



Performance Report

► Bull test reports and other performance-related items. Compiled by **Linda Robbins**.

Calhoun HERD Program

The 14th Heifer Evaluation and Reproductive Development (HERD) Program at Calhoun has released Report 2. The center received 157 heifers Dec. 5, 2013. The heifers were worked Jan. 31. Veterinarian Lee Jones of the University of Georgia–Athens (UGA) College of Veterinary Medicine and his team evaluated the heifers to provide reproductive tract maturity scores (RTMS). The results showed four heifers with an RTMS below two, 13 heifers had an adjusted pelvic measurement of less than 140 centimeters (cm), and four heifers had both an RTMS below two and adjusted pelvic area measurements less than 140 cm, making them ineligible for the sale.

Additionally, palpation confirmed four heifers to be pregnant and one to be a freemartin, with another eight heifers removed at the discretion of the consignor.

To access a state-by-state listing of current central bull tests, visit our Virtual Library online at www.api-virtuallibrary.com/CentralBullTests.htm.

The listing includes contact information, links to test websites, current test schedules and dates of upcoming tests.

These heifers do not appear on the report. Health and overall gains for the past 57-day period have been acceptable considering hay quality and weather conditions.

CIDR®s were implanted Jan. 31 and were scheduled to be removed Feb. 13. Timed artificial insemination (TAI) will be conducted March 4. These dates are a slight modification from the original protocol as the inclement weather prohibited travel for the original workday of Jan. 29. The modified

synchronization protocol will keep the team within one day of the original schedule.

The next workday is scheduled for March 1. For more information visit www.caes.uga.edu/commodities/animals/beef/index.html.

Tucumcari Bull Test

Tucumcari, N.M.
56-day report (Dec. 30, 2013)

The bulls on test for the 2013-2014 Tucumcari Bull Test, born Jan. 1-April 30, 2013, were fed a roughage-based diet backed with Cargill's NutreBeef Limiter feed product.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 15-3; owner: J-C Angus, Moriarty, N.M.; sire: J-C SS Objective 0852; ADG: 5.30 lb.; ADG ratio: 128; WDA: 3.10 lb.; WDA ratio: 103; wt.: 970 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 28-2; owner: Hartzog Angus Cattle, Bovina, Texas; sire: RWL&C T139 Bando X287; ADG: 4.45 lb.; ADG ratio: 107; WDA: 3.88 lb.; WDA ratio: 128; wt.: 1,105 lb.

High-ADG Angus sire group—three bulls; owner: J-C Angus; sire: J-C SS Objective 0852; avg. ADG: 4.70 lb.; ADG ratio: 114; avg. WDA: 3.02 lb.; WDA ratio: 100; avg. wt.: 909 lb.

High-WDA Angus sire group—three bulls; owner: McCall Land & Cattle, Moriarty, N.M.; sire: JMc Impression 1314 325; avg. ADG: 4.17 lb.; ADG ratio: 101; avg. WDA: 3.30 lb.; WDA ratio: 109; avg. wt.: 848 lb.

Angus averages (56 head)—ADG: 4.14 lb.; WDA: 3.02 lb.; wt.: 889 lb.

Overall averages (74 head)—ADG: 4.02 lb.; WDA: 3.01 lb.; wt.: 871 lb.

84-day report (Jan. 27)

High-ADG Angus—Lot 16-2; owner: J-C Angus; sire: B/R Future Direction 6171; ADG: 4.77 lb.; ADG ratio: 126; WDA: 3.14 lb.; WDA ratio: 104; wt.: 968 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 28-2; owner: Hartzog Angus Cattle; sire: RWL&C T139 Bando X287; ADG: 3.92 lb.; ADG ratio: 104; WDA: 3.79 lb.; WDA ratio: 125; wt.: 1,185 lb.

High-ADG Angus sire group—three bulls; owner: J-C Angus; sire: B/R Future Direction 6171; avg. ADG: 4.17 lb.; ADG ratio: 110; avg.

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WDA: 3.04 lb.; WDA ratio: 101; avg. wt.: 914 lb.

High-WDA Angus sire group—three bulls; owner: McCall Land & Cattle; sire: JMc Impression 1314 325; avg. ADG: 3.97 lb.; ADG ratio: 105; avg. WDA: 3.33 lb.; WDA ratio: 110; avg. wt.: 948 lb.

Angus averages (56 head)—ADG: 3.78 lb.; WDA: 3.03 lb.; wt.: 975 lb.

Overall averages (74 head)—ADG: 3.71 lb.; WDA: 3.02 lb.; wt.: 958 lb.

The test sale was March 21.

For more information contact Manny Encinias at 505-927-7935 or visit the test website at <http://tucbulltest.nmsu.edu>.

■ Tifton Bull Evaluation Program

Tifton Bull Evaluation Center, Tifton, Ga. 112-day final report (Feb. 11)

The 56th Tifton Bull Evaluation Program began Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 with the delivery of 128 bulls representing nine different breeds and averaging 761 lb. The bulls went on test Oct. 22, 2013.

