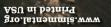
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Considerations for Beef on Dairy

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FROM THE EDITOR

by Lilly Platts, managing editor



Hello! I hope the end of 2024 treated everyone well, and that the next year is shaping up to be fun and successful. This issue of *SimTalk* is focused on arguably the biggest issue facing our industry, and agriculture as a whole: generational turnover and labor. Debt, the

cost of land, and consolidation are just a few things preventing young people from getting their footing in our industry. As the age gap continues to widen, it's more important than ever to figure out how to set young people up for success.

Debt is an issue for most Americans, and ag producers are even further reliant on it. The American Bankers Association and the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation (Farmer Mac) recently released their 2024 Ag Lender Survey, and their findings were pretty grim — lenders believe that just over half of borrowers will be profitable in 2024. That number was 78% in 2023. A *Drover's* article summed up the findings, and shared that beef producers generally have a brighter outlook, which is good news. But overall, the people growing



our food are not in a great financial position. Farming and ranching is stressful without having to worry about money, and again, the people responsible for growing our food shouldn't be struggling financially.

According to the American Farmland Trust, 40% of agricultural land is going to be in transition in the next 15 years. Corporate and foreign land ownership is on the rise, and land is generally too expensive to justify purchasing for ag use. Where I live, productive grass and cropland is being covered in tract housing at an alarming rate. When my husband and I started house shopping, we both felt strongly about not purchasing a new build in a subdivision. For one, with our pack of dogs we need a little space. Beyond that, I knew that even though we can't stop the growth, I would have felt a pang of guilt if every time I stepped out my front door I could actually see farm ground being eaten up. There is absolutely nothing wrong with living in one of these subdivisions, and there are so many factors at play that are out of our individual control, but as this land is in transition, developers are going to be first in line, money in hand.

For existing producers, finding labor is a challenge. According to the American Farm Bureau Federation, 2.4 million agricultural jobs go unfilled each year. Small communities have been shrinking, leaving less options for farm labor. Many rural towns used to be vibrant, self-sufficient communities, but young people have left for better opportunities. I totally understand and support people who choose to move away — having to take a full day to go to the grocery store, being snowed in, sticking your kids on the bus knowing they'll spend several hours there each day — there are a lot of reasons why rural living can wear on people. For ag operations, not having enough labor puts a huge strain on people physically, mentally, emotionally, and financially. There are also a lot of wonderful things about these small communities, and revitalizing the ag labor pool could really help bring towns back to life.

Now that I have sufficiently bummed you out, here's the good news. There are young people like Seth and Kali Flower who have started their own operations from scratch. They are featured in this issue, and I am really excited that I get to share their story. There are also organizations like New Acres, which is focused on solving the ag labor crisis. Founder Marty Ropp spoke at Fall Focus 2024, and I knew immediately that we needed to cover the issues his organization is trying to solve. People from outside of our agricultural communities can find really meaningful work in ag — we just need to find them and open the door.

This issue also includes more coverage of the end product conversations that took place at Fall Focus 2024, as well as a piece by Dr. Wade Shafer about the Milk EPD.

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A First-Generation Foundation

by Lilly Platts

Seth and Kali Flower are first-generation seedstock producers with a passion for Simmental cattle, family, and the beef industry. Building meaningful relationships with mentors, seeking education, and thinking critically about each decision they make has allowed the young Minnesota couple to find their footing in the business.

he generational gap, turnover of land, and rising input costs are just a few of the issues facing the beef industry, and many young people are choosing a different path. Getting started has never been easy, but today, whether young people are transitioning onto an existing operation or starting their own, there is little margin for error. Enter Seth and Kali Flower, a young couple from Benson, Minnesota, who haven't let these barriers scare them away from chasing their dream. What started with one Simmental cow has grown into Cottonwood Cattle, an up-and-coming, highly respected seedstock business. Their journey in the cattle business is both inspiring and informative for the next generation.

It All Starts with One Cow

Seth and Kali met during college. Kali grew up in a farming community in northern Minnesota. Her mom worked at the local grain elevator, and early on, Kali thought about attending veterinary school. After considering the years of school and debt that career path requires, she landed on agronomy, graduating with a degree from South Dakota State University. For seven years, she has held a sales agronomy position with Hurley and Associates, a grain and livestock marketing company that partners with farm families to build a lasting legacy through tailored marketing plans.

Seth grew up on the family farm, participating in 4-H and FFA. When Seth was in the sixth grade, his father, John, passed away; this left a huge hole in his life, but his family and the farm were there to catch him and his mom, Rhonda. He returned to the farm after graduating from Ridgeway College. His 87-year-old grandfather, Luverne, and his uncle raise row crops, and also run a herd of commercial Hereford cows. Today, Seth's brother, Shane, and his wife, Madisen, live on the family farm; Kali and Seth are just up the road.



Shane, Madisen, Rhonda, Seth, Shay, and Kali Flower. **Opposite page:** The business name, Cottonwood Cattle, was inspired by the trees that grow across the Flower family farm. **Below right:** Heterosis and growth drew Seth and Kali to the Simmental breed.



Kali didn't grow up around cattle, but took to the business quickly after meeting Seth. She became interested in genetics, and started thinking about how to improve the family's cow herd. "We were facing a lot of struggles, and things that we didn't like about the cow herd. There were days where it

felt like things were just not going well, and we knew there had to be a better way to do this," she recalled.

A problem-solver by nature, Kali started thinking about the big changes they could make to turn the cow herd around. Her childhood neighbors, Paul and Lois Rydeen, came to mind. "As we thought about what to do, and who we should maybe buy new genetics from, I had this gut feeling," she said.

From her college dorm room, Kali started studying the catalog for an upcoming Rydeen Simmentals sale. She called Seth, who was quickly on board with the plan. After studying the offering and setting a budget, they landed on a bred heifer. A red female with tag Y76 became the foundation of their program. "She was the cornerstone of our herd. She was truly our start in the Simmental breed, and allowed us to grow," Kali shared.

Buying a single cow wasn't going to change the cow herd, or their path in the business overnight, but it set the tone for their future together. Seth and Kali are passionate about the beef industry, and knew early on that building something with legs was going to require thinking ahead.

The seedstock business can be hard to break into, but thinking about their larger vision, it simply made sense to take the leap. "We knew we needed to generate additional revenue. We also knew that we had the tools in front of us to better an industry, and to help commercial cow-calf producers because we've walked their shoes," Kali said. "We love it, and we love the genetic side of it."

Studying genetics, DNA testing, and the opportunity to build relationships with customers really appealed to them. Seth added, "I want to be there to help that customer buy the bull that fits their program. I don't want to just run my cows. I want to help improve commercial producers' cows too."



"I want to be there to help that customer buy the bull that fits their program. I don't want to just run my cows. I want to help improve commercial producers' cows too."

With the commercial customer in mind, Seth and Kali have focused on breeding balanced, productive, efficient bulls. They have a four-year-old daughter, Shay, which also makes docility a major priority in their program. "She is around these cattle every day, so docility is obviously important," Kali shared.

Their customers have a variety of operations, with many working full time and running cows on the side, which means docility, calving ease, fleshing ability, and low maintenance are also extremely important for them.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)



ASA# 4340210 C-3 NEXT UP NS B220 J939 x CLRS HOMELAND 327H HOMO BLACK HOMO POLLED 5/8 SM 3/8 AN Sells Open



ASA# 4340283 TERS KODIAK 206K x REDHILL 672X X004 231A HOMO BLACK HOMO POLLED PB SM Sells Open



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ASA# 4340190 TERS KODIAK 206K x HOOKS SHEAR FORCE 38K HOMO BLACK HOMO POLLED 3/4 SM 1/4 AN



ASA# 4349504 TERS KODIAK 206K x CLRS HOMELAND 327H HOMO BLACK HOMO POLLED PB SM



ASA# 4372481 CLRS KING JAMES 616K x G A R HOME TOWN HOMO BLACK HOMO POLLED 3/4 SM 1/4 AN



ASA# 4375099 KBHR KEYNOTE K229 x CDI INNOVATOR 325D HOMO BLACK HOMO POLLED PB SM

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CLRS MCALLISTER 561M



ASA# 4340053 HA JUSTICE 30J x TJ FLAT IRON 259G HOMO BLACK HOMO POLLED PB SM

CLRS MINNESOTA 1117M



ASA# 4340074 HA JUSTICE 30J x CLRS HERDBOOK 316H HOMO BLACK HOMO POLLED 3/4 SM 1/4 AN



ASA# 4340095 SCHOOLEY JUDGMENT 68J x LBRS GENESIS G69 HOMO BLACK HOMO POLLED PB SM



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TECS



A First-Generation Foundation

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)



Above, L–R: Purchased from Rydeen Simmentals, Y76 is the foundation of Cottonwood Cattle. Hook's Charisma 103C has been extremely influential in the Cottonwood Cattle program.

Cottonwood Cattle has committed to selling their bulls by private treaty for the time being, taking advantage of the opportunity to personally connect with each customer, and ensure that each person gets the best possible bull for their program. "This will be our third year hosting an open house the third weekend in January," Seth shared. "I can walk out with potential customers to look at bulls, and just have a conversation. Private treaty can be difficult, because it's such a long process, but it's really rewarding when you finally sell the last bull out of the pen for the year. We've had good success with it over the last couple years."

Customer relationships are important for all seedstock producers, and are absolutely essential for new businesses. "I believe that at the end of the day, yes, we are in the cow business, but we're just as much in the people business. We take that very seriously," Kali said.

Building on the Foundation

Since the purchase of Y76, Seth and Kali have been tirelessly dedicated to growing and improving their cow herd. A Y76 daughter, tag A22, became one of their first donor cows, producing several standout daughters herself. "They're really productive, efficient cattle. The longevity in them has clearly paid for themselves over and over. They're just really problem-free cows that are pretty easy to fall in love with," Kali shared.

Smart genetic decisions have helped them grow. Smart financial decisions have also been extremely important. Most agricultural operations operate with some debt, which varies widely based on the type of commodity, land ownership, equipment needs, and more. Kali's work with Hurley and Associates involves helping farmers and ranchers understand their financial situation, and how to plan for their future. This work has informed her own decisions as a producer.





Above, L–R: The Flowers will feature a group of four Genesis full brothers out of 103C at this year's open house, including 412M, pictured here. Seth and Kali's daughter, Shay, has taken an early interest in cattle.

Seth and Kali decided early on to run a really tight ship when it came to their finances. "We were pretty young when we started, we didn't have a ton of money, and had just bought a house. I grew up in a fairly conservative household, and debt was kind of a bad word," Kali recalled.

"In farming, we know that that's not the reality. But Seth and I really operated under the mindset that if we couldn't go out and write a check for it, we weren't going to buy it. And I'm still proud to say that we've developed and put together all of our cows without a loan," she added.

The Performance Beef software, which is largely marketed toward feeders, has been an important tool. The cloud-based program connects to a bluetooth scale head, tracking the exact amount of feed being used every day. "One of the big areas we found where we were spending a ton of money was just putting feed in front of the cattle, especially in the winter when it's cold, and not knowing if they're getting what they need. With the software, we've dialed in not only our management practices, but we've saved a ton of money in terms of feed costs. At the end of the day, we know what we need to get out of these bulls to make it worth our time," Kali explained.

While all of their decisions have been well-thoughtout, Seth and Kali admit that there have been plenty of missteps and learning opportunities. "Breeding cows and selecting bulls early on was trial by fire," Kali said. "We didn't know what we liked yet, or how we were going to fit into the business. We made some breeding decisions that we look back on and wonder what we were thinking, but we learned a lot from that."

Now with nine years under their belt, Seth and Kali have a very clear vision of what they want to do in the business, and agriculture as a whole. "We have a focus, and we know where we want to fit in," Kali said. "We've settled on who we are, what we want to be, and what

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)



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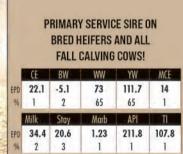
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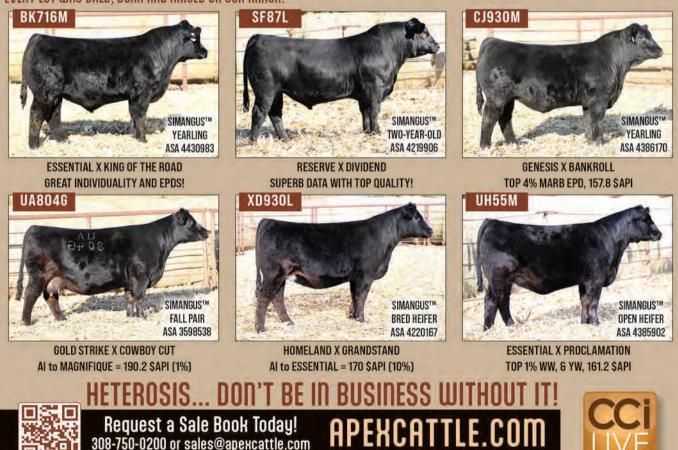
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> "We've settled on who we are, what we want to be, and what we're going to stay away from. Finding our place feels really rewarding."

Meaningful Mentors

Kali and Seth are both quick to credit people who have helped them find their footing in the cattle business. Seth's grandfather, Luverne, has allowed them to manage a group of his cows while building up their own herd. The cow herd and management has been slowly transitioning to them, which has allowed Seth and Kali to build their business, and also call on family for advice. "Grandpa is a very instrumental person for us. He's been around to lend that helping hand for a while, but now it's just on us basically," Seth shared.

Three bulls Seth and Kali offered for sale in 2023.

Paul and Lois Rydeen continue to provide advice and support to Seth and Kali. Fellow young breeder, Travis Wulf (Clear Springs Cattle Company), has also been extremely helpful. Seth shared, "I grew up with Travis. We're the same age, and when his family switched to the Simmental breed, it was around the same time that we purchased our first cow."

Kali added, "If we need someone to give us a realworld, honest opinion, Travis is the first person we ask. We may or may not take his advice, but it's that kind of feedback that makes us all better. High tides raise all ships."

Tom Hook has been another valuable mentor. They recently purchased a standout female from Tom, tag 103C, successfully flushing her for the last two springs. Unfortunately, she was struck by lightning, which was a big hit. Tragedies like this happen frequently in the cow business, and Tom helped them shift their perspective on the situation. "Seth and I were really down in the dumps after we lost her. She was an older cow, and we talked to Tom about it and he said that even though it's unfortunate, and not fun, maybe what this does is force you to move on to the better genetics that you have out of her," Kali reflected. "I just can't say enough good things about how Tom bred and sees cattle, and I can't say enough good things about his mentorship either."

The Hawkins family has also provided a lot of support. Early on, when Seth and Kali needed more bulls "Cottonwood Cattle is what it is today because of an ongoing list of people who have influenced us, mentored us, and helped us."

to justify creating a catalog, they quickly jumped on board, partnering in the Cottonwood Cattle sale. Since then, they have been friends and constant supporters. "They've been big cheerleaders of ours," Kali reflected. "Their friendship, support, and partnership hasn't gone unnoticed."

Mentorship, and being open to feedback, have helped Seth and Kali progress in the business. "Cottonwood Cattle is what it is today because of an ongoing list of people who have influenced us, mentored us, and helped us," Kali said.

Keeping an open mind, thinking critically about how each decision will affect their future, and hard work day in and day out have allowed Seth and Kali to successfully launch Cottonwood Cattle. Being first-generation seedstock producers has come with plenty of challenges, but has also allowed them to curate every aspect of their business. "Although we talk about how hard it can be, there is also something very fun about it too. We started with a blank slate, and we aren't trying to uphold the expectations of a program that has been around for many years. We have gotten to build the program we want, with the cattle we love and believe in. There is something really cool about that," Kali shared.

Seth and Kali's decision to start raising SimGenetics seedstock wasn't just personal. They also see the breed, and the principles of crossbreeding and science, as being important for the future of the whole industry. "The breed offers something so tremendous in terms of heterosis. It's important to understand the benefits of that, and producers need to know they are leaving money on the table



Kali, Seth, and their daughter, Shay.

without it," Kali explained. "If we can educate more producers on the value that provides, in my mind, that's a win. I want producers to have a fantastic experience with the Simmental breed, and hopefully we can keep them as Simmental customers, not just as Cottonwood Cattle customers."

<u>ST</u>



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Opening the **Door** to Careers in Agriculture

by Lilly Platts

Producing food, from beef to vegetables, requires a significant amount of labor. Statistics show a concerning shortage of labor, which poses a serious threat to the future of agriculture. New Acres has set out to help close gaps and solve this issue.

A gricultural operations are labor-intensive, and while family members play an important role on farms and ranches, many businesses require additional help. Many of these jobs go unfilled each year, placing the burden on owners and current employees. Traditionally, people who grow up in agriculture seek work in the industry, and employers look for hires with experience in the field. Opening the door to people outside of the industry could help fill jobs, and strengthen the future of agriculture.

New Acres is a newly founded nonprofit organization that hopes to make these connections, and help ensure that America's farms and ranches are adequately staffed. Marty Ropp presented about this venture during Fall Focus 2024, sharing that the idea came to him several years ago after many conversations with producers who needed help but couldn't find it. According to the American Farmland Trust, around 40% of agricultural land will be in transition in the next 15 years. Development is one of many challenges facing current landowners as the next generation attempts to step in, and keeping land in agricultural production is going to be critical in the coming years. Additionally, current operators are already struggling to fill jobs and profit each year. The American Farm Bureau has reported that around two and a half million agricultural jobs go unfilled each year. "I thought that number was high," Ropp said. "To me, that is a frightening number."

The labor market in agriculture varies widely by region and industry, and Ropp explained that while every producer in the beef industry may not be feeling this strain, it's an overarching issue that likely does affect a neighbor, customer, or friend. "We're talking about the aggregate here," Ropp explained. "We're not talking about a specific industry, or specific region of the country."

The traditional labor pool in agriculture largely includes young people who grew up in or around the industry. Small town connections, family, and friends are frequently tapped to fill open positions. Changes in rural demographics have diminished the labor force in agriculture. "This generation, and even the last generation, had two kids instead of six, and the neighbor who used to have a farm or ranch sold it, so their kids are also no longer in the community."

