

Angus reaches milestone in genetic improvement

The American Angus Association and its subsidiary Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) announce record numbers of Angus cattle being tested with high-density genomic trait tests. That number recently surpassed 40,000 tests, and it is only expected to grow.

“We are fortunate to see the rapid adoption of this technology by our Angus breeders to drive the genomic-enhanced EPDs (GE-EPDs), thanks to research collaboration, improved genomic technology and increased test volume,” says Bill Bowman, AGI president and Association COO.

Genomic technology uptake by Angus breeders provides the opportunity to better characterize the genetics of registered-Angus herds, to make breed improvements for generations to come, and to offer commercial cattlemen access to the most dependable genetic selection tools available.

The expansion of the collaborative partnership between AGI and Zoetis Animal Genetics research scientists has allowed for a more streamlined approach to GE-EPD computation. Now, the high-density 50K SNP

genotypes delivered by AGI partner laboratories will be characterized in-house with a Zoetis-generated algorithm for use in the Association’s weekly national cattle evaluation (NCE) efforts.

AGI and the Association currently offer comprehensive updates of the entire NCE every week — including genomic results incorporated into genomic-enhanced expected progeny differences — providing the most rapid genetic feedback available in the beef cattle industry. For more details, visit AGI online at www.angus.org/AGI/default.aspx or access AAA Login at www.angusonline.org/logon.aspx.

— by American Angus Association staff

**Angus breeders
exceed 40,000
high-density
tests for use in
GE-EPDs.**

High-WDA Angus—Lot 60; owner: Williams Angus; sire: Sitz Upward 307R; ADG: 3.63 lb.; ADG ratio: 102; WDA: 3.36 lb.; WDA ratio: 115; wt.: 1,290 lb.

Angus averages (62 head)—ADG: 3.54 lb.; WDA: 2.93 lb.; wt.: 1,077 lb.

Overall averages (67 bulls)—ADG: 3.52 lb.; WDA: 2.88 lb.; wt.: 1,062 lb.

For more information contact Gary Gregory at 919-515-4027, fax: 919-515-6884 or gary_gregory@ncsu.edu; or Dean Askew at 919-471-6872. Information is available on the test website, www.cals.ncsu.edu/an_sci/extension/animal/bcip/Ahbcip.html.

▶ University of Tennessee Senior Bull Test on test report

The University of Tennessee Bull Testing Program weighed a total of 103 bulls on test Sept. 10. The 84-day test is being conducted at the Middle Tennessee Research and Education Center, Spring Hill, Tenn. Senior bulls must be born Sept. 1-Dec. 15, 2012. The nomination deadline for senior bulls was July 25, 2013, with delivery Aug. 27. There are 92 Angus bulls on test. Interim weights were to be taken Oct. 8 and Nov. 5. Off-test weights are scheduled for Dec. 2-3, with the sale Jan. 23, 2014.

For more information contact David Kirkpatrick, professor of animal science, University of Tennessee, at 865-974-7294; fax: 865-974-0429 or fkirkpat@utk.edu; or Kevin Thompson, station manager, at 931-486-2129; fax: 931-486-0142. Test information is also available at <http://animalscience.ag.utk.edu/Beef/BullTestingProgram.html>.

▶ Minnesota BCIA announces bull test

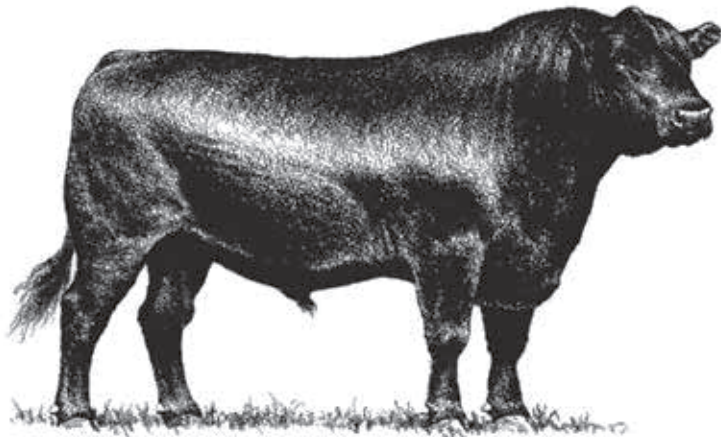
The Minnesota Beef Cattle Improvement Association (BCIA) has announced its 2013-2014 test dates. To be eligible for the test, bulls must be born between Jan. 1-May 15, 2013. Application forms were due Oct. 10, 2013. Bulls were to be delivered Oct. 26, 2013, with the test weigh-in Nov. 8-9.

Bulls will be fed in two lots with 250 feet of bunk space per pen. Bulls are assigned to lots depending on size and weight. Good-quality forages consisting of corn silage, alfalfa haylage, corn, distillers’ grains, mineral mix and vitamins are fed.

Interim weights are scheduled for Jan. 3, 2014, and Feb. 20, with off-test weights taken March 20, 2014. The sale will be April 7.

For more information contact Ron Holty, test station manager, at 21685 South View Rd., Spring Grove, MN 55974; 507-498-5839; cell: 507-429-7963 or ronholty@gmail.com.

Top In Its Class



The *Angus Beef Bulletin EXTRA* was judged to be the No. 1 Newsletter in the livestock industry at the 2013 Livestock Publications Council Critique Contest.

To subscribe to this free award-winning newsletter today, go to www.angusbeefbulletin.com and use the subscription form in the upper left-hand corner of the page.

