feedbunks or self-feeders with a ration composed by Don Gill of Oklahoma State University. The OBI test index is a sum of half the average daily gain (ADG) ratio and half the adjusted 365-day weight ratio.

High-ADG Angus (tie)—Lot 7201; owner: Charles Simpson, Edmond; sire: SAF 598 Bando 5175; ADG: 6.17 lb.; ADG ratio: 129; WDA: 3.41 lb.; WDA ratio: 105; wt.: 1,235 lb.

High-ADG Angus (tie)—Lot 7260; owner: Jackson & Johnson Cattle Co., Orlando; sire: BR Midland; ADG: 6.15 lb.; ADG ratio: 129; WDA: 3.83 lb.; WDA ratio: 118; wt.: 1,365 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 7224; owner: 74-51 Cattle Co. LLC, Oklahoma City; sire: Bon-View New Design 1407; ADG: 5.30 lb.; ADG ratio: 111; WDA: 4.13 lb.; WDA ratio: 128; wt.: 1,480 lb.

Angus averages (73 head)—ADG: 4.78 lb.; WDA: 3.24 lb.; wt.: 1,153 lb.

The bulls were scheduled to be weighed off test Dec. 8. Top-performing bulls will be eligible to sell in OBI's March sale. For more information contact Tim Stidham, station director, at (405) 624-1181 or okbeef@ionet.net, or visit the test web site at www.ansi.okstate.edu/exten/obi.

■ North Carolina BCIP Bull Test Butner

91-day report (Nov. 14, 2006)

Bulls on the North Carolina Beef Cattle Improvement Program (BCIP) Bull Test went on test Aug. 15 at both the Butner and Waynesville test stations.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 29; owner: Marty & Lynn Rooker, Smith Creek Angus Farm, Warrenton; sire: Bon-View New Design 878; ADG: 5.32 lb.; ADG ratio: 124; WDA: 3.47 lb.; WDA ratio: 110; wt.: 1,325 lb.; frame: 6.3

High-WDA Angus—Lot 44; owner: W. Henry Vines, H&D Angus, Snow Camp; sire: Bon-View New Design 878; ADG: 5.13 lb.; ADG ratio: 119; WDA: 3.76 lb.; WDA ratio: 119; wt.: 1,590 lb.; frame: 7.3

Angus averages (53 head)—ADG: 4.31 lb.; WDA: 3.16 lb.; wt.: 1,239 lb.; frame: 6.0

Overall averages (57 head)—ADG: 4.33 lb.; WDA: 3.17 lb.; wt.: 1,250 lb.; frame: 6.1

For more information contact Gary Gregory, bull test supervisor, at (919) 515-4027 or Gary_Gregory@ncsu.edu; Dean Askew, station manager, at (919) 471-6872; or visit the test web site at www.cals.ncsu.edu/an_sci/extension/animal/bcip/Ahbcip.html.

■ OPSU Bull Test Goodwell, Okla.

56-day report (Dec. 2, 2006)

The annual Beef Bull Performance Test at Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU), Goodwell, Okla., is under way once again. This is the test station's 55th annual test. The bulls consigned to the test this year were officially weighed on test Oct. 7. There are 122 bulls consigned this year, representing three breeds — Angus, Red Angus and Simmental — and 17 cooperators from Oklahoma and Nebraska.

The test covers a period of 112 days, during which data will be collected on each bull's average daily gain (ADG), weight per day of age (WDA), frame score, scrotal circumference, fat thickness, ribeye area and marbling score. Feed efficiency is measured on a pen basis. The bulls are being fed a growing ration consisting of rolled corn, rolled oats, chopped alfalfa, cottonseed hulls, molasses and protein supplement. Performance summaries will be reported at 28-day intervals during the test.

