

the Register

October 2020

**Serving the Simmental
and Simbrah Breeds**



Features

Exploring Genetic Defects

**Selecting for Feed Efficiency
in Beef Cattle**

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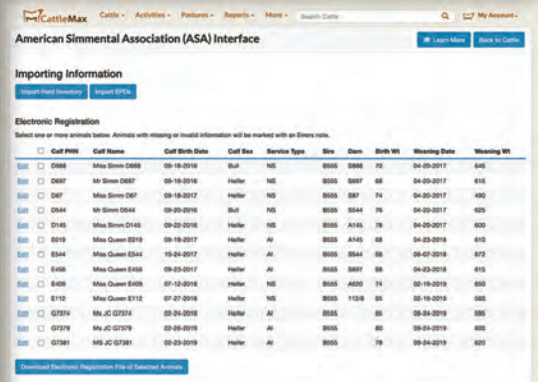
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Calf PIN	Calf Name	Calf Birth Date	Calf Sex	Service Type	Sire	Dam	Birth Wt	Weaning Date	Weaning Wt
<input type="checkbox"/>	0888	Miss Simm 0888	09-18-2016	Bull	NS	8055	8888	70	04-20-2017	645
<input type="checkbox"/>	0887	Mr Simm 0887	09-18-2016	Heifer	NS	8055	8887	68	04-20-2017	616
<input type="checkbox"/>	0887	Miss Simm 0887	09-18-2017	Heifer	NS	8055	887	74	04-20-2017	490
<input type="checkbox"/>	0844	Mr Simm 0844	09-20-2016	Bull	NS	8055	8544	76	04-20-2017	629
<input type="checkbox"/>	0145	Miss Simm 0145	09-22-2016	Heifer	NS	8055	A145	78	04-20-2017	600
<input type="checkbox"/>	8219	Miss Queen 8219	09-19-2017	Heifer	AI	8055	A145	68	04-20-2018	610
<input type="checkbox"/>	8344	Miss Queen 8344	10-24-2017	Heifer	AI	8055	8544	68	09-07-2018	672
<input type="checkbox"/>	8408	Miss Queen 8408	09-23-2017	Heifer	AI	8055	8407	68	04-20-2018	613
<input type="checkbox"/>	8408	Miss Queen 8408	01-13-2018	Heifer	NS	8055	A202	74	05-18-2018	602
<input type="checkbox"/>	8110	Miss Queen 8110	07-27-2018	Heifer	NS	8055	1109	65	05-18-2018	602
<input type="checkbox"/>	07374	Ms JC 07374	03-24-2018	Heifer	AI	8055	85	65	09-04-2018	585
<input type="checkbox"/>	07378	Ms JC 07378	03-06-2018	Heifer	AI	8055	80	60	09-04-2018	600
<input type="checkbox"/>	07381	Ms JC 07381	03-23-2018	Heifer	AI	8055	79	60	09-04-2018	600

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*About the cover: Fall roundup in Fort Collins, Colorado.
Photo by Willie Altenburg, Altenburg Super Baldy Ranch.*



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VIEWPOINT

By Clay Lassle, Glendive, MT, Western Region Trustee



As I write this viewpoint, we are just ending an extremely hot and dry summer. We went through a stretch of about 3 weeks of temperatures in the 90-100-degree range and zero rain. We were extremely fortunate to have had a wet fall the previous year and we survived on stored moisture.


Every region of the country and every operation has their own set of challenges that their cow herd must produce under, so everyone that is breeding cattle must design them to fit their environment. To do that effectively we as breeders need tools to make informed decisions that not only

affect us, but as seedstock producers, they also affect the cattlemen and women who procure their genetics from us. Simmental breeders along with our IGS partners have the largest multi-breed genetic evaluation system in the world — a system that provides producers with the most powerful, user-friendly selection tools that ever existed. We as Simmental breeders have had and need to continue to add power to our system.

That power comes from the phenotypic measurements and the DNA that we provide to the American Simmental Association. We as an association have provided the programs to encourage the collection of that data. Total Herd Enrollment (THE) has provided an avenue to record production on every cow in the herd, and a current inventory and reasons why a cow is culled. The Cow Herd DNA Roundup added to that by collecting DNA on the whole herd, along with phenotypes, like mature cow weights, hip heights, and body condition scores, coupled with parent verification. Another program that has been around for a while is the Carcass Merit Program (CMP). It has been a good source of hard-to-get carcass measurements along with phenotypes on growth and calving ease. To add to that, a couple years ago we added the Carcass Expansion Program (CXP), where ASA pays for genomic testing on calves with harvest records. The newest program we have added to encourage the flow of data is Calf Crop Genomics where we can collect DNA on whole birth groups of calves along with phenotypes such as birth weight, weaning weight, yearling weight, and also carcass measurements if possible.

My point in all of this is that we as individual breeders and as a breed will be the beneficiaries of a system that combined with visual analysis will give us the tools so we can make informed breeding decisions, to design the type of cattle that will fit our environment and the producers we serve.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve on the Board of Trustees of the American Simmental Association, representing the best breed of cattle out there. ♦


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CCR Boulder x JC Mr National, going back to
Mytty In Focus on the dam's side



E312

DOB: 10-20-17 • ½ SM ½ AN Bred Female
CCR Frontier x TNT Finale
Due to calve in December to our
Full Fleckvieh herdsire



E186

DOB: 9-5-17 • ½ SM ½ AN Bred Female
Hook's Xavier x TNT Dual Focus
Due to calve in November to Hook's Beacon son



E195

DOB: 9-7-17 • SimAngus Bred Female
Mr NLC Entrepreneur x Mytty In Focus
Due to calve in January to Hook's Beacon son



F269

DOB: 10-8-18 • F1 Simbrah Bred Female
Mr Kallion 1352 x ES Dakota
Due to calve in November to our Angus herdsire,
McKellar Investment



F244

DOB: 10-2-18 • F1 Simbrah Bred Female
Mr Kallion 1352 x Gibbs Crimson Tide
Due to calve in November to our Angus
herdsire, McKellar Investment



F333

DOB: 10-27-18 • F1 Simbrah Bred Female
Mr Kallion 1352 x Dikeman's Sure Bet
Due to calve in November to our Angus herdsire,
McKellar Investment

Attention: Trustee Elections Underway — Is Your Annual Service Fee (ASF) Paid?

Your membership must be in an active status in order to vote. Trustee elections are currently underway, and in December, ballots for amendments to the Rules and Bylaws will be delivered to adult memberships who are in an active status.

Active membership status is defined as:

- An adult membership whose ASF is current and
- One or more animals have been registered or transferred involving this membership in the last two years.

Frequently throughout the year, including early September, adult memberships are reviewed to see if any activity (animal registrations and/or transfers) have occurred within the last two years. If no activity has occurred within the past two years, the membership account will be placed in an inactive status. This membership will automatically return to active status as soon as an animal is registered and/or a certificate transferred (and the ASF for the fiscal year is current). Notifications are sent when memberships are placed in an inactive status when no activity has occurred within the past two years.

Trustee Elections are a Three-step Process.

Step 1: Board Nominations. Members submit applications to be considered for board recommendation (nomination) to run for the open Trustee positions. One recommendation (nomination) is forwarded for each open Trustee position. This step is completed in August.

Step 2: Membership Nomination (Write-in) Ballots.

The board nominations are announced and a nomination ballot is sent to all active adult members. This gives members the opportunity to write-in (nominate) a member who they feel will best represent their region and the Association. Two points of consideration:

- If you agree with the Board's nomination(s), nothing further is needed or
- Write-in a member's name, city, and state who you support to run for the open position(s) within your region and return the ballot before the deadline to the Chairman of the Tellers (addressed envelope provided).

Important: Consider voting electronically —

It is fast and easy, plus you receive verification that your ballot was received. Instructions to vote electronically are included on your paper ballot. No worries about postal mail delivery.



Nomination ballots were mailed September 10, 2020.

October 23, 2020 — Pay your ASF before October 23. On October 23, any members who have not paid their ASF will be placed in an inactive status. If this occurs, you will be ineligible to participate in the final step of the Trustee election.

Step 3: Trustee Election Ballot. Around November 12, Trustee election ballots will be mailed to active adult members. This is the ballot where members elect Trustees for the open 2021 seats. This ballot will have the board nominations (same as on the write-in ballot) plus any write-in nominations who have qualified. If no write-in nominations qualify, the board nominee is selected by acclamation.

Write-in qualifications:

- Receives at least 10 write-in nominations.
- In the event more than one person receives 10 or more votes, the individual receiving the highest vote count is the write-in candidate.
- Must be an active adult member in good standing.
- Primary residence must be located within the geographical area from which the member seeks nomination.
- Must be willing to commit to and serve a three-year term.
- No more than two members from any state can serve on the Board concurrently.
- There can be no more write-in candidates listed on the ballot than there are open seats (vacancies) to be filled.

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Exploring Genetic Defects in Beef Cattle

By Lilly Platts



Dr. David Steffen has dedicated his career in veterinary medicine to studying and identifying genetic conditions in beef cattle. His work has been instrumental in identifying the majority of the defects ASA tracks.

Genetic conditions emerged as an economic concern in beef cattle as the species was domesticated, and as intense selection for specific traits became prevalent. Today, the recognition and emergence of recessive genetic defects is fairly common, and with advancements in genetic technology, identification and management has become quite simple. Dr. David Steffen has been involved with the identification of the majority of emergent genetic defects in beef cattle characterized in the last three decades, including those affecting Simmental-cross cattle.

Dr. Steffen earned his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, followed by a Ph.D. in pathology and bovine genetics under the direction of Dr. Horst Leipold at Kansas State University. Dr. Steffen started his academic career at North Dakota State University as a diagnostic pathologist and assistant professor. During this time he became board certified in anatomic pathology by the American College of Veterinary Pathologists. In 1995, he returned to the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, where he did his pre-veterinary studies. Today he is a diagnostic pathologist and professor at the Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center. He examines tissues for diseases across all species and researches adverse genetic and congenital conditions in cattle. His research is focused on determining if an issue is inherited or due to environmental factors, and is an expert in determining if an issue is of concern. He works to establish phenotypic descriptions of emergent disease and collaborates with molecular geneticists to develop tests which can offer long-term solutions for beef cattle breeders.