> Thanks to technology, many farm and ranch skills can be learned more quickly. Photo by the Grant Company.

Every job expects a prospective employee to have adequate experience, but as Ropp explained, rethinking this will likely be necessary to fill jobs. "If you're looking to hire a young person who kind of knows their way around a tractor, maybe knows a little about ag technology, or knows how to set a corner post, there are very few options," Ropp shared.

Rural demographic shifts impacting agriculture are a part of the larger rural development issue in the US. Many young people have chosen to move away from rural areas to seek opportunity, leaving jobs in agriculture and beyond unfilled. Businesses have fewer customers, more labor challenges, and many are unable to stay open. Fewer businesses give rural community members fewer options, further pushing people out. The repercussions touch every piece of a rural community, from education to agriculture. This cycle can be devastating once it starts. "The larger ag industry is beginning to realize and understand that this is a rural development problem, too," Ropp said.

The beef industry is one piece of agriculture in the US, and Ropp emphasized the importance of looking at the issue from a wider lens. Issues affecting agricultural production are typically addressed by government programs, but Ropp explained that with collaboration, individuals and organizations within agriculture could make progress independently.

Welcoming Newcomers

Each year, consumers become increasingly interested in learning about where their food comes from. Recently, there has been an increased interest in rural life, thanks in part to popular media, and also because of increased flexibility in remote work and a desire for a slower life. Ropp believes that this cultural shift could be harnessed The repercussions [of rural development issues] touch every piece of a rural community, from education to agriculture. This cycle can be devastating once it starts.

to fill empty roles in agriculture. Additionally, many young people are raised on the outskirts of cities, and while they may not have actual experience in agriculture, they also don't have any desire to move into the city. Ropp believes many talented young people go unnoticed. "By promoting the lifestyle, rural communities, and a sense of belonging to a generation struggling to find that, some of the best could be to come," he said.

Filling these roles with people from outside of the industry will require an overall shift in expectations, and attitudes about potential employees. Agriculture has changed significantly, which is also advantageous for young people lacking actual experience in the industry. "The more technology, the less traditional experience they have to have," Ropp explained.

Filling jobs in agriculture is also going to require effort on the part of the employer. Ropp believes that traditional methods for finding help — like hanging a flyer at the sale barn — aren't going to cut it anymore. "If you have a job that's important to your operation or business, you need to be willing to promote that job, showing all of the possibilities. Make the job look fantastic," Ropp said.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22)

Below: Young people from outside of the agricultural community can find meaningful work on farms and ranches. Photo by Rick Raef, Working Ranch Photography.



Opening the Door to Careers in Agriculture

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21)

If a job isn't filled by someone local, an employer may offer it to someone from out of town. Asking someone to move to a new, rural area can be a big ask, especially if they have a family. Ropp encourages employers to share as much as they possibly can about the area through videos and photos. Discussing the area, schools, housing, and more will attract quality employees, and foster community.

Employer practices also need to be current in order to attract long-term, quality employees. Agricultural operations have been allowed to get away with offering extremely low pay, not offering benefits, or expecting employees to work unreasonable hours. While the job may get done, employees don't stay, costing the business money in the long run. Ropp encourages employers to consider what can be done so that employees aren't showing up solely because they need a paycheck. "These folks are not you, and they are not your kids. They're employees. If they went to work for someone else, or went to work in a different industry, they wouldn't be expected to work a hundred hours a week," Ropp explained. The New Acres website, newacres.com, was recently launched, and now includes an in-depth job board. Ropp explained that through partnerships with industry leaders, corporations, and organizations, New Acres will exist to fill in the gaps in communication preventing many young people from finding careers in agriculture. While many online agricultural job boards do exist, Ropp said that their focus will also be larger, directing job seekers to organizations within agriculture, allowing them to then use existing job boards and networks to find job opportunities.

Job postings will be shared directly on newacres.com, which has an introductory questionnaire for job seekers, asking about the type of agriculture they would like to work in, experience level, and location. The site will then filter existing job opportunities.

Agriculture offers many rewarding career opportunities in the field, and by opening the door to new people and evaluating current practices, there are endless opportunities to improve and strengthen the future of food production.

ST





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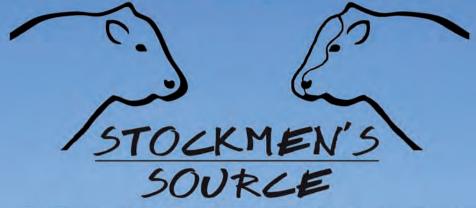
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An Examination of Milk EPD

by Dr. Wade Shafer, ASA EVP

The Milk EPD is used by many producers in selection and breeding decisions. How is the EPD calculated, and how accurate is it? High-producing cows don't always possess a top-end Milk EPD, and the opposite scenario is sometimes true. Why? A cow's milk production ability may be very different from the genes she possesses for the trait.

Over the last several years I have fielded too many calls to count from breeders feeling that Milk EPD do not do justice in gauging their herd's genetic milking ability. Though you may not be one of the many breeders who have voiced reservations about Milk EPD to me directly, I suspect you may have had qualms with them from time to time. In talking with people of other breeds, this sentiment is not unique to Simmental breeders. Though many breeders may question the validity of milk EPD, they are without a doubt the best predictor we have of animals' genetic level for milk. That said, when we scrutinize the situation, breeders' skepticism about Milk EPD is understandable. In the following paragraphs I will explain why EPD gauge genetic level for milk as accurately as possible and offer up my opinions as to why breeders often question their validity.

> Breeders seldom question Milk EPD on sires — rather, doubt tends to permeate when cows in their herd wean big calves yet have lower-percentile Milk EPD.

To understand a widely held belief, it usually helps to get at the root of it. What is at the core of breeders' misgivings about Milk EPD? From my experience, breeders seldom question Milk EPD on sires — rather, doubt tends to permeate when cows in their herd wean big calves yet have lower-percentile Milk EPD. On the surface, their skepticism seems justified. It just seems logical that high-producing cows should have upperend Milk EPD. It turns out there are solid reasons why a top-producing cow does not necessarily possess genes for high levels of milk production — and, therefore, should not have high-level Milk EPD.

To gain some perspective, let's take a look at factors affecting the measurement we use to gauge milking ability: weaning weights. Obviously, we do not have the latitude to measure milk directly, as does the dairy industry. Even if we could, the trait we are concerned with in the beef business is the pounds of weaned calf expected from a cow due to the genes she possesses for milk and mothering ability, which we can compute using weaning weights. From a cow's genetic perspective, the weaning weight of her calf is affected by her own milk genes and half of her weaning weight genes (the calf carries half of her genes). This fact is the reason Maternal Weaning Weight EPD is calculated as Milk EPD+¹/₂ Weaning Weight EPD. Beyond that, there are non-genetic factors affecting the calf's weaning weight, such as age of its dam, stocking rate, weather, creep feed, and many other non-genetic effects we are not able to distinguish.

Due to the myriad of factors affecting weaning weight, using actual and/or adjusted weaning weights and/or ratios will not serve us well in predicting an animal's genetic value for milk production. One glaring shortcoming of these statistics is that they do not partition weaning weight into separate growth and milk components — an obvious requisite for assessing milk genetics. Beside that monumental failing, weights and ratios do little to nothing when it comes to sifting through the non-genetic influences on weaning weight, and they ignore information on relatives.

Because the methodology used to calculate EPD (Best Linear Unbiased Prediction or BLUP) allows us to parse weaning weight by the factors that impact it, EPD permit us to zero in on an animal's genetics for milk, independent of all the other factors. This is accomplished by leveraging the sophisticated statistical techniques of BLUP on the 6 million+ weaning weights in our database. These features make EPD vastly superior to other methods of gauging milk genetics. After extolling the virtues of EPD, how is it that we can have cows that wean heavy calves with poor Milk EPD (and vice versa)? One obvious reason is that these cows may be weaning heavy calves via exceptional growth genes they pass to their calves. Just look through ASA's database and you will find plenty of animals that have low Milk EPD but high Maternal Weaning Weight EPD due to their extreme growth. Remember, Maternal Weaning Weight EPD = Milk EPD+1/2 Weaning Weight. A typical retort to this assertion is "how could the calf express exceptional growth if the cow did not give loads of milk?" Though high levels of milk certainly help a calf express its growth



Photo taken by Nancy Shirley at McDonald Farms, Blacksburg, Virginia.

potential, a calf gets a significant amount of its nutrients from sources other than milk, particularly after the first few months.

Another plausible cause for a heavy weaning calf out of a low Milk EPD cow is simply that she produced lots of milk. In these circumstances, our genetic evaluation is telling us that the reason for the souped-up milk production is likely non-genetic in nature. This is a big pill to swallow, as we tend to assume that a heavy milking cow must be genetically outstanding for milk production; however, since milk production is only low to moderately heritable we should not be surprised to have heavy milking cows that are below average genetically, and vice versa. ¹

> From a genetic evaluation standpoint, milk's meager heritability means that it takes more data to move Milk EPD and improve accuracies than it does with more heritable traits.

From a genetic evaluation standpoint, milk's meager heritability means that it takes more data to move Milk EPD and improve accuracies than it does with more heritable traits (e.g., growth and carcass). Since a cow is quite limited in the number of calves she can have naturally, unless she has numerous daughters (typically only possible for donor cows) and they have many calves, or her sire or maternal grandsire change dramatically for milk, a colossal shift in her milk EPD from where she starts is not in the cards. A big jump in accuracy is just as unlikely.

These limitations do not in any way imply fault with EPD; the limitations are simply a function of biology. Low heritability and small numbers of offspring are not conducive to accurate estimation. Always keep in mind, however, even though a cow's Milk EPD may not be highly accurate, research has clearly shown that they are far and away the most accurate estimate of her genetic merit for milk.

¹ In our population we have estimated the heritability of milk to be 16%. This means 84% (100% - 16%) of the differences in milk production between cows during a lactation are due to non-genetic factors and that is after we remove differences due to age and contemporary group (i.e., herd, pasture). Given these circumstances, it is easy to see that a cow's milk production ability may be very different from the genes she possesses for the trait.

<u>ST</u>



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^aUSMARC, Zimmerman, M., et al., "Breed and heterotic effects for mature weight in beef cattle," J. of Anim. Sci., Vol. 99, 2021. ^bAdjusted for sire sampling, Angus was the heaviest at maturity among the 16 breeds evaluated. Solutions are deviations from Angus. YW EPDs were extracted from genetic evaluations conducted in 2019. Estimate of MWT differences at 6 years of age. ^dThe study considered 108,857 weight records from 5,156 crossbred cows sired by 787 bulls.

Considerations for Beef on Dairy

by Lilly Platts

Conventional beef cattle and dairy animals, which are primarily Holstein, both contribute positive carcass traits, from tenderness and flavor to muscling. When crossed, fed, and managed well, a beef-on-dairy animal can outperform traditional beef animals in the feedlot and on the rail.

eef-on-dairy is a hot topic in the beef industry

b today. Both industries can benefit greatly from this collaboration, but harnessing the advantages of both beef and dairy cattle requires genetic considerations, and ultimately, overcoming several issues in fed Holstein cattle.

Dr. Dale Woerner, Texas Tech University, discussed beef-on-dairy opportunities and challenges at Fall Focus 2024. Woerner has studied the challenges and benefits of beef-on-dairy cattle extensively through research and carcass evaluation.

To produce milk, dairy females obviously must be bred to eventually lactate. Sexed semen has allowed for dairy producers to narrow down their selection decisions, but a large number of bull calves are still born. These steers are fed for beef production, but because they aren't beef cattle, the final product can be less desirable. Breeding these dairy females to beef bulls can add significant value to feeder calves, and also increase profitability in the feedlot.

Worner explained that the collaboration started with beef producers "renting" dairy females as recipients. This has shifted to producing crossbred beef-on-dairy animals. "Ultimately, today we've transitioned those cattle, which once really looked exclusively like blackand-white Holstein steers and heifers, to crossbreds," he explained. "We don't know exactly how many of those cattle are coming in because some of them go incognito. In fact, that was the intention from the beginning — to hide them in the beef mix — but we think there is somewhere north of three million of these cattle coming into the market."

Some producers were ahead of the beef-on-dairy trend many years ago, but Woerner shared that the noticeable shift took place around 2017. "We saw a sharp transition of beef semen sales into dairies, replacing dairy semen sales," Woerner said.

This was due to several factors. "The evolution of sexed semen had a lot to do with this, as well as genomic data on the cow side, allowing dairy producers to make better selections for milk production. Ultimately, we started to see more beef semen going to dairies," Woerner shared.



Dairy genetics are prevalent in feedlots, typically blending in with their beef cattle counterparts.



Holstein cows may not look like the most likely candidates for raising high-quality beef, but crossing these females with conventional beef bulls can offer many benefits. *Photo by Briana Hicks.*

Beyond improved technology, industry pressure also caused this uptick in beef semen sales. "Tyson Foods, formerly IBP Brand, made a very distinct decision to no longer take Holstein steers," he added.

Dairy cattle present a number of challenges in the feedyard and on the rail, from carcass composition to liver abscesses and yield grade. Genetically, these cattle have been bred for generations to produce milk, not meat. "In conventional cattle produced for beef, we emphasize things like growth rates, dressing percentage, muscle to bone ratio, steak shape, and the bright cherry red color of beef we're all familiar with," Woerner said.

While dairy cattle lack many of these traits, they do offer more predictability. "Dairy cattle offer genetic consistency," Woerner explained.

Dairy cattle are physiologically and biologically different from conventional beef animals. They produce more internal fat, which also means they produce more marbling on average. Holstein-beef cross animals are more feed-efficient than purebred Holstein animals. Carbon, and producing carbon-neutral products, is a priority for many companies, and improving the feed efficiency of Holstein feeder calves through crossbreeding presents several opportunities for both industries.

"Ultimately, what we see are carcasses from crossbred cattle [beef x dairy] that are much better than purebred Holstein. They're producing carcasses that are a little fatter externally, but that are producing bigger ribeyes, and are more muscular. In the feedlot setting, they're more efficient, converting more feed to gain at a more efficient rate," Woerner explained. "They have an improved yield grade, slightly over that of purebred Holstein, because of the larger ribeye area."

It would make sense to jump to the conclusion that these animals graded lower than beef calves, but Woerner explained that this isn't the case. "They had the same level of quality and marbling. It's also worth noting that dairy cattle are leaner than conventional cattle externally, and they produce more marbling on average. These cattle bring very positive attributes to the table," he added.

Holstein and Holstein-cross cattle carry more internal fat, which doesn't translate to the standard yield grading system. "Packers know that these cattle still don't yield as well, which is why they're continually discounting them based on yield grade," Woerner shared.

Dairy cattle are genetically more predisposed to produce marbling compared to conventional beef animals, which has also been demonstrated through introducing dairy genetics into beef herds. "The distribution of quality grade is improved with beef-on-dairy cattle in comparison to conventional cattle, but it's slightly decreased compared to that of Holstein cattle. So, these crossbred cattle don't grade quite as well as purebred Holstein cattle, but they do grade better than conventional beef on average," Woerner explained.

Tenderness and flavor are also areas where Holstein beef outshines the average conventional beef animal. Woerner said, "The fatty acid composition is different in these dairy crossbred cattle than it is in conventional cattle. They're producing more fat, including marbling, that tastes a little more like butter from a chemical standpoint."

Color is one of the biggest things influencing consumer choice in the grocery store. Bright red meat looks more fresh to the consumer's eye, and is preferred over darker-colored beef. Holstein beef is darker in color by nature, meaning that for many years, the product couldn't be placed next to conventional beef. Scientifically, this darker color does not indicate a lower quality product, or any food safety issues, but these packages

Considerations for Beef on Dairy

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31)

of beef would remain on the shelves. Fortunately, crossbreeding has helped solve this issue.

The shape of various cuts of beef have also been a challenge for Holstein beef. Long, skinny steaks and other odd-shaped cuts don't look as appealing as a conventional cut of beef, and are also not desirable for restaurants. Beef genetics improve these things, making the crossbred beef more appealing to consumers.

Every beef-on-dairy cross is not created equal, which Woerner also discussed, using a series of photos that included "short," muscular, conventional beef cattle, as well as tall, "skinny" dairy cattle. From visual appraisal, most would assume that the carcass yield and quality would vary widely among these animals. What Woerner has found is surprising: The animals all weighed the same live, and yielded the same ribeye area, despite their huge phenotypic differences.

However, when these carcasses were graded for yield, there were noticeable differences. Dairy cattle have more bone than conventional beef cattle, as well as more internal fat. This causes purebred Holstein cattle to have major discounts on the rail. However, when these animals are crossed with beef, and managed correctly, the yield grade often outperforms that of conventional beef.



Beef-on-dairy feeder calves, bred and managed correctly, can be efficient in the feedlot, and produce a high-quality end product.

Yield grade is a frequently discussed and debated topic in the beef industry. Many are pushing to change and improve the yield grading system, which would affect the performance of Holstein genetics. "Instead of using ribeye area and fat thickness measurements taken at the twelfth and thirteenth rib interface, our suggestion is that we begin to look more at whole carcass muscularity, and carcass composition and confirmation," Woerner explained.

Using a three-dimensional image of a beef carcass, Woerner demonstrated the different things that could be measured and graded on a carcass, as opposed to just using ribeye area and fat thickness. Addressing the audience of beef producers, he emphasized, "You need to start building cattle that fit systems like this better, that have true muscularity in the round and in the chuck, and that are not single-trait focused. Something like this will replace yield grade, and it will happen quickly if we have our way."

Other technologies like CAT scanning will likely be utilized to develop beef-industry-specific tools for improving yield grade measurements. Combined with artificial intelligence, there are many ways that technology can better measure yield grade in the future, and Woerner believes it's only a matter of time before the current system is replaced entirely.

Yield grade technology will likely move faster than solving another issue for Holsteins in the feedlot: the high instance of liver abscesses. Woerner explained that Holstein cattle not only have a higher instance of liver abscesses, but also more severity. He has also observed that cattle with severe liver abscess also display issues in other parts of the body, including the lungs and diaphragm. "We really have started to question the relationship between the lungs and the liver," Woerner explained. "The animals with severe liver abscesses also have lung issues at some point in their life, which becomes an animal health discussion. What we see is that BRD [Bovine Respiratory Disease] is associated with higher levels of liver abscesses in all of our data," he added.