The 112-day test featured bulls born Dec. 1, 2012-Feb. 28, 2013. All bulls tested negative for persistent infection with bovine viral diarrhea (PI-BVD). Bull performance continued to be good during the final weigh period, according to Jacob Segers, extension animal scientist.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 98; owner: Circle R Cattle Co., Larry Rigsby, Chickamauga, Ga.; sire: TC Total 410; ADG: 5.16 lb.; ADG ratio: 127; WDA: 3.34 lb.; WDA ratio: 103; wt.: 1,423 lb.; SC: 40 cm

High-WDA Angus—Lot 88; owner: Lemmon Cattle Ent., Woodbury, Ga.; sire: Summitcrest Complete 1P55; ADG: 4.24 lb.; ADG ratio: 105; WDA: 3.79 lb.; WDA ratio: 117; wt.: 1,480 lb.; SC: 40.0 cm

Angus averages (51 head)—ADG: 4.05 lb.; WDA: 3.24 lb.; wt.: 1,299 lb.

Overall averages (122 head)—ADG: 4.05 lb.; WDA: 3.25 lb.; wt.: 1,292 lb.

Qualifying bulls may sell in the test sale March 5.

Visitors are welcome at the station 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. If weekend visits are desired, please call Mike Keeler at 229-831-5416. Bull and heifer reports can be accessed through the test website at www.caes.uga.edu/commodities/animals/beef/index.html.

■ Nebraska Bull Test

Rohde Farms, Mason City, Neb.

90-day report (Jan. 16)

The 51st Nebraska Bull Test began Oct. 18, 2013, with a total of 128 bulls. There were 94 Angus with an average weight of 846 lb., and 25 calving-ease Angus with an average weight of 819 lb. Bulls on test were born Jan. 1-April 1, 2013. The bulls are being fed to gain a targeted 3.5 lb. per day at Shane and Jill Rohde Farms.

High-ADG calving-ease Angus—Lot 108;

owner: Bredemeier Angus Farms, Mike Bredemeier, Stella; sire: SAV Priority 7283; ADG: 5.17 lb.; ADG ratio: 124; WDA: 3.75 lb.; WDA ratio: 110; wt.: 1,286 lb.

High-WDA calving-ease Angus—Lot 16; owner: KLC Angus, Tom & Carla Knott, Broken Bow; sire: SAV Priority 7283; ADG: 4.24 lb.; ADG ratio: 102; WDA: 3.92 lb.; WDA ratio: 115; wt.: 1,266 lb.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 53; owner: Macholan Angus, Jim & Jessica Macholan, Linwood; sire: S Chisum 6175; ADG: 5.48 lb.; ADG ratio: 127; WDA: 4.06 lb.; WDA ratio: 115; wt.: 1,510 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 29; owner: Boyles Angus, Jim Boyles, Mackenzie Meunier, Mason City; sire: SAV 8180 Traveler 004; ADG: 4.85 lb.; ADG ratio: 113; WDA: 4.19 lb.; WDA ratio: 119; wt.: 1,538 lb.

Angus calving-ease averages (26 head)—ADG: 4.17 lb.; WDA: 3.40 lb.; wt.: 1,197 lb.

Angus overall averages (89 head)—ADG: 4.30 lb.; WDA: 3.53 lb.; wt.: 1,232 lb.

120-day final report (Jan. 16)

High-ADG calving-ease Angus—Lot 5; owner: Reiter Angus, Chris & Amber Reiter, Miller; sire: Connealy Consensus 7229; ADG: 4.73 lb.; ADG ratio: 119; WDA: 3.51 lb.; WDA ratio: 103; wt.: 1,390 lb.

High-WDA calving-ease Angus—Lot 16; owner: KLC Angus; sire: SAV Priority 7283; ADG: 4.38 lb.; ADG ratio: 110; WDA: 3.99 lb.; WDA ratio: 117; wt.: 1,409 lb.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 53; owner: Macholan Angus; sire: S Chisum 6175; ADG: 5.22 lb.; ADG ratio: 128; WDA: 4.09 lb.; WDA ratio: 116; wt.: 1,644 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 13; owner: Greenview Farms, Kent Grabouski, Beatrice; sire: BJ Renegade 1835; ADG: 4.64 lb.; ADG ratio: 113; WDA: 4.19 lb.; WDA ratio: 119; wt.: 1,496 lb.

Angus calving-ease averages (27 head)—ADG: 3.97 lb.; WDA: 3.41 lb.; wt.: 1,301 lb.

Angus overall averages (88 head)—ADG: 4.10 lb.; WDA: 3.53 lb.; wt.: 1,336 lb.

The sale took place March 26 at the Central Nebraska Commission Co. in Broken Bow, Neb.

For more information contact Mick Phillips, manager, Nebraska Bull Test, 205 Phillips Dr., Arthur, NE 69121; phone: 308-764-2378; micolin@nebnet.net. Information is also available on the test website at www.nebraskabulltest.com.

■ IBEP Winter Test

Feldun-Purdue Ag Center, Bedford, Ind.

91-day report (Feb. 20)

A total of 232 bulls and 31 get-of-sire groups were delivered Oct. 29 for the 2013 Indiana Beef Evaluation Program (IBEP) Winter Test. Angus, Hereford, Red Angus, SimAngus, Simmental, Charolais, Shorthorn and LimFlex are the breeds represented.