What Distinguishes a Genetic Defect?

One of the most important distinctions that must be made whenever phenotypic abnormality is observed is if it is inherited (genetic defect), or due to environmental factors. Dr. Steffen explains, “The big distinction we need to be aware of is a genetic defect versus a congenital defect. That’s important because a lot of reports are just about congenital defects, which just means present at birth. All congenital defects aren’t genetic, and some genetic defects aren’t congenital.”

There are a large number of environmental factors that can cause abnormalities in cattle, just like in humans. Vitamin A deficiency, viruses, fever in females during fetal development, and toxic plants are just a few common things that can cause a calf to be born exhibiting an abnormality, and Dr. Steffen estimates that at least 90% of the cases he sees end up being attributed to something other than a genetic defect. This makes it even more important for breeders to be vigilant about reporting abnormalities — an environmental issue and a genetic condition could present similar phenotypes, which may lead a producer to simply chalk the issue up to a fluke and disregard it when in fact, it could be a genetic defect. Alternatively, a producer

could wrongly cull a good sire for an environmental effect noted in offspring. In commercial herds, Dr. Steffen sees a lot of cases where the producer will wait until there are multiple abnormal calves to report anything, which ends up making a diagnosis more difficult. Even in a commercial herd with few pedigree records, these reports can be extremely helpful in identifying defects and controlling disease.

A genetic defect is a mutation that results in an allele with an undesirable phenotype

By definition, a genetic defect is a mutation that results in an allele with an undesirable phenotype (disease or trait). When a mutation results in a physical or developmental issue that is deadly or causes extreme loss in function, it is classified as a genetic defect. Dr. Steffen explains that when he first started working with genetic defects, a sire was identified as a carrier if he was parent verified to two affected offspring. This could have major financial implications, as normal non-carrier offspring of the sire could not be distinguished by phenotype. Today, identifying carriers is still extremely important, but the affordability, speed, and availability of testing makes it much easier to weigh the benefits and consequences of continuing to breed an animal that carries a defect. Genetic testing allows producers to retain the favorable characteristics of the pedigree, but to precisely remove the deleterious gene. Technology allows research to often determine the cause in as little as six months if breeders cooperate by reporting and sampling affected calves, sires, dams and half siblings for sequencing.

What Defects Does ASA Track?

Arthrogryposis Multiplex (AM):

Known as “Curly Calf Syndrome,” AM results in stillborn calves small in size with diminished muscling, bent limbs, and twisted spines.

Recessive, lethal, affecting Angus and Angus-influenced cattle.

Contractual Arachnodactyly (CA):

Also known as fawn calf syndrome, the disorder affects the connective tissue of muscles, leading to contraction of the upper limb (most obvious in the hind limbs), and looseness of the joints of the lower limbs.

Recessive, not lethal, Angus and Angus-influenced cattle.

Development Duplication (DD):

Affected calves frequently (but not always) develop extra body parts, often limbs (most commonly, extra front legs), a condition called polymelia. Some animals with two copies of DD may have no outward sign of this trait.



Recessive, not lethal, Angus and Angus-influenced cattle.

Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH):

Also called “water head,” affected calves are born dead with an extremely large cranium, with little or no brain material or spinal cord.



Recessive, lethal, affecting Angus and Angus-influenced cattle.

Osteopetrosis (OS):

Known as marble-bone, affected calves are frequently aborted 10 to 30 days early with short lower jaw and missing bone marrow.

Recessive, lethal, Red Angus- and some Angus-derived cattle.

Pulmonary Hypoplasia with Anasarca (PHA):

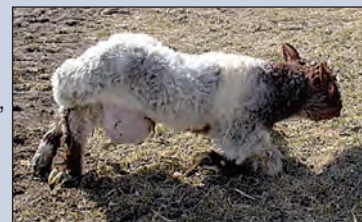
PHA-affected calves are born dead with underdeveloped lungs (pulmonary hypoplasia) and swelling caused by excessive fluid retention (anasarca).



Recessive, lethal, Shorthorn-, Maine-Anjou-, Chianina-, and Dexter-derived cattle.

Tibial Hemimelia (TH):

Calves are born with severe deformities including twisted rear legs (possibly missing part or all of bones), with fused joints, large abdominal hernias and/or skull deformities.



Recessive, lethal

(sometimes live at birth but unable to survive long), Shorthorn-, Maine-Anjou-, and Chianina-derived cattle.



Dwarfism is commonly associated with Hereford cattle, but can also be found in other breeds.

What to do if you observe an abnormality:

- Call ASA’s DNA department as soon as possible
- In the meantime, take photographs that show the abnormality from as many angles as possible.
- Fill out the abnormality report available at simmental.org
- Each case is unique, and ASA will work with each individual, and colleagues, to determine the next steps.

(Continued on page 14)



Progress Through Performance Shows

Mark Your Calendars for 2020-2021 Major PTP Open Shows

American Royal

Show Dates - October 24 & 25, 2020
816-221-9800 • www.americanroyal.com

North American

International Livestock Exposition

Show Dates - November 17 & 18, 2020
502-595-3166 • www.livestockexpo.org

National Western Stock Show

Show Dates -
Pen Shows: January 17 & 18, 2021
Hill Shows: January 19 & 20, 2021
800-336-6977 • www.nationalwestern.com

Note: NWS is the National Show this year.

Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo

Show Date - January 31, 2021
817-877-2400 • www.fwssr.com

Note: All dates are tentative.

The American Simmental Association

is proud to sanction high-quality purebred and percentage Simmental Progress Through Performance (PTP) shows throughout the country. The PTP program is designed to promote multi-level progress within the SimGenetics industry. PTP shows effectively combine the assessment of statistical data, such as EPDs and actual measurements, with traditional phenotype evaluation.

PTP Judges

PTP approved judges have been deemed as respectable and knowledgeable cattle evaluators by the ASA Board of Trustees Activities and Events (A&E) Committee. Each year the A&E Committee inspects the list of approved judges and makes modifications when necessary. View the PTP approved judges list at: www.simmental.org



ASA RING OF CHAMPIONS 2020-2021



Only the four major shows involved in the national show rotation are eligible for the "ASA RING OF CHAMPIONS 2020-2021".

Shows include: 2020 American Royal
2020 North American
2021 National Western Stock Show
2021 Fort Worth Stock Show

Award Divisions:

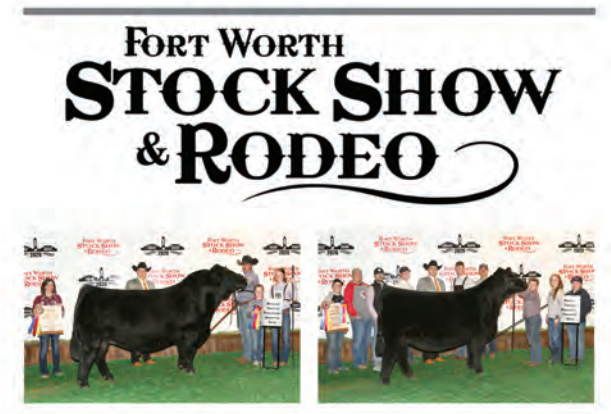
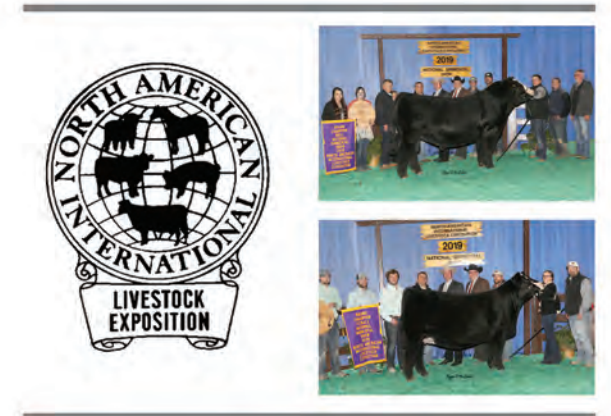
- Purebred Simmental Heifer of the Year
- Purebred Simmental Bull of the Year
- Percentage Simmental Heifer of the Year
- Percentage Simmental Bull of the Year

Qualifications:

- Exhibitor must be an active member in good standing with the American Simmental Association
- Purebred Simmental: 7/8 Simmental and up
- Percentage Simmental: at least 1/2 Simmental, but less than 7/8 Simmental
- Animals and their exhibitors must abide by the rules of the show(s) in which they participate
- All ASA Ring of Champions award winners must at a minimum complete an ultra-low density DNA test before awards are given

Additional information:

PTP Coordinator
406-587-4531 ext. 518
ptp@simmgene.com



Exploring Genetic Defects in Beef Cattle

(Continued from page 11)

When Did Defects Become a Problem?

Dwarfism in Hereford cattle is a classic story of a genetic defect in beef cattle, as well as an example of how difficult it was to identify the cause and eliminate the pedigrees that were causing the issue. Dr. Steffen's grandfather raised registered Herefords and experienced this first-hand. Dwarfism became an issue just over 70 years ago, and in one case, 25% of a California Hereford breeder's herd showed visible signs of the defect. The only way to eliminate the issue was to remove any animal suspected of carrying the gene, purely based on observation and what was known of pedigree relations. This took years, and the breeder essentially had to start over with his purebred herd, which was a major financial hit. This happened to varying degrees with other defects, and until the technology became available to identify carrier animals within an individual animal, it was quite difficult to eliminate the issue entirely.

Dr. Steffen explains that the identification of genetic defects in beef cattle has progressed immensely since he first started in the early 90s — from the first observations of abnormalities in animals to the development of a test, it could be up to five years, if at all. In context, if a breeder used a bull carrying a recessive defect for one year and kept back replacement heifers, that genetic defect risk would spiderweb throughout half of the sire's offspring unknowingly for some time and cause that herd to go from having no genetic defects to a large portion being at risk. For a recessive defect to be expressed, both the sire and dam have to carry and pass on that mutant allele, but this scenario sets a herd up for massive failure if the wrong pedigrees are combined.