Liver abscesses are an infection, which engages the animal's immune response, which has a domino effect throughout the body. This could include increasing susceptibility to lung infection. This in turn affects the animal's circulation and ability to fight infection. Woerner is unsure which issue comes first, but notes that the data shows a relationship. Liver abscesses are an issue for a number of reasons, and simply from a performance standpoint, animals with hidden health issues don't do as well in the feedlot.

Woerner concluded that Holstein cattle have a lot to offer, from tenderness and flavor to consistency. Overcoming issues like red meat yield and liver abscesses can make beef-on-dairy crosses even more beneficial to the industry.

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Enhancing Reproductive Success in the Cow-Calf Herd

by Rosslyn Biggs, DVM, Oklahoma State University

Reproductive management is at the foundation of a successful cow-calf herd. However, enhanced reproductive technologies are not readily incorporated, as seen in the results of the 2017 USDA National Animal Health Monitoring System Beef Cow-Calf Study. Results of this study indicated, of heifers bred for calving in 2017, 76.8% were bred only by bulls, and 15.1% were bred by a combination of artificial insemination and bull breeding. Of cows bred for calving in 2017, 92.9% were bred only by bulls, and 5.5% were bred by a combination of artificial insemination and bull breeding. Estrus synchronization was utilized in only 7.3% of all operations.

As producers approach breeding season, plans should be developed to fit the needs of the operation in coordination with veterinary input. Breeding soundness evaluations and pregnancy detections should be standard in all breeding herds. Reproductive technologies, when used appropriately, improve herd health, efficiency, genetics, and overall profitability. Enhanced reproductive protocols can be utilized for operations incorporating artificial insemination as well as exclusively bull-bred herds.

Estrus synchronization involves manipulating the estrous cycle of heifers and cows so that a large group of females come into heat at the same time. Various hormone-based protocols are used to achieve estrus synchronization, making it easier to manage breeding and improve pregnancy rates.

By synchronizing estrus, producers can breed multiple cows simultaneously, potentially reducing the time and labor required for heat detection and insemination. Although this technique is most often used in conjunction with artificial insemination to maximize reproductive efficiency, advantages can also be seen in bull-bred herds. Estrus synchronization allows for more precise timing of calving.

Artificial insemination (AI) is one of the most widely used reproductive technologies in the beef industry. AI allows producers to access superior genetics, enabling them to improve a variety of traits in the resulting calf crop. Moreover, AI reduces the need for keeping a large number of bulls on-site, thereby lowering bull maintenance costs, decreasing disease transmission, and improving animal and human safety.

Great resources exist for producers seeking to integrate or improve their reproductive strategies. Notable examples are those provided by the Beef Reproduction Task Force. The task force offers a variety of free resources, including webinars, synchronization protocols, and decision tools such as the Estrus Synchronization Planner and AI Cowculator. More information on these resources can be found at www.beefrepro.org.

McDonald's USA, Syngenta, and Lopez Foods Collaborate to Help Grow US Beef Sustainability

by Jamie Sears Rawlins, Bovine Veterinarian

McDonald's USA; Lopez Foods, a multi-protein producer and long-term supplier to McDonald's; and Syngenta North America, a leader in agricultural technology, announced that they are collaborating to increase feed efficiency, a move that aims to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions released per pound of meat produced, as part of efforts to improve the overall sustainability of beef production.

The partnership leverages Syngenta's Enogen corn, an exclusive in-seed innovation, shown to increase feed efficiency in cattle and thereby help reduce emissions intensity compared to other corn.

"At Syngenta, we're convinced improving the sustainability of the global food system can be accelerated through innovation and collaboration," says Justin Wolfe, President of Syngenta Seeds. "We're proud of the great attributes of our Enogen corn, and how our work can help enable McDonald's and their beef supply chain to deliver impact."

"McDonald's is starting with a priority ingredient for our company — beef," says Kendra Levine, Director of US Sustainability for McDonald's. "We believe the innovative collaboration with Syngenta is an opportunity to help us make progress toward our science-based climate targets."

The science behind Enogen corn is an alpha amylase enzyme that quickly converts starch to usable sugars, thus delivering more energy to cattle while being easily digestible. University research has shown that feeding Enogen as silage or grain can improve feed efficiency by about 5%, according to Syngenta.

Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA) shows potential for environmental savings resulting from this increased efficiency, including lower emissions of greenhouse gases and lower use of land, energy, and water per unit of production. Specific findings show that, per 1,000 head of beef cattle, this collaboration could potentially achieve annual savings of:

- 196 tons carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) in GHG reduction
- 69-acre reduction in land use for growing feed
- 6 million fewer gallons of water used
- 231 thousand kilowatt-hours energy savings
- McDonald's plans to scale this program to help deliver over 164,000 metric tons CO2e per year.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 40

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We Might Not Like It, But We Need to Evaluate Overheads...

by Scott Clawson, Oklahoma State University

Cattle prices in 2023 and 2024 have ranged from good to great depending on if your glass is half empty or half full. Adding to this, feed grains have been getting progressively cheaper since the start of 2023. And finally, Oklahoma has put together two productive hay seasons back-to-back. Cheaper feed and hay along with strong calf and cull prices all pave the way for some profitable vears (keeping our fingers crossed that the drought conditions are short-lived). Yet, as I have traveled to talk to livestock groups across the state, it hasn't felt as rosy as one would have thought. Take 2018, for example. A phrase I hear repeatedly is that it just costs more to do business than it ever has. That is something we can all agree on. It seems to cost more to do everything these days. If we subtract these earlier-mentioned issues from the profit math, that leaves overhead expenses as a likely culprit for the less-than-rosy outlook.

Overheads can be explained in many ways. I like to describe them as all the things that we need to take care of the cattle, but that doesn't go into the cattle. For example, a bale of hay is not overhead. But, all the things it took to get the bale in front of the cow likely is. The tractor, baler, rake, truck, hay bed, repairs, labor, etc., all are a part of our overhead expense. Costs that fall into the overhead category tend to not follow a normal "commodity trend." More specifically, when we enter drought and hay supplies are already tight, we can expect hay prices to climb. We expect hay prices to stay high until we have a good hay-growing season and adequate supply returns. Most overhead items don't behave like this. They tend to have a slow but steady increase in cost over time.

Category	% increase since August 2014			
Repairs	39%			
Trucks	23%			
Tractors	28%			
Other Machinery	73%			
Building Materials	56%			
Interest	55%			
Taxes	54%			
Wages	59%			
Family Living CPI	32%			

USDA-NASS Agricultural Prices

https://usda.library.cornell/edu/concern/publicationsc821gj76b?locale=en Calculations by author

CONTINUED ON PAGE 44





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RTZ M20 • ASA#4362616 Bridle Bit Eclipse E744 x KRJ Dakota Outlaw G974



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Don't get me wrong, there is a degree of overhead that is required to care for the cow herd. That will vary among ranches based on goals, labor, and resource availability. Minimizing overhead costs is difficult. Just be aware that the decisions made to repair, replace, or upgrade these assets will impact our profitability for many years. As the cost of these items that we need to do business with continues to increase, be especially aware of how to stretch each dollar a little further.

Denver Voters Reject Slaughterhouse Ban

by Jennifer Shike, Bovine Veterinarian

Denver residents rejected Ordinance 309 to ban slaughterhouses in the city. Denver, a hub of lamb processing for the state and nation, represents 15% to 20% of US lamb harvest capacity. It also provides many jobs in one of the city's poorest neighborhoods.

"Activists from New Orleans and California used dark money from out of state to try and shut down this local company, but they lost to Colorado workers, farmers, ranchers and restaurateurs," Ian Silverii, campaign spokesperson for "Stop the Ban. Protect Jobs," said in a statement. "We have one message for those who tried to come to our city and our state to run their experiment to upend the lives of so many hardworking people: it was a bad idea."

According to the *Denver Post*, at 11:30 pm, 64.6% opposed the slaughterhouse ban, with very little change in the split for and against throughout the evening. Opponents of the ban declared victory Tuesday night and Pro-Animal Future, which put the question on the ballot, issued a statement appearing to concede on both measures, the article said.

"This was a bold campaign, and no one said changing the status quo was going to be easy," Pro-Animal Future spokesperson Olivia Hammond said in a statement. "Over a hundred thousand meat eaters voted for a world without slaughterhouses, and that's a foundation we'll continue building on. Voters aren't used to seeing animal rights on the ballot, and we are paving the way with this campaign."

The measure titled "Prohibition of Slaughterhouses" tried to outlaw "the construction, maintenance, or use of" any meat processing facilities in Denver beginning January 1, 2026, as well as "require the city to prioritize residents whose employment is affected by the ordinance in workforce training or employment assistance programs."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 48

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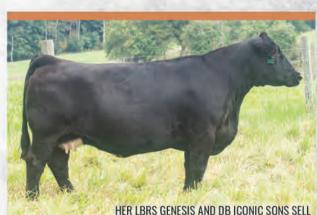


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This ban put 160 jobs at stake and according to one study, at least \$215 million in economic benefits, which could be as high as \$860 million, counting indirect factors. In addition, the ban also threatened more than 2,700 jobs including independent ranchers, truckers, distributors, retailers, butchers, and restaurant owners and employees, according to a Colorado State University study.

"Stop the Ban, Protect Jobs" raised money from an array of donors including Superior Farms, the American Sheep Industry Association, the National Pork Producers Council, the National Cattleman's Beef Association, Visit Denver, the Colorado Livestock Association, United Food and Commercial Workers International, Conscience Bay Research, LLC, Political Action Trust, and the Colorado Livestock Association.

Voters also rejected Ordinance 308, which would ban the manufacture, distribution, display, sale, or trade of certain animal products within Denver city limits, with limited exceptions, such as for Native American cultural uses or for cow leather. Had the ordinance passed it could have affected sales of cowboy and other hats made of beaver, rabbit, or hare hides, as well as fly-fishing lures that include animal fibers. The *Denver Post* reported the ordinance reported nearly 58% of voters opposed the fur ban.

Three States Undertake Joint Project to Prepare for Foreign Animal Diseases

Foot-and-mouth disease is a severe and fast-spreading viral disease that can affect all cloven-hoofed animals.

The disease was discovered in the US in 1870 but was eradicated in 1929, according to the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The disease is present in nearly 70% of cloven-hoofed animals worldwide., but it hasn't made a return to the US — yet.

Three States Involved

The goal of a new project led by Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Service is to create a fast-acting information network among Cooperative Extension livestock specialists and veterinarians in the departments of agriculture in three western states — Oregon, California, and Idaho — to prepare for foreign diseases such as footand-mouth.

Sergio Arispe, OSU Extension livestock and rangeland field faculty in Malheur County and associate professor in the College of Agricultural Sciences, has been awarded nearly \$75,000 to work on the project.

The grant, provided through the Western Extension Risk Management Education Center through USDA's National Institute for Food and Agriculture, comes at a good time, Arispe states, considering the recent development of highly pathogenic avian influenza crossing over into the nation's dairy cattle population. The project aims to mitigate profit, production, and financial risk to cattle producers in the case of a foreign transmitted animal disease, such as foot-and-mouth, by collaborating with state veterinarians and Beef Quality Assurance coordinators and trainers to increase training and certifications. The goal is to reach at least 500 cattle producers across the three states, Arispe says.

"Train The Trainer"

The Beef Quality Assurance program, developed by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, is meant to promote safe and wholesome beef. Major beef packing plants require best practices, taught through the Beef Quality Assurance curriculum, to inherently mitigate risks and maximize profits for cattle producers.

The project is using a "train the trainer" model for Cooperative Extension employees who can further broadcast the information through their networks to cattle producers before a potential outbreak. The training will include presentations and updates to the current Beef Quality Assurance curriculum. The trained Cooperative Extension agents from these workshops will go on to present at state cattlemen's association meetings and work locally with producers.

"The Extension personnel in these three states then go out and amplify that message, through Extension publications, workshops, and presentations to cattle producers," Arispe says. "The local agents have more trust in the community, and they have more contacts."

He says increasing the dissemination of information will help cattle producers be prepared for a foreign animal disease outbreak.

Mitigate Risks

"Foot-and-mouth disease is the most transmissible disease to all cloven-hoofed animals worldwide," Arispe says. "Our efforts would be the same for trying to mitigate production risk, market risk, and financial risk for foot-and-mouth disease, but it could be for any foreign animal disease that may come. The same approach and the same measures would be appropriate."

He adds, "So the question at hand is: If there was a foreign animal disease that came to the US like foot-andmouth disease, what would that process look like for cattle producers, and what would happen to transport?"

A key aspect to this project is educating producers on the local, state, and national protocols if there is a foreign disease, he says. "At any given time there are about three million animals on our highways, or in our planes or boats," Arispe says. "There will be at least a 72-hour national standstill declared by the USDA for all clovenhoofed animals if foot-and-mouth disease is ever found in the US. A lot of producers don't know that, and that's only the beginning."

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ES JACK RED LG11 ASA#: 4257936 FIVE STAR JACKSON J10 x ES G11 CE 17 BW -1.9 WW 82 YW 127 MCE 10 M 31 MWW 72 API 173 TI 100 SEMEN \$30/UNIT



KBHR HOMELANDER J071 ASA#: 3943783 G A R HOME TOWN x KBHR MEDORA G132 CE 17 BW -0.8 WW 107 YW 173 MCE 9 M 24 MWW 79 API 208 TI 126 SEMEN \$50/UNIT



KBHR KEYNOTE K229 ASA#: 4104347 CLRS GUARDIAN 317G x KBHR DEBUTANTE H113 MR SR RED OCTOBER G1761 x WS ELECTRA E88 CE 15 BW -4.4 WW 89 YW 136 MCE 9 M 23 MWW 68 API 217 TI 113 SEMEN \$40/UNIT



KBHR CHARGER K102 ASA#: 4104220 CE 19 BW -5.4 WW 75 YW 119 MCE 9 M 22 MWW 60 API 207 TI 105 SEMEN \$35/UNIT

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Biosecurity Plans

The team will also be available to work with producers to create an enhanced biosecurity plan, which can clear them for transportation in the event they are in a high-risk area of a foreign disease. This would prevent some of the financial issues a producer would incur if they were unable to transport their livestock offsite.

"Our efforts aim to have enhanced biosecurity plans complete for at least 20% of the confined cattle population within each state," Arispe says.

"This project aims to provide a basic overview and proactive activities and measures that people can take to mitigate production market and financial risks, and the process by which cattle producers can resume business," he adds.

Winter Management Option for Weaned Calves

by Karla H. Wilke, Bovine Veterinarian

Many spring-born calves weaned in the fall are backgrounded through the winter prior to grazing summer grass or feedlot entry. There are many management options to consider for weaned calves depending on feed resources, labor, and subsequent management strategies.

Cornstalk residue and winter range

Cornstalk residue can be a very economical forage resource in the northern Great Plains region. However, both cornstalk residue and dormant winter range can be very low in energy and protein, making it necessary to provide some supplement to achieve targeted gains. A research experiment conducted in eastern Nebraska reported a loss of body weight in 500-pound calves receiving only mineral supplementation while grazing cornstalks. Calves supplemented with 3.5 pounds of a mixture of corn, molasses, and urea only gained a half pound per day, while calves supplemented with three pounds of dried distillers grains gained 1.3 pounds per day. This suggests the calves needed supplemental rumen undegradable protein, as well as energy while grazing cornstalk residue. Similarly, 450-pound calves in the Texas Panhandle grazing dormant native range gained a half pound per day without energy or protein supplementation, but gained 1.4 pounds per day when supplemented with 2.5 pounds of dried distillers grains. In the Sandhills of Nebraska, 600-pound steers have been reported to gain one pound per day when supplemented with two pounds of dried distillers grains while grazing winter range.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 56







Two-year-old heifer

30 Purebreds, 105 SimAngus[™], 15 Angus Sell. 50 are 18-month-old fall-borns, ALL ARE Black and Polled, most are homozygous black and polled.



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357L PB SM CDI CEO 281D X W/C MISS WERNING 964G This stunning Purebred is one of several progeny from the prolific 964G donor that will sell! SAFE IN CALF TO BAR CK 4118B 8102F "TRIPLE THREAT"



311OL | PB SM OMF JOURNEYMAN J24 X W/C MISS WERNING 6175D 5 ET flushmate sisters sell from the proven and predictable 6175D! SAFE IN CALF TO TJ SANDHILLS SWAG 816L



3104L | 1/2 SM 1/2 AN RFS HEAVY HITTER H45 X S A V BLACKCAP MAY 4136D A direct daughter of the \$8.6 million producing S A V Blackcap May 4136! SAFE IN CALF TO TSN STATESMAN KOO6



3106L | 1/2 SM 1/2 AN WHEATLAND DIMENSIONAL 1147J X S A V BLACKCAP MAY 6644 Several daughters of the \$242,000 Wheatland Dimensional 1147J will sell! SAFE IN CALF TO TJ SANDHILLS SWAG 816L



305L 3/4 SM 1/4 RA W/C BEEF KING 1025F X W/C MISS WERNING 90G A FULL SISTER to the \$140,000 W/C Truth be Told 6038L! SAFE IN CALF TO KBHR SNIPER J079

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4168M | PB SM TSN STATESMAN KOOG X W/C MISS WERNING 964G A phenotype standout that is one of the premier calving ease options in the entire sale offering. He ranks among the 25% of the breed in 11 traits!



1050M | 5/8 SM 3/8 AN RFS HEAVY HITTER H45 X W/C BLACKCAP MARY 1050K This RFS Heavy Hitter H45 son ranks among the elite 1% of the breed for WW & YW!



7M | PB SM OMF JOURNEYMAN J24 X W/C MISS WERNING 6175D This full brother to W/C Tradesman 648L is one of the many powerful OMF Journeyman J24 sons that will highlight the sale!



7021M | PB SM OMF JOURNEYMAN J24 X W/C MISS WERNING 964G The influence of the prolific 964G donor can be identified throughout the sale offering!



319M PB SM TSN STATESMAN KOOG X W/C MISS WERNING 964G 15 progeny plus embryos from the impressive 964G donor will sell!