The test is for bulls born Jan. 1-April 30,

2013. Bulls are fed a total mixed ration (TMR) that is approximately 55% corn silage, 22% corn grain, 20% distillers' dried grains with solubles and 3% balancer, along with free access to salt and minerals. Feed intake is recorded for each lot. Hay or small-grain crop silage may be substituted for the corn silage, depending on supply. A test index is 60% ADG ratio + 40% WDA ratio.

The bulls were to be weighed off test March 24. There are 161 Angus bulls in the test.

High-ADG and high-indexing Angus—Lot 29; owner: Bill Washburn, Olney, Ill.; sire: Connealy Confidence 0100; ADG: 5.29 lb.; ADG ratio: 154; WDA: 3.60 lb.; WDA ratio: 114; wt.: 1,465 lb.; test index: 138

High-WDA Angus—Lot 220; owner: Underwood Angus Farms, Mark Underwood, North Manchester, Ind.; sire: SS Mandate X130; ADG: 4.09 lb.; ADG ratio: 119; WDA: 3.69 lb.; WDA ratio: 117; wt.: 1,210 lb.; test index: 118

High-ADG and high-indexing Angus sire group—four bulls; owner: Bill Washburn; sire: Connealy Confidence 0100; avg. ADG: 4.57 lb.; ADG ratio: 133; avg. WDA: 3.46 lb.; WDA ratio: 109; avg. wt.: 1,358 lb.; test index: 123

High-WDA Angus sire group—four bulls; owner: Underwood Angus Farms; sire: SS Mandate X130; avg. ADG: 3.25 lb.; ADG ratio: 94; avg. WDA: 3.50 lb.; WDA ratio: 111; avg. wt.: 1,140 lb.; test index: 101

Angus averages (161 head)—ADG: 3.44 lb.; WDA: 3.16 lb.; wt.: 1,165 lb.

Overall averages (229 head)—WDA: 3.38 lb.; WDA: 3.16 lb.; wt.: 1,154 lb.

Bulls will sell April 17 in the 72nd IBEP Bull Sale and Springville Feeder Auction Association Bred Heifer Sale.

For more information contact Terry Stewart at tstewart@purdue.edu or 765-494-0138; fax: 765-494-9346; Brad Shelton, test station manager, at 812-279-8554 or sheltonb@purdue.edu; or Donna Lofgren, performance records and website, at dlofgren@purdue.edu. Information is available on the website at www.ansc.purdue.edu/ibep.

■ IBEP 2014 Summer Test announced

The 74th Indiana Beef Evaluation Program (IBEP) has announced its summer test schedule. The summer test will accept entries until April 7. Bulls eligible for the test must be born May 1-Oct. 31, 2013. Delivery will be accepted April 29, with on-test weights taken May 20. Bulls will be fed and housed in groups of approximately 25 head per lot, and fed a TMR consisting of 55% corn silage, 22% corn grain, 20% DDGS and 3% balancer.

Interim weigh dates are scheduled for June 17, July 22 and Aug. 19, with final weights taken Sept. 22. Bulls will sell Oct. 18.

For more information contact Terry Stewart at tstewart@purdue.edu or 765-494-0138; fax: 765-494-9346; Brad Shelton, test station manager, at 812-279-8554 or sheltonb@purdue.edu; or Donna Lofgren, performance

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records and website, at dlofgren@purdue.edu. Information is available on the website at www.ansc.purdue.edu/ibep.

▶ Pennsylvania Performance Bull Test Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa. 84-day report (Jan. 21)

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Department of Dairy and Animal Science of the Pennsylvania State University, the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association and the state breed associations has announced 161 bulls were weighed on test Oct. 29, 2013, for the 2013-2014 Winter Pennsylvania Performance Bull Test.

To be eligible for the winter test, bulls must be born Jan. 1-April 15, 2013. The nomination period for the winter test was Aug. 1-Aug. 20. Bulls were delivered to the livestock evaluation center Oct. 8. The final 112-day weights were to be taken Feb. 18. The sale was scheduled for March 28.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 101; owner: Hawthorn Valley Farm; sire: CF Right Design 1802; ADG: 5.69 lb.; ADG ratio: 131; WDA: 3.64 lb.; WDA ratio: 107; wt.: 1,359 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 115; owner: Ebony Farm, Lance and Sheila Kauf, West Sunbury; sire: Daybreak Leveler 80; ADG: 4.63 lb.; ADG ratio: 107; WDA: 4.20 lb.; WDA ratio: 123; wt.: 1,240 lb.

Angus averages (100 head)—ADG: 4.33 lb.; WDA: 3.41 lb.; wt.: 1,112 lb.

Questions should be addressed to Greg Hubbard, station manager, 1494 West Pine Grove Rd., Pennsylvania Furnace, PA 16865; phone: 814-238-2527; ghubbard@pa.gov or visit the test website at www.livestockevaluationcenter.com/BullTesting.aspx.

▶ UBIA Bull Test Kenison Feedlot, Levan, Utah 84-day report (Jan. 13)

The Utah Beef Improvement Association (UBIA) received 162 junior and eight senior bulls to be tested Oct. 6, 2013, at Kenison Farm and Feedlot, Levan. There are 95 junior Angus and three senior Angus in the test. Bulls were weighed on test Oct. 22. Bulls entered in the senior test were born Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 2012. Bulls entered in the junior test were born Jan. 1-March 15, 2013.