Genetic and scientific advancements have revolutionized this process. For example, in the spring of 2020, Dr. Steffen helped identify and develop a genetic test for a facial defect in calves in around four months. "If everything goes perfect and we get good breeder reporting and cooperation it can be four to six months," he explained. However, Dr. Steffen cautions, "There are some disorders we have been working on for years."

Discovering a Defect

The identification of most genetic defects starts with breeders reporting abnormalities to breed associations and veterinarians. For example, ASA's DNA department takes calls and emails from breeders who have observed an abnormality in their herd, has the breeder file a report, take photos, and ideally, collect a DNA sample. If the animal is still-born or dies, Dr. Steffen strongly encourages breeders to take an ear sample, and if necessary, freeze it as a DNA source. From a live calf, it is usually best to collect whole blood (EDTA purple tube). "If they run across something on a weekend, or when they can't get a hold of anyone, I'm a big believer in freezing things. You can preserve the calf for later examination that way, and even though we were told by pathologists not to freeze samples, I do that for my research routinely and we can make it work." Dr. Steffen says.

If a calf is born with an abnormality, it is extremely important to get photo documentation as soon as possible, take at least a DNA sample, and if possible, it is best to wait to discard the animal and place it in the coolest place possible until an expert has a chance to look at the photos. Breed associations, experts like Dr. Steffen, and local veterinarians can be extremely helpful in these situations.

Even though the large majority of abnormalities end up being attributed to environmental factors, Dr. Steffen considers every case that comes across his desk with an open mind. He says, "We investigate every report to some degree as a potential new problem. How we approach it then depends on what we see in the phenotype. If someone has an abnormal calf, I do consider how useful it will be, but I will look at everything delivered to the program. I tell people that at a minimum they need to take a photo, and get someone to look at it or get the calf to a veterinarian. From that we can determine if the case is worthy of further pursuit. Our typical approach is to determine the phenotype, and get a DNA sample from the calf, and if it's convenient, from the sire and dam. We can bank that DNA, and record what we can about the phenotype."

Cases worthy of investigating can be coordinated through the breed association, local veterinarians, or a regional veterinary laboratory. Often an autopsy or veterinary examination is needed to establish a diagnosis, whether it is genetic or environmental. Storing DNA samples on high-impact animals can be highly beneficial if an abnormality emerges in a herd — if the sire is culled after one season, at least a DNA sample will be available for later research. If a second case comes in the next year, and the phenotype suggests that this may be a new defect, having that banked DNA on the parents becomes more important. Dr. Steffen will look at the pedigrees to identify relationships as part of the investigation when those records are available.

If a pattern of disease and relationships are identified, the next steps involve working with the breed association. Dr. Steffen explains, "At this point we say, 'we have really good epidemiological evidence showing this may be a genetic defect'. Then the breed association will assist research to allow us to sequence DNA samples and to determine if a relationship between genotype and phenotype truly exists. Once that is verifiable and the mechanism of inheritance is confirmed, the disease phenotype and mode of inheritance is published to inform breeders to aid selection. Once the mutation is known, the genetic tests are typically adapted to and validated on commercial platforms and offered to breeders to aid selection."

(Continued on page 16)

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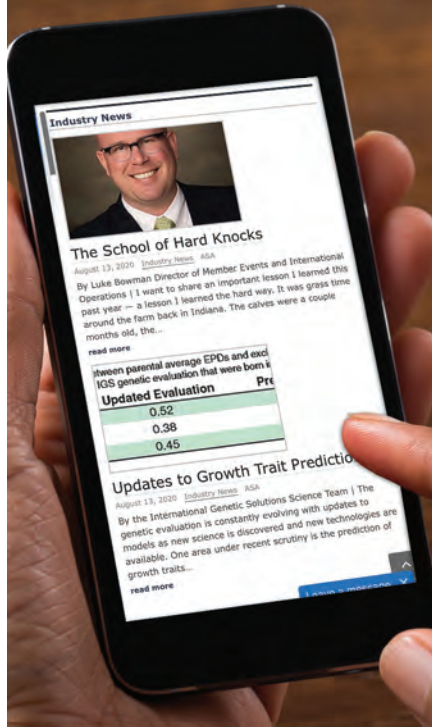
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 Steven Cooper (706)215-2285
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- ◆ ASA Spotlight
- ◆ EPD FAQs
- ◆ Women of ASA
- ◆ Down to the Genes

Exploring Genetic Defects in Beef Cattle

(Continued from page 14)

Why Do Defects Matter?

Genetic defects can have massive financial implications if they go unchecked. For example, Developmental Duplication causes the duplication of a body part, often-times a limb. An affected animal may end up being healthy and productive, but an extra body part can cause extra calving difficulty, which only adds to the financial losses caused by dystocia, and can be more at risk for injury. Other defects, like Neuropathic Hydrocephalus, are always lethal, and as everyone in the cattle business knows, each and every calf is important.

As science continues to advance, harder-to-detect mutations that cause loss are being identified. For example, in 2011, researchers at UC Davis and the USDA were able to identify a lethal mutation in the Holstein bull, "Chief", that was responsible for 525,000 spontaneous abortions worldwide since the 1962-born bull went into production. Chief is also estimated to have increased profit in the dairy industry by \$30 billion dollars, which exemplifies the importance of being able to identify mutations and breed selectively to avoid issues. There are an unidentified number of mutations that cause hidden losses like this that can be discovered due to advancements in genomic technology without seeing abnormal calves, but by identifying missing genotypes in adult cattle populations. ◆

Office Holiday Schedule

The ASA office will be closed for the following 2020 holidays.

Thanksgiving

Thursday and Friday,
November 26 and 27

Christmas

Thursday and Friday,
December 24 and 25 ◆

DNA UPDATES

DNA Department strongly recommends shipping with a tracking option.

As the busy season ramps up this fall, ASA's DNA Department strongly recommends that members send all DNA samples in a tracked package. This can be through any carrier, so long as a tracking number is available. We also strongly suggest that kits are sent to members in a tracked package, as the extra cost can eliminate delays in regular USPS shipping, and also limit the chance of the package being lost in transit. Priority shipping is the only way to cut down on the time it takes to get a sample tested, as there are no priority options at the lab. Upon arrival at the lab, testing takes three to four weeks, and additional time is necessary for genomic panels to run through the evaluation.

The ASA Board of Trustees recently approved the updated 100K genomic panel to qualify AI sires and donor dams.

Recently, Neogen updated their mid-level genomic panel from approximately 50,000 SNPs to approximately 100,000 SNPs. In Herdbook, animals with the former genomic panel are denoted with a 47K or C47K for Cow Herd DNA Roundup (CHR) samples. The current updated genomic panel is denoted with a 100K in Herdbook (C100K for CHR and A100K for Calf Crop Genomics samples).

The ASA Board of Trustees recently approved the updated 100K genomic panel to qualify AI sires and donor dams. Animals with a completed 100K, C100K, or A100K panel will automatically qualify as a donor dam or AI sire. Animals with a completed 47K panel will not qualify and must be re-tested at the 100K level in order to become an approved AI sire or donor dam.

The genomic panel cost to approve an AI sire or donor dam is now \$50, and the add-on options and prices will remain the same. The 100K genomic panel continues to be our recommendation for animals that will make a large impact in your herd and is the only genomic panel with add-on pricing for coat color, horned/polled, and genetic condition panel. If you have any questions, please contact ASA's DNA Department. ◆

**DNA Department
406.587.4531
dna@simmgene.com**



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February 3/4 SM

CASON'S MISS MINDEY H37F

GCC Gold Standard x Cason's Miss Lacey
February Purebred SM



SELECTING FOR FEED EFFICIENCY IN BEEF CATTLE



By Randie Culbertson, Ph.D.
IGS Lead Geneticist

Cattle producers have become increasingly aware of the need to improve feed utilization in beef cattle.

It is reported that feed costs are the largest expense to cattle producers accounting for 50 to 70% of total production costs. When corn prices approached \$7 per bushel, the price of feed accounted for 80% of production costs for many feedlot operations. Decreasing feed costs without sacrificing animal performance would have a large economic impact on beef operations. The question then remains, how?

In the context of selecting cattle who are more feed efficient there is a large debate over what is the best phenotype, how to incorporate it into a breeding program or genetic evaluation, and what impacts selection would have on other performance traits. The two phenotypes at the center of this debate are feed intake (FI) and residual feed intake (RFI).

Residual Feed Intake:

Residual feed intake is defined as the difference between what the animal's actual measured feed intake was compared to his expected intake given his level of performance. A negative RFI represents an animal who ate less than what he was expected to eat, and a result would be considered to be a more feed efficient animal.

Some of the advantages to RFI are that it is a measure of feed efficiency since it accounts for the animal's level of performance and has no phenotypic correlation to traits included in its calculation (i.e. average daily gain). Therefore, selecting for lower RFI would select for an

animal with lower feed intake for a certain level of performance. Although RFI is not phenotypically correlated to performance traits, there is genetic correlation. Selection for lower RFI would impact other performance traits such as weaning and yearling weight.

There are also significant disadvantages to RFI. First, RFI has a tendency to favor slower growing animals which may not be the most profitable animal. RFI is the result from a multiple regression model (requiring statistical software to compute) where the variables included in the model can vary depending on the testing facility and could affect the ranking of animals within a contemporary group. In addition, the actual RFI value can only be compared to other animals included in its calculation and cannot be directly compared to RFI values from different tests or locations.

Feed Intake:

Feed intake is defined as the measure of actual feed consumed by an animal and as a result, can be compared across different tests. Conceptually, FI is easy to understand and doesn't require any additional calculations. An increase in FI simply means that the animal consumed more feed and vice versa. However, FI is not a measure of efficiency since it gives no indication of an animal's performance but is significant in the calculation of feed efficiency traits such as RFI. FI intake is influenced by many physiological factors and is correlated to performance traits such as average daily gain. As a result, as an animal's body size increases, so does FI.

