



Association Highlights

► by *Shelia Stannard*, director of communications and events

Pathfinder® Report available

The 2009 *Pathfinder® Report* is now online at www.angus.org; click on the Performance link. This year's report lists 10,017 individual cows and 263 sires that qualify for Pathfinder status. Though not inserted in this issue of the *Angus Journal*, limited printed quantities are available by submitting a request to the Performance Programs Department by calling 816-383-5100.

The Pathfinder program was started in 1978 and identifies superior Angus females based upon recorded performance traits that are economically important to efficient beef production and include early and regular calving, as well as heavy weaning weights. Bulls that have sired a minimum of five or more Pathfinder cows are listed as Pathfinder sires in this report.

Continue to report abnormal calves

At the request of David Steffen of the University of Nebraska, the American Angus Association® is asking members to be on the lookout for two separate and distinct types of calves, specifically (1) any calves with severe hydrocephalus, and (2) any calves displaying characteristics of a condition referred to as fawn calf syndrome (FCS). The Association's web site, www.angus.org, includes postings and photos of these conditions. Anyone who has calves born with these abnormalities should contact Don Laughlin, director of member services, at 816-383-5100 or dlaughlin@angus.org. See page 46 for more information.

Association provides AM fact sheet

In an effort to keep Association members

and commercial bull buyers informed about arthrogyrosis multiplex (AM), the American Angus Association has developed a one-page fact sheet that describes briefly what AM is and how it is inherited. The fact sheet can be used as a sale book insert or as a tool to explain AM to the commercial cattle producer in simple terms. Download the fact sheet at www.angus.org/pubs/sale_book_inserts.html or contact the Association if you have further questions.

Western States Angus breeders to meet in Reno

The 2009 Western National Angus Futurity (WNAF) and 2009 Western Regional Junior Angus Show are set for April 25-27 in Reno, Nev. Activities are planned for both juniors and adults, including shows, a sale and Angus fellowship, so make your travel plans now. Please note, the headquarters hotel has changed and is now the Grand Sierra, phone number 775-789-2000.

If you can't be in Reno for the Angus events, you can still view show results following the weekend activities at www.angusjournal.com/reno.

Family entertainment, fundraiser added to Reno

This year, the WNAF is adding a night of entertainment for the entire family to enjoy. "Honky Tonk Laundry" is a musical duo featuring Angus breeder Cara Ayres and Beth Schreiber that promises to provide country music classics with a sense of humor while raising funds for the Futurity (see "From Cows to Curtain Calls," page 194). The entertainment is slated for Sunday evening, April 26, and begins at 7 p.m. Get your tickets early for \$25 by calling 916-362-2697, and support a great show in the West.

Delegate petitions will arrive soon

Preparation for the 2009 Annual Convention of Delegates, set for Nov. 16 in Louisville, Ky., is already under way. In late March, delegate nomination forms were mailed to all active life and regular members.

The nomination period runs from April 1 through June 30. Each membership is allowed to nominate one eligible member who resides in the same state or district.

► 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	HI	Heterochromia irides
+	Embryo transfer calf	HG	Horn gene
^	Cell clone	R	Red
%	Split-ET	X	Multiple defects, check list for kind
@	Clone-ET	F	Tested for defect printed without producing abnormal calves
S	Syndactyly	RTF	Produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a simple recessive genetic defect or genetic factor
H	Double muscling	WT	Wild Type Color Gene
D	Dwarfism		
D2	Dwarfism by DNA test		
M	Osteopetrosis		

Active members may nominate any one member from their state, including themselves. The candidate should be actively involved in the Angus business, willing to attend the meeting and able to represent Angus breeders.

Nominations must be received in the Association office no later than June 30, at which time every qualified nominee will be included on a state ballot. State ballots will be mailed to the membership in July to vote for the final slate of state delegates. When you receive the petition, send it in right away.

When the nomination form arrives, don't set it aside and forget it. Fill it out and return it as soon as possible.

Details of the election process can be found in Article III of the Association's *Breeder's Reference Guide*, which was distributed with the March issue of the *Angus Journal* and can be found online at www.angus.org.

Report new Association, Auxiliary officers

All local, state and regional Angus associations need to submit their new officer listings to the Communications Department by May 1. This will ensure correct listings are included on the Association web site and in the *2009 Resource Edition*, published as an insert in the August 2009 *Angus Journal*. Listings will include association name, current officers, addresses, phone numbers and web sites, if applicable. If you haven't received a form to update your association's officer listing, contact the Communications Department at 816-383-5100.