Bulls were fed by breed. Breeds that did not have adequate numbers to fill a pen (typically 50 head) were commingled with other breeds and fed together. There were two divisions within the junior Angus breed test, the traditional growth division and a low-birth-weight (low-BW) division.

High-ADG and high-indexing junior low-BW Angus—Lot 139; owner: McPherson Farms, Paul McPherson, Nephi; sire: SydGen Mandate 6079; ADG: 4.07 lb.; ADG ratio: 146; WDA: 3.42 lb.; wt.: 1,100 lb.; test index: 138

High-WDA junior low-BW Angus (tie)—Lot

160; owner: Sunset Farms, Robert Law, Kaysville; sire: GAR Predestined; ADG: 2.85 lb.; ADG ratio: 102; WDA: 3.51 lb.; wt.: 1,220 lb.; test index: 109

High-WDA junior low-BW Angus (tie)—Lot 79; owner: Kelly Crozier Angus, Neola; sire: Werner War Party 2417; ADG: 2.76 lb.; ADG ratio: 99; WDA: 3.51 lb.; wt.: 1,170 lb.; test index: 105

High-ADG and high-indexing junior growth Angus—Lot 90; owner: Farnsworth Angus, Ray Farnsworth, Gusher; sire: ALC Big Eye D09N; ADG: 4.14 lb.; ADG ratio: 140; WDA: 3.44 lb.; wt.: 1,120 lb.; test index: 131

High-WDA junior growth Angus—Lot 78; owner: Kelly Crozier Angus; sire: SS New Day X66; ADG: 3.35 lb.; ADG ratio: 113; WDA: 3.60 lb.; wt.: 1,165 lb.; test index: 113

High-ADG, high-WDA and high-indexing low-BW senior Angus—Lot 200; owner: Lowe Livestock, Lorin Lowe, Toquerville; sire: ICC Bear River 69X; ADG: 2.70 lb.; ADG ratio: 101; WDA: 2.88 lb.; wt.: 1,090 lb.; test index: 102

Angus junior low-BW averages (54 head)—ADG: 2.79 lb.

Angus junior growth averages (41 head)—ADG: 2.95 lb.

Overall junior averages (162 head)—ADG: 2.66 lb.

Overall senior averages (8 head)—ADG: 2.68 lb.

112-day final report (Feb. 11)

High-ADG, high-WDA and high-indexing junior low-BW Angus—Lot 139; owner: McPherson Farms; sire: SydGen Mandate 6079; ADG: 4.17 lb.; ADG ratio: 141; WDA: 3.49 lb.; wt.: 1,225 lb.; test index: 135

High-ADG junior growth Angus—Lot 90; owner: Farnsworth Angus; sire: ALC Big Eye D09N; ADG: 3.89 lb.; ADG ratio: 127; WDA: 3.40 lb.; wt.: 1,208 lb.; test index: 120

High-WDA junior growth Angus—Lot 78; owner: Kelly Crozier Angus; sire: SS New Day X66; ADG: 3.25 lb.; ADG ratio: 106; WDA: 3.53 lb.; wt.: 1,248 lb.; test index: 107

High-indexing junior growth Angus—Lot 109; owner: Lisonbee Angus, James Lisonbee, Roosevelt; sire: B/R New Day 454; ADG: 3.88 lb.; ADG ratio: 126; WDA: 3.43 lb.; wt.: 1,275 lb.; test index: 122

High-ADG, high-WDA and high-indexing low-BW senior Angus—Lot 200; owner: Lowe Livestock; sire: ICC Bear River 69X; ADG: 3.23 lb.; ADG ratio: 109; WDA: 3.01 lb.; wt.: 1,225 lb.; test index: 109

Angus junior low-BW averages (54 head)—ADG: 2.97 lb.

Angus junior growth averages (41 head)—ADG: 3.07 lb.

Overall junior averages (162 head)—ADG: 2.85 lb.

▶ Illinois Performance Tested Bull Sale,

Feb. 20, Springfield



▶ **Bruce Betzold** (left), Betzold Farms, Nokomis, Ill., receives the award for consigning the highest-performing bull from Travis Meteer (right), University of Illinois Extension. Betzold Consensus B319 is a March 2013 son of Connealy Consensus 7229.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

Overall senior averages (8 head)—ADG: 2.98 lb.

The test sale was March 15.

For more information contact Kim Chapman, Utah State University Extension area animal scientist, at 435-892-0474 or kimc@ext.usu.edu; or Dale Kenison at 435-250-0090; or visit the test website, www.ubiabulls.com.

▶ Southern West Virginia Bull Test Point Pleasant, W.Va. 77-day report (Jan. 21)

The 2014 Southern West Virginia Bull Test accepted delivery of 104 bulls Oct. 10, 2013. The bulls went on test Nov. 5, 2013. Off-test weights for the 100-day test were to be taken Feb. 13.