So why the debate?

The question of incorporating FI or RFI into a breeding objective is an ongoing debate. The reduction of FI should not be the sole objective of a breeding program, instead, selection for improved feed efficiency could be achieved by simultaneous selection for all traits that influence production profitability rather than individual trait selection. This can be accomplished through selection based on an economic index with appropriate weighting for performance traits as positive and feed intake as negative. As a result, feed efficiency would not have to be explicitly calculated and genetic selection for improved production efficiency could be achieved through simultaneous selection for all traits that influence profitability rather than individual trait selection.

To advance your genetic prowess in the commercial industry and to maximize profit, use feed intake in an index with other economically relevant production traits.

Example of Residual Feed Intake (RFI) for two steers from the same feeding trial.

	Steer A	Steer B
RFI	-4.90	-3.09
Average Daily Gain	2.48 lbs/day	4.35 lbs/day
Average Feed Intake*	22.33 lbs/day	29.20 lbs/day
Final Test Weight	915 lbs	1300 lbs

Steer A is considered the more feed efficient animal based on his RFI (lower number is better) but he is also much smaller than steer B with an average daily gain that is about half. Although steer A might save you money with lower feed costs, he might not be as profitable given his small size. RFI doesn't take into account other production traits that may affect profitability.

Using an index that includes FI, average daily gain, and carcass traits is the best way to select for profitable genetics.

* Feed intake reported on a dry matter basis.

Conclusion: To maximize profit, use FI in an index with other economically relevant production traits (i.e. average daily gain and carcass traits) to advance your genetic prowess in the commercial industry. At the end of the day, your breeding objective shouldn't be just the reduction of feed but the increased profitability of your customers' cattle.

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Women of ASA

By Emme Demmendaal

Editor's Note: *The Women of ASA is a series of articles highlighting significant contributions of women in the Simmental community.*

From lawyer to teacher and livestock coach, Cari Rincker embodies modern leadership in the agriculture industry.

Cari Rincker

Remembered by many in the Simmental community as an AJSA youngster who served on the junior board, Cari Rincker, native of Shelbyville, Illinois, is today a nationally-recognized lawyer with a concentration in food, farm, and family law.



Cari Rincker

“As long as I can recall, I was involved with Simmental cattle and exposed to the show industry. When I was younger, it was a given that I would be involved in 4-H and the AJSA. I met some of my life-long friends through the National and Regional Classics. Some of my fondest memories were waking up really early to be at the wash rack at four o'clock in the morning on show day.”

Before she was participating in the AJSA, Rincker remembers attending livestock shows with her father, Curt Rincker, who was an agriculture professor and livestock coach at Lake Land College (LLC). Rincker credits her parents and her exposure to public speaking as a stepping stone to her career today. **“I gave my first set of oral reasons at the Simmental classics in Springfield. I remember practicing with my father, and I was in tears — I was so terrified. And then the next day, I did it on my own for the very first time. It was just such an accomplishment for me as a young person. A lot of the skills that I learned through AJSA transmitted to my professional life as an attorney, who has to be a public speaker both inside and outside of the courtroom on a regular basis.”**

Initially, Rincker attended LLC for an associate's degree in agriculture. She was on the livestock judging team where she won oral reasons at the National Western and was the first place individual overall at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. After graduating, she earned her bachelor's in animal science at Texas A&M. While on the livestock team at A&M, she received the All-American Livestock Judge award.

It was her internship in Washington, DC, where she was exposed to agriculture law and policy. Rincker explains, **“I lived in the Georgetown Law Dorms and experienced Capitol Hill for the very first time. I could have hated that experience, but I ended up loving it. One of my biggest pieces of advice that I have for young people is to just not be afraid to try other things on for size. That's how you learn which career paths fit you. Maybe you're attracted to something or maybe you're repelled by it, but at least you've had that experience.”**

After completing her master's degree from the University of Illinois in ruminant nutrition, she went on to law school at Pace University. Before starting Rincker Law, PLLC, Cari was an associate at a law firm in Cheyenne, Wyoming, where her practice areas ranged from agriculture, environmental and natural resource issues to federal lands, wind energy development, crop insurance, property law, commercial law, and probate with clients located all over the West.

For the last three and a half years, Rincker has lived in Champaign, Illinois, closer to the family's Simmental and SimAngus™ cattle operation. In addition to helping with the family operation as needed, she also raises chickens, goats, and feeds out cattle and sells the meat locally.

Over the years, her practice has shifted to about 25% food and agriculture and 75% family law. **“The two areas have been an interesting hybrid because I'm more involved in farm divorces,**

farm and ranch prenuptial agreements. All of these things are very interrelated into farm and ranch succession planning. They complement the different practice areas that I specialize in. My food and my agriculture practice tends to be more transactional like business, estate, and succession planning, drafting highly specialized contracts, such as embryo transfer agreements. I also will use intellectual property such as trademarks. Rarely, but I will also get into commercial litigation. For example, I've had some farm business divorces and things along those lines.

“I went to law school because I wanted to help people. At the time, I wasn't sure exactly what that was going to look like. And I'm not going to lie, there are hard days. Clients don't call me when life is good. I get the calls when the farm lease dispute has gone wrong. But at the end of the day, what really truly brings me joy is trying to help them navigate through this mess called life.

“My love and my passion is to be a mediator, a helper in the middle of complications. With the court system shut down because of the pandemic, the need for mediators was really highlighted — even with people not having a will in place. I love being able to help people navigate those circumstances the best I can.”

A woman with many hats, Rincker is a podcast host of “Ag Law Today” delivered through Purdue University Extension Education, in addition to being a full-time mediator, a three-time book author, editor, and returning adjunct professor at University of Illinois.

From the courtroom to the cattle business, Rincker has been the only woman in many situations, but being the minority hasn't stopped her from pursuing opportunities.

“There have been a myriad of occasions where I felt that I was the only woman in the room. A part of me welcomes the challenge to step up to the plate, but I feel that we need more female leaders out there as role models for our youth. To show them what it looks like to be a woman in agriculture and show them that they have a place at the table.”

She credits her mother, Pam Rincker, for her entrepreneurial drive. Her mother is the president, founder, and owner of Software Solutions Integrated, LLC, (SSI) who created Agvance software, an agriculture software business. Rincker explains that her mother built SSI from the ground up, out of their home. **“My mom owned an agriculture software company in my hometown. It's actually quite an inspiring story because today she has about 120 employees now, and it is the number one agriculture software company in the country. She started it literally out of my bedroom. I guess entrepreneurship runs in my genes a little bit,”** Rincker laughs.

When asked about what tools she was given by her family and mentors growing up, Rincker says, **“I owe a lot of my professional success today to that work ethic that I learned growing up on a family farm. I wasn't allowed to sleep in on the weekends, and I really enjoyed working with my father out at the barn. A strong work ethic and my agricultural roots propelled me to where I am in life.”** ♦



Rincker asking questions during a livestock show.

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H317

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HF Cora, Proven Donor

Uprising X RP/MP Too Much Fun
 Bred to WS Proclamation



G35

Steel Force X In Dew Time
 Bred to Tehama Tahoe



H86

Tehama Tahoe X 20-20 X
 Cream Soda



H364D

Geff County O X
 DAF Blackbird C364



H364A

Geff County O X
 DAF Blackbird C364



B906

GW Predestined X Club King X
 Expecting A Dream
 Bred to WS Proclamation



D86

Hooks Broadway X Cottontail 086Z
 Bred to TJSC Hammertime



D217

WS High Stakes X HSF Majority
 Bred to Saban



E39X

Wheatland Bull 4107B X 3000C
 Bred to Saban



F030

TNGL Track On X SS/PRS High Voltage
 Sells with a Dew North bull calf



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GUEST CONSIGNORS: BESHEARS SIMMENTALS & JORDON SIMMENTALS



Come one, come all!

All Breeds Welcome!

"Thank you to the AJSA for putting on this high-quality and educational event. I've enjoyed every minute and look forward to watching this program grow. I will totally do this again!"

- Audrey Redalen, program participant, MN

"Many thanks to the entire staff at the American Junior Simmental Association who put forth so much effort to make this opportunity possible for me and all the other young people who have been involved in this opportunity. Thank you!"

- Madeline Smith, program participant, KY

"I just wanted to start my last monthly summary by saying thank you. Thank you for having this awesome program for me to participate in my senior year of high school. I have enjoyed every minute of it, and I am excited to watch this program grow and have hundreds of participants in the upcoming year."

- Carlye Rodenbeck, program participant, TX

"Thanks to you all at AJSA! It's been a great experience! Mitchell said to me last night, 'now that my last write up is done, I'm gonna miss it!' Kudos to you all!"

- Jen Vaad, program parent, CO

"Thank you for all your hard work making this happen and working through all the kinks for us!"

- Brady Wulf, program participant, MN

"I have enjoyed the competition and learned so much over the past months."

- Ella Fischer, program participant, MO



SimGenetics
PROFIT THROUGH SCIENCE
American Simmental Association

2021 AJSA STEER PROFITABILITY COMPETITION

The AJSA Steer Profitability Competition (SPC) is designed to provide junior members meaningful exposure to the opportunities and challenges associated with cattle feeding. The SPC will not only allow participants to measure and compare the profitability of their own animal(s), but of greater importance, it will introduce young beef enthusiasts to peers, mentors, industry advocates, and experiences that are exceedingly difficult to acquire for any beef producer. Participants in the SPC program will be powerful voices as they transition from junior membership to adult participation within the beef industry.

ANIMAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Steers only
2. Entrant must be an AJSA member
3. Animals must be entered in the ASA database
4. One parent on file in the ASA database
5. Birth date range: 1/15/20 to 4/15/20
6. Weaning date range: 8/15/20 to 10/15/20
7. Castration must occur prior to weaning
8. Steers must weigh 500 - 750 lbs at delivery
9. Steers must be polled or dehorned
10. Any breed composition welcome provided they meet rules 1-9

CONTEST GUIDELINES

1. Entry fee of \$65/ head
2. Feedlot placement approximately November 1
3. All decisions at the discretion of feedyard
4. Harvest will occur approximately May 2021
5. Participation in monthly e-meetings
6. Entrant will receive reports on:
 - a. Monthly feed and health bill
 - b. Final feedyard data
 - c. Final carcass performance data

Winners will be announced at the 2021 National Classic Awards Banquet. Awards will be granted for the top three animals overall, top three pen of 3 overall, and top monthly write-up participant.

CONTEST DETAILS:

- 1) All steers on GrowSafe feed intake system throughout the entire project.
- 2) Individual intake and gain information on all steers.
- 3) Monthly weights on all steers.
- 4) Steers will be fed at University of Missouri Beef Research & Teaching Farm in Columbia, MO.
- 5) A monthly newsletter highlighting SPC details, industry news and steer performance.
- 6) Monthly bill detailing specific expenses on each steer.

CONTINUED THIS YEAR

Different feedback formats each month

- Short essay questions with prompts
- Infographic or social media post
- 1/2 to 1 page summary
- Short online quiz tailored to participant age

Go to: juniorsimmental.org to register or find more information.

Down to the Genes

By ASA's DNA Team

As we head into fall, weaning, and long days working cattle, ASA's DNA department wants to share some of our top tips for easy, efficient DNA testing. Preparation is key, and we want our membership to have the tools to successfully test animals and take advantage of DNA technology.

→ The most straightforward, error-free way to order DNA testing is to go to simmental.org, click on DNA Testing, Order a DNA Test, choose instructions for if you have kits on hand or need to order kits, and follow the prompts to the form download. If you have kits on hand, you will return this form to dna@simmgene.com, and wait for a reply with instructions and paperwork that must accompany the samples to the lab. If you are ordering kits, they will be sent with labels for each animal on the front, and an addressed envelope to the lab.

◆ DO NOT send kits to the lab without paperwork. You MUST either have ASA paperwork or kits with stickers: no exceptions. Neogen® is processing thousands of samples at the same time and does not accept our printed order form, handwritten notes, etc. Contacting ASA to create an official order after samples have already been sent to the lab requires a lot of time and work and always results in delays.

→ Send your samples to the lab in a tracked package. ASA is not responsible for any lost packages, but it is especially difficult to do anything when an untracked USPS package is lost.

→ Order kits ahead of time. If you have a large number of animals to test, ASA strongly recommends using Tissue Sampling Units (TSU), but blood cards and hair cards can be sent in advance as well. If you don't use a kit that was already billed, charges can always be reversed. You will save money by not requiring overnight shipping and be under less stress.

→ There is no option to expedite testing once samples reach the lab. The turnaround is 3-4 weeks with no exceptions.

→ Spend some time making sure all AI sires and donor dams are approved for use, pull reports on traits like horned/polled and coat color, and also make sure you don't need to run any defect tests.

◆ All AI sires and donor dams require a high density genomic panel. To see if an animal is approved, pull it up in an animal search and click on "Expanded Report". The only exception to this is animals tested before 2012 may have only parentage.

◆ **The ASA Board of Trustees recently approved the new 100K high density genomic panel for AI sires and donor dams. This was an upgrade of the 50K low-density test, so the cost is only \$50 moving forward to approve AI sires and donor dams.** Animals tested on the previous GGP-LD (listed as a 47K in the animal's DNA detail in Herdbook) do not qualify as a donor dam or AI sire.

→ All other breed AI sires and donor dams also must have a high density test to be approved. If the animal was tested through another association, this information can be shared with ASA. Low density tests do not suffice, and if you have any questions, you are encouraged to contact ASA well before the time you are registering calves out of an AI sire or donor dam of another breed.

→ For an animal to be PQB (parent qualified to both), both parents must have DNA on file. This means that other breed DNA profiles must be shared with ASA, which ideally will happen before progeny are tested. If an animal needs to be compared to a parent but ASA doesn't have the parent's DNA profile, it can take several weeks for the panels to be available for comparison.

→ Traits like horned/polled, and coat color are not automatically included with genomic panels. They can be added on at a package rate.

→ Place animals on file before ordering testing. For instructions go to simmental.org/newmembers. Having a file number makes it easier to track testing, and when you place the animal on file, Herdbook will warn of any defect risk or additional traits that could be tested for, etc. This can also be really helpful for sale catalog preparation.

→ Genetic defect holds happen in the following scenarios: An AI sire or donor dam is tracked for a genetic defect; A herd sire is tracked for a genetic defect. The majority of AI sires and donor dams will be tested, and the most common reason genetic holds happen is because herd sires have a genetic defect risk passed on from their dam, so the herd sire himself is clear to register, but the herd sire's progeny is not.

◆ In an animal search, pull up the animal and click on TraitTrac. Use the key on the left to determine if the herd sire is tracked for anything.

◆ ASA suggests testing as far back in the pedigree as possible. For example, if the granddam is the oldest living animal that passed on that risk, she should be tested both to keep cost down, and clear the most pedigrees.

→ If a genomic panel is completed, it will take around a week after results are uploaded for the genomically-enhanced EPDs to appear. When results come through to ASA, the genomic data goes through a separate pipeline and through the evaluation. ASA will not notify you of changes in EPDs, and suggests taking a screenshot of the EPDs beforehand for comparison.

◆ You CANNOT receive EPDs on an unregistered animal by running a genomic test. With the exception of some Total Herd Enrollment options, all animals must be registered to have EPDs, and genomic tests do not change this.

◆ A genomic test only guarantees an improvement in the accuracy of EPDs, not necessarily the actual EPD.

→ Around 2% of samples fail due to low call rates, and contamination and inadequate sampling cause additional failures. Check out the Down to the Genes series on the simmental.org homepage for more information on how to avoid contamination and ensure samples don't fail. ◆

Estimated Timeline: From DNA test request to result on Herdbook

OCTOBER 2020

Sun	M	Tues	W	Thur	F	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

DECEMBER 2020

Sun	M	Tues	W	Thur	F	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

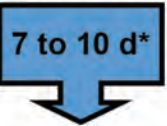
**Two Months
Start to Finish
Don't Delay**



Request DNA kit from ASA



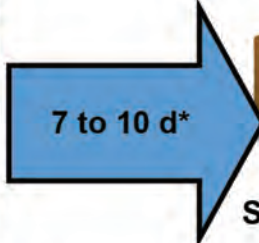
ASA prepares and mails kit



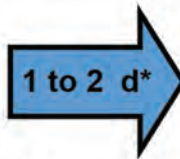
Kit arrives



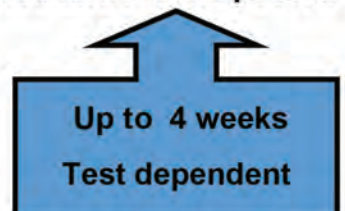
DNA sample(s) collected and mailed to lab



Samples arrive at lab



Samples received and enter test



DNA test completed and results posted



Results uploaded onto Herdbook



d* = Business Days

ASA emails paperwork to include with samples mailed to the lab



If breeder already has DNA cards/TSUs:
Request DNA paperwork from ASA

FROM THE HEADQUARTERS



By Randie Culbertson, Ph.D., Lead Geneticist for International Genetic Solutions

rculbertson@simmgene.com

Times are a changin'. Nothing encompasses that phrase more than 2020! In the midst of a pandemic this has been a year of major change; from schools adapting their curriculum to working from home to remembering to wear a mask when walking into a business.

This year has put our ability to cope with change to the test. I don't know about you, but I would be happy with a lot less change.

When I think of change in the context of a genetic evaluation, I have a different attitude. Genetic evaluations should be changing as advancements in theory and technology become available. The IGS Multi-breed Genetic Evaluation is no different. The evaluation is always evolving as we strive to provide better tools for genetic selection for your herd. The following are the updates we have made to the evaluation in the last year. Some of these updates were minor while other updates were bigger with larger implications on the evaluation.

IGS changes and updates in the last year:

September 2019:

- A partnership with IGS and Neogen® was established.
- Additional pulmonary arterial pressure (PAP) records were sent to Colorado State University for the development of a PAP EPD.
- Lauren Hyde began cross-training to prepare for her retirement.

October 2019:

- I was hired to replace Lauren Hyde.
- First IGS advisory meeting held in Bozeman, Montana.
- North American South Devon Association and American Salers Association submitted data to begin testing to eventually enter the IGS evaluation.
 - The process of new partners submitting data for testing is often referred to as beta testing. This process allows us to ensure that new partners are submitting their data in the correct format and allow us to examine the effect (if any) to the evaluation of the new influx of data. The EPDs from the test are released to the new partners for review. This process helps us minimize any potential disruptions to the live evaluation.
- The progeny equivalent table was updated.

November 2019:

- I moved to Bozeman and began work at ASA.
- Lauren and I worked together to begin the transition for Lauren's retirement.

December 2019:

- IGS released guidelines and recommendations for the collection of feet and leg scores.
- Hyde transitioned into retirement on December 31, 2019.

February 2020:

- The IGS science team began validation testing for updates to the growth evaluation referred to as Work Order 1 (WO1).
- Updated the carcass evaluation breed adjustments for "American Breeds" (i.e. Brangus, Santa Gertrudis) using USMARC data.

March 2020:

- External EPDs for Herefords were updated.

April 2020:

- The release of the PAP EPD from Colorado State University. EPD for PAP will be released twice a year.

May 2020:

- Five new breed categories (South Devon, Salers, Charolais, Holstein, and Jersey) were added to the evaluation.
- The North American South Devon Association and American Salers Association published IGS EPDs.
- Beta testing for an updated genomic data preparation (GGP) began.

June 2020:

- Canadian Charolais Association submitted data to begin beta testing.
- Beta testing was conducted to expand ultrasound age requirements for Australian and New Zealand cattle. New scan ages have not been implemented into the live evaluation pending further investigation by the IGS science team.