State Auxiliary information is also requested in the same mailing. Please be sure to complete both forms and return them in a timely manner.

Officer updates can be sent throughout the year and will be corrected on the Association's web site listings of local, state and regional Angus associations. This information is accessed by new members and other visitors each month at www.angus.org/links/assoc.html.

Deadline nearing for World Angus Forum

The May 1 registration deadline to attend the 2009 World Angus Forum is drawing near, and you don't want to miss this exciting event so close to home. The Forum will take place July 13-16 in Calgary, Alta., Canada.

Four days of tours, shows and conferences are planned during the Forum. Go to www.worldangusforum.com for more information and to register. Keep in mind the National Angus Conference & Tour is

not scheduled this year due to the World Forum, so make your plans now.

Plan now for summer field days

With warmer days just around the corner, it is time to begin thinking about hosting an Angus field day at your farm or ranch. The Association has field day planners and kits available to help make your event a success.

The field-day planner provides a timeline for organizing your event, from planning the program to handling publicity. The planner offers a checklist of details for you to review a month, a week and a day before your event. There are also some reminders for sale planning.

The field-day kit is a collection of literature, posters and other promotional items available from the Association. The kit is perfect for decorating your facilities and for providing information to junior and regular members, as well as to commercial producers. Contact the Communications Department to request these materials.

Visit the Angus Education Center

If you are looking for relevant information about Association programs or industry information, be sure to visit the Angus Education Center at www.angus.org/AngusEducation.html. This one-stop information portal includes information about programs like AIMS and AngusSource® as well as junior Angus programs. It also includes links to Angus Productions Inc. (API) topic sites with information about body condition score (BCS) and dealing with drought.

Summer includes many junior events

Members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) should have their calendars marked for a summer of regional preview shows, the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) and Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference. If you have not received the green junior entry booklet, contact the Junior Activities Department or go to www.njaa.info.

The NJAS, a "Sweet Southern Showdown" is being hosted by Georgia Angus enthusiasts in Perry, Ga., July 19-25. The red carpet will be rolled out early in the week as award-winning country music act Lady Antebellum performs during opening ceremonies. For more information about the weeklong shows and contests, visit www.njas.info.

The National Junior Angus Board has planned leadership and personal skill building activities for NJAA members 14-21 years old at this year's LEAD, "The Gold Gate to Opportunity." LEAD is set for Aug. 6-9 in San Francisco, Calif. Register early to secure

your chance to learn more about California agriculture while developing lifelong friendships.

Junior deadlines for Atlantic National

The ownership and entry deadline for the Atlantic National Junior Angus Show is April 15. Even though the event is a regional preview show for junior members, the Atlantic National show management accepts the entries.

For information or to request entry forms, send e-mail to Harry Bachman or call him at 717-867-1822.

Remember approaching junior deadlines

Juniors should remember May 1 as the deadline for several application forms:

- ▶ Gold Award applications
- ▶ Outstanding Leadership Award applications
- ▶ Ownership and entry deadline for the Northwest Regional Preview Show
- ▶ Ownership and entry deadline for the Central Regional Preview Show
- ▶ Angus Foundation scholarship applications
- ▶ Certified Angus Beef LLC/National Junior Angus Association (CAB/NJAA) scholarship applications

May 15 is another important deadline:

- ▶ Ownership and entry deadline for the Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show

June 1 deadlines include:

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

For more information contact the Junior Activities Department or go to www.njaa.info.

Association can help with junior transfers

If you know of a junior member who has purchased a heifer or steer to show and who has not received the transferred papers, and the ownership deadlines for a specific show are fast approaching, the Association can help. Contact the American Angus Association at least two weeks prior to the show ownership deadline. Every effort will be made to get the transfer processed in time.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36

■ ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

Remember, late transfers are never accepted, regardless of the reason.

Undergrad and graduate scholarship applications due May 1

Educational scholarships will be available this year to Angus youth through the Angus Foundation scholarship program.

Applications must be postmarked on or before May 1 to be considered eligible.

Applications and instructions are

available at www.angusfoundation.org. Please closely follow the instructions, as incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Note that there are separate applications for the NJAA/CAB scholarship and the graduate student scholarship.

Date set for Angus Foundation Golf Tournament

In conjunction with the 2009 NJAS, the ninth annual Angus Foundation Golf

Tournament will be Tuesday, July 21, at Houston Lake Country Club in Perry, Ga. The tournament is open to both adults and youth. Funds generated through team entry fees and event sponsorships support the Foundation's education, youth and research efforts. Look for more information in upcoming issues and at www.angusfoundation.org.