The Point Pleasant Test utilizes a forage-based ration. Bulls are fed to achieve a target ADG of approximately 3.25 lb. The program stresses a total performance approach, not only measuring gain on test, but also reporting indicators of reproductive and carcass performance. Consignors are required to be active participants in the herd improvement program of their respective breeds.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 361; owner: Rocking P Farm, Horner; sire: CSP Objective U023; ADG: 4.25 lb.; ADG ratio: 136; WDA: 3.07 lb.; wt.: 1,178 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 309; owner: River Front Cattle Co., Buckhannon; sire: SydGen CC&7; ADG: 3.03 lb.; ADG ratio: 97; WDA: 3.31 lb.; wt.: 1,138 lb.

Angus averages (102 head)—ADG: 3.13 lb.; WDA: 2.78 lb.; wt.: 1,018 lb.

The test sale was March 29.

For more information contact Rodney Wallbrown, Mason County WVU Extension Service, 525 Viand St., Point Pleasant, WV 25550; phone: 304-675-0888; fax: 304-674-

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6154; or visit the test website at www.wvbeef.org/bulltest.

▶ **St. Croix Valley Bull Test UW Mann Valley Farm, River Falls, Wis. 84-day report (Feb. 5)**

The St. Croix Valley Bull Test (SCVBT) is conducted at the University of Wisconsin (UW) Mann Valley Farms 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 average daily gain (ADG) of 3 lb.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 16-2; owner: Riek's Black Angus, Josh & Angie and Jeff & Teri Riek, Wheeler, Wis.; sire: S Chisum 6175; ADG: 5.14 lb.; ADG ratio: 134; WDA: 3.49 lb.; WDA ratio: 109; wt.: 1,205 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 2-1; owner: KLS

Farm, Kody Stork, New Richmond, Wis.; sire: B/R Future Direction 4268; ADG: 3.82 lb.; ADG ratio: 99; WDA: 3.76 lb.; WDA ratio: 117; wt.: 1,300 lb.

Angus averages (63 head)—ADG: 3.85 lb.; WDA: 3.20 lb.; wt.: 1,049 lb.

112-day report (March 1)

High-ADG Angus—Lot 16-2; owner: Riek Black Angus; sire: S Chisum 6175; ADG: 4.75 lb.; ADG ratio: 136; WDA: 3.50 lb.; WDA ratio: 111; wt.: 1,305 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 2-1; owner: KLS Farm; sire: B/R Future Direction 4268; ADG: 3.31 lb.; ADG ratio: 95; WDA: 3.61 lb.; WDA ratio: 115; wt.: 1,350 lb.

Angus averages (63 head)—ADG: 3.50 lb.; WDA: 3.14 lb.; wt.: 1,118 lb.

Off-test weights were to be collected March

28-29. The sale will be at the farm April 26. 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; Virginia Koepke, recordkeeper, at 715-573-7465, virginia.is.me@gmail.com; Harry Larsen, station manager, 715-821-0020, harry.larsen@uwrf.edu; or Jerry Lausted at glausted@wwt.net.

▶ **WIU Bull Test Macomb, Ill.**

84-day report (Jan. 14)

The Western Illinois University (WIU) Bull Testing Program weighed 74 bulls, 44 of them Angus, on test Oct. 21-22, 2013. Bulls

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entered in the 112-day test were born Jan. 1-March 31, 2013, and weaned by Aug. 16. Bulls were delivered Sept. 30-Oct. 1.

Bulls will be indexed by breed group (if there are more than four of a breed), as well as against all bulls on test. Both indexes are based on 70% ADG ratio + 15% marbling ratio + 15% REA ratio.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 403; owner: Marty Hammerlink, K-Sha-K Farm, Milan, Ill.; sire: Connealy Final Product; ADG: 6.3 lb.; wt.: 1,118 lb.

112-day final report (Feb. 10-11)

High-ADG Angus—Lot 304; owner: Washburn and Osborne, Bill & Kevin Washburn, Olney, Ill.; Terry Osborne, Vandalia, Ill.; sire: Connealy Confidence 0100; ADG: 5.5 lb.; wt.: 1,365 lb.

The 42nd annual test sale took place March 14 in Macomb, Ill.

For more information contact Samantha Cunningham, assistant professor; Knoblauch Hall B12, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL 61455; Cunningham phone: 309-298-1288 (office); s-cunningham@wiu.edu; www.wiu.edu/ag.

Wardensville Bull Test

West Virginia University Reymann Memorial Farm, Wardensville, W.Va.

59-day report (Jan. 23)

The West Virginia Young Sire Evaluation Program, sponsored by the West Virginia University (WVU) Cooperative Extension, the WVU Division of Animal and Nutritional Sciences, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture and the West Virginia Cattlemen's Association provided a 28-day report for the Wardensville Bull Test.

A maximum of 160 bulls, including a maximum of 130 Angus and 18 Hereford bulls, were to be accepted for evaluation. Bulls must be born Jan. 20-March 27, 2013. The enrollment deadline was Sept. 20. Bulls were delivered Oct. 31, and on-test weights were taken Nov. 25, 2013, for 174 bulls. There are 142 Angus bulls on test. The test sale took place March 27 at the WVU Reymann Memorial Farm in Wardensville.

