

▣ PERFORMANCE REPORT

▣ MBCIA Jackson Bull Test Spring Grove, Minn.

105-day report (Feb. 22)

A total of 77 bulls, including 61 Angus, are on test at Foundation Feeders Inc. near Spring Grove, Minn., for the 2012-2013 Minnesota Beef Cattle Improvement Association (MBCIA) Jackson test. Bulls are being fed a ration of corn silage, alfalfa haylage, corn, distillers' grains, minerals and vitamins as a total mixed ration (TMR).

High-ADG, high-WDA and high-indexing

Angus—Lot 9-64; owner: Freeburg Ridge Angus; sire: Sitz Upward; ADG: 5.63 lb.; WDA: 4.24 lb.; wt.: 1,495 lb.; test index: 127

Angus averages (61 head)—ADG: 4.32 lb.; WDA: 3.54 lb.; wt.: 1,268 lb.

Overall averages (77 head)—ADG: 4.29 lb.; WDA: 3.50 lb.; wt.: 1,262 lb.

Bulls indexing in the top 75%-80% of the entire Jackson group (all breeds) will be eligible for the MBCIA Bull Test Sale in Jackson, Minn., scheduled for April 5. The test index is 50% test ADG ratio + 50% WDA ratio. For more information contact Ron Holty, manager, at 507-498-5839 or rkholty@springgrove.coop.

▣ St. Croix Valley Bull Test UW Mann Valley Farm, River Falls, Wis. 112-day report (Feb. 23)

The St. Croix Valley Bull Test (SCVBT) is conducted at the University of Wisconsin (UW) Mann Valley Farm at River Falls, Wis. The 140-day test features a high-roughage ration of corn silage, haylage, shell corn, protein and mineral to provide a targeted ADG of 3 lb.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 8-1; owner: Emerald Lane Angus, Melvin and Sharon Niemann, Edgar, Wis.; sire: SS Objective T510 OT26; ADG: 4.99 lb.; ADG ratio: 132; WDA: 3.62 lb.; WDA ratio: 115; wt.: 1,440 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 5-2; owner: Bonte Angus Farm, Dan and Lana Bonte, Glenwood City, Wis.; sire: SS Objective T510 OT26; ADG: 3.94 lb.; ADG ratio: 104; WDA: 3.97 lb.; WDA ratio: 126; wt.: 1,295 lb.

Angus averages (63 head)—ADG: 3.78 lb.; WDA: 3.15 lb.; wt.: 1,091 lb.

Off-test weights were scheduled for March 22-23. The sale will be at the farm April 20. The top two-thirds of the bulls will sell based on an index that is 75% ADG ratio + 25% WDA ratio.

For more information contact Stacy Myers at rockton@mwt.net, Jerry Lausted at glausted@wwt.net or Sandy Drinkman at sandy@pinehillangus.com.



Tentative Schedule for BIF 2013 Announced

The 2013 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Annual Meeting and Research Symposium is scheduled for June 12-15 in Oklahoma City, Okla. The symposium will be at the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center. Themed "Where Profit and Progress Intersect," the program promises to provide the newest research insights and information presented in a practical manner. The event will also feature a fun night out at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, formerly known as the Cowboy Hall of Fame, as well as tours across the state.

This year's symposium is being hosted by BIF and Oklahoma State University. The following preliminary schedule has been posted to www.beefextension.com/genetics/. Access the website for updates.

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

noon-8 p.m. Registration
5 p.m.-7 p.m. Oklahoma Welcome Reception
7 p.m.-9:15 p.m. NAAB Symposium

Thursday, June 13, 2013

6 a.m.-6 p.m. Registration
8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. General Session I: Crossbreeding vs. Straightbreeding — Show Me the Money
8 a.m. Welcome
8:30 a.m. Crossbreeding: Considerations and Alternatives in an Evolving Market, Nevil Speer, Western Kentucky University, and Tom Brink, JBS Five Rivers Cattle Feeding
9 a.m. Situations Where Crossbreeding is an Effective Tool for Beef Production, Bob Weaber, Kansas State University, and Matt Spangler, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
9:30 a.m. Panel Discussion: Crossbreeding or Straightbreeding: How Does the Choice Impact Consumer Satisfaction?, participants TBA
10:30 a.m. Break
11 a.m. Breed Utilization and Production Efficiency, Merlyn Neilsen, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
11:45 a.m. That's Nice, but I Raise Cows, Dave Dailey, California State University-Chico
12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Awards Luncheon, presentations of Frank Baker awards, Roy Wallace Scholarship and commercial producer awards
2 p.m. Committee technical breakout sessions
• Live Animal, Carcass and End Point
• Selection Decisions
• Producer Applications
5:30 p.m.-10 p.m. Shuttle to Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Museum and return to headquarters hotel, museum tours and live entertainment by Bunkhouse Band and Cowboy Jim Garland
7 p.m.-8 p.m. Dinner and presentation of Seedstock Producer of the Year award

Friday, June 14, 2013

6 a.m.-6 p.m. Registration
8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. General Session II: Using Genetic Tools to Address Environmental Challenges and Cow Herd Efficiency
8 a.m. Addressing Cow Herd Efficiency in a World of Mixed Messages for Producers: Matching Production Levels to Environmental Conditions, Dave Lalman, Oklahoma State University
9 a.m. Bad News: They're all Carriers of Something — Understanding the Impact of Broken Genes in the Beef Business, Dorian Garrick, Iowa State University
10 a.m. Break
10:30 a.m. Do We Raise Cattle or Bugs? Exploring the Symbiotic Relationship Between Cattle and Microbes, Andrew Benson, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
11:30 a.m. Charge and Session Wrap-up
11:45 a.m. Annual meeting, regional caucuses and election of directors
12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Awards Luncheon: presentations of Pioneer awards, Continuing Service awards and president's address
2 p.m. Committee technical breakout sessions
• Cow Herd Efficiency and Adaptability
• Genetic Prediction
• Emerging Technology

Saturday, June 15, 2013

7 a.m.-6 p.m. Northern Oklahoma Tour
7 a.m.-6 p.m. Southern Oklahoma Tour

The *Angus Journal* will provide online coverage at www.BIFconference.com. Visit the site now for coverage of past symposiums dating back to 2002. We plan to activate this year's site by April 1.