July 2020:

- After a thorough review of WO1 validation results, the IGS science team decided to transition to WO1 for the growth evaluation.
- Two sets of WO1 beta test EPDs were released to partners.
- Beta testing for new IGS partners was suspended until the implementation of WO1 was completed.

August 2020:

- The implementation of WO1 updates went into the live evaluation August 11, 2020, and EPDs were released to partners. The new GGP was released with the WO1 updates.

The IGS evaluation is unique in its partnership with so many breed associations around the world but this uniqueness brings about challenges. These challenges are why the IGS science team is diligently working to improve and update the evaluation. It has been a busy and exciting time at IGS and I'm looking forward to the challenges this next year will bring. ♦

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CDI Authority X Feddes Big Sky



Remington Secret Weapon x Red Jewel
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W/C Bankroll x HPF Right to Love Z338
 bred to SR Right Now



Mr HOC Broker x CLRWTR Lady Luck
 bred to Double Bar D Annuity



CDI Perspective x WS Beef King
 bred to W/C Pinnacle



JF Rancher x HH Katia
 bred to CDI Mainline



W/C Executive Order x Ishee Blk
 Sapphire bred to Sand Ranch Hand



W/C Executive Order x WLE Missy Z4293
 bred to CCR Wide Range



CDI Rimrock x Shear Force carrying a W/C
 Ft Knox x HPF Orange Crush pregnancy



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BULLETINS

2021 NWSS Postponed

The 2021 NWSS has been postponed until January, 2022; more information to follow.

Six Trustees Positions Open

A total of six Trustee positions are open in four regions. The Eastern Region has two open positions; North Central has one open position; South Central has two open positions and the Western Region has one open position.

Election Timetable

- Oct. 12** Deadline for write-in ballots to reach Chairman of the Tellers.
- Nov. 12** Trustee election ballots mailed and posted online.
- Dec. 14** Deadline for Trustee ballots to reach Chairman of the Tellers. Call to Meeting mailed and posted online, including ballots, for any Rules or Bylaw changes.
- Jan. 8** Deadline for Rule/Bylaw change ballots to reach Chairman of the Tellers.

Upcoming 2021 Fall Focus Event

The 2021 Fall Focus Board meeting and educational day will be held in Roanoke, VA, August 27 - 31. The conference headquarters are located at the Hotel Roanoke with a block of rooms available for August 26 - 31.

Want to help support 2021 Fall Focus? Contact ASA to ensure your sponsorship is highlighted. Call the office at 406-587-4531 or check out fallfocus.org for more information.

ASA Launches Calf Crop Genomic Testing Project

Calf Crop Genomics is a recent program launched by the American Simmental Association in collaboration with Neogen®. Calf Crop Genomics offers a 50% off GGP-LD genomic test including parentage (\$25 compared to \$50 equivalent test) to participating breeders who test their entire calf crop group. Genotyping entire contemporary groups is important to 1.) use genomically-enhanced EPDs (GE-EPDs) for selection decisions, 2.) reduce selection bias in genomic predictions, and 3.) increase the volume of genotyped animals for future improvements to genetic predictions. The latter two points make any singular genomic test in the future better for all members using genomics.



Cow Herd DNA Roundup Continues

The ASA Board of Trustees approved Phase II of the Cow Herd DNA Roundup at the 2019 Fall Focus meeting. The project will continue to accept new herds at \$25 per sample for a low-density genomic test. Members must test 90% of their calving-age cows to qualify for the reduced price.

When members submit mature cow body weights and body condition scores or hip heights from 90% of their calving-age cows, they will receive a \$5 credit to their account for each cow reported. Cows must be 18 months of age or older when mature cow measurements are taken to qualify for the \$5 credit. The \$5 credit will only be applied once in an animal's life (if a member received a credit for the phenotypes in 2018 for that cow, they cannot receive another credit for the same cow with a new weight and BCS in 2019). Heifers may also be tested at the \$25 price point and may receive a \$5 credit if mature cow data is submitted after they reach 18 months of age. For members who have already participated in the CHR project, the same \$25 rate is available for heifers and new purchases as long as 90% of the member's calving age cows have a genomic test.



With the advent of the Calf Crop Genomics Project, the ASA Board of Trustees has amended the CHR program for females younger than calving-age. Heifer calves and replacement heifers will no longer be eligible for the CHR research rate as of January 1, 2021, but calving-age cows and new purchases of calving-age cows will remain eligible for the research rate.

SimmApp Available Now



Receive the latest beef industry news, ASA alerts, *SimTalk* and *the Register* magazines, *Sire Source*, press releases, industry events, deadlines, educational articles, and the ASA's Youtube channel all in one place. Sign-up to receive push notifications and get immediate announcements tailored to your needs. SimmApp can be found on Google Play, Apple Store, or Amazon apps.

Performance Advocate Program Update

At the 2019 Fall Focus Board Meeting in Manhattan, KS, the Board passed a resolution to revise the Performance Advocate Program including three major changes.

1. Among the traits included, the program requires record submission on 90% of the contemporary group (rather than 100%) to gather records on nearly the whole herd while allowing for circumstances where records are missed.
2. Establish a two-tier system to qualify. Since additional traits are being added (see point 3) but some of these traits are difficult and/or expensive to collect, there will be a two-tier system for qualifying as a Performance Advocate. If THE herds submit 90% of the records on eight of the 13 traits, they qualify for the first tier. THE herds with 90% of the records on 10 out of the 13 traits qualify for the higher tier system.
3. An additional seven traits have been added to the list of qualifying records in the program. As ASA develops more traits (example, feet/leg scores), they may be added to the Performance Advocate Program. ♦

PENNSYLVANIA *Fall Classic*

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Sired by Revival



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Sale Managed by Classic Sales
Chris Brown 304-290-8383

Sale Consultant:
Dalton Lundy 502-727-6869

By Rachel Dickson



The year of 2020 has been nothing short of unfortunate for the majority of people so far. As we think about our world and how it has changed in the past six months, it has drastically changed for everyone — especially for those of us in agriculture. We have all had to make compromises and sacrifices to continue to do what we love, and this

past year has truly shown how cattle breeders, producers, and exhibitors are willing to go above and beyond to ensure the juniors were given the chance to show, no matter the circumstance. In light of all the darkness 2020 has casted over our industry, we are proud to say we spread some joy in hosting our National Classic. Together, we had an outstanding National Classic in Brookings, South Dakota — despite the many obstacles we had along the way.

From all of us on the AJSA Board of Trustees, we would like to thank everyone who made our National Classic pos-

sible in the face of all the doubts. Most importantly, we would like to thank Darla Aegerter and Chance Ujazdowski who both worked tirelessly to make this National Classic happen. Without them and the support of the ASA Board of Trustees, our show in Brookings probably would not have happened. Also, a big thank you to the South Dakota Junior Simmental Association for their help in the last-minute location change from Nebraska to South Dakota, and the Swiftel Center for welcoming us with open arms. And finally, we want to say thank you to every AJSA member and family member who had faith in us and were patient with us in conducting a National Classic in a way that we never had before.

With that, we are hopeful to see everyone this fall at our PTP Major Shows! Don't hesitate to reach out to me or any member of the AJSA Board of Trustees with any questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns either over the phone, email, or in person this fall. We are always here representing and fighting for our AJSA members and are always looking for new ways to improve the association. Never forget . . . Stay Strong Simmental! ♦



2020-2021 American Junior Simmental Association Board of Trustees

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STATE SCENE

Iowa Simmental Association Recognizes the Doug and Sue Wenell Family

Editors Note: *The following was submitted by Joyce Williams. In memory of her husband, Harold, a past ASA Trustee and lifelong member of the Iowa Simmental Association, they established the Iowa Simmental Family of the Year Award, starting in 2020.*

When Harold and I purchased our first yellow, purebred Simmental bull in 1976 little did we realize the role the Simmental breed would play in our lives and the lives of our family. Harold served the association in many different capacities from running the Iowa Cattlemen's Association and Iowa Simmental Association (ISA) bull tests to serving two terms on the ISA board of directors. He served as president of the board and was then asked to take on the job of Executive Secretary after the retirement of Bob Christensen.

As the association went through some hard times, the board asked him to take on the partial responsibility of clerking the Expo along with his duties of supervisor of the Iowa State Fair Open Show which he did for over 25 years. While serving two terms on the ASA Board of Trustees as a North Central Region Trustee, we traveled to the neighboring states for their state fairs and annual meetings. One event that we mentioned every year was the award given to an outstanding family in their state association. Through all the years that he assumed these additional responsibilities, it would not have been possible if our family hadn't stepped up to take on their additional responsibilities. Harold's lifelong commitment to the Simmental breed is why our family has decided to make an annual award to a family that exemplifies what we feel is a family endeavor in his name.

As our family sat down to fine tune this award, there were many families that were mentioned and all very worthy. Our family decided to award the first Iowa Simmental Family of the Year award to the Doug and Sue Wenell Family. Our family feels the Wenell Family is a great definition of a family-involved operation. Doug and Sue have been active members of the ISA since 1977. Since buying their first Simmental bull in 1972, they have been involved in the many activities which include his serving on the ISA board, editing the ISA Breeders Directory for publication and helping with the Iowa State Fair. The State Fair show was always a Wenell family event, even if it was Doug sitting in the chair providing the management and consultation. When you hear Golden Acres, you don't think of one person, but an entire family. Their family continues the Simmental tradition into the next generation through their kids and grandkids. Their grandchildren are active members of the IJSA participating in various Simmental events from the county level to National Classics. Without a doubt, our family feels the Wenell family will continue to support the Iowa Simmental Association in the years to come. Congratulations to the Wenell Family from the Williams and Long families. ♦



The Doug and Sue Wenell Family received the first Iowa Simmental Association Family-of-the-Year Award.

MENU MORSELS

Spicing up your dinner table with tasty, beef-based dishes.

Meatloaf Cups

Ingredients

- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1/2 cup crushed cornflakes
- 4 tablespoons dried minced onion
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 2 pounds lean ground beef (90% lean)
- Additional ketchup, optional

Directions

In a large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients. Crumble beef over mixture and mix well.