513M | PB SM RFS HEAVY HITTER H45 X W/C MISS WERNING 978G 513M is a homo black & polled performance standout that ranks among the elite 4% of the breed for WW & YW!



621M | PB SM W/C KAISER 240J X W/C MISS WERNING 964G An extremely eye appealing son of the \$90,000 W/C Kaiser 240J that is supported by the 964G donor!



1412M | 3/4 SM 1/4 AN OMF JOURNEYMAN J24 X W/C MISS WERNING 075H 40+ progeny sired by OMF Journeyman J24 will highlight the sale offering. 1412M is a grandson of Miss Werning 534R!



957M PB SM TSN STATESMAN KOOG X W/C MISS WERNING 978G The TSN Statesman KOO6 sire group is NEW in 2025! Offering 13 sons with multi-trait excellence!



789M | 3/4 SM 1/4 AN RFS HEAVY HITTER H45 X W/C MISS WERNING 789E The RFS Heavy Hitter H45 sire group will be well represented with 50+ progeny selling on February 11th!



1014M | 1/2 SM 1/2 AN W/C BANKROLL 811D X S A V BLACKCAP MAY 6644 The best of both worlds! Offering an unbelievably powerful set of SimAngus™ bulls that are supported by some of the most prolific cow families in the Angus breed!

Annual forages and cover crops

In integrated cropping and livestock regions, planting winter annuals such as oats, triticale, or rye after corn silage harvest can provide high-quality winter grazing for weaned calves. Research in Nebraska has shown 550-pound calves gain between 1.5 and two pounds per day when grazing oats or a mix of oats and radishes from November to January.

On the southern plains, wheat pasture grazing is a common practice during the winter. Research from Texas A&M evaluated supplementing grazing steers (400 pounds) with three pounds of dry rolled corn or dried distillers grains. The calves supplemented with dry rolled corn gained similarly to



the non-supplemented calves (2.86 pounds per day), while the calves supplemented dried distillers grains gained 3.08 pounds per day. It is important to note that after the feed-lot phase, performance and carcass characteristics were not different across grazing treatments.

Total mixed ration in a dry lot

For producers with integrated livestock and farming operations and limited pasture acres, growing calves on a total mixed ration may be a viable option. Silages (corn and annual forage) and distillers grains are typically cheaper energy sources than hay. Another advantage of feeding a total mixed ration is that the nutrient density and intake can be controlled better than in a grazing situation, and can result in not only the targeted gain, but also more uniformity in body weight of the calves at market. Additionally, research has shown that calves placed on a finishing ration shortly after weaning are more profitable than those first placed on a growing ration. This is something to consider if the producer plans to retain ownership through finishing.

Compensatory Gain and Marketing Strategies

Supplementation strategies should always be evaluated based on the price of supplement, including transportation and labor, against the value of the gain derived from the supplementation on a yearly basis.

Research has shown cattle backgrounded to gain 1.5 pounds per day will maintain a weight advantage through the finishing phase over cattle backgrounded to gain less than one pound per day. Even though cattle restricted during backgrounding experience compensatory gain once they are placed on a higher plane of nutrition, they typically only compensate about 37–38%, meaning they continue to have lighter body weight than cattle backgrounded to gain 1.5 pounds per day.



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 FF Revolution M2072

 5/8 Blood SimAngus™

 KBHR Revolution H071 x FF Ms Absolute H1434

 CE BW WW YW ADG MCE Milk MWW MB REA \$API \$TI

 11
 2.5
 108
 171
 .39
 8
 18
 68
 .52
 .79
 155
 99



 FF Guardian M1877

 Purebred Simmental

 CLRS Guardian 317G x FF Got Game F1177

 CE BW WW YW ADG MCE Milk MWW MB REA \$API \$TI

 12
 .9
 104
 156
 .33
 6
 24
 72
 .39
 1.08
 165
 100

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 5/8 Blood SimAngus™

 TSN Bald Eagle K011 x FF Ms Style E957

 CE BW WW YW ADG MCE Milk MWW MB REA \$API \$TI

 13
 .7
 90
 136
 .29
 9
 25
 .69
 .39
 .84
 145
 88



 FF Getcha Some M1777

 5/8 Blood SimAngus™

 Felt Getcha Sum G113 x FF Ms After Shock E777

 CE
 BW
 WW
 YW
 ADG
 MCE
 Milk
 MWW
 MB
 REA \$API \$TI

 10
 2.5
 87
 135
 .3
 5
 22
 64
 .18
 .77
 119
 79



 FF Bald Eagle M172

 3/4 Blood SimAngus™

 TSN Bald Eagle K011 x FF Master J1520

 CE
 BW
 WW
 YW
 ADG
 MCE
 Milk
 MWW
 MB
 REA
 \$API
 \$TI

 16
 -.1
 106
 165
 .36
 10
 28
 78
 .3
 .98
 162
 101



 FF Emmett M2014

 5/8 Blood SimAngus™

 Felt Emmett 831J x FF Ms United H1688

 CE
 BW
 WW
 YW
 ADG
 MCE
 Mik
 MW
 MB
 REA
 \$API
 \$TI

 9
 3.1
 93
 39
 .28
 6
 22
 65
 .36
 .57
 125
 86

 FF Burley M1860

 5/8 Blood SimAngus™

 Redhill Burley 99J x FF Ms Premier F1360

 CE BW WW YW ADG MCE Milk MWW MB REA \$API \$TI

 10
 1.5
 93
 145
 .33
 6
 26
 71
 .48
 .88
 153
 94

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CDI 338M Homo Polled Homo Blk PB SM

CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 10 1.4 100 161 6 35 0.49 1.14 ASA# 4432151 API 156 TI 103



CDI 399M Homo Polled Homo Blk PB 5M LCDR Retro 14K x CDI Ms Journey 73B CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 11 1.1 90 139 6 29 0.59 0.67 A5A# 4432169 API 163 TI 98



CDI 369M Homo Polled PB SM

CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 4.8 100 155 3 26 0.26 1.28 ASA#4432159 API 145 TI 92



CDI 294M Homo Polled PB SM CDI Omaha 299K x CDI Miss Xpectation 38E CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 3.3 104 157 3 30 0.34 1.16 ASA# 4432265 API 152 TI 98



CDI 328M Homo Polled Blk Pending PB SM Gibbs Essential x CDI Ms Redeemed 45J CDI Elevation 302K x CDI Ms Trustee 40J LCDR Impact 134F x CDI Ms Trustee 31K

> CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 8 3.4 106 165 3 24 0.36 1.10 ASA# 4432526 API 149 TI 99



CDI 260M Homo Polled Homo Blk PB SM Gibbs 9914G Essential x CDI 160K CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 18 -1.6 97 155 10 31 0.36 0.96 ASA# 4432515 API 165 TI 98



CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 12 0.5 97 151 7 29 0.63 0.74 LCDR Anthem 33K x CDI Ms Journey 73B

CDI 365M ASA# 4432156 **Homo Polled** Homo Blk PB SM API 173 TI 104 CDI 403M ASA# 4432170 **Homo Polled** Homo Blk PB SM API 173 TI 104



CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 12 0.5 97 151 7 29 0.63 0.74 LCDR Anthem 33K x CDI Ms Journey 73B



CDI 345M Homo Polled Homo Blk PB SM LBR5 Genesis x CDI Ms Affirmed 26K CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 12 1.9 109 164 4 28 0.84 0.95 ASA# 4432511 API 18D TI 115



CDI 284M Homo Polled PB SM CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 6.6 102 154 -0.5 26 0.4 1.03 ASA# 4432454 API 138 TI 93



CDI 324M Homo Polled Blk Pending PB SM CDI Nazareth 298J x CDI Ms Fierce 128H LCDR Impact 134F x CDI Ms Trustee 31K CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 3.2 103 161 3 24 0.36 1.06 8 A5A# 4432149 API 148 TI 98



CDI 291M Homo Polled Homo Blk 3/4 SM 1/4 AN LCDR Retro 14K x CDI Miss Tour of Duty 12D





CDI 404M Homo Polled PB SM

CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA

3.8 88 139 6 29 0.52 1.05



CDI 315M Homo Polled Blk Pending PB SM CDI Abundance 391C x CDI Miss Power Grid 27D /LCDR Impact 134F x CDI Ms Legendary 73F

CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA

10 2.6 106 163 3 28 0.35 1.13



CDI 309M Homo Polled Homo Blk PB SM LBRS Genesis G69 x CDI Ms Impact 32J CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA

10 2.1 104 159 5 26 0.67 0.92 ASA# 4432248 API 170 TI 106



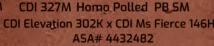
CDI 270M Polled Pending Hetero Black PB SM CDI 327M Homo Polled PB SM CDI Nazareth 298J x CDI Ms Fierce 110H CDI Elevation 302K x CDI Ms Fierce 146H A5A# 4432421



CDI 383M Homo Polled Hetero Blk PB SM CDI Omaha 299K x CDI Ms Trustee 40J

CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 10 4.2 100 156 2 24 0.27 1.38 ASA# 4432164 API 146 TI 94





- ASA# 4432350 API 151 TI 100

CDI 299M Homo Polled Homo Blk PB SM LBRS Genesis G69 x CDI Ms Trustee 85H

CE BW WW YW MCE MM MARB REA 13 0.0 97 143 6 28 0.68 0.92 ASA# 4432380 API 176 TI 106



CDI 286M Polled & Blk Pending PB SM LCDR Retro 14K x CDI Miss Verdict 38C A5A# 4432264

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DVAuction

EPDs as of 12/4/24

Summary

Some producers retain calves through winter while others may continue to graze summer grass with them, selling in the fall. Other producers may retain ownership through the finishing phase. Therefore, targeted gain and backgrounding resources should be evaluated against marketing strategies and the calf value. However, targeting adequate gain (one to 1.5 pounds per day) to develop structural and muscle growth during the winter is advantageous regardless of marketing strategy.

Heifer Percent Mature Body Weight at Breeding

What does it mean for pregnancy rates and calf performance?

by Josie Crouch, Kacie McCarthy, and Travis Mulliniks, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

To remain in the herd, it is crucial for a replacement heifer to conceive and maintain pregnancy. However, since females within a herd offset input costs with a live calf born each year, focus should not only be placed on pregnancy rates as a yearling, but subsequent pregnancy rates as a cow.



- Promote performance-evaluated beef cattle and serve as an educational tool to acquaint producers with its overall value.
- Provide a common environment for evaluating young buils for rate of gain, reed efficiency, soundness, and body composition.
 Aid beef producers in obtaining superior hulls that have been evaluated for
- And beer producers in obtaining superior builts that have been evaluated to growth, breeding and structural soundness, and carcass merit.

The traditional recommendations have heifers reaching 65% of their mature body weight by breeding to maximize pregnancy rates. However, multiple studies across various regions have shown heifers developed as low as 48% mature body weight at breeding showed no impact on reproduction.

These studies have been conducted over three years or less, which may limit the ability to interpret results. However, developing heifers to a lower percentage of mature body weight at breeding could potentially serve as a management strategy to reduce input costs without sacrificing performance. This study determined how differing heifer percent mature body weights (50, 55, 60, 65, and 70%) at breeding affected heifer performance, calf performance, and subsequent pregnancy rates.

This study used data collected from 2005 through 2019 at the University of Nebraska, Gudmundsen Sandhills Laboratory using 1,434 March- and May-calving Red Angus x Simmental crossbred heifers and cows.

Conclusions and Implications

During the development period, it is crucial to make management decisions that focus not only on initial performance, but also on how subsequent performance may also be impacted (e.g., plane of nutrition, high versus low rate of gain, natural service versus artificial insemination). Producers should consider developing heifers in a way that optimizes reproductive performance and best encompasses the goals of their operation, rather than striving for a specific target weight.

Calculations

The average herd mature body weight from the March- and May-calving herds were calculated by the average body weight of five, six, and seven-year-old cows at weaning, with weight being adjusted to a common body condition score of five. The average weights for March and May cows were 1,107 and 1,072 pounds, respectively.

To determine heifer actual-mature-body-weight percentages within the breeding groups, heifers' recorded body weights at breeding were divided by their respective herd average mature body weight. March-calving heifers were at an average of 60% mature body weight at breeding, with a range of 42% to 85%. Heifers in the May-calving breeding ranged from 46% to 92% mature body weight at breeding with an average of 67%.

A retrospective regression analysis was conducted on percent of estimated mature body weight to determine predicted responses of initial pregnancy rates, subsequent pregnancy rates (two-, three-, four-, and five-year-old cows), and calf production at differing heifer mature body weight percentages. Differences in calving season, year, and when the heifer was born in the calving season were all accounted for in the statistical analysis.



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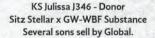


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6

Table 1: Summary of impacts percent mature body weight (BW) at breeding has on performance.

Percent Mature BW	Preg rate (initial) a	Preg rate (2-y-o) b	Preg rate (3-, 4-, 5-y-o) c	Calve first 21 d
70	85	92	-	65
65	85	90	-	65
60	83	87	-	76
55	80	82	-	77
50	73	75	-	75

 Heifers at a greater percent of mature BW at breeding (60–70%) had greater initial pregnancy rates.

b. Heifers at a greater percent of mature BW at breeding (60–70%) had greater pregnancy rates as a two-year-old.

c. Heifer mature BW percentage at breeding had no impact on pregnancy rates as a three-, four-, five-year-old.

d. Heifers at a lower percent of mature BW at breeding (50–60%) had a greater percent calve in the first 21days.

Results

See Table 1 for specific numbers associated with each group of heifers. In general:

• A greater percentage of mature body weight at breeding showed higher pregnancy rates as heifers and as two-year-olds.



- Percent mature body weight of heifers at breeding had no impact on subsequent pregnancy rates after two years of age.
- Heifers at a lower percentage of mature body weight at breeding had a greater percent that calved in the first 21 days of the calving season.
- As heifer percent mature body weight increased, subsequent calf birth and weaning body weights increased, by 1.2 pounds and five pounds, respectively, per 5% body weight at breeding.

Investigating the Cause of Cattle Abortions

When to involve your veterinarian and what happens next?

by Matt Hille, DVM, MS, PhD Diagnostic Veterinary Pathologist and Nebraska Extension Specialist, and David Steffen, DVM, PhD, DACVP Diagnostic Veterinary Pathologist

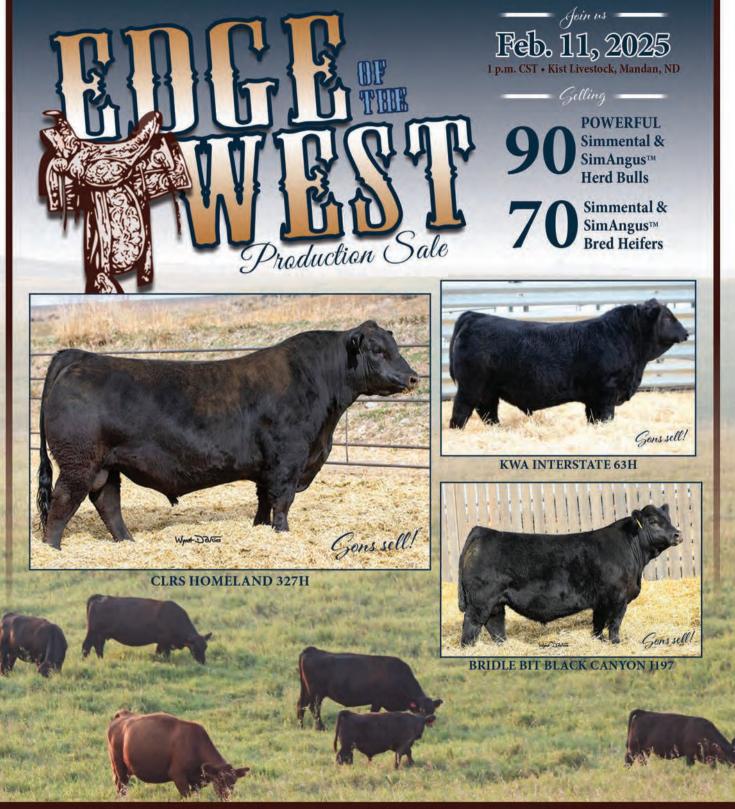
Confirming pregnancy in the herd is an important milestone in the overall cow-calf production system, but there's still a lot that needs to go right before you're admiring next year's weaned calf crop. Unfortunately, reproductive losses can still happen between confirmation of pregnancy and calving. Beef producers and veterinarians often refer to any death loss before calving as an "abortion," but in reality, true abortions only make up a portion of this loss. It is important to define some of the terms regarding reproductive losses:

- Early embryonic death: Loss of pregnancy in the period from conception to maternal recognition of pregnancy (implantation). This occurs approximately 17 days after initial fertilization.
- Late embryonic death: Fetal losses that occur from recognition of pregnancy (about 17 days post conception) until about six weeks post conception.
- Abortion: Fetal losses from six weeks of gestation to calving.

Important Messages

- Determining the cause of embryonic losses early in gestation is extremely difficult since the losses often happen well before we're aware there is an issue. Developing an overall herd health plan with your veterinarian can improve the recognition of preventable reproductive losses, and enable preventative management strategies. Special attention should be made regarding the nutritional status of the herd, reproductive health of the bulls, record-keeping, and a proactive vaccination schedule to combat infectious causes.
- Average annual abortion rates can vary widely from ranch to ranch. Use your own previous years' experiences with your herd to help you decide

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⁴USMARC, Zimmerman, M., et al., "Breed and heterotic effects for mature weight in beef cattle," J. of Anim. Sci., Vol. 99, 2021. Adjusted for sire sampling, Angus was the heaviest at maturity among the 16 breeds evaluated. Solutions are deviations from Angus. YW EPDs were extracted from genetic evaluations conducted in 2019. Estimate of MWT differences at 6 years of age. The study considered 108,857 weight records from 5,156 crossbred cows sired by 787 bulls. ⁵Effect of sire breed group on carcass value of feedlot cattle harvested through Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative, Lewis, Iowa, 2002 to 2018. Odde, K. & King, M. (March 2021). Kansas State University. Relationships Among Sire-Breed Group, Calf Sex and Year Group on Carcass Traits. Breeds represented in the English-sired group: Angus, Red Angus, South Devon, Hereford and Shorthorn.

