



Association Highlights

► compiled by *Shauna Rose Hermel*, editor

Applications being accepted for 2015 BLI

Applications for the eighth annual Beef Leaders Institute (BLI) to be June 22-26 are now being accepted. BLI is designed for American Angus Association members 25-45

years old as a means to provide participants insight to all segments of the beef industry. Attendees will be stronger, more effective leaders for the Angus breed and for the beef industry now and in the future.

The Association and the Angus



Foundation will provide transportation, lodging, meals and materials during the BLI. Attendees will be responsible for round-trip transportation between their home and the beginning and ending points.

The BLI is limited to 20 attendees each year. Applications are available online or by contacting Ashley Mitchell in the Events & Education Department at 816-383-5149 or amitchell@angus.org. March 2 is the application deadline.

Cattlemen's Boot Camp

Make plans to attend the Cattlemen's Boot Camp being hosted at the Jackson County Ag Center in Marianna, Fla., March 9-10.

This Boot Camp is an educational collaboration of the University of Florida—North Florida Research & Education Center, the American Angus Association and the Angus Foundation. Participants will gain insight to many aspects of the cattle industry from university and Association speakers and activities.

Cattlemen's Boot Camp is open to all cattle producers. Registration is \$75, which includes meals and materials. Forms can be found at www.angus.org/EventRegistration/default.aspx. The deadline for registration is March 2. For more information contact Ashley Mitchell at 816-383-5149 or amitchell@angus.org.

Foundation to sponsor YCC participant

The Angus Foundation will nominate and sponsor an Association member between the ages of 25 and 50 to attend the 2015 Young Cattlemen's Conference (YCC) — the beef industry and tour sponsored by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA).

Sponsorship and program nomination is granted to an active Association and NCBA member using an application process. Applications are available at www.angusfoundation.org and should be returned to the Angus Foundation no later than Jan. 10. Learn more about the YCC and the program's educational and networking opportunities at www.beefusa.org.

Make plans for National Western

Angus activities at the 109th National

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	\$80
Regular annual membership with <i>Angus Journal</i> subscription	\$130
Lifetime membership (optional to pay in three \$500/year installments)	\$1,500
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. 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.

Symbol	Meaning
#	Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire
+	Embryo transfer calf
^	Cell clone
%	Split-ET
@	Clone-ET

The American Angus Association currently recognizes the following genetic conditions:

Code	Meaning
AM	Arthrogyrosis multiplex
CA	Contractural arachnodactyly
D2	PRKG2 gene mutation for dwarfism
DD	Developmental duplication
DM	Double muscling
DW	Dwarfism
HG	Horn gene
HI	Heterochromia irides
M1	nt821 mutation for double muscling
NH	Neuropathic hydrocephalus
OS	Osteopetrosis
RD	Red gene
SN	Syndactyly
WT	Wild type color gene

The following single-letter descriptors appearing after a genetic condition code shall have the following meaning:

- P – refers to a "potential" carrier based on an ancestor known to carry that specific mutation.
- F – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be "free" of that specific mutation.
- C – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a "carrier" of that specific mutation.
- A – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a carrier of two copies of that specific mutation. It may or may not exhibit the phenotype associated with that genetic condition.

The following letter designations describe cases in which there is more than one genetic condition present:

- XF – Free of more than one genetic condition.
- XC – Carrier of more than one genetic condition.
- XA – Affected of more than one genetic condition.
- RTF – Recessive trait free (produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a genetic defect).

Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo., take place Jan. 12-17, with hundreds of entries expected for the Roll of Victory (ROV) show on the Hill and the carload and pen shows in the Yards. Dave Allan, Schulenburg, Texas, will evaluate the ROV show entries. John Perry, Fayetteville, Tenn., will judge the junior show, while a three-judge panel including Arlen Sawyer, Bassett, Neb.; Chad Ellingson, Saint Anthony, N.D., and Phil Trowbridge, Ghent, N.Y., will evaluate the pen and carload shows.

For a schedule, show results and more, visit www.angus.org/showresults, which can also be accessed through the Association's smartphone app, Angus mobile.

