



Association Highlights

► by **Shelia Stannard**, director of activity communications and event coordinator

Angus Optimal Milk Module

The American Angus Association recently released the Angus Optimal Milk Module. The first of its kind, this is an online educational module designed for commercial cow-calf producers. The module is directed at the use of targeted Angus milk expected progeny differences (EPDs). It is simple to use and relates the result of milk genetics to a producer's net income per cow. Once producers understand how much milk is optimal for their operations, they can readily select Angus bulls with the right milk EPDs to match their needs.

The Angus Optimal Milk Module allows producers to think through the "what ifs" in their cow herds. For example, higher-milk cows bring about higher weaning production levels and weaned calf income potential, but these cows also carry greater risk in times of limited feed availability (such as a drought) due to their higher nutritional requirements.

The Angus Optimal Milk Module can be found at www.angus.org. Click on the "Data Searches and Tools" icon, which lists various applications for seedstock and commercial breeders with Angus interest.

AIMS 2.4 introduced

The newest version of Angus Information Management Software (AIMS) is available and features several enhancements. One of the most significant changes to AIMS version 2.4 is the addition of fields, including fields for calving ease EPDs, Weaned Calf Value (\$W) and Cow Energy Value (\$EN). Also added were fields for permanent mark method, foster dam information and temperament. A number of new fields relate to the convergence of Beef Record Service (BRS) records with Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR), which will potentially allow producers submitting BRS data to do so via the AIMS program.

An enhancement to the customer manager screen is the "Primary/Transfer Name." Rather than having to designate a first and last name or ranch name of the buyer, a primary name field has been added to make the transfers more accurate.

For more information contact Scott Johnson, director of AIMS, at (816) 383-5100.

Murnin named regional manager

Jared Murnin has joined the staff of the

American Angus Association. He accepted the position of regional manager in the states of Texas and New Mexico, effective April 15.

Murnin will travel the two-state area, previously represented by Casey Worrell. He will be the Association's liaison to breeders in those states and will attend events such as sales, shows and educational seminars.

A native of Montana, Murnin graduated with dual bachelor's degrees in animal science and agricultural business from Colorado State University. He most recently served as the western field representative for the American Gelbvieh Association. He relocated to Texas in mid-April when he assumed his responsibilities for the American Angus Association.

AHIR deadline is May 27

May 27 is the deadline for submitting AHIR data for inclusion in the next National Cattle Evaluation (NCE), which generates

data for the fall 2005 *Sire Evaluation Report*. It's important to both individual herds and to the breed to collect and submit performance records promptly. If you have questions, contact the Performance Programs Department.

EPDs further explained

To answer the multitude of questions on interim EPDs or the absence of EPDs, updated materials are now available for interested producers at www.angus.org/performance/documents/interim_epd.html. The "By the Numbers" column on page 250 in the April issue of the *Angus Journal* provides more information regarding this topic.

Nominate delegates now

Only a few weeks remain to nominate delegates to represent each state at the 2005 American Angus Association Convention of

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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		

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Delegates, set for Monday, Nov. 14, in Louisville, Ky.

Each active Association member should have received a nomination petition in the mail and may nominate one member. All eligible nominations will be included on a state ballot that will be mailed to members later this summer for the final selection of delegates. Nominations must be received in the Association office no later than June 30 to be included on the final ballot.

It's important to nominate a person who is willing to attend the Annual Meeting and who is informed about the Angus business.

The event takes place during the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE), which is the site of one of the five Angus super-point Roll of Victory (ROV) shows.

Plan for summer field days

Now is the time to plan for those summer field days that you may be hosting at your farm or ranch. The Association's communications team offers a field day planner, complete with a timeline and checklist of preparatory activities to make your event a success. In addition, the

Association will help you publicize your event if hosted on behalf of a local, state or regional Angus association. A packet of information and posters to display and distribute at your event are also available. Contact Lea Ann Maudlin at (816) 383-5100 for more details.