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#4375422 | Sire: GW REBEL YELL 731J 5/8 SM 9/32 AR 3/32 AN | API: 146.2 · TI: 88.5 BW: 88 · 205 WT: 789



when abortions reach an abnormal level. If in doubt, call and discuss the situation with your veterinarian to determine if investigating the losses is warranted.

- It is not practical to investigate every suspected abortion due to the associated costs. Confirming suspected cases as true abortions, as opposed to death loss due to a difficult birth or failure of a live calf to thrive is the first step in determining whether further investigation is warranted.
- Diagnostic workups for abortions historically have low rates of success in determining a definitive cause. However, ruling out causes of abortion via negative test results can provide valuable diagnostic data. There is always value in knowing what did not cause increased abortions in your herd.

Tips for beef producers dealing with suspected aborted calves:

- Remove the dead calf from the pasture or pen to prevent predation.
- Keep the carcass cool until it can be examined by your veterinarian or shipped to the diagnostic lab.
- It may be desirable to freeze back select samples from early losses to be available if the threshold for action is reached.
- When possible, obtain the expelled placenta in addition to the fetal carcass. Placenta is a valuable sample if additional diagnostics are pursued, and increases the likelihood of a diagnosis in abortions caused by infectious agents.
- Ingestion of pine needles in excess can cause abortions in cattle. Historically this has been a difficult diagnosis to make beyond speculating based on the history of access and potential



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ASA#(4425217) - Homo Black Homo Polled PB SM Bull Schooley Judgment 68J x School Miss 823F 114J BD: 3/15/24 - API 182 - 11 103



ASA#(4425200) • Homo Black Homo Polled 3/4 SM 1/4 AN Bull KBHR Revolution H071 x School Miss 3000A 823F BD: 2/24/24 • API 163 • TI 103



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ASA#(4256993) - Homo Black Homo Polled PB SM Cow KBHR Revolution H071 x School Miss 823F 126J BD: 2/14/23 • API 170 • TI 105 ~ AI to Ters Kodiak due 1/22



SCHOOL MISS 114J 351L

ASA#(4256900) - Homo Black Homo Polled PB SM Cow CLRWTR Game Changer H4A x School Miss 823F 114J BD: 2/1/23 • API 175 • TI 101 ~ AI to Ters Kodiak due 1/22



ASA#(4425168) • Homo Black Homo Polled PB SM Cow TERS Kodiak 206K x School Miss 30G 250K BD: 1/22/24 • API 172 • TI 98



ASA#(4256805) - Homo Black Homo Polled PB SM Cow CLRWTR Game Changer H4A x School Miss 420B 976G BD: 2/28/23 • API 157 • TI 94 ~ AI to Ters Kodiak due 1/22



ASA#(4424985) - Homo Black Homo Polled 5/8 SM 3/8 AN Cow Schooley Krown 28K x School Miss 19D 947G BD: 2/26/24 • API 142 • TI 90



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ASA#(4425193) • Homo Black Homo Polled 3/4 SM 1/4 AN Cow KBHR Revolution H071 x School Miss 3000A 823F BD: 2/18/24 • API 173 • TI 101



ASA#(4424986) • Homo Black Homo Polled PB SM Cow KBHR Gunsmoke J131 x School Miss 823F 299K BD: 2/26/24 • API 173 • TI 108



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EPDs 12.3.24 5

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INDUSTRY UPDATE

ingestion. Recently, we have been able to test aborted fetuses and confirmed this as the cause in a number of abortion cases in areas of Nebraska where cows have access to pine needles. If you suspect this may be the case in an abortion, let your veterinarian know. The sample of choice to test for pine needle abortion is thoracic fluid from the aborted fetus.

Pre-breeding considerations to minimize reproductive losses

Reproductive losses that take place earlier on in gestation usually do not result in an observed lost embryo or fetus. These cows will most often present as open or late bred cows at preg check, depending upon if they returned to heat. Diagnosing these cases can be difficult (if not impossible) since the inciting factor happened weeks or even months before the issue is identified. Early reproductive management practices can be essential in minimizing these losses. It is important to ensure cows are in adequate condition by the start of breeding season. Pregnancy is a physiologic luxury, and will only happen and / or be maintained when the nutritional and physiologic needs of the dam are met, and continue to be met throughout the pregnancy. There is a strong correlation of body condition with conception rates and being on the "gain" trend if entering breeding can mitigate these early losses, particularly in second-calf heifers. Low body condition score and marginal nutrition is a common cause of infertility and early losses up to about six weeks. Routinely evaluating, recording, and addressing body condition scores in your cows before breeding and during early gestation is crucial. This type of methodical approach can provide useful data to troubleshoot reproductive losses when consulting with a veterinarian or herd nutritionist, should they occur.



Another important pre-breeding management tool is to ensure breeding soundness exams are performed on bulls each year. Approximately 10% of adult beef bulls will fail a breeding soundness exam each year. The timing of these exams is important. Testing bulls too early in the year creates potential for infection, fever, or injury prior to turnout. It is recommended to re-test newly purchased bulls, even if tested prior to purchase, for the same reason. Testing bulls immediately before turnout can be problematic as well if there is not adequate bull power available if there is an unexpected failure rate. This means when to test bulls will vary from ranch to ranch. The ideal scenario would be to test bulls as close to turnout as possible, but leave enough time to find replacement bulls if needed. This will also allow bulls to be re-tested if they failed due to a treatable issue. Performing breeding soundness exams in the breeding pasture, where bulls that pass the exam exit the chute and immediately join cows works great; until it doesn't. I have personally had several instances where the producer had more bulls fail the exam than they anticipated, and they were left short on bull power with minimal options for immediate quality replacements. Some very basic discussions early on with your veterinarian surrounding breeding management can help minimize these issues.

When to be concerned about abortions

Normal rates for reproductive losses in cattle can vary substantially between operations based on a number of factors, including farmspecific management, time of year, breed composition, and geographic region. Therefore, the number of abortions that should be cause for concern will vary, and published thresholds of acceptable losses range widely from around 2–8%. You will need to develop a threshold for concern based on past experiences. Typically, we suggest a



46 Yeans Galancing

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ASA 4362939 • CE 8 • WW 83 • YW 114 • API 122 • TI 75



PB SM • L423 • S: SAS Shootin the Moon • MGS: King of the Yukon BW 88 • Homo Black • Homo Polled



PB SM • M334 • S: KBHR Honor • MGS: Silver Lake Gold Digger BW 90 • WW 736 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Maternal brother to \$55,000 evaluation SAS Black Majic

ASA 4423381 • CE 11 • WW 85 • YW 126 • API 128 • TI 82



PB SM • M131 • S: SRH Hannibal 5H • MGS: Hook's Zebulon BW 80 • Red • Homo Polled Maternal-sib to SAS Antidote

ASA 4423374 • CE 11 • WW 96 • YW 133 • API 136 • TI 89



PB SM • M802 • S: Erixon Bitten • MGS: Erixon Bitten BW 87 • WW 808 • Hetero Black • Polled



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INDUSTRY UPDATE

2–2.5% rate of mid- to late-term abortions to be expected for the average herd in Nebraska. Regardless, knowing your own herd and your management strategies should help define your action threshold. If in doubt, it is never a bad idea to discuss losses with your veterinarian early on and potentially even hold samples to allow for a retrospective look if more abortions occur. Your veterinarian works with numerous producers in the area, and may have insight into ongoing losses across many herds that may help explain your own. The costbenefit ratio and a willingness to act upon any findings are important to consider before sending specimens to the lab for further diagnostics. Investigating reproductive losses when it is not warranted or without predetermined goals and action plans can be financially inefficient. Waiting too long to investigate loses opportunity for earlier interventions and potentially mitigating further losses. Thus, having a defined herd reproductive plan developed with your veterinarian can ensure sample preservation and avoid the pitfalls of diagnostic inefficiency.

Recording data such as breeding dates, pregnancy dates, and birth dates of calves can be helpful in addressing reproductive failure. This data will allow retrospective calculations of pregnancy rates over 21-day intervals and can help identify periods in early gestation where bull factors might be impacting the calf crop. Healthy breeding bulls can cover for "bad" bulls for a short period, but can also start to fail from overuse, and this type of data can help provide a clue. Clues toward an early bull failure may help guide future bull-to-cow ratios or the number of cleanup bulls to use in subsequent years. This can allow you to optimize the usage of bulls to moderate cost, but prevent catastrophic infertility and also return to your ideal calving window if it has been prolonged over time.

When a dead near-term calf is found, it is important to distinguish whether the case represents abortion, a stillbirth, or perinatal death. A prolonged or difficult birth (dystocia) that goes unnoticed can resemble a late-term abortion. Also, a live calf that dies before rising and nursing can appear as an abortion or a stillbirth. The list of differential causes in these cases can be quite different. Meconium or fecal staining on the skin (giving rise to a brown-vellow discoloration) is an indicator of fetal distress since calves will defecate in utero during a dystocia. If you see this, it is suggestive that the particular death was possibly due to a dystocia that wasn't noticed. Swelling of the face, neck, and tongue of the dead calf are also indications of dystocia. In the absence of these signs, a postmortem exam (i.e., a necropsy) by your veterinarian can be beneficial.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 80



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NEW



Rocking P Private Stock H010 By WLE Copacetic E02 EPD: CE: 16 \$API: 140 \$TI: 84



FRKG Classic 948K By SO Remedy 7F EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 119 \$TI: 74



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LLW CARD Compass 086K By LLW Card True North G71 EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 125 \$TI: 82



EPD: CE: 22 \$API: 211 \$TI: 108

HA Magnifigue 72L

By Hook's Galileo 210G

Only One 905K By SFI Platinum F5Y EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 94 \$TI: 63



Reckoning 711F By W/C Relentless 32C EPD: CE: 7 \$API: 100 \$TI: 64





By Rocking P Private Stock H010 EPD: CE: 18 \$API: 167 \$TI: 90



W/C Relentless 32C By Yardley Utah Y361 EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 106 \$TI: 72



LLSF Vantage Point F398 By CCR Anchor 9071B EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 112 \$TI: 84





KBHR Revolution H071 By HHS Mr 847D EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 173 \$TI: 104



WBF Undisputed L078 By: KBHR Hartland H100 EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 181 \$TI: 92 EPD as of 11/14/24

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HLTS/CLRWTR Ahead of Time K1 By ES Right Time FA 110-4 EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 168 \$TI: 93



W/C Cyclone 385H By W/C Bankroll 811D EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 136 \$TI: 81









WS Revival B26 By LLSF Uprising Z925 EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 102 \$TI: 66



KSU Bald Eagle 53G By Hook's Eagle 6E EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 191 \$TI: 106



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LLSF Dauntless K07 By HPF/HILL Uprising C104 EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 108 \$TI: 64



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WINC All Right 213K **By OMF Epic** EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 136 \$TI: 85



W/C Express Lane 29G By Rubys Turnpike 771E EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 133 \$TI: 88



Schooley Krown 28K **By KBHR Revolution H071** EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 168 \$TI: 103

NEW

to Ferguson in Nerning's '24 sa



LCDR Favor 149F **By LCDR Witness 541C** EPD: CE: 7 \$API: 146 \$TI: 97





LLSF Favored One H98 By LCDR Favor EPD: CE: 7 \$API: 133 \$TI: 95



W/C Style 69E By Style 9303 EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 133 \$TI: 74



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By Mr SR 71 Right Now E538

EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 130 \$TI: 88

W/C Satisfy 161L

WHF/JS/CCS Double Up G365 By W/C Double Down EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 101 \$TI: 72



Second Chance 601H **By VCL Foresight** EPD: CE: 8 \$API: 103 \$TI: 75



By TJ Teardrop EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 147 \$TI: 82



CDI Innovator 325D By TJ Main Event 503B EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 128 \$TI: 91



NEW

INDUSTRY UPDATE

One important component of a necropsy is to determine if the calf died in-utero or shortly after birth. Inspecting the lungs can give important clues, as a live calf will usually take a breath and inflate the lungs. These inflated lungs will often appear lighter pink compared to the darker red seen in collapsed or non-inflated lungs. Partial or fully inflated lungs indicate either an issue with birthing or a failure to thrive after birth, and a necropsy can help to correctly characterize these calves.

Perinatal losses (death shortly after birth) can be due to dystocia and result in an oxygen-deprived calf being born alive. They can also be due to inadequate nutrition during the last trimester of pregnancy. The losses can be the result of vitamin and / or mineral imbalances, particularly if the majority of gestation takes place in a dry lot with stored feed or byproducts being fed. It is critical to properly account for loss of nutrients in stored feeds in these non-grazing situations. A necropsy will often allow proper characterization of the death, but will rarely have gross abnormalities that provide definitive diagnosis. If indicated, your veterinarian may recommend further diagnostics in an attempt to narrow down the possibilities or determine a cause for the losses.

The diagnostic laboratory is useful to evaluate infectious causes of abortion, inherited anomalies, and some nutritional aspects that can impact birth rates and calf survivability. The causes within these groups are numerous, and detailing each specifically is outside the scope of this discussion. But, by either submitting the entire aborted fetus or submitting samples from specific tissues to the diagnostic lab, veterinary diagnosticians can look to confirm or rule out some of the more common causes.

Diagnosticians at the laboratory will review the case, order appropriate tests, and aid in the interpretation of the results. Including a complete history improves the chances of obtaining a definitive diagnosis and can keep costs down. Most diagnosticians are happy to discuss the case prior to investigation to help guide sample collection. The more common tests performed include microscopic examination of the tissues, bacterial culture, and toxicological or nutritional analysis of fetal tissues. PCR tests are also common and allow for highly sensitive detection of small amounts of nucleic acid from viruses or bacteria known to cause bovine abortions. The results are interpreted in context with the goal to assist your veterinarian in treatment or preventative management in the herd.

Unfortunately, the majority of abortion workups in veterinary diagnostic labs result in a diagnosis of "idiopathic abortion," which is a fancy way of saying we don't know what caused the abortion. The poor success rate of obtaining a definitive diagnosis for abortions is likely due to a number of factors. One of these factors is that some of these cases are not true abortions. There are undoubtedly cases pursued as abortions that are dystocias, failure to thrive, or due to nutritional or stress factors not evident in routine lab examinations. Working cows that are very near full-term can induce physiologic stress, causing endogenous steroids to be released that result in pregnancy termination. The same type of stress can happen in extraordinary weather events like snow storms. These types of abortions leave no detectable evidence in the tissues of the fetus and end up being classified as idiopathic if examined in the lab. The cost of an abortion workup varies by laboratory, but it is not uncommon to end up with several hundred dollars in testing fees. This highlights the importance of working with your veterinarian to establish thresholds for intervention, a diagnostic sampling plan, and to establish goals for using the diagnostic data obtained.

Receiving a diagnosis of an "idiopathic abortion" does not necessarily mean the investigation was not useful. As veterinarians and veterinary diagnosticians, our goal is to promote herd health and help inform management decisions. Some causes of abortions in cattle can cause abortions rates of 50% or more, and ruling out these causes with negative test results can provide value. That is, sometimes knowing what did not cause the abortion is as important as knowing what did cause the abortion.

Feedlot Inventories and Heifer Dynamics

by Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University

The latest Cattle on Feed report showed that feedlot inventories on November 1, 2024, were 11.99 million head, equal to one year ago. Feedlot inventories have been about equal to the previous year for each of the past 14 months. October feedlot placements were 105.3% of year ago levels, slightly higher than pre-report expectations. Placements in October were likely enhanced by early movement of feeder cattle in October. In Oklahoma, October auction volumes were up by 45.2% over year-earlier levels. Auction volumes dropped sharply in November. The larger, earlier fall run of calves likely means that auction volumes will be smaller for the remainder of the year. Total feedlot placements this year have been 1.1% less year-over-year.

Feedlot marketings in October were 104.7% of last year. However, October 2024 had one additional business day compared to last year, so daily average feedlot marketings were equal to one year ago. Total feedlot marketings this year have been down slightly, just 0.1% less than last year.

Recent slaughter data for October showed that heifer slaughter was 32.5% of total cattle slaughter for the month. The 12-month moving average of heifer slaughter was 31.8% of total slaughter for the past year. With just two months of data left in 2024, this is a good estimate of the annual value of heifer slaughter as a percent



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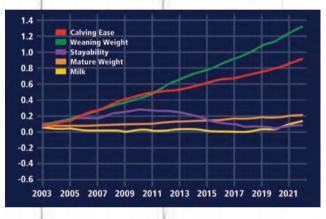
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Simmental cows set the bar for fertility, weaning weights and exceptional calving ease suited to a variety of environments. Simmental cows are adaptable, built to last in heat, fescue or high altitudes.

Maternal Trait Genetic Trends

Purebred Simmental in past 20 years



Simmental genetics bring calving ease, early growth, and cow longevity while keeping feed costs at a minimum.

Breed	Mature Cow Wt.
Hereford	1,419
Angus	1,410
Red Angus	1,409
Simmental	1,404
Source: USDA MAR	RC

\$All Purpose Index (\$API)

predicts cow herd profitability using valuable traits like cow longevity (STAY) and calving ease while keeping pressure on terminal traits.

Compare the profit potential of two Simmental bulls using \$API

- 1 Bull A's \$API = \$120 and Bull B's \$API = \$180
- 2 Breeding 25 females/year
- **3** Used for 5 years

Bull	1 \$API		2 # Females per year		3 # years using the bull		Profit Potential
А	\$120	Х	25	Х	5	=	\$15,000
В	\$180	Х	25	Х	5	=	\$22,500
					Difference	=	\$7,500

Just like an EPD, compare two bulls to see the expected difference in profit. Bull B is likely to result in direct revenue and expense savings of an additional \$7,500 over the course of five years. Plug in your numbers for **1**, **2**, and **3** to compare your potential earnings.



More carcass weight, live weight, muscle and marbling. More **profit**.

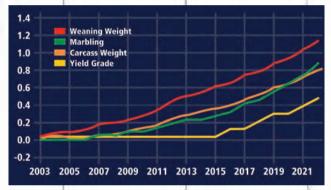
Simmental calves reliably perform in the feedyard – with better growth, better structure and fewer health problems. Simmental cattle add pounds without sacrificing marbling.