The bulls are being fed a ration ($NE_m=0.68$, $NE_g=0.41$) that includes 20% ground mixed hay, 24% wheat midds, 23% soybean hulls, 8% distillers' grains, 4% cottonseed hulls, 4% corn, 10% hominy feed, and 7% miscellaneous ingredients.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 83; owner: River Front Cattle Co., Buckhannon, W.Va.; sire: Sinclair Grass Master; ADG: 5.85 lb.; ADG ratio: 142; WDA: 3.45 lb.; wt.: 1,152 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 16; owner: Kinsey's Oak Front Farm, Flemington, W.Va.; sire: Nichols Next Step X267; ADG: 4.56 lb.; ADG ratio: 111; WDA: 3.77 lb.; wt.: 1,322 lb.

Angus averages (140 head)—ADG: 4.13 lb.; WDA: 3.17 lb.; wt.: 1,076 lb.

85-day final report (Feb. 18)

High-ADG Angus—Lot 81; owner: River Front Cattle Co.; sire: SydGen CC&7; ADG: 4.85 lb.; ADG ratio: 128; WDA: 3.48 lb.; wt.: 1,282 lb.; RFI: -0.05; frame: 6.2; SC: 34.9 cm

High-WDA Angus—Lot 16; owner: Kinsey's Oak Front Farm; sire: Nichols Next Step X267; ADG: 4.12 lb.; ADG ratio: 108; WDA: 3.72 lb.; wt.: 1,403 lb.; RFI: 0.08; frame: 6.5; SC: 43.5 cm

Best RFI Angus—Lot 67; owner: West Virginia University, Morgantown, W.Va.; sire: Fintroy of Graham 75110; ADG: 3.88 lb.; ADG ratio: 102; WDA: 3.02 lb.; wt.: 1,037 lb.; RFI: -7.30; frame: 5.7; SC: 32.3 cm

Angus averages (139 head)—ADG: 3.80 lb.; WDA: 3.16 lb.; wt.: 1,155 lb.

Test information is available from Kevin Shaffer, program coordinator, WVU Extension Service, 2084 Agricultural Sciences Bldg., PO Box 6108, Morgantown, WV 26505; phone: 304-293-2669; Kevin.Shaffer@mail.wvu.edu; or Jerry Yates, WVU Reymann Memorial Farm, phone: 304-874-3561; or on the test website, www.wvbeef.org/bulltest/.

OBI Report No. 132

Stillwater, Okla.

56-day report (Dec. 6, 2013)

Test 132 was for bulls born November 2012-April 2013. Bulls were delivered to the station Sept. 27-28, 2013, to go on test Oct. 11.

A new ration has been formulated and will be used for the tests. The reformulation decreases net energy values in order to lower overall fatness of bulls completing the test.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 277; owner: Simpson Angus Ranch, Edmond; sire: Mill Brae Final Answer 0198; ADG: 5.54 lb.; wt.: 1,025 lb.

Angus averages (66 head)—ADG: 2.77 lb.; wt.: 915 lb.

84-day report (Jan. 3)

High-ADG Angus—Lot 337; owner: Darrel Chapman, Elmore City, Okla.; sire: EXAR Upshot 0562B; ADG: 6.62 lb.; wt.: 1,080 lb.

Angus averages (66 head)—ADG: 4.19 lb.; wt.: 1,111 lb.

112-day final report (Jan. 31)

High-ADG Angus—Lot 337; owner: Darrel Chapman; sire: EXAR Upshot 0562B; ADG: 6.19 lb.; ADG ratio: 145 lb.; WDA: 3.43 lb.; WDA ratio: 104; wt.: 1,217 lb.; test index: 114; SC: 38.0 cm

High-WDA Angus—Lot 327; owner: Rutledge Angus, Stillwater; sire: Connealy Consensus 7229; ADG: 4.50 lb.; ADG ratio: 106; WDA: 4.19 lb.; WDA ratio: 127; wt.: 1,311 lb.; test index: 109; SC: 38.0 cm

High-indexing Angus—Lot 332; owner: Simpson Angus; sire: Rito 9M25 of Rita 5F56 Pred; ADG: 5.44 lb.; ADG ratio: 128; WDA: 3.51 lb.; WDA ratio: 107; wt.: 1,253 lb.; test index: 116; SC: 34.0 cm

Angus averages (66 head)—ADG: 4.39 lb.; WDA: 3.41 lb.; wt.: 1,251 lb.

For more information contact Tim Stidham, station manager, at 405-624-1181 or okbeef@provalue.net; Bob Kropp, OBI executive secretary, at 405-744-9287; fax: 405-744-7390; or Cassie Jackson at cassie.jackson@okstate.edu or visit the test website, [www.ansi.okstate.edu/outreach-extension/beef/OklahomaBeefInc./](http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/outreach-extension/beef/OklahomaBeefInc/).

WBIA Bull Test

University of Wisconsin, Platteville, Wis.
65-day report (Feb. 5)

The Wisconsin Beef Improvement Association (WBIA) has conducted and overseen a central performance bull test each year since 1957. Young beef bulls from all over Wisconsin and the Midwest have been delivered to University of Wisconsin-Platteville farm to develop a performance proof in an unbiased environment designed to let the cream rise to the top. More than 5,000 bulls from more than 250 consignors have been tested.

