

Association Highlights

▶ by **Crystal Albers**, assistant director of communications & web editor, American Angus Ass'n

Pathfinder® deadline is this month

The deadline for submitting records to the Performance Programs Department to be included in the 2010 *Pathfinder Report* is Feb. 12.

The Performance Programs Department appreciates your cooperation in getting Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) data into the office in a timely manner. If you have questions about submitting data on forms, using the Angus Information Management Software (AIMS) program or with AAA Login, call the Association at 816-383-5100.

FCS report available online

On Dec. 21, the American Angus Association, Jon Beever of the University of Illinois, and David Steffen of the University of Nebraska provided an online update regarding the fawn calf syndrome (FCS) research and addressed some frequently asked questions.

The update, available on page 36 or at www.angus.org, discusses the preliminary decision by the Association Board of Directors to process FCS carriers and their progeny in a fashion similar to the Association's handling of arthrogryposis multiplex (AM) and neuropathic hydrocephalus (NH) carriers and their progeny.

Steffen and Beever described the genetic mode of inheritance for FCS as simple recessive, and discussed the process of developing a DNA test.

The complete report is available at www.angus.org.

Sire Evaluation Report released

The Spring 2010 Sire Evaluation Report has been online since mid-December, and the printed version of the report is also now available. Active members who returned their blue request cards to receive a printed copy of the spring 2010 report will receive it automatically. Other members and commercial producers who want a printed report should request it via e-mail or by calling the Association. Breeders who would like a quantity of printed reports to have on hand for their sales or events are welcome to do so. All requests should be submitted to Brenda Gabriel at bgabriel@angus.org or 816-383-5144.

△ 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

Rules of the American Angus Association are included in the *Breeder's Reference Guide*. Free copies are available from the Association. An online version is available through the "Rules and Forms" link at www.angus.org.

■ BREEDER'S REFERENCE

Symbols are used with a registration number to denote important information about an animal. An "F" following the symbol for a genetic defect means the animal has tested free of the defect. A "C" following represents a carrier of the defect.

Symbol	Meaning	Symbol	Meaning
#	Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire	NH	Neuropathic hydrocephalus
+	Embryo transfer calf	OS	Osteopetrosis
^	Cell clone	RD	Red
%	Split-ET	RTF	Produced 35 or more calves from
@	Clone-ET		daughters without a simple recessive
AM	Arthrogryposis multiplex		genetic defect or genetic factor
D2	Dwarfism by DNA test	SN	Syndactyly
DM	Double muscling	WT	Wild type color gene
DW	Dwarfism	XC	Carrier of more than 1 defect
HG	Horn gene	XF	Free of more than 1 defect
HI	Heterochromia irides		



BLI applications due March 1

The Association will host its third annual Beef Leaders Institute (BLI) June 2-4, 2010. Applications are now being accepted for the event and are due March 1.

Limited to 20 participants, BLI is designed for Association members 25-45 years old to provide insight into all beef industry segments while enhancing their knowledge of the Association and strengthening leadership skills.

BLI includes three days of tours and is coordinated by the American Angus Association to strengthen leaders and enhance the educational opportunities for young cattle producers. BLI is funded through the Angus Foundation.

Applications and further information is available at *www.angus.org* or by contacting the Activities Department at 816-383-5100.

Cattlemen's Boot Camp set

The American Angus Association and Virginia Tech will host a Cattlemen's Boot Camp May 21-22 at Virginia Tech's campus in Blacksburg.

Open to all cattle producers, Cattlemen's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

□ ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30

Boot Camps are funded by the Angus Foundation and are packed with 1½ days of educational material and speakers.



Registrations, at \$75, are due April 30 and cover meals and materials. To register, visit www.angus.org or request a registration form

from the Activities Department. Late or walkin registrations are not accepted.

The Hilton Garden Inn will serve as hotel headquarters. To reserve a room, call 540-552-5005 by April 30 and ask for the American Angus group rate; or visit www.blacksburg.hgi.com and enter group code ANGUS.

An additional Boot Camp is planned for August at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. Watch www.angus.org for further details as they become available.

X designated letter for permanent ID in 2010

International letters are designated for

each year of birth for livestock identification (ID). These designated letters are an easy option to use in conjunction with numbers when permanently identifying animals. For example, X001 and X002 could designate the first two calves born into your herd in the year 2010. International letter code is optional for Angus breeders.

For complete information about permanent ID and naming animals, visit www.angus.org, and click on Rules and Forms to access Part 4 of the online Breeder's Reference Guide.

Marketing tools available

If you are planning your

sale and looking for information to educate your customers, the Association provides

informational inserts to include in your sale book. A variety of

information from selection tools to AngusSource® is featured in these inserts that are available in ¼-, ½- and full-page sizes. Simply go to the Association's home page and click on the "Marketing Tools" link on the left to download.