Press into 12 foil-lined or greased muffin cups. Bake at 350° for 25 minutes or until a thermometer reaches 160°. Drain before serving. Drizzle with ketchup if desired.

Editor's Note: *Each month a favorite beef recipe is presented in this space. The Register encourages and welcomes contributions to this column. Email your recipe to editor@simmgene.com.*

Foundation Honor Roll

The most recent list of people who have made a donation to the ASA Foundation.

- GB Cattle Co**
Grand Saline, TX
- Jones Show Cattle**
Harrod, OH
- Neogen Genomics**
Lincoln, NE
- Vytelle**
Hermiston, OR
- Windy Ridge Simmentals**
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We Invite You to Add Your Name to The List.

AMERICA'S COW

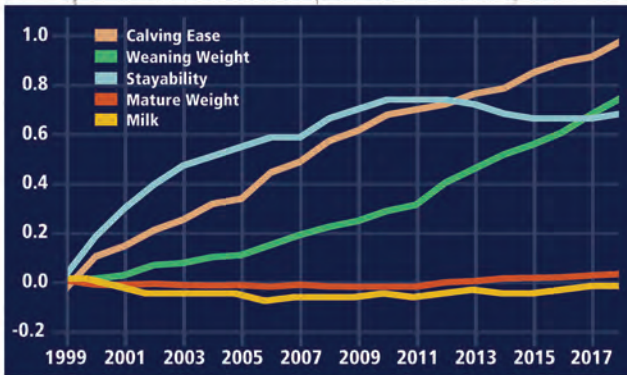
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Simmental cows set the bar for fertility, weaning weights and exceptional calving ease suited to a variety of environments.

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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 MARC

\$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	
A	\$120	X	25	X	5	=	\$15,000	
B	\$180	X	25	X	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 MEANS MORE

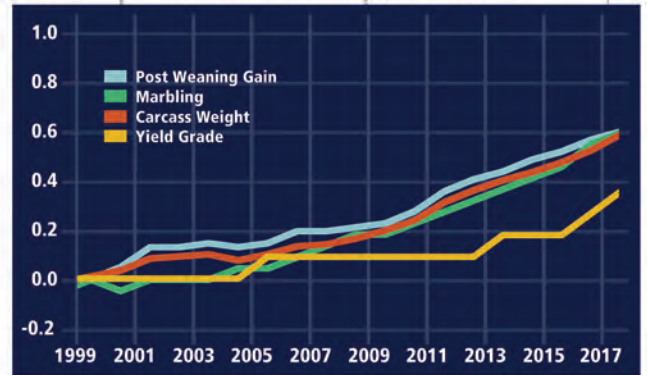
More carcass weight, live weight, muscle and marbling. More **profit**.

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

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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.

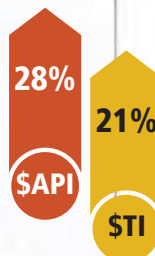
Trait	Simmental rank compared to other Continental breeds
Marbling	First
Carcass Weight	Second
Back Fat	Second
Post Weaning Gain	First

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 33%.



\$API increased 28% and \$TI increased 21% in the last 20 years. This translates to an average **increased profit of \$3,440 per bull** when used to sire replacement heifers and harvesting remaining calves or **\$1,498** when all calves are harvested.

BEEF BUSINESS

Economist Reviews Shocks to Beef Industry with Implications for Cattle, Beef Prices Ahead

K-State Research and Extension

The beef cattle industry has already experienced three big “shocks” this year and the effects are ongoing, but have been blunted to some extent, according to a Kansas State University agricultural economist.

The first jolt came in mid-March when the COVID-19 pandemic sparked stay-at-home orders in most states.

“That had big implications for food consumption,” said Glynn Tonsor, a livestock market specialist with K-State Research and Extension. Those implications included restaurant and school closures — two large outlets for US beef. As that happened, demand for beef shifted to grocery stores which were allowed to stay open. The actions disrupted the long-established flow of the beef supply chain.

The second shock happened soon after when clusters of COVID-19 cases began cropping up among employees in meat processing facilities, forcing some to shut down temporarily to control the spread of the virus, said Tonsor, presenting his Beef Cattle Outlook at the recent virtual 2020 K-State Risk & Profit Conference.

That left market-ready cattle and other livestock in some areas with no market to go to. The effect was a bottleneck, with a backlog of market-ready animals growing for a time, but fewer processing facilities to handle them. Tonsor estimated that cattle and hog processing dropped by as much as 40% during the spring.

As that bottleneck was developing, so too were disruptions to export channels, which have become increasingly important to the beef industry in recent years. The worst of the “pinch point,” Tonsor said, was the last week in April.

Though some characterized that time as a developing meat shortage, Tonsor said that’s not accurate: “There was no shortage of animals. There was a disruption in the flow and at times the variety of products that consumers could get. But for the calendar year, we not only expect beef production to be higher, but also domestic beef consumption to be up.”

The third shock stemmed from the first two. When consumers knew they would be staying at home and limited in their movements and also learned of meat processing slowdowns, some bought up large quantities of beef and other food and goods, which was characterized as a hoarding situation.

“The shift to more at-home consumption highlighted that not all meat is equal,” Tonsor said, noting that demand for ground beef products strengthened while demand for steaks and related cuts — those normally sold to restaurants — weakened.

Despite disruptions to beef exports, overall international trade has helped temper the negative effects of the pandemic on the US beef industry, Tonsor said, warning that a growing protectionism sentiment in the United States will work against the marketing of beef exports.

As of June 1, Tonsor said there were about one million head of cattle backed up in the supply chain because of packing plant closures and marketing chain disruptions. By Labor Day, however, he believes much of the backlog will be processed.

“We’re getting much more current,” he said, but cautioned, “these plants have been running quite hard. We can’t take labor availability for granted. I don’t anticipate another situation where we have a 40% decline in production like we did in April, but we could still have some dips.”

He shared the most recent live cattle price outlook released by the Livestock Marketing Information Center which estimated the average slaughter steer price for the third quarter this year at \$99 to \$102 per hundredweight (cwt), which would be down 7.1% from a year ago.

Fourth quarter prices are expected to average \$108 to \$112 per cwt, down 7.5% from a year earlier, partly owing to heavier cattle and more beef as a result of working through the backlog. The overall average price for 2020 was estimated at \$107 to \$109, a decrease of 7.5% from 2019.

LMIC projections for next year indicate an increase in prices, with first quarter 2021 steer prices averaging \$113 to \$118; second quarter averaging \$116 to \$122; third quarter at \$114 to \$121 and fourth quarter at \$117 to \$125. Prices for 2021 overall were estimated at \$117-\$120, which would be 9.7% higher than 2020.

Beef Checkoff ‘United We Steak’ Campaign

Funded by beef producers, the “Beef. It’s What’s For Dinner” brand is launching “United We Steak,” a new summer grilling campaign showcasing 50 steaks and all 50 states. The campaign celebrates not only a shared tradition of grilling steaks but also what makes each state unique when it comes to grilling. At UnitedWeSteak.com, an interactive map of the US made from 50 hand-cut,

state-shaped steaks can be seen. The interactive map offers state-specific recipes and interesting facts that can help consumers nationwide utilize beef during the grilling season.

Emphasis for the campaign is a recognition that across all 50 states and a million tastes, there is a wide-spread love of beef sizzling on a summer grill. According to research, nearly one-third of consumers say they plan to grill more during 2020 than they have in the past.

As part of the campaign, the state and US-shaped steaks will be featured in national advertisements, including still images and videos that will be shared on digital and social media. The ads will also be shared on video platforms including YouTube and Connected TV in an effort to inspire Americans to grill up their favorite beef meal no matter where they live. Each state is featuring localized advertisements that will reach grill masters in their local markets.

The campaign follows the kickoff of summer grilling season, which “Beef. It’s What’s For Dinner” marked with a new video released Memorial Day Weekend showcasing the raising of safe, sustainable, and nutritious beef.

Organic Enforcement Rule Proposal

The Organic Trade Association (OTA) has welcomed the US Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) effort to boost the integrity of the global organic market through its Strengthening Organic Enforcement proposed rule.

The agency has proposed amending the USDA organic regulations to strengthen oversight and enforcement of the production, handling and sale of organic agricultural products. The proposed amendments are intended to protect integrity in the organic supply chain and build consumer and industry trust in the USDA organic label by strengthening organic control systems, improving farm-to-market traceability, and providing robust enforcement of the USDA organic regulations.

OTA said the proposed rule is the largest single piece of rule-making since implementation of the National Organic Program regulations and should transform the oversight and enforcement of organic production worldwide.

On behalf of its members, OTA has worked with Congress in the farm bill debate leading up to this rule-making. Several proposed requirements are the

outcome of OTA's priorities and successful legislative work, such as closing the loop-hole on uncertified handlers by requiring certification and mandating electronic certificates for all imports. In addition to its advocacy for the farm bill provisions, in November 2018, OTA submitted information to USDA regarding its top priorities for boosting the integrity of the global organic market, identifying 15 areas where improvements are needed to strengthen the global organic control system.

The trade group said it supports strong public- and private-sector measures to protect against fraud, deepen transparency across the organic supply chain, and ensure consumer confidence in the organic product.

Groups Oppose "Big Meat"

A sizable coalition of activist groups has initiated a so-called "Boycott Big Meat" campaign, according to the Organic Consumers Association. Other groups who have joined in encouraging the boycott are Forward Latino, Socially Responsible Agricultural Project, and US Farmers and Ranchers for a Green New Deal.

A news release put out by the coalition proclaimed, "Consumers must lead the just transition to a decentralized system of organic regenerative pasture-raised, grass-fed meat production, run by a diverse network of local and regional independent farmers, ranchers, processors, and retailers who are committed to fair pay, safe working conditions along with environmental and climate justice."