A total of 123 bulls, 96 of them Angus, were delivered Nov. 4, 2013, for the 2014 WBIA Bull Test for an on-test date of Dec. 6. The 100-day test is for bulls born Jan. 1-April 15, 2013.

Bulls are fed a soy- or oat-hull-based ration adjusted with locally available ingredients in a ration designed to promote lean efficient growth while providing adequate energy to allow individuals to express their genetic potential. At the test's conclusion, bulls are ultrasound scanned for carcass traits and evaluated for breeding soundness.

High-ADG Angus (tie)—Lot 19; owner: TJS Angus, Tom Steinhaus, Wisconsin Dells; sire: GDAR Gameday 449; ADG: 4.62 lb.; ADG ratio: 129; WDA: 2.89 lb.; WDA ratio: 90; wt.: 1,030 lb.

High-ADG Angus (tie)—Lot 39; owner: Afolkey Springs Farm, Charles Wimmer, Dakota, Ill.; sire: SydGen CC&7; ADG: 4.62 lb.; ADG ratio: 129; WDA: 2.81 lb.; WDA ratio: 88; wt.: 1,060 lb.

High-WDA Angus—Lot 84; owner: Ryan Cattle, Tim Ryan, Lodi; sire: SAV Iron Mountain; ADG: 3.62 lb.; ADG ratio: 101; WDA: 3.82 lb.; WDA ratio: 119; wt.: 1,250 lb.

Angus averages (101 head)—ADG: 3.58 lb.; WDA: 3.21 lb.

Off-test weights were scheduled for March 12-13, with the sale April 5, 2014.

More information is available by contacting John Freitag, Wisconsin BIA executive director, PO Box 955, New Glarus, WI 53574; phone: 608-527-5747; fax: 608-527-3010; or at wbia@tds.net. Information is also available on the WBIA website at www.wisconsinbeef.com.

Edisto Forage Bull Test

Edisto Research & Education Center, Blackville, S.C.

56-day report (Feb. 11)

▣ PERFORMANCE REPORT

The 2014 Edisto Forage Bull Test (EFBT) began Dec. 17, 2013, in Blackville after the delivery of 57 bulls Nov. 25. Scott Sell, area livestock/forage extension agent and bull test coordinator, says the forage looks rough but is hanging on, and the bulls' gains were fair to decent for what the last four weeks have been like.

The test is located at the Edisto Research & Education Center near Blackville, S.C., and offers a unique approach to gain-testing bulls. It is a 168-day pasture-based test. EFBT was developed, built and started in 1982 with the commercial cow-calf producer in mind and capitalizes on the Southeast's advantage in the cattle business — the ability to grow high-quality, lush forages year-round. EFBT was designed to performance-test bulls in an environment in which bull buyers expect their progeny to perform.

High-ADG senior Angus—Lot 43; owner: Fox Run Farm, Oxford, N.C.; sire: Rito 2V8 of 2536 1407; ADG: 3.36 lb.; ADG ratio: 165; WDA: 2.36 lb.; WDA ratio: 121; wt.: 970 lb.

High-WDA senior Angus—Lot 45; owner: Fox Run Farm; sire: Rito 2V8 of 2536 1407; ADG: 2.04 lb.; ADG ratio: 100; WDA: 2.47 lb.; WDA ratio: 126; wt.: 930 lb.

High-ADG junior Angus (tie)—Lot 38; owner: Burton Family Farms, Chad Burton, Westminster, S.C.; sire: Yon New Design T265; ADG: 2.71 lb.; ADG ratio: 134; WDA: 2.14 lb.; WDA ratio: 103; wt.: 706 lb.

High-ADG junior Angus (tie)—Lot 29; owner: Brian Ladiere, Abbeville; sire: parentage pending; ADG: 2.71 lb.; ADG ratio: 134; WDA: 2.03 lb.; WDA ratio: 98; wt.: 712 lb.

High-WDA junior Angus—Lot 20; owner: Lindy Sheppard, Sylvania, Ga.; sire: SAV 004 Traveler 6129; ADG: 2.07 lb.; ADG ratio: 102; WDA: 2.36 lb.; WDA ratio: 114; wt.: 884 lb.

Senior Angus averages (18 head)—ADG: 2.04 lb.; WDA: 1.96 lb.; wt.: 840 lb.

Junior Angus averages (27 head)—ADG: 2.03 lb.; WDA: 2.08 lb.; wt.: 654 lb.

Overall averages (57 head)—ADG: 2.03 lb.; WDA: 2.05 lb.; wt.: 807 lb.

Off-test weights are scheduled for May 28-29, with the sale Oct. 11.

Sell can be contacted at 803-284-3343, ext. 223 (office); 803-450-0995 (cell) or gsell@clemson.edu. Additional information is available on the test website at www.clemson.edu/extension/livestock/livestock/beef/bull_tests/efbt.html.

▣ MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program Plank Farm, Crystal, Mich.

112-day final report (Feb. 14)

The Michigan Cattlemen's Association (MCA) and Michigan State University (MSU) announced 110 bulls weighing an average of 873 lb. went on test at Plank Farm, Crystal, Mich. Consignors must be paid members of the MCA. Eligible bulls were born Sept. 1, 2012-March 31, 2013.