Backed by the most comprehensive beef cattle genetic database, the American Simmental Association offers commercial producers more selection and marketing tools than any other breed association.

All to strengthen your bottom line.

Terminal Trait Genetic Trends

Purebred Simmental in past 20 years



\$Terminal Index (\$TI)

predicts profitability when all calves are harvested.

Trait	Simmental rank compared to other Continental breeds
Marbling	First
Carcass Weight	Second
Back Fat	Second
Post Weaning Gain	First
Source: USDA MARC	

Simmental cattle bring marbling and growth without too much fat. Simmental genetics perfectly complement British strengths and weaknesses for an ideal carcass.

Did You Know?

 According to the National Association of Animal Breeders, Simmental ranks second for semen sales compared to all other beef breeds, and in recent years, the percentage of semen sold in the US from Simmental bulls has grown by 35%.



\$API increased 27% and \$TI increased 26% in the last 20 years. This translates to an average increased profit of \$3,375 per bull when used to sire replacement heifers and harvesting remaining calves or \$2,000 when all calves are harvested.

BELL SIMMENTALS

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BLACK MARKET L187

BOMBER M51

McDAVID M76



CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MILK
7.2	3.6	81	128	0.30	25
and the second	4252				

OKLAHOMA L251



CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MILK
6.9	3.5	89	132	0.27	30
ASA:	4420	0301			150

VERSATILE M3



CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MILK
7.8	4.6	90	135	0.28	26.1
454.	1190	1393			

WITNESS M102





CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MILK
12	0.5	94	149	0.35	21.3
SA:	4420)259			



CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MILK
8.3	3.1	92	141	0.31	20.2

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- 60 YEARLING SIMMENTAL & SIMANGUSTM BULLS
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- 30 SIMMENTAL & SIMANGUS[™] BRED HEIFERS
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INDUSTRY UPDATE

of total cattle slaughter. This estimate is included in Figure 1 (shown in red) and shows that heifer slaughter rates continue to increase. The 2024 heifer percentage of total cattle slaughter is likely to be the highest level since 2004.



Cattle cycle herd dynamics depend on the dynamics of female cattle, including both cull cows and heifers. Declining cull cow rates is often the leading indicator of producer herd rebuilding intentions. Beef cow slaughter is down 17.9% year-over-year in the first 45 weeks of 2024. This is projected to result in an annual culling rate of about 10%, roughly equal to the long-term average and down from the recent high of over 13% in 2022. During herd expansion the cow culling rate typically drops below 9% for three to four years.

The biggest component of herd expansion is heifer retention. The heifer slaughter rates in Figure 1 indicate that no heifer retention is occurring yet. Heifer retention usually lags changes in cow culling. Herd expansion results in decreased heifer slaughter rates similar to the 1991–1996, and the 2014–2017 periods. Current heifer slaughter rates suggest that the beef cow has continued to decrease in 2024 and that prospects for herd expansion in 2025 are very limited.

<u>ST</u>



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Precision genomic selection tools FOR THE FUTURE of commercial beef production

The important question is, which bull(s) or genetics should you purchase to create the outcome you want and improve the uniformity of your calf crop and future cow herd?

Using a genomic snapshot of your cow herd, RightBull will rank sale bulls or AI candidates for your very best results. This provides substantially more insurance of success than just paging through a catalog or walking from pen to pen.

ULTIMATELY, you make the decisions from the prescribed short list based on the traits and factors you prioritize. The bulls on your list may be completely different from the ones on your neighbor's list, based on your goals and history of genetic selections.

Additional Options

- Selecting ideal heifer bulls using precision RightBull and RightMate technologies.
- Genomic sorting of females into uniform groups for precision bull turnout.
- Genomically sort cows by desired outcome, then prescribe special purpose bulls.
- RightBull precision is also now available for seedstock producers.

The PROCESS

Access genotypes, if they are currently available, or genotype a minimum of 25% of the herd or group. This information must be as raw genotypes and not genomic scores for RightBull.



Get permission from your seedstock provider for Top Genomics to access the candidate bull's genotypes.



Participate in a conversation regarding your mating plans and breeding objectives so that the results can be customized for your operation.



Top Genomics will provide a RightBull ranking and %Genomic Match for bulls as an important "first sort" in preparation for purchase.



Please allow 5-8 weeks from the time you collect DNA samples for results. Two weeks if cow's genotypes are already available.

MARTY ROPP 406-581-7835



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Please join us for our annual bull sale on Friday, March 21. We are offering 90 SimAngus[™] bulls developed on "THE

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NEW SALE DATE FOR 2025 ONLY!

Only in 2025, due to the BHSS schedule we will move our sale to Sunday, February 16, 2025 to accommodate many of your schedules. We look forward to seeing you at our 8th Annual Production sale in Highmore, South Dakota!



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The influence of ES Right Time FA 110-4 needs no introduction! He is the "do it all" sire to inject performance, carcass merit, and maternal excellence! One of the most consistent sires that we have ever used.. the proof is in the progeny!



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Franzen Sale Facility -Leigh, NE - 1:00 PM CT Cattle viewing Monday afternoon and prior to the sale.



He sells. 131 (4341981) PB SM - Red, Homo Pld Redhill Double Agent son \$API 179.6 \$TI 99.1



She sells. 121 (4342057) 3/4 SM - Homo Blk, Homo Pld LF Rampage daughter \$API 120.2 \$TI 80.9 Bred to KBHR Global



She sells 573 (4342045) 3/4 SM - Red, Homo Pld HSF Cardinal 133G daughter \$API 138.8 \$TI 82.2 Bred to Honor Guard



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Questions, contact cmp@simmgene.com for more information regarding this program.

The American Simmental Association Carcass Merit Program (CMP) is the beef industry's most demanding and informative young sire test. The program is a hallmark of ASA breed improvement for economically relevant carcass traits. Commercial producers play an integral part in this project.

Participants receive:

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- Free genotyping on terminal progeny
- Keep any or all replacement females

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*The CMP is a structured young sire progeny test. Participating cooperator herds will random sample their cow herd with CMP semen, and the resulting male (or female) progeny will be harvested with individual carcass data gathered. ASA Staff will work with cooperator herds to provide bulls that fit the general criteria of your management program; however, only bulls nominated into the CMP program may be used. Producers are encouraged to be somewhat proficient in Microsoft Excel for accurate and consistent record-keeping.

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ASA 4426004 - PB SM - KBHR BOLD RULER H152 SON

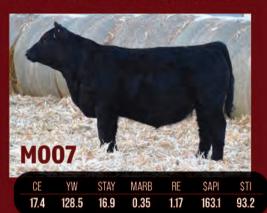


ASA 4426064 - PB SM - TSN STATESMAN KOO6 SON

Simmental AND SimAngus[™] Bulls TSNSIMMENTALS.COM



ASA 4426208 - PB SM - KBHR BOLD RULER H152 SON



ASA 4425919 - PB SM - BRIDLE BIT RESOURCE G9117 SON



153.4 11.6 151.7 14.2 0.45 1.09 99.5

ASA 4425898 - PB SM - LCDR RESERVE 210J SON



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"We have been selling a lot of our beef and through the locker the last several years. Here is a photo of ribe eyes cut from our beef 3 weeks ago. We have been buying 3C/NLC carcass quality bulls and it shows in the quality meat that is produced. Thanks!" - Jim Sonius, Spencer, JA

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A





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JBS Mr. Standout 167M Schooley Standout x Cable's Turn Ur Head PB SM • ASA# 4432934 Adj. WW: 792 Ratio: 120



JBS Mr. Dakota 806M KRJ Dakota Made x LRS Elevate PB SM • ASA# 4432919 Adj. WW: 714 Ratio: 108



JBS Mr. Eagle 908M Hook's Eagle x Hart All In 5/8 SM • ASA# 4432920 Adj. WW: 760 Ratio: 115



JBS Mr. Earl 625M 3BS Earl x CCR Cowboy Cut 3/4 SM • ASA# 4432948 Adj. WW: 716 Ratio: 109



Contact us for a sale catalog. Free wintering of bulls until April 1 and semen test. Bulls had no creep feed. Cattle pictures can also be viewed at: www.bendaranch.com



JBS Mr. True North 246M M&E True North x 3BS Earl 1/2 SM • ASA# 4433017 Adj. WW: 706 Ratio: 107



JBS Mr. Boulder 217M CCR Boulder x Colorado Bridle Bit 3/4 SM • ASA# 4433034 Adj. WW: 703 Ratio: 107

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REG# 4128302 DOB 4.28.22 BREED PB SIMMENTAL

K07

HOMOZYGOUS POLLED

HPF/HILL UPRISING CIOY X TJSC ONYX 44B





LLSF

Daughter sold for \$30,000



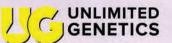
Daughter sold for \$17,500



Daughter sold for \$5,250



TJSC Onyx 44B - dam of K07



Ryan Andersen 25367 190th Street Bloomfield IA 52537 641.226.1884 Jerry & Barb Lee 1495 County Rd 274 Columbia MO 65202 573.881.5629

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Located at the Ranch

» Registered & Commercial Heifers & Registered Yearling Bulls « Offering powerful Red Angus and Red SimAngus Cattle (with performance tested pedigrees and a strong maternal core)

* * COME VISIT US AT THE RANCH PRIOR TO THE SALE AND RECEIVE \$100 OFF YOUR PURCHASE * *

Justin & Jade Herl | (785) 623 - 8404 | Victoria, KS

www.diamondhranch.org

DRAKE SIMMENTAL 1.31.25 Bull and Temale Sale Drake Sale Drake Sale Eacility, Centerville, IA at 1:00 PM (CT)

POSS DEADWOOD x KBHR MATRON OF HONOR F202



CE 13 YW 144 MARB 1.12 RE 1.12 \$API 180 \$TI 107 Full brother to \$30,000 Iron Creek Overhaul. Top 10% YW and ADG, 1% Marb and 3% REA.



CE 17 YW 154 MARB 0.98 RE 0.62 **SAPI 188 STI 110** Top 10% CE, 3% WW and YW, 2% Marb. Dam is a top selling heifer from Cow Camp Ranch - she is a beast!

DB ICONIC G95 x KBHR MATRON OF HONOR F202



CE 11 YW 140 MARB 1.11 RE 0.97 \$API 177 **ŠTI 108** Top 15% WW, YW, ADG, 1% Marb, 10% REA. A DB Iconic natural son of the Matron donor - a massive breeding piece with a unique pedigree for the breed.



YW 141 MARB 0.76 RE 1.16 \$API 161 \$TI 101 **CE 15** Top 25% CE, 10% WW 15% YW, 10% Marb, 2% REA.



YW 136 MARB 0.59 RE 1.14 **SAPI 170** STI 96 **CE 15** Top 25% CE, 15% YW and ADG, 3% REA.



Sells safe in calf to Five Star Jackson.

70 Simmental, SimAngus™ Age-Advantaged and Yearling Bulls - 28 Spring Calving SimAngus™ Bred Heifers

DRAKE SIMMENTAL Larry and Carol Drake Mason 641.895.5735

IRON CREEK CATTLE CO. DRAKE CATTLE COMPANY Flint 563.580.1053

Denny and Cara Drake Denny 641.658.2288

HARLAN CATTLE CO. Mason and Sara Harlan Mason 641.895.5735

To request a sale book, contact any of the numbers listed. View online sale book, visit drakesimmental.net or ironcreekcattle.com

Catch the sale at dvauction.com Auction Broadcasting Real-Time Auctions Marty Ropp 406-581-7835 **Corey Wilkins** 256-590-2487 Jared Murnin 406-321-1542 alliedgeneticresources.com





INTEGRITY 346L

SIRE: LBRS GENESIS G69 DAM: HOOK'S HOPE 208H

HOMO BLACK & HOMO POLLED API 184.7 || TI 105.7 || MARB 0.81 ASA #4300790

LIMITED SEMEN AVAILABLE!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! 6TH ANNUAL BULL SALE 3/28/2025 CLEAR LAKE, MN



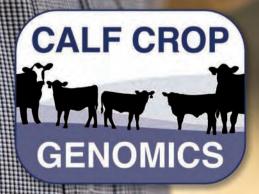
REFERENCE DAM: HOOK'S HOPE 208H

\$20,000 HIGH SELLING SIMMENTAL BULL AT THE 2024 GREAT NORTHERN BULL & FEMALE SALE!

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The decision you make today will influence the next 20 years.



Make it a good one.

406-587-4531 🔶 researchdna@simmgene.com 🔶 www.simmental.org/ccg

43rd Annual Klain Simmental Ranch Production Sale



1 p.m. CST at the Ranch, Ruso, ND **DVAuction**

Selling Simmental & SimAngus™ bulls, breds and open registered heifers



KSR 372M #4424089 - 2/15/24

PB SM, Homo-Polled, Homo-Black BW: 89 lbs WW: 722 lbs CLRS GUARDIAN 317G x KSR KY KY 372K								
CE	BW	ww	YW	MCE	MILK			
11.9	0.1	96.3	143.1	9.4	23.7			
MWW	CW	YG	MB	API	TI			
71.8	50.3	-0.24	0.43	169.1	98.2			



KSR 157M #4424017 - 2/27/24

PB SM, Homo-Polled, Homo-Black BW: 94 lbs WW: 715 lbs LTS HOTZ TOP SHELF 5J X KSR CHRYSTAL 157H

CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MILK
10.2	1.9	98.2	136.1	6.7	20.5
MWW	CW	YG	MB	API	TL
69.5	33.6	-0.44	0.03	128	87.1
				1	oto



KSR 654M #4424127 - 3/1/24 PB SM, Homo-Polled, Hetero-Black BW: 104 lbs WW: 805 lbs LTS HOTZ TOP SHELF 5J x KSR CASIE 654C CE BW ww YW MCE MILK 6.9 4.7 97.9 147 27 18.8 MWW CW YG MB API TI 67.7 48.7 -0.41 -0.12 107.9 79.6



KSR 435M #4424104 - 2/23/24 1/2 SM 1/2 AR, Homo-Polled, Red BW: 90 lbs WW: 679 lbs SIX MILE MOSSY 0AK 175H x KSR QUEENIE 435A

	MILK	CE	BW	ww	YW	MCE	MILK	CE
	20.5	13.7	0.4	84.7	128.9	9.3	27.7	13.6
	TL	MWW	CW	YG	MB	API	TI	MWW
	87.1	69.9	38.1	-0.17	0.41	142.6	86.6	74.5
L	.ots c	vailal	ble	for v	/iew	ing (at an	y time



KSR 31M #4423975 - 3/19/24

3/4 SM	BW:	100 lbs	WW: 78	30 lbs	
KSR M.	AINM	1AN 72:	SK X KS	SR ANN	IE 3 IG
CE	BW	ww	YW	MCE	MILK
10.4	2.9	107.2	170.7	7	27.2
MWW	CW	YG	MB	API	TI
80.8	42	-0.97	n 29	122 3	951



KSR 1896M #4424211 - 2/18/24

PB AN, Homo-Polled, Homo-Black BW: 91 lbs WW: 774 lbs DEER VALLEY GROWTH FUND x KSR ELVIRA 1896E

UE.	BW	VV VV	YVV	MLE	MILK
13.6	-0.9	96	162	9.1	25.9
MWW	CW	YG	MB	API	TI
74.5	77.5	0.21	0.62	129.2	87.1

EPDs pulled 12/1/24

Trey Klain: 701-531-2008

klainsimmentalranch.com

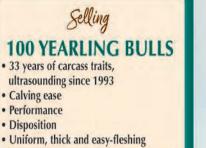
 \checkmark

Durnell Klain: 701-720-1316

 \checkmark

50th Annual Production Sale

Saturday, February 1, 2025 Private Treaty Auction: 1 p.m. Sharp At the Farm • Corning, IA RED ANGUS • RED SIMMENTAL • RED SIMANGUS^{WI}



• Priced from \$3,800, \$4,000 and \$4,200

Heifers will be offered private treaty in the fall as bred heifers.

Visitors are welcome to visit the farm before the sale to view the bulls.

We are happy to assist you in your bull selections to help you reach your cow herd profitability goals.



For half a century, Loonan Stock Farm has been more than a source of quality bulls – we've been a partner in your success. Our legacy is built on the loyalty of customers who year after year raise profitable, high-performing cattle. It's your trust and dedication that have made this five-decade milestone possible.

At Loonan Stock Farm, we specialize in breeding low-birthweight bulls that grow fast and calve easily. Our Red Angus, Simmental and hybrid bulls bring the benefits of heterosis, delivering extra growth and vigor to your calves. With carefully selected genetics, we ensure your calves weigh up at weaning, excel in the feedlot, and yield top carcass quality.

As we celebrate our 50th Anniversary Bull Sale on Feb. 1, we remain committed to providing the reliable genetics you've come to expect.

Loonan Stock Farm - Genetics for the Cow-Calf Producer



Red Angus



Simmental

Hybrid



Judy Loonan Rick Thompson, Herdsman

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1724 Holly Avenue • Corning, IA 50841 Judy's Cell: (515) 423-5642 • Rick's Cell: (515) 229-0920 E-mail: Isfrras@gmail.com Website: www.loonanstockfarm.com

RED ANGUS • RED SIMMENTAL • RED SIMANGUS™



The Nelson Livestock Company breeding program stressed good dispositions, calving ease, long stayability, strong growth and industry desirable carcass traits. THIS FOCUS WILL PRODUCE CATTLE THAT CAN GO OUT AND WORK FOR YOU.









FEBRUARY 10, 2025 1:00 PM (MT) AT THE RANCH NEAR WIBAUX, MONTANA

Range raised Simmentals for over 50 years

When you buy bulls from Nelson Livestock Co., you expect maintenance free genetics. Our rugged, forage based operation is designed to be as close to the conditions of our primary customers' as we can make them. Environmentally tested black and red SimAngus™ and Simmental genetics for no-miss crossbreeding solutions. Selected for generations to thrive without extra inputs, and then produce high value feeder cattle that generate efficiency, beef value and profits all down the beef chain.

