



Association Highlights

► by *Shelia Stannard*, assistant director of activities and junior activities

Delegate ballots due this month

You have just a few weeks left to nominate delegates to represent your state at the 2004 American Angus Association Annual Meeting set for Nov. 15 in Louisville, Ky.

Each Association member may nominate one member. All eligible nominations will be included on a state ballot that will be mailed to members for the final selection of delegates. Nominations must be received in the Association office by June 30.

Request registration materials for national conference

Plans are being finalized for the 2004 National Angus Conference and Tour, which is set for Sept. 14-17 in Roanoke, Va. A program of beef industry speakers will headline the event, followed by a two-day



tour. The theme for the event is "Continuing the Angus Advance," and the Virginia Angus

Association will serve as host for the tour. Both purebred and commercial producers are invited to attend. A preliminary schedule can be found on page 39. Participants can register online at www.angus.org with a Visa or MasterCard, or they can request registration materials by contacting Linda Campbell at (816) 383-5143 or lcampbell@angus.org.

Look for more information about this event in the July issue.

Association gives preliminary report on recent dwarfism study

In 2003 the American Angus Association agreed to fund a portion of a university study to determine if it were possible to economically identify the causal mutation that resulted in six dwarf calves born in 2002. In late February 2004, James Reecy, assistant professor, Iowa State University (ISU) Department of Animal Science, made a presentation to a committee of the Association's Board of Directors regarding the status of this dwarfism study. In his report, Reecy presented the preliminary, nonvalidated and non-peer-reviewed results of the ISU research project.

In early March 2004, the Association asked

ISU for further clarification of what had been done and what remained to be done with the study. With the information received from ISU, the Association sought and obtained ISU's permission to have an independent expert examine and evaluate the study, the science involved and what the Association believed to be the clear limitations of the study. The Association is in the early process of evaluating that review.

Although examination is still ongoing, the Association currently believes that the study, while appearing to be based on sound science, has limited applicability within the Angus breed. For instance:

1. The "test" is pedigree-specific. It does not have applicability to the Angus breed as a whole. Rather, it relates only to the animals within a specific pedigree.
2. The ISU study is limited to a particular strain of dwarfism that has appeared only in the pedigree of a specific dam.

3. The "test" that ISU has developed for this specific pedigree does not provide a "yes" or "no" result. Instead, it only produces a wide range of conditional probabilities of whether a given animal in this specific pedigree may or may not be a carrier of this strain of dwarfism.

4. Because of the concern mentioned in No. 3, there is a risk of false positives and/or false negatives. This "test" cannot produce guaranteed results; it simply predicts the probability that an animal is or is not a carrier.

After the study is thoroughly examined and evaluated, the Association intends to summarize and publish a final, official position.

Note: It is current Association policy that once an animal with a potential defect is brought to the Association's attention, a verification process is triggered to determine whether the reported abnormality is, in fact,

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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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a genetic defect. This process includes both parental verification and consultation with experts. Once a genetic defect is verified, the carrier is listed in the *Angus Journal* and in the listing of "Reported Carriers of Genetic Defects" published annually in the *Breeder's Reference Guide*.

Order black books for customers

With more and more buyers from all sectors of the industry requesting information such as breed makeup, date of birth, sire registration numbers and health/management procedures; your customers are searching for ways to keep and process this information into usable data to market and manage their cattle.

The American Angus Association's Beef Record Service (BRS) is offering an opportunity for you to assist them as part of your customer service program with the "BRS Black Book." Designed to align with the BRS program as well as other basic cow-calf management systems, this 12-month pocket date book will serve as a handy tool for your bull-buying customers. For orders of 100 books or more, your logo and contact information can be foil-stamped on the back cover to be seen by your customers 365 days a year!

Similar to last year, the 2005 books will have a two-page advertisement for Vita Ferm® feed additives by BioZyme Inc. inside the front cover.

The price is \$2.50 per book, and a \$1-deposit per book is required when an order is placed.

Smaller quantities (20-99 books) with the American Angus Association logo stamped

on the back cover can be ordered. Payment, deadlines and shipping of these orders will be the same as orders for customized books.