High-ADG and high-WDA Angus—Lot 8;

owner: Apple Hill Angus, The McMaster Family, Harrisville; sire: Sitz Upward 307R; ADG: 4.85 lb.; ADG ratio: 128; WDA: 3.79 lb.; WDA ratio: 122; wt.: 1,614 lb.

Overall averages (110 head)—ADG: 3.54 lb.; WDA: 3.18 lb.; wt.: 1,266 lb.

The sale took place March 15.

For more information contact Dan Buskirk, extension beef specialist; 2265 Anthony Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824; 517-432-0400; buskirk@msu.edu; Brian Plank, manager, 325 Mount Hope Rd., Crystal, MI 48818; phone: 989-235-6253 (office) or 989-506-2061 (cell); brianplank@rocketmail.com; Michigan Cattlemen's Association, 2145 University Park Dr., Ste. 300, Okemos, MI 48864; phone: 517-347-8117; micattlemen@aol.com. Additional information can be found on the test website at <http://beef.msu.edu/bulleval>.

▣ Iowa Angus Association Bull Test Benton, Iowa

Off-test report (Feb. 18)

The Iowa Angus Association (IAA) accepted delivery of 48 bulls Oct. 1, 2013, for its 2013-2014 bull test. The test is for bulls born Jan. 1-March 31, 2013.

High-ADG Angus—Lot 14; owner: Katelyn Holmes, Benton; sire: Kate's RAF Full Pull; ADG: 5.47 lb.; wt.: 1,770 lb.

For more information contact Tricia and Colby Holmes, coordinators, 1424 220th St., Benton, IA 50835; phone: 641-785-2315; fax: 641-785-2220; cholmes@iowatelecom.net; or visit the IAA website, www.iowaangus.org.

▣ Kansas Angus Association Bull Test Kansas Bull Development LLC, Wamego, Kan.

112-day final report (Feb. 22)

Sixty-seven Angus bulls were among the 191 bulls delivered to Kansas Bull Development LLC, Wamego, Oct. 18-19 for the Kansas Angus Association Bull Test. The test is being conducted and managed by Brian Hagedorn.

Bulls eligible for the 112-day test were born Jan. 1-April 15, 2013.

High-ADG, high-WDA (tie) and high-indexing Angus—Lot 194; owner: R Bar W Ranch, Wanda Guess, Mayetta; sire: EF Complement 8088; ADG: 5.7 lb.; ADG ratio: 147; WDA: 3.6 lb.; WDA ratio: 116; wt.: 1,396 lb.; test index: 132

High-WDA Angus (tie)—Lot 203; owner: R Bar W Ranch; sire: RW 458 N Dateline 6038; ADG: 4.5 lb.; ADG ratio: 117; WDA: 3.6 lb.; WDA ratio: 116; wt.: 1,286 lb.; test index: 117

Angus averages—ADG: 3.88 lb.; WDA: 3.07 lb.; wt.: 1,159 lb.

The test sale is scheduled for April 2 at the Mitchell County Fairgrounds, Beloit, Kan.

For more information contact Hagedorn at cell: 785-458-2137; home (Brian and Megan): 785-456-2636; feedlot fax: 785-456-2721; email: kansasbulls@gmail.com; or visit the website at www.kansasbulltest.com.

What is a bull worth?

I often get the question "How much should I pay for a bull?" My first answer is "Whatever the market will bear." Admittedly, that answer really gives no insight into return on investment for the producer relative to traits of emphasis for their particular marketing goals. With the record prices currently being observed in all markets of the beef industry, it is no secret that this translates to increased prices of replacement breeding stock.

While to my knowledge no calculator exists to determine the exact price a producer should spend on a bull, there are multiple factors that can be considered to establish a base price. Typical rules of thumb I have heard through the years for the value of an average purebred or composite bull include two times the value of a fed steer, five times the value of a feeder calf at weaning, or 25 times the hundredweight (cwt.) price of feeder calves. In the current market, using those thumb rules, we get an approximate range of \$3,975 to \$4,650, which is very representative of early sale reports from 2014.

While spending less does not suggest you have purchased an inferior bull, it should be expected that an above-average bull for traits such as calving ease, weaning weight, docility, stayability, marbling, etc., will likely garner a premium.

Assuming an average bull in today's market will be utilized for four years and mated to 100 cows, the mating fee over the life of the bull will be \$43 per cow. Regardless of base price, for every \$500 more spent on a herd sire, it raises the service fee only \$5 per cow over the life of the bull.

Given today's feeder prices, for every \$500 more spent on a herd sire, only 3 more pounds of weaning weight per calf would need to be obtained to offset the added investment on a sire with improved growth expected progeny differences (EPDs). Similarly, only 0.5 more calves would need to be born to a sire with an improved calving ease EPD profile. Given the fluctuations in grid premiums and discounts, return on investment needed for bulls with improved carcass traits is harder to pinpoint and will be specific to your operation.

The initial investment of a bull in today's market may seem staggering, but it is an investment that adds immediate value to the herd working forward.

— by Patrick Gunn, Iowa State University Extension cow-calf specialist, Growing Beef newsletter