> WHERE PERFORMANCE IS BRED ON. NOT FED ON.



SIMMENTAL • SIMANGUS™ • ANGUS 5831 Hwy 7, Wibaux, Montana 59353 Tom & Renee Nelson 406-588-3371, SUPERIOR REP Brent Nelson 406-978-2697 Taylen Nelson 406-853-3620 Gavin Nelson 701-218-0482 www.nelsonlivestockco.com

Bulls for the Big Country.

Pictures and data on sale bulls will be available on our website. Contact us or visit our website to be added to the mailing list.





Marty Ropp Corey Wilkins 256-590-2487 Jared Murnin 406-321-1542 www.alliedgeneticresources.com

Data drives our beef decisions today. Data will drive it even more tomorrow.

So, how do you get maximum genetic awareness at a tolerable price point?

One on one consultation and multiple pricing options allow ASA's Total Herd Enrollment to meet your family's needs. Squeeze every drop of genetic knowledge from your herd to give your kids and grandkids the greatest chance at raising their own families in the beef business. There are options available to meet the needs of almost any production system and they can work with any breed type.

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American Simmental Association

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built for the south and fescue country



SEMEN AVAILABLE THROUGH CULMINATION OWNERS, ALLIED GENETIC RESOURCES AND CATTLE VISIONS.

cow families

in the breed

backed by one of the highest maternal

GIBBS CULMINATION ASA 4120425 BD 09-12-2022 PUREBRED SIMMENTAL LBRS Genesis G69 x Gibbs 90476 Louise Y534

CE ADG MILK MWW STAY DOC RW MARR CAPI WW CW RF 66 117 106 173 0.42 30 83 16 14 0.93 0.91 189

CULMINATION is maternally backed by a cow family that consistently transmits genomics that improve profitability on EPDs, especially API and TI. Maternal brothers were the top and second high selling bulls in the Gibbs Farms Fall 2024 Sale.

CULMINATION ranks in the top 1% in 8 traits for adding value in WW, YW, ADG, MWW, CW, MARBLING, API, and TI.

CULMINATION was a phenotypic standout in the sale with structural integrity.

CULMINATION first calf reports are good - calves were born unassisted and have the same superb look as their sire.









Jared Royer 573-489-2900

jared@cattlevisions.com



CULMINATION OWNERS

LUDWIG SIMMENTALS Doug 573-268-9609 Randy 573-243-5427 RLE SIMMENTAL Roger Eakins 573-576-2965 Eakinsr48@gmail.com





ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025 · 1 PM MST AT THE RANCH, CRAWFORD, NEBRASKA



2024 NWSS GRAND CHAMPION Pen of Five Percentage Simmental Bulls



2024 NWSS RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION Pen of Three Purebred Simmental Heifers



JOCK, BRENDA & SKYE BEESON

100 Wohlers Drive - Crawford, NE 69339 Brenda. 308-430-2117 - Jock. 308-430-0668 WCSBEESON@BBCNET - WWW.WESTERNCATTLESOURCE.COM



Graham Blagg - 530-913-6418 Jered Shipman - 806-983-7226 Tim Anderson - 605-682-9343 WWW.INNOVATIONAGMARKETING.COM

SIMANGUS"

Annual Bull Sale FEB. 8, 2025 • 1 P.M. Lincoln County Fairgrounds • North Platte, Neb. 90 Black SimAngusTM Bulls 70 Red SimAngusTM Bulls

PRACTICALITY. FUNCTIONALITY. Heterosis.

First Breeding
 Season Guarantee

576

- Free Delivery to Nebraska and Surrounding States
- Genomically
 Enhanced EPDs
- \$250 Sale Credit for Viewing the Bulls at the Ranch Prior to the Sale



Tyrell and Deandra Rousey • (308) 530-9279 4570 N Homestead Rd • North Platte, NE 69101 www.RouseySimAngus.com • **F**/RouseySimAngus • **DVAuction**

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200+ YEARLING BULLS SELL DEDICATED BREEDERS COMMITTED TO **OUALITY GENETICS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE.** BACKED BY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE.

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Marty Ropp Corey Wilkins 256-590-2487 Rocky Forseth 406-590-7984 Jared Murnin 406-321-1542



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Featuring-

PEN OPENS AT 10 A.M. (CT)

CCSK MUFASA 402M

The start N

Find us on Facebook

3/4 SM 1/4 AN - ASA: 4341021 Homozygous Black & Homozygous Polled API - 155.6 TI - 92.9 SFG COWBOY LOGIC D627 X HOOK'S GENEVA 2G

SELLING 25 SIMMENTAL & SIMANGUS™ BULLS BY PRIVATE TREATY

SELLING FIRST COME FIRST SERVE FREE HOUSING THROUGH APRIL 15TH GGP 100K DNA - COAT COLOR - POLLED TESTED

SETH & KALI FLOWER- SHANE & MADISEN FLOWER Benson, Minnesota SETH: 320-815-8219 - KALI: 218-684-4898 Find our catalog & videos at: WWW.COTTONWOODCATTLECCSK.COM



THE QUALITY GOES IN BEFORE THE BRAND GOES ON

23^d Annual Sale SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025

1 PM CENTRAL · SCHAAKE FARMS SALE FACILITY · WESTMORELAND, KANSAS

Offering 70 SIMMENTAL & SIMANGUS BULLS 30+ COMMERCIAL OPEN AND BRED FEMALES



M4 SIMMENTALS WESTMORELAND, KS TROY: 785-250-0522 MCCRACKEN LIVESTOCK KANSAS CITY, KS ZACH: 620-384-6176 MID-AM GENETICS Muscotah, KS Ryan: 785-221-3284 PARSONS LIVESTOCK LEAVENWORTH, KS GARRETT: 832-651-3634 SCHAAKE FARMS WESTMORELAND, KS SCOTT: 785-456-4949

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REQUEST A CATALOG

Make an impact on the Heart of **YOUR** Herd ...

Offering includes 45+ black and red, genomic enhanced yearling bulls, as well as 50 yearling commercial open heifers... straight from the HEART of the HERD.

Bulls average 159 for \$API and 94 for \$TI. All genomics are enhanced with RightMate scores.

New option this year - Klein Ranch is offering to do all the work to get your heifers bred - pick up in October 2025.

HEART of the HERD

1:00 PM CT in Atwood, Kansas **MARCH 5** Simmental and SimAngus™ Rawlins County Fair Grounds

Selling sons of

Hooks Galileo, KBHR Cimarron, CLRS Homeland, GW Hilger One, Leachman Hoss, Bieber Jumpstart, CLRS King James and Basin Jameson.



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TEATH AND AMI KLEIN

785-626-9056 Atwood, Kansas 785-626-4212

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TRIANGLE J

Nebraska's Largest Source for Homozygous Black, Homozygous Polled SimAngus™ Genetics

All bulls are born, fed and raised from one ranch, giving you the most accurate contemporary groups possible.

Bulls will be performance and fertility tested, and sell with genomicaly enhanced EPDs. All bulls will be cared for free of charge until April 1, 2025.

Contact us today to be added to our mailing list for a January sale book.



12:30 рм (ст) • At the Ranch, Miller, NE Selling 300 Simmental, SimAngus™ & Angus Bulls



748M TJ GOLD 274G SON ASA 4366287 5/8 SM 1/4 AN \$API 177 - \$TI 96



502M E & B WILDCAT 9402 SON ASA 4366331 1/2 SM 1/2 AN \$API 193 - \$TI 107



509M HA JUSTICE 30J SON ASA 4366338 PB 5M \$API 169 - \$TI 103



537M JC MR PONTIAC D114K SON ASA 4366366 PB SM \$API 172 - \$TI 96



545M DB ICONIC G95 SON ASA 4366374 1/2 SM 1/2 AN \$API 169 - \$TI 111





867M TJ GOLD 274G SON ASA 4365558 PB SM SAPI 168 - STI 100

Visit our website for more sale information www.trianglejranch.com

Bid live online www.dvauction.com

DVAuction Broadcasting Real-Time Auctions



599M KBHR BOLD RULER H152 SON ASA 4366430 3/4 SM 1/4 AN \$API 162 • \$TI 93

TRIANGLE J

Darby and Annette Line 35355 Arrow Rd. Miller, NE 68858 Darby: 308-627-5085 Home: 308-457-2505 Dillan: 308-293-9241 www.**trianglejranch**.com



Powerful dams • Profitable progeny

M835 DCR Mr Killian K70 x Trax's Bull Dog G49 ASA# 4393984 • ADJ 205: 845 • Homo Polled



At the Ranch • New Salem, ND • 1 P.M CST 65 BULLS • 50 BRED HEIFERS

110 Creep! - Visitors always welcome!

M813 LRS Falcon 442G x Bridle Bit GPS H078 ASA# 4393962 • ADJ 205: 741 • Homo Polled Homo Black M883 RF Caliber 014G x IPU Gladiator 151C ASA#: 4394032 • ADJ 205: 730 • Homo Polled Homo Black



M869 Trax's Bull Dog G49 x DKSR Mr Rushmore Z511 ASA#: 4394018 • ADJ 205: 823 • Homo Polled



M823 IPU Rawhide 59.J x DKSR Galaxy B108 ASA#: 4393972 • ADJ 205: 759 • Homo Polled

M900 IPU Rawhide 59J x Trax's Bull Dog G49 ASA#: 4394049 • ADJ 205: 788 • Homo Polled





For over 50 years, Bridle Bit Simmentals has built a cow herd known for performance adaptability, that produces cattle that perform in anv environment.

TODAY performance adaptability is only one piece of what we do. With the rising cost of every input, our greatest tool is the efficiency data we are generating to benefit our customer's bottom line, and ours too.

BRIDLE BIT SIMMENTALS

AFFORDABLE, ROUGH TERRAIN READY BULLS BACKED BY YEARS OF PERFORMANCE TESTING, ULTRASOUND. GENOMICS AND FEED EFFICIENCY DATA.

90 SIMMENTAL AND SIMANGUS™ BULLS 12 ELITE REGISTERED HEIFER CALVES - 10 COMMERCIAL HEIFERS CALVES

PERFORMANCE ADAPTABILITY







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Chad Cook 719-529-0564 cell bridlebitsimm@gmail.com

BRIDLE BIT Simmentals

SALE PARTNERS: FAR OUT CATTLE RANCH - Walsh, CO - Jerrid Brisendine 719-353-1747 cell MEGAN WAIT - Pritchett, CO - 719-523-3002

BULL SALE

Our philosophy is simple:

Annual Production Sale Feb. 15, 2025 At the Ranch, Turtle Lake

SIMMENTAL & SIMM-INFLUENCED 50 YEARLING BULLS: 43 BLACKS · 12 REDS

> **REGISTERED SIMMENTAL OPEN FEMALES**

THE ELITE EIGHT! **4 SPECIAL BREDS · 4 SPECIAL OPENS**

We have and will continue to breed cattle with calving case, while maintaining reasonable and sensible growth. We select females that are moderate in size that will survive and produce in our unpredictable and harsh environment. In the commercial cow/calf business there must be a continued focus on the expense and maintenance of the cow herd. Profitability is not determined by income only, but a balanced approach of inputs and income.

19

Reference Sires Include:



KBHR BOLD RULER H152



SCHOOLEY HAGGARD A411H

BAR CK RED EMPIRE 9153G





TSN HOMESTEADER K023



CLRS JEFFERSON 951J



TIM & TAM CLARK • TURTLE LAKE, ND Ranch: (701) 448-2815 • Tim Cell: (701) 799-7752 • Tam Cell: (701) 315-0032 www.DoubleTSimmentals.com

BRINK SIMMENTALS

SALE DATE: MARCH 13TH, 2025 SELLING: ELITE FULL FLECKVIEH YEARLING BULLS & FEMALES

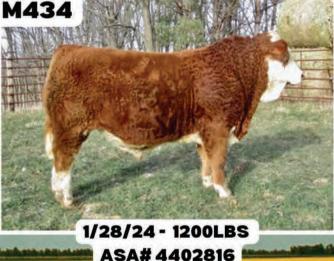


1/21/24 - 1160LBS ASA# 4402808



POLLED 1/18/24 - 1050LBS ASA# 4402789





ALL BULLS SOLD BY PHONE AUCTION Call us to request a catalog by mail. Performance and ultrasound DATA available on all bulls. Pictures, videos and online catalog available beginning in February on our website:

BRINKGENETICS.COM

DATE WEIGHED: 12/2/24 HORNED, POLLED AND DILUTER FREE 35TH YEAR OF SELLING FULLBLOOD FLECKVIEH. 100% DNA TESTED WITH GENETIC ENHANCED EPDS. THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR 2024 CUSTOMERS CHECK WEBSITE FOR PROGENY DATA!

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Raising Simmental since 1968, Charolais since 1958. We would like to thank our new and returning customers.



DCR Mr Mighty Mac M054 ASA# 4441606 WW 98 BW YW Milk 146 31 BD: 02/02/2024 -.1 Adj. 205 WT: 900 lbs. • WWR: 114 MWW \$API 80 155 \$TI 98 Sire: GW Hilger One 454H Dam: DCR Ms Vanderbilt K103



DCR Mr Master Jack M078 ASA# 4441526
 BW
 WW
 YW
 Milk

 1
 91
 146
 27

 MWW
 \$API
 \$TI

 72
 134
 89
 BD: 02/05/2024 Adj. 205 WT: 838 lbs. • WWR: 106 Sire: BCLR Jackson J9975 Dam: DCR Ms Gizzmo Red K325



DCR Mr Midnight-Ride M099 ASA# 4441747 BW WW YW Milk 2.7 102 154 29 BD: 02/07/2024





DCR Mr Maximus-Prime M227 ASA# 4441565 BW WW YW Milk 2.4 102 163 31 BD: 02/23/2024 MWW \$API 82 136 Adj. 205 WT: 862 lbs. • WWR: 109 Sire: KS Vanderbilt G220 Dam: DCR Ms G110 Galaxy J538



DCR Mr Mad Hatter M288 ASA# 4441604 BW WW YW Milk BD: 03/01/2024 92 142 29 Adj. 205 WT: 850 lbs. • WWR: 107 MWW \$API Sire: Bridle Bit Resource G9117 74 159 STI 94 Sire: Bridle Bit Resource G9117 Dam: DCR Ms Impact K109



DCR Mr Megatron M315 ASA# 4441757 BW WW YW Milk 1.6 97 141 23 BD: 03/04/2024 Adj. 205 WT: 887 lbs. • WWR: 112 MWW \$API \$TI 91 Sire: DCR Mr Hang Over H238 138 71 Dam: KS Ms Bases Loaded E401



DCR Mr Marksman M357 ASA# 4441688 BW WW YW Milk 4.3 98 154 24 BD: 03/07/2024 Adj. 205 WT: 873 lbs. • WWR: 110 MWW \$321 Sire: TJ High Calibre 556B 73 144 \$TI 88 Sire: TJ High Calibre 556B Dam: DCR Ms Denial G78



DCR Mr Maximilian M388 ASA# 4441734
 BW
 WW
 YW
 Milk

 2.2
 95
 146
 22
 BD: 03/09/20224 MWW \$API \$TI 69 150 91 Adj. 205 WT: 826 lbs. • WWR: 104 Sire: LCDR Diligence 215J Dam: DCR Ms Denial G152

www.dollfarms.com

45th Annual **Production Sale** Tuesday, March 4, 2025

I:30 p.m. CST Kist Livestock, Mandan, ND

Selling Top-Genetics for Both Breeds!

> **65 Simmentals** 95 Charolais **4 Open Females** from both breeds



Bridle Bit Resource G9117 **DKSR Mr Batman H290** DCR Mr Gizzmo Red G380 DCR Mr Hang Over H238 **DCR Mr Hard Impact H69 Hook's Full Figures 11F** DCR Mr Killian K70 **TRB Mr FF Kim K37F** CHSR General 87J Mr GD Hard Rock F834



Simmental Ranch

3991 36th St. New Salem, ND 58563 **Charles & Pamela Doll** 701-843-8673 dollboyz@westriv.com Harlan & Jodie Doll 701-843-8771

David & Donna Doll 701-843-7947 dollfarm@westriv.com

FPD as of 12 2 2024

\$TI 92



TJSC H-Town 131L STCC Tecumseh 058J x TJSC Diamond 312H ASA# 4274275 • Black • Polled 2024 NWSS Champion Bull by STCC Tecumseh



RJ Trust Fund 212K W/C Bankroll 811D x Hara's Kim Kardashian 1C ASA# 4147173 • Black • Polled Exciting, NEW, 3/4 Bankroll x Broker x Harietta for elite type!



Walsh Against The Odds Bet on Red x WLE Big Deal ASA# 4256400 • Red • Homo Polled ATO has foot size, excellent design & body dimension! His dam was a popular champion for Walsh, WI.

STI: 80



SAS Black Majic L334 SRH Hannibal x Silver Lake Gold Digger ASA# 4265277 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled \$55,000 high-seller at Springer Simmentals 2024. Add mass & outcross pedigree.



SFIS Unstoppable J3 W/C Bankroll 811D x SFIS Crystal Gayle ASA# 3969316 • Heterozygous Black • Polled Awesome son of famous donor Crystal Gale that'll improve depth, profile & structure!



Exciting combination of look, power, pedigree!

SJF SMJ Payroll 7245J

W/C Bankroll 811D x Profit

ASA# 3992818 • Red • Polled

WHF/JS/CCS Woodford J001 EGL Firesteel 103F x WHF Summer 365C ASA# 4068398 • Homo Black • Homo Polled 3/4 Simmental. NEW and exciting calving ease and outcross pedigree with outstanding phenotype out of fantastic donor Summer 365C!



Only One 905K SFI Platinum F5Y x TLLC One Eyed Jack ASA# 4132878 Black, Polled Added hair, flexibility, rib & eye appeal!



LLSF High Profile J903

ASA# 4062764 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled

Outstanding balance and look! 2023 MO State

W/C Executive Order 8543B x

PSCS Alley's Lady 902G ET

LLSF Vantage Point F398 CCR Anchor x Uprising x Quantum Leap's Dam ASA# 3492381 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled 3/4 Lead-off Bull in the 2019 NWSS Percentage Champion for Lee.