The deadline for ordering your customized 2005 BRS Black Books is July 15, so do not delay. Books will be delivered to your address by Nov. 15.

For more information or to place your order, contact Brenda Schafer at (816) 383-5144 or bschafer@angus.org.

Convert print to electronic

Members may send their registration papers to the Association to have them converted to electronic storage at no cost between the dates of June 1 and Sept. 30, 2004. After Sept. 30, the fee will be \$2 per paper.

NJAS approaching fast

If you haven't made plans to attend the 2004 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), set for July 12-17 in Kansas City, Mo., now is the time to do so. This event showcases the youth of our breed and all activities of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). It is the largest event the Association coordinates during the year.

The Missouri Junior Angus Association, Missouri Angus Association and Missouri Angus Auxiliary will host the event — "Angus and All that Jazz."

For a complete schedule of events and hotel information, call the Junior Activities Department or go to www.njas.info. A tentative schedule and other information were published in the May *Angus Journal* beginning on page 70.

Sign up now for Foundation Golf Tournament

Players are needed for the fourth annual Angus Foundation Golf Tournament scheduled for Tuesday, July 13, in Platte City, Mo. The tournament begins at 6:30 a.m. and includes 18 holes of golf for all players. An awards luncheon will conclude the event. The entry fee is \$100 for adults and \$75 for junior 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 sponsorships are available, and award donors are still needed. All proceeds benefit the Angus Foundation, which supports youth, education and research.

For more information contact the Junior Activities Department.

Last-minute junior deadlines

With summer already in full swing, it's easy to forget last-minute deadlines.

- ▶ June 15 is the deadline for submitting names of state candidates and delegates for NJAA elections.
- ▶ June 15 is the early registration deadline

for the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference.

- ▶ June 25 is the deadline to submit outlines for the public speaking contest at the NJAS.

Get ready to bid

A silent auction featuring a variety of Angus treasures will be conducted during the NJAS in Kansas City. All proceeds from the auction will benefit the Angus Foundation.

Many valuable items and collectibles will be up for grabs. All state junior associations are encouraged to donate two items to the auction, and donations from individuals are also accepted. Donations will be accepted Monday, July 12, at the NJAS.

Register now for LEAD

The annual NJAA LEAD Conference is set for July 29-Aug. 1 in Hershey, Pa.

All juniors age 14 and older are eligible to participate. This year's theme is "Achieving Sweet Success." Juniors will have the opportunity to make new Angus friends, learn about current beef industry issues and explore some historic areas in Pennsylvania.

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 until June 15, the early registration deadline. After that date, registration will be \$200. Registration is also available online.

Father's Day gift ideas

Don't forget Dad this year on Father's Day, June 20. Make shopping easy on yourself and fun for him by purchasing a gift from the Angus Foundation. A wide variety of items are available, including shirts, jackets, caps and gloves. For a detailed listing and a photo of each item, go to the online store at www.angusonline.org.

If he doesn't have a copy of *The American Angus Association — A Historic Angus Journey, 1883-2000*, now is the time to get it for him. The book was written by Keith Evans and includes more than 350 pages of history and photographs. It is available in a black leather-bound edition for \$50 and a beige cloth-bound edition for \$25. A \$5 shipping-and-handling charge will apply for each book ordered.

The Angus Foundation also has available sets of "Profitmaker" prints. The set of four black-and-white pencil sketches is the work of Angus artist Frank Murphy and is yours when you donate \$100 to the Angus Foundation.

To order any of the items listed above, call the Activities and Junior Activities Department, or shop the online store at www.angusonline.org/store.

New ROV show season starts soon

The 2004-05 Roll of Victory (ROV) show season is about to begin. At these events, which take place in conjunction with fairs and livestock expositions across the country, exhibitors receive points for the placing of their animals in both individual and group classes. At the end of the year, points are totaled and winners are recognized in November at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky.

If you have questions about the ROV point system, contact the Activities Department at (816) 383-5100 or e-mail Linda Campbell at lcampbell@angus.org. Events approved by the Association's Board of Directors as ROV shows are listed online at www.angus.org/shows/shows_more_info.html.

