

# Growth Traits Get Boost

American Angus Association releases genomic-enhanced EPDs for growth.

by *Crystal Albers*

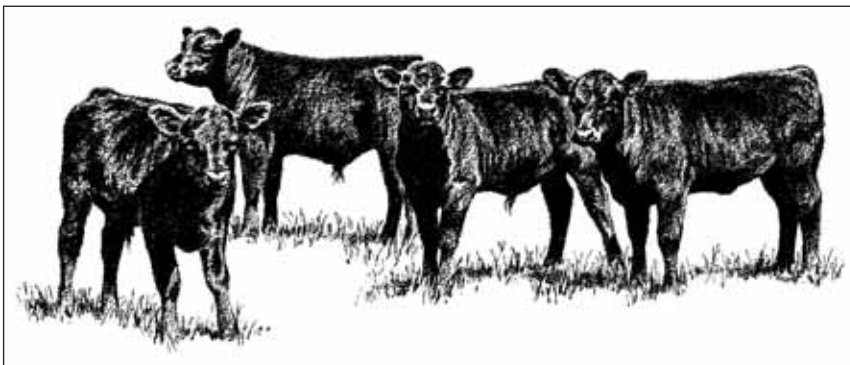
The American Angus Association and Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) continue to expand their offering of genomic-enhanced expected progeny differences (EPDs), the cattle industry's latest and most accurate genetic selection tools.

As of Feb. 11, genomic-enhanced EPDs incorporating the Igenity® Profile for Angus are available for several growth traits, including birth, weaning and yearling weight EPDs; as well as milk EPDs.

The selection tools are generated using the Association's extensive growth database and genomic results from the Igenity Angus-specific profile.

Growth EPDs now join other genomic-enhanced EPDs offered through the Association, including carcass traits, docility and residual average daily gain (RADG).

"This was the next logical step in our efforts to further incorporate genomic data into our extensive selection tools," says Bill Bowman,



AGI president and Association chief operating officer (COO). "We continue to work toward utilizing genomic data in additional EPDs to benefit our members and their commercial customers."

Sally Northcutt, Association director of genetic research, says

genomic-enhanced EPDs allow Angus producers to make even more accurate, more rapid genetic improvements.

"These tools can provide an advantage for any operation, regardless of herd size," Northcutt says.

Visit [www.angus.org/Nce/WeeklyEvalGenomicData.aspx](http://www.angus.org/Nce/WeeklyEvalGenomicData.aspx) for a complete, regularly updated list of available genomic-enhanced EPDs.

Visit [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org) for more information.



**Editor's Note:** *Crystal Albers is assistant director of communications and web editor for the American Angus Association.*