2014 Angus National Western Bull Sale

The 2015 National Western Angus Bull Sale show and sale during the NWSS will be Jan. 14. The show will begin at noon, giving prospective buyers the opportunity to preview the bulls before the sale. A panel of three judges will evaluate the bulls using a composite system to establish a sale order. Judges are Chris Styles, Brentford, S.D.; Bruce Stertzbach, Louisville, Ohio; and Joe Myers, Harrodsburg, Ky.

Attendees will be invited into the showing to inspect bulls after the grand and reserve grand champions have been selected.

Following the bull show, at approximately 3:30 p.m., the 2015 Angus Foundation Heifer Package will sell in the Beef Palace Auction Arena at the Stock Show Complex. Immediately after, the National Western Angus Bull Sale will begin.

The NWSS Angus Bull Sale is the only sale managed by the Association. For more information contact David Gazda, sale manager and Association regional manager, at 706-296-7846.

2015 Angus Foundation Heifer set to sell

44 Farms of Cameron, Texas, will donate the 2015 Angus Foundation Heifer scheduled to sell just prior to the National Western Angus Bull Sale. The chosen female is 44 Ruby 3839 (AAA Registration No. 17682470), born Nov. 20, 2013. She was bred on Nov. 5, 2014, to VAR Index 3282.



Since 1980, more than \$1.6 million has been raised from the annual fundraising tradition to support education, youth and research programs for the benefit of the Angus breed.

Visit www.angusfoundation.org for more information about the 2015 Angus Foundation Heifer Package.

Attend Angus Night on the Mountain

Angus enthusiasts are welcome to attend Angus Night on the Mountain Jan. 14. The event will be hosted by Tom and Lois Ames at their beautiful Spruce Mountain Ranch,

Larkspur, Colo., in conjunction with the NWSS.

Spruce Mountain Ranch will open its facilities at 3 p.m. to guests who wish to drive out early, but bus transportation will be provided beginning at 5:30 p.m. to take guests to the ranch from the NWSS Complex and Denver Marriott City Center Hotel. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m., followed by a live auction that includes various experiences and vacation packages to benefit the Angus Foundation and 2015 National Junior Angus Show, as well as several lots of elite Angus genetics by Spruce Mountain Ranch.

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The event is free and open to anyone. Visit www.angusfoundation.org for more information.

Visit with Association staff in Denver

Producers attending the NWSS are encouraged to stop by the Association's Listening Post in the Yards. Association and Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) staff members will be available daily to visit with producers about Association programs and the cattle industry. Be sure to stop by to chat and to have a cup of coffee.

Summer internship deadline Feb. 6

The Association offers several opportunities for college students hoping to further their education and gain valuable real-world experience with the world's leading beef cattle association. Paid summer internships offer goal-oriented students a chance to build upon writing, editing, photography and organizational abilities while developing knowledge of agriculture and the beef industry. Note these internships recently announced:

- ▶ The Events & Education Department is offering college sophomores, juniors or seniors the opportunity to assist with the planning and execution of junior shows and leadership events, and to gain experience in Association work.
- ▶ The Public Relations & Communications (PR) Department is accepting applications from college juniors or seniors studying communications, ag communications or a related field. Applicants with strong writing, editing and design backgrounds are encouraged to apply.
- ▶ The *Angus Journal* offers a college student the opportunity to be part of its editorial team. The 10-week, writing-intensive internship offers the selected intern an opportunity to participate in producing various publications, including the *Angus Journal*, the *Angus Journal* digital replica, the *Angus Beef Bulletin*, the *Angus Beef Bulletin EXTRA*, the *Angus Journal Daily*, editorial websites, and social media efforts.

Applications for these internships are due Feb. 6. For more information, check out the "Angus Internships" story in this issue on page 36.

Foundation scholarship applications available

The Angus Foundation will award a number of undergraduate and graduate scholarships this year. Scholarship recipients

will be recognized at the 2015 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Tulsa, Okla.