High-ADG, high-WDA and high-indexing junior Angus—Lot 26-1; owner: Larry Weinkauff, Orlando; sire: Circle S 598 Bando 1037; ADG: 5.59 lb.; ADG ratio: 137; WDA: 4.34 lb.; WDA ratio: 127; wt.: 1,106 lb.; test index: 132

High-ADG senior Angus—Lot 12-1; owner: Al Rutledge, Stillwater; sire: GAR Expectation 4915; ADG: 6.59 lb.; ADG ratio: 150; WDA: 2.96 lb.; WDA ratio: 97; wt.: 1,235 lb.; test index: 123

High-WDA senior Angus—Lot 19-2; owner: Gary McPherson, Watonga; sire: TC Foreman 016; ADG: 4.52 lb.; ADG ratio: 103; WDA: 3.74 lb.; WDA ratio: 122; wt.: 1,454 lb.; test index: 112

High-indexing senior Angus—Lot 12-4; owner: Al Rutledge; sire: CA Future Direction 5321; ADG: 6.25 lb.; ADG ratio: 142; WDA: 3.25 lb.; WDA ratio: 106; wt.: 1,360 lb.; test index: 124

Angus averages (104 head, including 4 Red Angus)—ADG: 4.29 lb.

The test will be completed Jan. 27, 2007, and the 55th annual bull sale is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 28, at 1 p.m. Central time. Only the top 70 bulls will sell, based on index. If you would like to be placed on the mailing list to receive the performance reports or

would like more information, contact Gwen or Jerry Martin, OPSU, PO Box 430, Goodwell, OK 73939; call (580) 349-1500; or e-mail gwen@opsu.edu.

▣ **Pennsylvania Performance**

Bull Testing Program

Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa.

28-day report (Nov. 28, 2006)

Bulls born between Jan. 1 and April 15, 2006, went on test for the Pennsylvania Performance Bull Testing Program Oct. 31. Producers from Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, West Virginia and New Jersey have 138 bulls participating in the 112-day performance-testing program. Seven beef breeds are participating in this year's program with Angus representing more than 60% of the bulls. Included are 88 Angus, 21 Simmental, 10 Red Angus, eight Hereford, six Charolais, three Limousin and one Gelbvieh.

Bulls are fed in group pens with access to a mixed ration of corn silage; cracked corn; cracked, roasted soybeans; and a mineral-vitamin supplement.

High-ADG and high-WDA Angus—Lot 112; owner: Michael Griffith; sire: SBP New Design4028; ADG: 7.73 lb.; ADG ratio: 142; WDA: 4.10 lb.; WDA ratio: 121; wt.: 951 lb.

Angus averages (88 head)—ADG: 5.45 lb.; WDA: 3.40 lb.; wt.: 941 lb.

The bulls are evaluated, compared and indexed on ADG, WDA, feed efficiency, ribeye area and fat deposition. The data collected during the test will be used to rank bulls for the 34th Annual Pennsylvania Performance Tested Bull Sale that is scheduled for Friday, March 30, at the Livestock Evaluation Center. The sale is in conjunction with the 2007 Pennsylvania Beef Expo.

For more information contact Glenn Eberly, director, Pennsylvania Livestock Evaluation Center, at (814) 238-2527 or geberly@state.pa.us, or visit the test web site at www.agriculture.state.pa.us/lec.

▣ **Virginia BCIA Bull Test**

Culpeper, Va.

Senior 112-day final report (Nov. 14, 2006)

Senior bulls (born Aug. 15-Nov. 30, 2005) arrived at the Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Ass'n (BCIA) bull test at Culpeper, Va., July 11. They were weighed on test July 25.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 23; owner: Smitten Farm, John Seymour, The Plains; sire: N-Bar Emulation EXT; ADG: 4.73 lb.; ADG ratio: 135; WDA: 3.28 lb.; WDA ratio: 107; wt.: 1,405 lb.; test index: 94; frame: 6.3; SC: 36.5 cm

CONTINUED ON PAGE 94

▶ PERFORMANCE REPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 93

High-WDA Angus—Lot 54; owner: Echo Ridge Farm, Jason Pratt, Atkins; sire: GAR Cimarron; ADG: 3.66 lb.; ADG ratio: 104; WDA: 3.57 lb.; WDA ratio: 116; wt.: 1,510 lb.; test index: 99; frame: 6.1; SC: 39.5 cm

Angus averages (127 head)—ADG: 3.51 lb.; WDA: 3.07 lb.; wt.: 1,269 lb.