BIF Convention set

Make plans to attend the 2005 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Convention, set for July 6-9 in Billings, Mont. Registration is available online at www.bifconference.com. For more information contact Janice Rumph at janice@montana.edu.

Juniors can submit show entries online

Junior members can save time this spring by submitting their entries for shows online. Simply log on to www.njaa.info and provide the necessary information, including a Visa or MasterCard number, to cover entry and bedding fees.

Online entries are subject to the same entry deadlines as those submitted via mail, so don't let time slip up on you. As always, no late entries are accepted for any reason.

Western states to host NJAS

Summer is just around the corner, and that means that Angus youth and their parents will soon be on their way to the 2005

Make note of junior deadlines

A summer full of junior Angus activities is first preceded by many deadlines for entries, contests and awards. Make note of these deadlines, as no late entries are accepted for any reason. Please note that some deadlines have been changed from previous years. If you have questions, contact the Junior Activities Department.

May 15

- ▶ Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB)/NJAA scholarship applications due
- ▶ Angus Foundation scholarship applications due
- ▶ Ownership and entry deadline for Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show

June 1

- ▶ Ownership and entry deadline for NJAS
- ▶ Entry deadline for NJAA writing, photography and graphic design contests
- ▶ Entry and recipe deadline for Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off
- ▶ Ownership deadline for The All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity Junior Angus Show

June 15

- ▶ Deadline for submitting names of candidates and delegates for NJAA elections
- ▶ Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference early registration deadline

June 25

- ▶ Deadline for NJAS public speaking contest outlines

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National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). This year's event is set for July 17-23 at the National Western Stock Show complex in Denver, Colo.

Information about the show and complete rules for all of the contests are available online at www.angusjournal.com/2005njas/.

Tee up at fifth annual golf tournament

If you're planning to attend the NJAS, don't forget to bring your golf clubs.

Whether you're an amateur or an avid golfer, you'll want to participate in the fifth annual Angus Foundation Golf Tournament. The event will take place Tuesday, July 19, at the Thorncreek Golf Club near Denver, Colo.

The event will begin at 6:30 a.m. and includes 18 holes of golf for all players. A lunch will be served afterward, and awards will be given. The entry fee is \$100 for adults and \$75 for National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members. Teams will consist of four players, and awards will be given for the longest putt, longest drive, closest to the pin and others.

Tournament sponsors and award donors are needed for this event. Hole sponsorships are \$250, and other sponsorships are available. All proceeds from the event benefit the Angus Foundation, which supports education, youth and research.

For more information about playing, signing up a team or becoming a sponsor, contact the Angus Foundation.

LEAD Conference planned for Idaho

Developing personal leadership skills is one of the most valuable benefits of being an NJAA member. One event that allows members to do just that is the annual NJAA

Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference, set for Aug. 4-7 in Boise, Idaho.

All juniors ages 14 and older are eligible to participate. This year's theme is "Strikin' It Rich." Juniors will have the opportunity to make new Angus friends, learn about current beef industry issues and explore an agriculturally diverse state.

Registration materials can be found in the entry booklet that was distributed to all active juniors earlier in the year. Request materials by contacting the Junior Activities Department, or go to www.njaa.info. Registration is \$175 for juniors and advisors alike until June 15, the

early registration deadline. After that date, registration will be \$200.

Need help with junior transfers?

Juniors who have not received the transfer paper on a purchased heifer should contact the Association at least two weeks prior to the ownership deadline of a particular show. The staff will make every attempt to get the animal transferred on time. Keep in mind that late transfers for shows are never accepted. Please contact the Association before it's too late.

Silent auction will support Foundation

A silent auction featuring a variety of Angus items will be conducted during the 2005 NJAS in Denver. All proceeds from the auction will benefit the Angus Foundation.

Many valuable items and collectibles will be up for grabs. Semen packages, pieces of fine art and Angus crafts are just a few of the unique items shoppers will find.

All state junior associations are encouraged to donate an item to the auction, but donations from individuals are also accepted. To donate an item contact the Angus Foundation.