The eligibility requirements for these general Angus Foundation scholarships remain the same. Angus youth who are graduating from high school or in college currently may also be eligible for other Angus-related scholarships that are permanently endowed and managed by the Angus Foundation.

The Foundation will also make available graduate student scholarships to young men



and women actively involved in the Angus breed who are pursuing advanced degrees.

Applicants must have, at one time, been a National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) member and must currently be a junior, regular or life member of the Association. Strong preference and priority will be given to applicants pursuing advanced degrees related closely to the beef industry.

The Angus Foundation undergraduate and graduate student scholarship application and guidelines are available at www.angusfoundation.org. The application deadline is May 1.

For more information contact the Angus Foundation at 816-383-5100.

New initiative to engage future cattle producers

To meet the needs of future cattle producers, the American Angus Association in March 2015 will launch a new program called Future Angus Stockmen. The intent is to impact the next generation through learning opportunities, while building a bond with the Angus breed and its member-driven organization.

The program is aimed toward college-age or recent graduates who want to raise high-quality Angus-based cattle. The program will offer educational opportunities that teach participants how to thrive in the cattle industry, social networking to connect them with fellow producers, and leadership development to instill an entrepreneurial spirit and drive to improve their businesses.

Participants will learn how to use proven information such as expected progeny differences (EPDs) and dollar-value indexes (\$Values), while incorporating DNA technology to make data-driven decisions. Additional program benefits include enrollment in either AngusSource or

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AngusSource Genetic, and access to Beef Record Service (BRS) or MaternalPlus® at a reduced cost for submitting data.

Young people who enroll in the program will have the chance to apply for scholarships if they are or will be enrolled in a two- or four-year college majoring in agriculture. Scholarship winners will be announced at the 2015 National Angus Convention & Trade Show, Nov. 3-5, 2015, in Overland Park, Kan.

For more information, contact Ginette Kurtz, director of commercial programs at 816-383-5100 or gkurtz@angus.org.

Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship

The Angus Foundation Board of Directors approved funds to provide \$1,000 scholarships to three youth who use Angus genetics in their seedstock or commercial operations. Awards will be given out in July 2015.

Applicants must be enrolled in a junior college, four-year college/university or other accredited institution for the fall of 2015. They can be an entering freshman or a continuing student in any undergraduate program. The applicant or applicant's

parents/guardians must have transferred or been transferred a registration paper in the last 36 months (on or after May 1, 2012).

Full details of eligibility can be found at www.angusfoundation.org. Information and an application can be found in the resources section on the home page.



Junior entry packets mailed

All junior members who are 9 years and older should receive the green entry booklet in the mail this month. It contains a calendar of events and deadlines, as well as complete show rules and entry forms for the regional preview shows and the NJAS. It also contains information about the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference.

If you have not received your booklet, please contact the Events & Education Department.

Note these junior deadlines

- ▶ Feb. 2 is the ownership and entry deadline for juniors planning to participate in the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic (MAJAC) regional preview show set for March 13-15 in Harrisonburg, Va.
- ▶ March 2 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show, which will be April 16-19 in Reno, Nev.
- ▶ March 2 is also the nomination deadline for Advisor of the Year and Honorary Angus Foundation induction.

Visit www.angus.org/njaa for more information and deadlines. Please note there are no exceptions to any of the ownership and entry deadlines.

C designated for permanent ID in 2015

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, C001 and C002 could designate the

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first two calves born into your herd in the year 2015.

Using the international letter code is optional for Angus breeders.

For complete information about permanent ID (Rule 105) and naming animals (rules 102 and 107), access the online *Breeder's Reference Guide*. To access from www.angus.org, click on "Rules and Forms" in the pull-down menu under "About."

Black Books available today

Place your order for the 2015 Beef Record Service (BRS)/AngusSource® black books. The pocket-sized books include a calendar, as well as space to keep management records on your cow herd.

The 2015 books are available in any quantity for \$3 each. To place orders, contact the AngusSource department at 816-383-5100 or blackbooks@angus.org.