Overall averages (131 head)—ADG: 3.48 lb.; WDA: 3.06 lb.; wt.: 1,267 lb.

Bulls had to meet minimum EPD thresholds based on the breed to be eligible to sell. In addition, they must have had a test ADG ratio of 80, an adjusted yearling weight ratio of 90 and a minimum frame score of 5.0 at the end of the test. They were screened for health, reproductive soundness, structural soundness and disposition prior to the sale.

The bulls were to sell Saturday, Dec. 9,

2006. For more information contact Scott Greiner, Extension beef specialist, at (540) 231-9159 or sgreiner@vt.edu, or visit the test web site at <http://bcia.apsc.vt.edu>.

▶ University of Tennessee Bull Test Spring Hill, Tenn.

Junior 56-day report (Nov. 29, 2006)

Senior 112-day final report (Nov. 28, 2006)

Bulls on the University of Tennessee Bull Test at Spring Hill went on test Aug. 8. Senior bulls were born Sept. 1-Dec. 15, 2005. Junior bulls were born Dec. 16, 2005-Mar. 15, 2006.

High-ADG junior Angus—Lot 4; owner: BGS, Piney Flats; sire: B/R New Frontier 095; ADG: 5.54 lb.; ADG ratio: 134; WDA: 3.39 lb.; wt.: 1,155 lb.

High-WDA junior Angus—Lot 51; owner:

Miles Angus Farm, Lawrenceburg; sire: FAR Krugerrand 410H; ADG: 5.50 lb.; ADG ratio: 133; WDA: 3.89 lb.; wt.: 1,135 lb.

High-ADG senior Angus (tie)—Lot 11; owner: Baird Angus Farm, Bluff City; sire: SA Neutron 377; ADG: 5.34 lb.; ADG ratio: 131; WDA: 3.40 lb.; WDA ratio: 102; wt.: 1,520 lb.; frame: 6.7; SC: 39.4 cm

High-ADG senior Angus (tie)—Lot 111; owner: Richview Angus Farm, Lancing; sire: SA Neutron 377; ADG: 5.34 lb.; ADG ratio: 131; WDA: 3.51 lb.; WDA ratio: 105; wt.: 1,540 lb.; frame: 6.2; SC: 42.1 cm

High-WDA senior Angus—Lot 56; owner: McCoy's Angus, Bone Cave; sire: FAR Krugerrand 410H; ADG: 3.97 lb.; ADG ratio: 97; WDA: 4.01 lb.; WDA ratio: 121; wt.: 1,770 lb.; frame: 8.2; SC: 39.6 cm

▶ PERFORMANCE REPORT

Junior Angus averages (76 head)—ADG:
4.13 lb.

Junior Overall averages (79 head)—ADG:
4.13 lb.

Senior Angus averages (103 head)—ADG:
4.09 lb.; WDA: 3.33 lb.

Overall averages (108 head)—ADG: 4.08
lb.; WDA: 3.33 lb.

For more information contact F. David Kirkpatrick, professor of animal science, at (865) 974-7294 or fkirkpat@utk.edu, or visit the test web site at <http://animalscience.ag.utk.edu/beef/bulltest.htm>.

▶ Southwest Virginia BCIA Bull Test Blacksburg, Va.

On-test junior report (Oct. 17, 2006)

On-test senior report (Oct. 17, 2006)

Bulls were weighed on-test for the Southwest Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Association (BCIA) bull test at Blacksburg on Oct. 17. The test is managed by the Virginia Tech Department of Animal and Poultry Science.