Junior entry booklets mailed

Every active junior member of the Association should have recently received a booklet of information regarding shows and events, entries and deadlines for all 2010 junior activities. This booklet contains the rules, entry forms and information Angus youth need to participate in regional preview shows, regional shows, the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) and the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference this year.

If you are a junior member who's planning to participate in these events and you haven't received a packet, contact the Junior Activities Department at 816-383-5100.

2010 NJAS planned for Denver

It's never too early to begin planning for the 2010 NJAS, "Rush the Rockies," slated for July 11-17 in Denver, Colo.

Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska will cohost the NJAS — the largest single-breed beef cattle show in the world — and a host of educational and leadership activities for youth 9 to 21 years old.

Look for the show schedule and hotel information in the junior information booklet, in future issues of the *Angus Journal* or in the spring edition of the *Directions* newsletter.

Online information is posted at www.njas.info.



Note these junior deadlines

- ► March 1 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show, which will be April 25-26 in Reno. Nev.
- ► March 1 is also the nomination deadline for Advisor of the Year and Honorary Angus Foundation induction.
- ► April 15 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Atlantic National Junior Angus Show. Informational packets, including entry forms and rules, will be mailed to last year's exhibitors. If you did not exhibit last year, you may request an entry packet from show manager Harry Bachman at 717-867-1809 or bachauct@lmf.net.
- ► May 1 is the postmark deadline for submitting Angus Foundation and Auxiliary scholarship applications.
- ► June 1 is the ownership and entry deadline for the NJAS.

Please note there are no exceptions to any of the ownership and entry deadlines. Please contact the Association if you need assistance meeting the deadlines.

Association can help with junior transfers

If you know of a junior member who has purchased or raised a heifer that he or she wants to show, please make note of all ownership deadlines. If a deadline is fast approaching and you haven't received the transferred registration, the Association can help.

Contact the Association at least two weeks prior to the show ownership deadline. Every effort will be made to get the transfer processed in time. Remember, late transfers are never accepted, regardless of the reason.

Nominate advisors and Honorary Angus Foundation recipients

Any state junior Angus association can nominate its advisor(s) to be honored as the NJAA Advisor(s) of the Year. The award is presented at the NJAS and recognizes the time, effort and dedication adult volunteers give to their state junior Angus association.

Individuals can also nominate Angus enthusiasts for the Honorary Angus Foundation. This award is also presented during the NJAS and recognizes those who have made extraordinary contributions to junior Angus programs.

Nomination forms are available by contacting the Junior Activities Department. Nominations for both honors are due to the Junior Activities Department by March 1.

Foundation scholarship applications available

In 2010, the Angus Foundation will make available general scholarships to students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in higher education. Eligible Angus youth meeting the qualifications for the Angus Foundation's 2010 Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarship programs will be considered by the Angus Foundation's Scholarship Selection Committee.

Two \$5,000 scholarships will be given in memory of former American Angus Association executive vice president Richard "Dick" Spader. In addition, a number of \$3,000 scholarships and \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded.

As in past years, other specific and special criteria scholarships administered by the Angus Foundation will also be available. Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the 2010 NJAS in Denver, Colo.

Applications are due May 1 and are available at www.angusfoundation.org.

Apply for Auxiliary scholarships now

The American Angus Auxiliary annually awards scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The postmark deadline for the national contest is May 1.

Junior Angus members must first be chosen as a state auxiliary scholarship winner before advancing to the national competition. Applications are available at www.angusauxiliary.com. State Angus auxiliary scholarship contacts are also listed online. For more information, contact Barbara Ettredge, Auxiliary scholarship chairwoman, at 940-686-2958.

Online coverage

Angus Productions Inc. (API) is providing online coverage of the 2010 Cattle Industry Convention and NCBA Trade Show (www.4cattlemen.com) and the 2010 Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle Symposium (www.appliedreprostrategies.com). Both events were in late January in San Antonio, Texas.

Coverage will be posted to www.angus.org immediately following the events and will be archived with supporting materials to the respective meeting coverage sites.

For more information contact Shauna Rose Hermel, editor, at 816-383-5200 or shermel@angusjournal.com.

Make plans for National Angus Conference & Tour

The 2010 National Angus Conference & Tour will take place Sept. 15-17 in Bozeman, Mont. Visit *www.angus.org* for more information as it becomes available.

Lifetime membership options

The American Angus Association has reintroduced a lifetime membership option. The \$1,500 membership lasts throughout the life of the sole person named on the membership. Payments may be broken into three nonrefundable yearly installments.

Lifetime memberships can be issued to one person only, and are not meant for partnerships. The membership option may be used for a farm name, provided only one person is included on the membership.

For more information or for an application, visit www.angus.org.

Аj