Custom Cattle Tags offers affordable ID

Cattle producers looking for affordable ways to identify their herd should visit www.customcattletags.com, a service provided by the American Angus Association. Anyone can order ear tags, applicators, syringes and accessories.

Custom Cattle Tags provides high-quality, low-cost, customized ear tags, blank tags and prenumbered tags for cattle producers across the United States.



2014 Annual Report available upon request

The 2014 *American Angus Association Annual Report* is now available. The report features the business, progress and activities of the Association and its entities for fiscal year 2014, which ended Sept. 30, 2014. It is available online at www.angus.org.

Printed reports are available upon request by contacting 816-383-5100 or lmaudlin@angus.org.

Feed intake included in \$F, \$B

During the Association's biannual national cattle evaluation (NCE), the feedlot dollar value index (\$F) included an additional update beyond the regular update of the economic assumptions. The feed intake expected progeny difference (EPD), which is calculated behind the scenes as a component of the residual average daily gain (RADG) EPD, was incorporated into \$F, thereby affecting the beef value index (\$B) as well.

For additional information, see the "By The Numbers" column on page 82 of the December 2014 *Angus Journal*.

Request sale-day kits

When planning your production sales, don't forget to request your sale-day kit from the Association's Public Relations & Communications (PR) Department. The kits contain posters for decorating your sale facilities, as well as a sample of Association literature for you to distribute to your customers. Contact the PR Department for your kit or order it online. Please allow two weeks for delivery.

Herds of the century

The American Angus Association initiated the Century Award to recognize its members and their families who have been in continuous production of registered-Angus cattle for at least 100 years. Award recipients will be recognized with an engraved plaque at the Association's Annual Awards Banquet, notice will be given in the *Angus Journal*, and a list will be maintained on the Association's website.

Contact the Events & Education Department for more information or for applications. This year's awards were presented during the Awards Recognition Breakfast in Kansas City, Mo.

MaternalPlus® sale book inserts available

Producers enrolled in the MaternalPlus program can promote that fact in their sale book and other advertising using ready-to-go promotional materials available through the *Angus Journal's* Special Services Department. The sale book inserts and advertising materials will feature the program's new logo and a description of the program.

MaternalPlus is a voluntary, inventory-based reporting system designed to capture additional reproductive trait data and, ultimately, expand reproductive and lifetime productivity tools. By using MaternalPlus,



producers will receive calving ease, birth weight and weaning weight expected progeny differences (EPDs) for calves out of inventoried cows, even before they are registered. Within AAA Login, MaternalPlus enrollees will have access to herd productivity summaries, such as in-herd genetic trend, that are only available to those enrolled in the program. In addition, MaternalPlus allows

producers to submit cow disposal codes and reason designations, which keeps an accurate record of why a cow left the herd.

To learn more about MaternalPlus, visit www.angus.org or AAA Login.

The Angus Report doubles airings each week on RFD-TV

The *Angus Report* delivers Association and industry news each week on RFD-TV. As of Nov. 1, 2014, the news program increased its airings from two to four times per week.

Since the program's launch three years ago, it has been broadcast Monday mornings at 7:30 a.m. and Saturday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. CDT. Now the program will air additionally on Wednesday evenings at 5 p.m. and Thursday afternoons at 3:30 p.m.

I Am Angus airs this winter

I Am Angus focuses on the heart of the Angus business — its people, its heritage and why people have chosen to be a part of it. Initiated in 2008, the Association-produced documentary series continues this fall and winter across America. The program aired Thanksgiving evening and is scheduled to air Christmas night and the evening of Jan. 5, 2015, on RFD-TV.

For more information or to watch segments from past shows visit www.angus.org.

Download the Angus App

Angus Mobile is a free, smartphone application for the iPhone, iPad and Android



devices that allows app users to update herd data no matter where they are on their farm or ranch. Download the easy-to-navigate app and gain

access to the latest news, sale reports, show results, EPDs and \$Values, percentiles and much more. Visit www.angus.org for more details.

Lifetime membership options

The American Angus Association offers producers 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.