High-WDA junior Angus—Lot 96; owner: Nester's Angus Farms, Fred and Linda Nester, Austinville; sire: Rito 2878 of 2563 BVND878; WDA: 4.14 lb.; WDA ratio: 129; wt.: 990 lb.

High-WDA senior Angus—Lot 17; owner: Echo Ridge Farm, C.W. Pratt, Atkins; sire: Rito 335 of 028 ND878; WDA: 3.82 lb.; WDA ratio: 130; wt.: 1,375 lb.

Junior Angus averages (85 head)—WDA:
3.22 lb.; wt.: 784 lb.

Junior Overall averages (133 head)—WDA:
3.22 lb.; wt.: 786 lb.

Senior Angus averages (70 head)—WDA:
2.94 lb.; wt.: 1,012 lb.

Senior Overall averages (88 head)—WDA:
3.00 lb.; wt.: 1,024 lb.

Senior bulls are scheduled to be weighed off test Feb. 6; junior bulls are scheduled to be weighed off test Feb. 27, 2007. The sale for both senior and junior bulls is scheduled for March 24.

For more information contact Scott Greiner, Extension beef specialist, at (540) 231-9159 or sgreiner@vt.edu, or visit the test web site at <http://bcia.apsc.vt.edu>.

NCBTA kicks off 31st year with 107 bulls, new web site

The Northeast Colorado Bull Test Association (NCBTA) kicked off its 31st annual performance test receiving 107 bulls from 29 seedstock producers — a strong showing representing three states and six breeds.

“NCBTA is starting the new test year with more bulls than last year and a new web site,” said David Colburn, Logan County Extension educator and NCBTA test coordinator. The site, available at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 96

<http://ncbta.net>, includes information about the breeders, performance data and the NCBSA protocols.

"NCBSA encourages the use of breeding stock with proven performance and production records in both registered and commercial herds. Our goal is to gather and compile the performance and production records of cattle on test for the purpose of identifying genetically superior beef cattle," Colburn said. "There are few other facilities where cattlemen can see and evaluate bulls from multiple breeds and multiple producers being tested on an equal footing."

For the past 30 years NCBSA has been offering top-performing bulls at its annual sale. During the 2006 sale, cattlemen had the opportunity to sort through the 58 bulls that made the top cut. The 87 bulls on test ended the 120-day period with a 3.93-lb. ADG on a 60% forage-based ration.

The 2006-2007 test features 74 Angus, 10 Red Angus, six Hereford, one Charolais, nine Simmental and seven Balancer bulls. The bulls posted an average on-test weight of 789 lb.

At the conclusion of the test, bulls will be indexed based on ADG and WDA. Only bulls indexing at 95% or better will qualify for the sale. In addition to ADG and WDA, NCBSA provides individual ultrasound data on all bulls to assist cattlemen in their selections. All bulls tested negative for persistent infection (PI) with bovine viral diarrhea (BVD).

The bulls will complete the 120-day test Feb. 27. The annual NCBSA sale will be Saturday, March 31, at the test site.

Visitors are always welcome at the test site,

which is located between Atwood and Akron, Colo., on Colorado Highway 63.

For more information on the NCBSA bull test, visit <http://ncbta.net>. To be added to the mailing list, contact Colburn at (970) 522-3200, ext. 283, or write NCBSA, 508 S. 10th Ave, Ste. #1, Sterling, CO 80751.

WCA/WSU Bull Test Report

One hundred sixty-eight bulls, owned by 55 breeders from three states, were weighed on test Nov. 13-14, 2006, at the Washington State University (WSU) Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center in Prosser, Wash. The 14th annual all-breed test, jointly sponsored by the Washington Cattlemen's Association (WCA) and WSU, includes 105 Angus, 12 Red Angus, 11 Simmental, 17 Hereford and 12 Polled Hereford bulls. Bulls are preconditioned at the ranch by their owners and receive a series of booster shots upon arrival to minimize health problems.

