



Association Highlights

► compiled by *Shauna Rose Hermel*, editor

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 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. The books make great promotional gifts for the holidays to commercial customers. 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.



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

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 | Arthrogryposis 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).

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. March 2 is the application deadline.

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, 2015. Learn more about the YCC and the program's educational and networking opportunities at www.beefusa.org.

National Western Bull Sale

The 2015 National Western Angus Bull Sale show and sale will be Jan. 14 at the 2015 National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo.

Consignments must have Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) performance information to be eligible, and all bulls born before Jan. 1, 2014, must have passed a complete breeding soundness examination (sometimes referred to as a BSE), including both physical and semen, within 30 days of the sale.

The Angus Bull Sale Show will kick off Angus activities at noon on Jan. 14, 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.; John Grimes, Hillsboro, 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 in Denver this January

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.

As of Aug. 1, 44 Ruby 3839 ranked No. 57 among all non-parent females in the breed for the beef dollar value index (\$B) and placed among the top 1% of non-parent females for yearling weight, marbling, feedlot value, grid value, quality grade value and \$B, while also placing among the top 3% for weaning weight, the top 10% for weaned calf value and the top 15% for ribeye area.

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.

Make plans to attend Angus Night on the Mountain

Angus enthusiasts are welcome to attend Angus Night on the Mountain Jan. 14, 2015. 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.

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

Visit with Association staff in Denver

All Angus 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.

Still time for 'end-of-the-year' charitable gifts

Charitable gifts to the Angus Foundation in support of its education, youth and research programs are appreciated regardless of the time of year the gift is made by the donor. Oftentimes, however, charitable giving decisions are made at year's end once an individual or couple knows their income tax situation for that respective calendar (tax) year.

Feel free to make your gift this year through the Angus Foundation's annual fund appeal you received recently, or using the envelope insert in the organization's 2014 Annual Report.

As a reminder, one should pay special attention to timing when it comes to year-end gifts. In accordance with Internal Revenue Service (IRS) guidelines, 501(c)(3) charities such as the Angus Foundation will recognize the U.S. Postal Service's postmark denoted on the outside of the carrier envelope used by the donor in transmitting the gift to the charity.

In order to qualify for tax savings on this year's tax return, your gift must be completed by Dec. 31. For cash gifts, this means your gift must be personally delivered or mailed to the Angus Foundation in an envelope postmarked no later than Dec. 31. Gifts can also be made online at www.angusfoundation.org.

Angus gifts available for the holidays

Still looking for the perfect holiday gift for the Angus buff on your list? Shopping online at www.angusfoundation.org/store offers many options. A variety of items complete with photos, descriptions and prices are available on the site and may be purchased online with a Visa®, MasterCard® or Discover®. If you don't have access to the Internet, call the Association at 816-383-5100.

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.

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ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

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

Important junior information

A comprehensive mailing will be mailed to Angus active junior members next month, including show schedules, rules and entry forms. This booklet will include all regional preview shows, regional shows, and National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) and Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference information.

The information will also be available online at www.njaa.info.

Looking for an internship?

The American Angus Association, Angus Foundation, *Angus Journal* and CAB offer several opportunities for college students hoping to further their education and gain valuable real-world experience with the world's leading beef cattle association and branded-beef program.

Paid summer internships offer goal-oriented students an opportunity to build upon writing, editing, photography and organizational abilities while developing knowledge of agriculture and the beef industry. Look for deadlines, requirements and application details online at www.angus.org.

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 was to air 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.

Feed intake to be included in \$F, \$B this December

This December, during the Association's biannual national cattle evaluation (NCE), the feedlot dollar value index (\$F) will see an additional update beyond the economic assumptions. The feed intake EPD, which is calculated behind the scenes as a component of the residual average daily gain (RADG) EPD, will be incorporated into \$F, thereby affecting the beef value index (\$B) as well.

For additional information, see the "By The Numbers" column on page 82 in this issue.

Request sale-day kits

When planning your production sales, don't forget to request your sale-day kit from the Association's Public Relations and 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.

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, the news program will increase 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. Central time. Now the program will air additionally on Wednesday evenings at 5 p.m. and Thursday afternoons at 3:30 p.m.

ARSBC covered

The Angus Media team coordinated online event coverage for the 2014 Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle (ARSBC) symposium Oct. 8-9 in Stillwater, Okla. The website — www.appliedreprostrategies.com — offers the summary, proceedings paper, PowerPoint presentation and audio of each speaker's presentation (as available) in the website's Newsroom.

Look for additional coverage to come in the *Angus Journal*, *The Angus Report*, *Angus Beef Bulletin* and *Angus Beef Bulletin EXTRA*.

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 can be found in the resources section on the home page. The Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship application will be available online Dec. 1.

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

MaternalPlus®

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 additional information at weaning processing time, including calving ease, birth weight and weaning weight expected progeny differences (EPDs) for calves out of inventoried cows. 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.

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.

