



Association Highlights

► compiled by *Shauna Rose Hermel*, editor

D designated for permanent ID in 2016

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, D001 and D002 could designate the first two calves born into your herd in the year 2016. C was the designated letter for 2015, while E will be the designated letter for 2017, F for 2018, G for 2019, etc. Note that the letters I, O, Q and V are not used.

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) in accordance with American Angus Association rules, access the online *Breeder's Reference Guide* available on www.angus.org. To access, click on "Rules and Forms" in the pull-down menu under "About."

Custom Cattle Tags offers affordable ID

Cattle producers looking for affordable ways to identify their herd can visit www.customcattletags.com, a service provided by the American Angus Association. Custom Cattle Tags provides high-quality, low-cost, customized ear tags, blank tags and prenumbered tags for cattle producers across the United States.



Black books available for 2016

You can now order 2016 AngusSource®/Beef Record Service (BRS) black books. Featuring the American Angus Association logo on the back, the pocket-sized books include a calendar, as well as space to keep management records on your cow herd.

Producers can request two free books and can purchase additional books for \$3 each. To place orders, contact the AngusSource Department at 816-383-5100 or blackbooks@angus.org.

Heifers to be featured in National Western pen show

The Angus Pen Show at the 2016 National Western Stock Show (NWSS) will feature heifers and bulls this January. Classes will be included for pens of three heifers born after Jan. 1, 2015; born Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 2014; born May 1-Aug. 31, 2014; and born Jan. 1-April 30, 2014. Classes will be broken after arrival and processed according to the average age in days. First place in each individual class will receive \$150.

Champions will be named for divisions (late pen of calves, early pen of calves and pen of yearlings), as well as a grand and reserve pen.

For information about the NWSS, visit www.nationalwestern.com.

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	Arthrogyposis 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).

Bulls will be offered at NWSS Bull Sale

The 2016 National Western Angus Bull Sale will be Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2016, at the NWSS in Denver, Colo. All consignments will have Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) performance information and a complete set of Angus expected progeny differences (EPDs). The official AHIR adjusted yearling weight EPD (if applicable) must meet the breed average for nonparent sires.

All bulls born before Jan. 1, 2015, 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.

For more information about the sale, contact David Gazda, sale manager, at 706-296-7846.

2016 Angus Foundation Heifer set to sell this January in Denver

SAV Emblynette 5368 (AAA Registration No. 18141862) will headline the Angus Foundation Heifer Package set to sell Jan. 13, 2016, at the NWSS in Denver, Colo. Schaff Angus Valley of Saint Anthony, N.D., is donating the March 23, 2015, heifer selected for her individual quality and maternal excellence. She is the one-of-a-kind natural daughter of the elite fifth-generation Pathfinder® SAV Emblynette 5483, who has posted a weaning ratio of 104 on seven calves and has earned a stellar production record. 5368's Pathfinder granddam remains productive in the SAV program at 18 years of age.

Visit www.angusfoundation.org for more information about the 2016 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. 13, 2016. 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 to view the cattle. Two buses will pick up attendees on a first-served basis at the Denver Marriott City Center Hotel and NWSS Complex from 5:30-5:45 p.m. and will take guests to and from the event venue. 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 2016 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 "Celebrate 35 Years" annual fund appeal you received recently, or the envelope insert in the organization's 2015 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.

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. Contact Angus Foundation President Milford Jenkins at 816-383-5100 if you have questions about end-of-the-year charitable giving strategies or need additional information.

Angus Media provides online coverage of Range Beef Cow Symposium

Angus Media provides online coverage of the 2015 Range Beef Cow Symposium at www.rangebeefcow.com. The event was hosted Nov. 17-19 at The Ranch in Loveland, Colo., by Colorado State University's Department of Animal Sciences. Visit the site Newsroom now to read summaries of each presentation, view the speakers' PowerPoints and proceedings and listen to the presentations.

www.rangebeefcow.com is one of a series of event coverage sites coordinated by the *Angus Journal's* editorial staff.

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 2016 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.

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Applications are available at www.angusfoundation.org and should be returned to the Angus Foundation no later than Jan. 11, 2016. Learn more about the YCC and the program's educational and networking opportunities at www.beefusa.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.angusonline.org/store/ProductList.aspx 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.

Applications being accepted for 2016 BLI

Applications for the ninth annual Beef Leaders Institute (BLI) in June 20-24, 2016, 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 Jaelyn Clark in the Events & Education Department at 816-383-5149. March 1 is the application deadline.

2015 Annual Report available upon request

The 2015 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 2015, which ended Sept. 30, 2015. It is available online at www.angus.org. Printed reports are available upon request by contacting 816-383-5100 or lmaudlin@angus.org.

Important junior information

A comprehensive booklet 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 Media 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.

NJAA announces new age rule for competition

Eight-year-old members of the NJAA are now eligible to show at Angus-sponsored competitions across the country. The new age rule, approved by the American Angus Association Board of Directors and the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB), takes effect Jan. 1, 2016.

The NJAA sponsored more than 50 junior shows during the past year, involving nearly 5,000 Angus youth. According to the new rule, an exhibitor's birth date must fall between Jan. 1, 1995, and Dec. 31, 2007, to compete and be either a junior, regular or life member of the American Angus Association.

New guidelines for feed-intake submission

At its September meeting, the Breed Improvement Committee approved an update to the Association's guidelines for submitting feed intake. The new requirements for data submission are:

- ▶ All animals must be within a 90-day age range (same as before);
- ▶ A 21- to 28-day warm-up is required, 14 days of those days in the facility where the test will take place (same as before); and
- ▶ A 45-day test period is required (shortened from 70 days);
- ▶ Live weights are required at the beginning and the end of the intake test (mid-test weights not required).

For more detail about the change, visit the Angus Genetics Inc. blog at <http://bit.ly/1ZcSSPq>. If you have data that you'd like to submit, but had not in the past due to shorter

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test periods, contact Tonya Amen, genetic service director, at 816-383-5100 or tamen@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 2016.

Applicants must be enrolled in a junior college, four-year college/university or other accredited institution for the fall of 2016. 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, 2013).

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.

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 at 9 p.m. CST and is scheduled to air Dec. 28 in the evening on RFD-TV.

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

Low-density genomic tests available

In addition to the previously available high-density genomic tests (HD50K for

Angus from Zoetis and GGP-HD for Angus from GeneSeek), low-density options are now available. These new tests allow animals to have genomically enhanced EPDs at a lower cost, with nearly identical accuracy. The i50K for Angus from Zoetis and GGP-LD for Angus from GeneSeek can be ordered from your AAA Login account. For more information, see "By The Numbers" on page 68 of the July issue of the *Angus Journal*.

AGI blog

AGI staff have established a blog to share information on timely topics. Short, informative articles on performance programs, genomic testing and more are posted at <http://angusgenetics.wordpress.com>. If you have ideas for a blog post topic, send your suggestion to Tonya Amen at tamen@angus.org.

Initiative to engage future cattle producers

Applications are available online (www.angus.org/Performance/Documents/EASEnrollmentForm.pdf) to enroll in Future Angus Stockmen, a program launched by the Association to embrace the next generation of cattlemen through learning opportunities, while building a bond with the Angus breed and its member-driven organization.

Geared 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. Young people who enroll in the program will have the chance to apply for scholarships.

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

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.