Test bulls are started on mostly chopped hay and a small amount of concentrate gradually added during the three-week pre-test warm-up period. Once the 114-day test begins, corn silage replaces half of the hay on a dry-weight basis to produce a diet similar to a feedlot growing ration, which allows bulls to express their individual genetic potential for both growth and carcass merit. Once the bulls come off test, the grain is removed from the ration. Bulls harden up on an all-roughage ration and are ready to breed cows for their new owners following the March 28, 2007, sale at 12:30 p.m. at the research center. A presale social with a nationally recognized speaker on a topic of current interest will be held the night before the sale.

Key personnel for the test and sale include Frank Hendrix, test manager; Matt Hayter, herdsman; Jean Smith, Benton County livestock agent and records coordinator; Gary Kendall, sale manager; and Sharon Taff, records assistant. Cattlemen wishing to receive progress reports and catalogs can access them online through the WCA web site bull sale link or at www.prosser.wsu.edu. Reports are also available by mail by calling (509) 735-3551 or sale manager, Kendall Cattle Sales at (208) 858-2163 or kendall@potlatch.com.

33rd Annual Southeast Colorado Bull Test Begins

The 33rd Annual Southeast Colorado Bull Test officially started Nov. 21, 2006. Fifty-two bulls from eight cooperators were weighed and entered. Breeds represented include Angus, Brangus, Braunvieh, Polled Hereford and Salers. There are also three crossbred bulls.

The bulls are fed a moderate-energy, growing ration that is designed to develop the bulls for breeding use as yearlings. This ration allows the bulls to express their genetic potential for feedlot traits, but is not designed for maximum gain.

Averages for the bulls at the start of the feeding period include 262 days of age, a 720-lb. initial weight, and a WDA of 2.76 lb.

The 112-day test will conclude March 13, 2007. Bulls will undergo a breeding soundness exam (sometimes referred to as a BSE), and ultrasound scanning. They will be presented for sale April 10 at Winter Livestock in La Junta, Colo., at noon. All bulls entered in the test have been certified BVD PI-negative.

The performance-testing program is conducted with the cooperation of Trail City Livestock, the Southeast Colorado Bull Test Association, and Colorado State University (CSU) Cooperative Extension. Coordinator for the test is Bruce Fickenschler, CSU Extension educator in Eads, and the staff of the Kiowa County Extension office.

With the three-week adjustment period completed and the initial weights recorded, the bulls will be weighed at the 35-day (Dec. 27, 2006), 77-day (Feb. 6) and 112-day (March 13) intervals in the feeding period. Reports will be published and available at those times. Data sheets may be obtained by contacting the Kiowa County Extension office at (719) 438-5321 or online at <http://kiowacounty.colostate.edu>.



Ultrasound data collection goes paperless

The National Centralized Ultrasound Processing (CUP) Lab & Technology Center recently announced it will be offering cattle breeders a "paperless" option to submit ultrasound scans through certified technicians. The program allows technicians to upload images and paperwork via the internet to a file transfer protocol (FTP) server. CUP-certified technicians will log on to www.cuplab.com, enter a username and password, and follow the steps to transfer files to the lab. The upload can occur from any computer terminal with DSL or high-speed internet capability.

This option will eliminate shipping costs and lag time associated with express couriers and postal mail. Animal weight and contemporary group information can be filled out electronically and uploaded, e-mailed or faxed to The National CUP Lab. The paperless option is available to all purebred and commercial cattle breeders using ultrasound technology in their programs at no additional cost. Also, breeders will now be automatically notified by e-mail when the ultrasound data has been completed.

The lab will continue to accept images and scan information from express shippers and postal mail as it has in the past.

For more information, contact Patrick Wall, Walter & Associates LLC, at (515) 232-9442 or cuplab@cuplab.com.