Felt Perseverance 302F W/C Executive Order 8543B x Rubys Rhythm Z231 ASA# 3493800 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled Perseverance is a new, exciting baldy Executive Order son with tremendous maternal genetics behind him. The first dozen calves out of him have



LCDR Affirmed 212H EGL Firesteel 103F x WS Miss Sugar C4 ASA# 3812282 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Use him to make those next generation Purebreds. Excellent foot shape and depth of heel.



Wood Ruthless 151H Relentless x High Regard x Aubreys BlackBlaze II ASA# 3878993 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Exciting outline and build with phenomenal cow families on both sides!



TL Revenant 35 x CSCX Bandwagon 513A

\$200,000 exciting outcross to improve all!

ASA# 4153090 • Black • Polled

Revelation 2K

WHF/JS/CCS Double Up G365 W/C Double Down x WHF Summer 365C ASA# 3658592

Double Up is by proven calving ease sensation Double Down out of the legendary WHF/Steenhoek multiple time champion WHF Summer 365C.



ZTGC Just Cuz 52K W/C Night Watch 84E x ZTGC The Blaze ASA#: 4063644 • Black • Homo Polled Jared Werning's new & exciting balanced sire for profile & function!



JBSF Berwick 41F Rocking P Legendary C918 x JBSF 402B ASA# 3462584 • Black • Polled Newly available and producing extremely valuable progeny across the nation!



GOE Lets Roll 749J W/C Bankroll 811D x W/C RJ Miss 8543 6105D ASA# 4141350 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled Lots of neck extension in a complete package!



HL Tommy Boy K65 CLRS Guardian 317G x HL Ms Smooth Criminal E174 ASA# 4167626 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Blaze Calving ease Guardian son at Echard, IA, and Heartland.



TSN Architect J618 G A R Home Town x TSN Miss Cowboy D350 ASA# 3928828 • Homo Black • Homo Polled The most exciting calving ease SimAngus™ in the land with top % ranks in every trait!



TJSC Coping with Destiny 9K WLE Copacetic E02 x TJSC Diamonds Destiny 134C ASA# 4103854 • Black • Polled 2023-2024 dominante Grand Champion!



Rocking P Private Stock H010 WLE Copacetic E02 x Rubys Wide Open 909W ASA# 3775641 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Private Stock was the 2022 Fort Worth Champion Bull and the 2021 NAILE Champion Bull.



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CLRS Guardian 317G Hook's Beacon 56B x CLRS Always Xcellent ASA# 3563436 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Guardian was the \$85,000 selection in the 2020 "Bred For Balance" Sale. He's the breed's #1 \$API Purebred and #2 Marbling Purebred!



KJK1 38 Special 801J JSUL Something About Mary 8421 x R Built To Believe 801F ASA# 3972780 • Hetero Black • Hetero Polled Cool profiled SAM son with a cool face backed by a great cow family!



SO Remnant 418J SO Remedy 7F x STCC Ms Persistant 7161 ASA# 4035943 • Black • Polled Great Remedy son who was Reserve Champ at NAILE & Cattlemen's Congress!



W/C Bet On Red 481H W/C Fort Knox x W/C Relentless ASA# 3808091 • Red • Homo Polled Griswold's red bull purchase from the 2021 Werning sale!



CLWTR Clear Advantage H4G LLSF Vantage Point F398 x Miss Sugar C4 ASA# 3858588 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Exciting, new sire that's ultra-complete out of one of the hottest donors!



W/C Red Bird 269J W/C Bankroll 811D x W/C Miss Angel 2870Z ASA# 3974327 • Red • Homo Polled Red Bird is the \$90,000 Brandon Bird & Jared Werning owned HOT red sire by Bankroll & National Champion ANGEL!



W/C Express Lane 29G Rubys Turnpike 771E x Hooks Shear Force 38K ASA# 3644933 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Complete Turnpike son at Western Cattle Source, NE!



SWSN Cash Flow 81E Profit x MR CCF Vision ASA# 3348420 • Black • Polled Cash Flow sired some of Hartman's and Vogler's high selling lots this past year!



SAS Infra-Red H804 All Aboard x Erixon Bitten ASA# 3803257 • Red • Homo Polled One of the hottest red bulls to sell in 2021!



BAS Money Maker J801 Hook's Eagle 6E x BAS Miss Beacon F801 ASA# 3978845 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Exciting herdsire at Heartland, IA! HIGH \$API WITH GREAT BUILD!



Bar CK Red Empire 9153G IR Imperial x CDI Verdict ASA# 3766616 • Homo Polled High-selling bull at BAR CKs 2021 Sale! Top 1%



Welshs Dew It Right 067T x ES A110 ASA# 3481590 • Homo Black • Homo Polled Newly available power, phenotype and marketability sire!



WHF Entourage H450 KCC1 Exclusive 116E x WHF Delilah 45D by TJ Main Event ASA# 3924201 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled WHF & Boyert's exciting new herdsire!



ALL/FCF Hot Topic 099H Profit x FCF Phyllis 532 ASA# 3926810 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled Hot Topic was the 2021 NAILE Grand Champion % Bull! His dam is one of the hottest Angus donors in the world!



RP/CMFM John B J104 HPF Quantum Leap Z952 x RP/BCR Stylish Love F158 ASA# 4109070 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled Current 2023 Champion PTP % Bull! Champ at Ft. Worth, OKC, Am Royal!





S&S TSSC Limitless 041H (1/2) Conley No Limit x WS Revival ASA# 3776857 • Black • Polled Calf champion at 2020 NAILE and 2021 Royal!



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JWC JOURNEYMAN 234M | ASA: 4389126 | PB SM OMF JOURNEYMAN J24 x W/C JWC ANGEL 9005G A powerful set of baldie faced studs will highlight the bull offering.



JWC 1883L | ASA: 4423185 | PB SM PROFIT x WFR REBA E714 Certainly one of the most special RED HIDED bulls to ever come out of the JWC program.



JWC 2F VICKI 309K | ASA: 4221238 | PB SM ES RIGHT TIME FA110-4 x HPF VICTORIA B396E There is no question about the legacy Vicki has built, yet some of her best will sell in 2025! Safe in calf to ZTGC Just Cuz 52K

sale management by

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QB L51 SPRINGCREEK IRONSIDES QB MS D613 Sold to Scott Braun

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QB NO LIMIT L28 LRS FALCON 442G QB MS J153 Sold to G & D Simmentals

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

- 10 Diamond Bar S's Annual Bull Sale Great Falls, MT
- 12 Bricktown National Simmental Sale Oklahoma City, OK
- 16 Walking 5 Ranch's Annual Bull Sale Lavina, MT
- 18 Cottonwood Cattle's Private Treaty Bull Showcase Benson, MN (pg. 113)
- 18 Cow Camp Ranch's Annual Spring Bull Sale Lost Springs, KS (pgs. 5, 133)
- 19 The One and Only Simmental Sale Denver, CO
- 21 Cattle Connect at Franzen Simmentals Leigh, NE (pg. 91)
- 21 Powerline Genetics' Arapahoe Sale Arapahoe, NE
 24 Double J Farms' 51st Annual Bull and Female Sale
 - Garretson, SD (pgs. 49, 135)
- 24 Ellingson Simmentals' Annual Production Sale Dahlen, ND (pg. 134)
- 25 Forster Farms' 46th Annual Simmental Production Sale Smithfield, NE (pg. 57)
- 25 J&C Simmentals' Annual Bull Sale Arlington, NE (pgs. 56, 134)
- 26 Triangle J Ranch's Bull Sale Miller, NE (pgs. 116, 134)
 27 APEX Cattle's Annual "Heterosis Headquarters" Bull, Bred Heifer and Fall
- Pair Sale Dannebrog, NE (pgs. 14, 15)
 27 Reck Brothers-N-Sons' Genetic Advantage Production Sale Blakesburg, IA (pg. 33)
- **31** Drake Simmental's Bull and Female Sale Centerville, IA (pg. 102)

FEBRUARY

- 1 43rd Annual Klain Simmental Production Sale Ruso, ND (pgs. 105, 134)
- 1 Blue River Gang's 38th Production Sale Rising City, NE (pg. 35)
- 1 Ekstrum Simmentals' Annual Bull Sale Kimball, SD (pg. 139)
- 1 Loonan Stock Farm's 50th Annual Production Sale Corning, IA (pg. 106)
- 1 Ruby Cattle Company's Annual Production Sale Murray, IA
- 1 Springer Simmental's Sale of Value Based Genetics Decorah, IA (pg. 73)
- 1 Stockmen's Source Bull Sale Wellfleet, NE (pg. 25)
- 2 Hartman Cattle Company's 11th Annual Simmental Bull Sale Tecumseh, NE
- 2 Kline Simmental Ranch's Annual Sale Hurdsfield, ND (pgs. 74, 75)
- **3** 44th Annual Gateway "Breeding Value" Bull Sale Lewistown, MT (*IBC*)
- 3 Bell Simmentals' 9th Annual Bull and Female Sale Fordville, ND (pgs. 83, 134)
- 3 Long's Simmentals' Annual Production Sale Creston, IA (pg. 126)
- Koepplin's Black Simmental's 37th Annual Bull Sale Mandan, ND (pg. 72)
- 4 Little Bitterroot Ranch and Laird Simmental's Joint Sale Ramsay, MT (pgs. 133, 137)
- 5 Begger's Diamond V Big Sky Genetic Source Bull Sale Wibaux, MT (pg. 53)
- 6 K-LER Cattle's Annual Production Sale Saint Charles, MN (pg. 92)
- 6 Rust Mountain View Ranch's Bull Sale Mercer, ND
- 6 Stavick Simmental's Annual Sale Veblen, SD (pgs. 130, 135)
- 7 Kunkel Simmentals' Annual Production Sale New Salem, ND (pg. 117)
- 7 Schooley Cattle's Annual Production Sale Bloomfield, IA (pgs. 70, 71)
- 7 Silver Dollar Simmentals' 1st Annual Production Sale Rubgy, ND
- 8 Kenner Simmentals' 29th Annual Production Sale Leeds, ND (pgs. 62, 63)
- 8 Oak Meadow Farms' Annual Production Sale Cresco, IA (pq. 93)
- 8 RL Fleckvieh Limerock Ranch's 42nd Annual Bull and Bred Female Sale Brandon, IA (pg. 52)
- 8 Rousey SimAngusTM Annual Bull Sale North Platte, NE (pg. 111)
- 8 Rydeen Farms' 27th Annual "Vision" Sale Clearbrook, MN (pgs. 23, 133)
- 10 Benda Ranch Simmentals' Annual Production Sale Kimball, SD (pq. 99)
- 10 Dakota Power Bull and Female Sale Hannaford, ND
- 10 Nelson Livestock Company's Annual Bull Sale Wibaux, MT (pgs. 107, 133)
- 10 Prickly Pear Simmental Ranch's Bull Sale Helena, MT (pq. 37)
- 11 Edge of the West Production Sale Mandan, ND (pgs. 65, 134)
- 11 Werning Cattle Company's 44th Annual Production Sale Emery, SD (pgs. 54, 55)
- 12 Jackpot Cattle Co.'s Annual Private Treaty Bull and Heifer Sale Miller, SD (pg. 135)
- 12 River Creek Farms' 35th Annual Production Sale Manhattan, KS (pgs. 19, 133)
- 12 Traxinger Simmental's Annual Bull Sale Hougton, SD
- 13 Lassle Ranch Simmentals' 32nd Annual Bull Sale Glendive, MT (pg. 61)
- 14 Bred For Balance Starbuck, MN (pgs. 10, 11, 133)
- 14 Jared Werning Cattle's Annual Production Sale Parkston, SD (pg. 125)
- 14 Modoc 10th Annual "Tried and True" Bull Sale Alturas, CA
- 14 TNT Simmentals' 40th Annual "Carrying On" the Explosive Difference Sale — Lehr, ND (pgs. 131, 134)
- 15 Dixie National Simmental Sale Jackson, MS



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CONTINUED

- 15 Double T Simmental's Annual Production Sale Turtle Lake, ND (pq. 119)
- 15 Flittie Simmental/Schnabel Ranch Simmentals/Lazy J Bar Ranch's Joint Production Sale — Aberdeen, SD (pg. 84)
- 15 Rhodes Angus Open House Bull Sale Carlinville, IL (pg. 40)
- 15 Yon Family Farms' Spring and Bull and Female Sale Ridge Spring, SC
- CK Cattle & Wager Cattle's Annual Production Sale Highmore, SD (pg. 89) 16
- Trauernicht Simmental's Nebraska Platinum Standard 16 Bull Sale — Beatrice, NE (pq. 39)
- 17 Bulls of the Big Sky Billings, MT (pgs. 112, 133)
- TC Reds & Weis Cattle's Annual Production Sale Saint Ansgar, IA 17
- Quandt Brothers' 13th Annual Production Sale Oakes, ND (pg. 128) Hart Simmentals' 50th Annual Power Bull Sale Frederick, SD (pg. 41) 18
- 19
- 20 Illinois Performance Tested Bull Sale Springfield, IL
- 20 Wilkinson Farms' Breeding for the Future Sale C-B Sale Facility (pd. 142)
- 21 Dakota Xpress Annual Bull and Female Sale Mandan, ND (pgs. 42, 134)
- 21 Michigan Beef Expo Friday Night Lights Genetics Sale -
 - East Lansing, MI (pg. 64)
- 21 Multi-Breed Simmental Sale Springfield, IL
- 21 R & R Cattle Company's Annual Production Sale Chamberlain, SD (pq. 7)
- 21 Sandy Acres Simmental's Bull Sale Creighton, NE (pq. 134)
- 22 Hilltop Simmental's Bull Sale Worthing, SD
- 22-3/1 Hofmann Simmental Farms' "Buy Your Way" Bull Sale -Clay Center, KS (pg. 85)
 - 22 Lyman Livestock's Bull Sale Salina, UT (pg. 127)
 - 22 Michigan Beef Expo Breed Sales East Lansing, MI (pq. 64)
 - 24 Raatz Farms' Production Sale Mitchell, SD (pg. 43)
 - 25 Barker Cattle Company's Annual Sale Burley, ID
 - 25 Meyring Cattle Co.'s Inaugural Production Sale — Alliance, NE (pq. 86)
 - 25 Rural Route 5 Farm's Production Sale St. Johns, MI
 - 25 TSN Simmental's Bull Sale Platte, SD (pg. 96)
 - 26 C Diamond Simmentals' Annual Production Sale Dawson, ND (pg. 58)
 - 27 Felt Farms' Bull Sale West Point, NE

MARCH

- 1 Cason's Pride and Joy Bull Sale Russell, IA (pq. 45)
- Gibbs Farms' Spring Bull and Female Sale Ranburne, AL (pg. 147) 1
- KY Beef Expo Simmental Sale Louisville, KY 1
- Missouri Select Genetics Sale Keytesville, MO 1
- Moriondo Farms & MM Cattle Company's Spring Bull Sale 1 Mount Vernon, MO
- 1 Powerline Genetics' PAP-Tested Bull Sale - Castle Dale, UT
- Trinity Farms' Generations of Excellence Sale Ellensburg, WA (pgs. 77, 135) 1
- 2 Gold Bullion Group's 23rd Annual Bull Sale — Westmoreland, KS (pg. 114)
- 2 Illini Elite Spring Bull and Female Sale — Shelbyville, IL (pq. 141)
- 2 Windy Creek Cattle Company's Production Sale — Spencer, SD (pg. 81)
- 3 Hanel's Black Simmentals' Annual Production Sale - Courtland, KS
- 3 S/M Fleckvieh Cattle's Private Treaty Bull Sale — Garretson, SD (pg. 146)
- 4 Doll Simmental Ranch's 45th Annual Production Sale — Mandan, ND (pg. 121)
- 5 Klein Ranch's Heart of the Herd Sale — Atwood, KS (pg. 115)
- 6 21st Annual Cattleman's Kind Bull Sale — San Saba, TX
- Hill's Ranch Production Sale Stanford, MT (pg. 124) 6
- Kearns Cattle Company's 36th Annual Bull Sale Rushville, NE (pg. 69) 6
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<u>ST</u>



⁴⁻⁷ AJSA Eastern Regional Classic — Harrisonburg, VA

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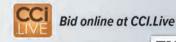
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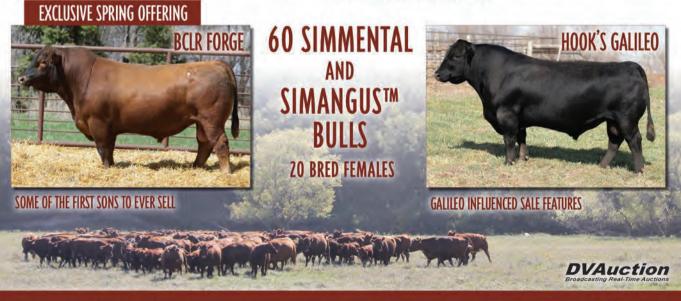
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WILDBERRY Annual Production Sale

70 FORAGE-DEVELOPED BULLS 35 BRED HEIFERS AND PAIRS FROM THE HEART OF THE HERD



BS HEIFER PAIRS SELL

L921 // ASA 4240941 // 3/4 SM 7/32 AN 1/32 MX TJ COACH CAMPBELL 429H x GW PREMIUM BEEF 021TS



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MO33 // ASA 4437296 // 1/2 SM 1/2 AN CCR COCHISE 4142H x WBF RL DEETS H126

F426 // ASA 3402487 // PB SM

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MOG6 // ASA 4437311 // PB SM SCHOOLEY KROWN 28K x ASR AUGUSTUS Z2165



M200 // ASA 4437358 // 1/2 SM 1/2 AN DEER VALLEY GROWTH FUND x U896 x SRS RIGHT-ON 22R



M092 // ASA 4437326 // 5/8 SM 3/8 AN WBF PATTON K059 x CONNEALY ALL A 525A



M093 // ASA 4437327 // 3/4 SM 1/4 AN WBF PATTON K059 x WBF DECISIVE D081



M687 // ASA 4441999 // 3/4 SM 1/4 AN WBF LIMIT UP H046 x GIBBS 1100Y HY DEACON

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Second Annual

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