USDA Dietary Guidelines Report Released

USDA has posted the 2020 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee's final scientific report containing findings that will inform the agency and US Department of Health and Human Services as they develop the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

The guidelines, updated every five years to incorporate the latest in nutritional science, provide recommendations on what to eat and drink to promote health and prevent chronic disease and have been a battleground for proponents of differing dietary priorities.

In the report's executive summary, the committee said 70% of Americans are overweight or obese, conditions that are a driver for diet-related chronic diseases including

cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, and some cancers. Typical Americans in their lifetimes over-consume saturated fats, sodium and added sugars, while intake of fruits, vegetables, and whole grains are lower than current recommendations.

USDA and HHS accepted written public comments on the committee's final report through August 13, 2020. The departments plan to publish the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans by the end of December 2020.

USDA said the committee's work was informed by more than 62,000 public comments. In the past, prior committees received an average of just 450 comments.

NCBA Supports CattleTrace

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) board of directors adopted a new policy in support of US CattleTrace and its mission of advancing disease traceability in the US cattle industry. The policy resolution was originally suggested by state cattlemen's associations in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington.

The policy resolution calls for NCBA to support the expansion of US CattleTrace and directs the organization to encourage and help facilitate state affiliate support and educational efforts. Animal disease traceability is a priority in the US beef cattle industry and has been included in both the 2016-2020 and the 2021-2025 Beef Industry Long Range Plans. In 2016, the plan called for a feasibility study, which has been a guiding document for US CattleTrace, and the newly released plan supports aggressive animal disease traceability growth and expansion targets.

In August 2018, CattleTrace, Inc. was formally established as a private, not-for-profit corporation to securely maintain and manage the data collected as part of the disease traceability pilot project. A board of directors with representatives from cow-calf, livestock market, and cattle feeding sectors was named to lead CattleTrace, Inc. In January 2020, the board voted to change the name to US CattleTrace, Inc. to formally establish the multi-state initiative to advance disease traceability.

(Continued on page 59)

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Dr. Wade Shafer, Publisher Dated: September 8, 2020

Beef Abroad: Insights into the Scottish Cattle Industry

By Troy Rowan, Ph.D. Graduate Candidate at University of Missouri



Editor's note: Troy Rowan, recent recipient of the Walton-Berry Graduate Student Support Grant, studied abroad at the University of Edinburgh's Roslin Institute in Scotland looking at genomic signatures of selection to apply to population genetics. Roslin Institute is recognized for cloning the first mammal from an adult cell, Dolly the Sheep, pictured to the left with Rowan.

The Scottish Beef Industry: Production and Consumption

While riding the bus to the Roslin Institute on my first day of work, I was struck by the number of sheep around! While there are certainly a higher proportion of sheep in Scotland than in the States, beef still accounts for a much larger proportion of their agricultural output: 26.1% for beef vs. 8.6% for sheep (Scottish Red Meat Report, 2019). I was also interested to see that the average beef herd size in Scotland (48) and the US (44, USDA-ERS) were roughly the same. Scottish beef production, much like in America, is deeply rooted in culture. Many operations have been in families for centuries, and their passion for maintaining the land, rearing cattle, and feeding people is as strong today as ever.

Scottish folks eat less beef annually (47 lbs) than the average American (58 lbs), but substantially more than the average resident in the rest of the United Kingdom (38 lbs). Much of this consumption is offset by lamb, but portion size plays an important role. These differences show up at the grocery store as well, where premium cuts are significantly smaller and have less marbling than the grain-fed steaks I am accustomed to seeing.

I was also struck by the presence of Scotch-branded beef in nearly every supermarket meat case. Scottish beef has had its own branded label for the last 30 years and is held in high-regard both within and outside of the United Kingdom. To be branded "Scotch Beef" animals must have been "born, reared and processed in Scotland" and spent their time on quality-assured farms.

In addition to traceability, animal welfare and sustainability are also highly-valued by consumers, and producers are duly compensated for maintaining a certain standard. Specifically in regards to animal welfare, the Scotch Beef Council works closely with the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to develop welfare guidelines, perform farm checks, and develop educational resources. This partnership runs counter to many of our experiences in the United States where major animal welfare institutions largely operate initiatives counterproductive to animal agriculture.

While the US has far more beef cows (31 million vs Scotland's 406,000), the entire Scotch beef herd resides in an area smaller than the state of Maine. Scotland is able to support this high-density of animals with effectively unlimited forage. Even after spending my life in grass-producing areas of the Midwest, I was struck with the sheer amount of available forage. As a result, virtually all Scotch beef is finished on grass with minimal grain inputs. This pushes the average age at slaughter to 22 months, substantially older than grain-finished cattle in the States.

(Continued on page 38)

I've spent most of my life thinking about America as the "Land of the Free and home of the Beef." Whether it was helping on my family's beef operation as a little one, breeding cows with my dad as a teenager, or during my Ph.D. in beef genomics at the University of Missouri, the American beef industry has been the only one I've ever spent much time thinking about. That is, until I spent the last six months of 2019 in the United Kingdom working on a portion of my graduate research. This scientific visit to work at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, Scotland was made possible by the Walton Berry Award from the American Simmental Association.

Though I could write all day about my research (and it turns out a lot of days I do), I wanted to share some of my insights into Scottish agriculture, particularly their beef industry. It was easy for me to take an American-centric view of beef production, but my time in the UK really highlighted some of the similarities and differences experienced by our fellow producers "across the pond". While our operations and industry organizations differ in many ways, it was reassuring to see that producers abroad are focused on the same things as producers at home: improving the efficiency and sustainability of red meat production.



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Beef Abroad: Insights into the Scottish Cattle Industry

(Continued from page 36)



Yearling heifers (above) and bulls (below) over-wintering at Eastfield Aberdeen Angus near Kelso, Scotland near the Scottish-English Border. Animals will typically be bedded down and fed indoors from November until May.



The photo below was taken outside of the barn on the same day. Notice the amount of forage available for late November, and that sheep are still grazing!



Animal Management

Farmers and ranchers nearly anywhere in the US have been known to say, “You’re always two weeks from a drought”. In Scotland, this is not the case. While the average rainfall totals for Edinburgh are comparable to my family’s farm in Southwest Iowa, Scotland’s proximity to the ocean ensures that this rain comes consistently, particularly in the winter. The consistency of rainfall coupled with above-freezing temperatures year-round despite being on the same latitude as central Canada makes for completely saturated pastures in the winter months. Due to their dense stocking rates, producers’ land holdings are typically quite small, and any amount of foot traffic from cattle during this period would destroy a large percentage of their high-quality land. As a result, nearly all producers over-winter animals indoors, a concept that was entirely new to me.

Towards the end of my stay, I was lucky enough to meet up with a couple of veterinarians that took me out to see a few of their dairy and beef clients. By the middle of November, all of the cattle that we visited had moved indoors, were bedded down on straw, and were being fed silage and hay. They would remain inside until mid-April. In addition to raising hay to put up as silage, these management circumstances effectively require that cattle producers also grow their own wheat for straw for the following five months their animals will spend indoors.

(Continued on page 40)



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Beef Abroad: Insights into the Scottish Cattle Industry

(Continued from page 38)

Genetic Evaluations and Selection Strategies

While most of my producer interactions in Scotland were seedstock Angus-based, it seems like the show ring is still a major driver of selection in the UK's four major breeds: Limousin, Angus, Charolais, and Simmental. While each breed's society collects performance data and reports EBVs (Estimated Breeding Values, which are 2 x EPDs), Limousin is the only breed that performs a genomic evaluation. By many accounts, Limousin appears to be the most technologically progressive breed in Scotland and the UK. They are currently undertaking initiatives involved with genomics, feed efficiency, carcass quality, and various health traits.

I was lucky to share some discussions around developing technologies with Professor Mike Coffey, at Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) and Head of eGenes, the service provider that runs all of the UK's sheep and beef and dairy cattle genetic evaluations. A major initiative of the British Limousin Cattle Society aims to use visual image analysis to accelerate genetic progress on a variety of retail value-based carcass traits. The goals of this "Carcass Traits Project" look almost identical to ASA's "Carcass Merit Program". Mike's group is a world-leader in leveraging "big data" phenotypes to help drive genetic progress on various production and health outcomes. Recently, they have been using machine learning to identify bovine tuberculosis (bTB) positive dairy animals using spectral profiles from millions of routinely-collected milk samples. Their methods are highly accurate and could play an essential role in the eradication of bTB from the British cattle population. In general,

Coffey is excited about the potential of novel phenotypes coupled with genomics to breed more productive cattle worldwide, an excitement that I most certainly share!

Common Culture

While many aspects of Scottish beef production are different from what we are accustomed to here in the US, it is clear that many of the most important components are the same. It was immediately clear to me that Scottish farmers' devotion to caring for animals, tending the land, and producing healthy, safe, and plentiful red meat was every bit as strong as American ranchers'. It is my hope as the world becomes increasingly connected, we can increase the transfer of knowledge and shared experiences to continue driving the beef industry forward.

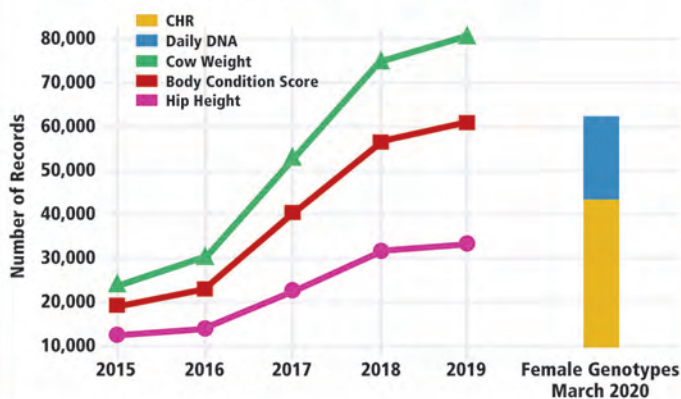
Resources and Further Reading

To explore additional reading on Scottish Beef Production, please visit simmental.org. ♦



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CUTTING EDGE

Novel Sperm Imaging Technique Could Improve Cattle, Human Fertility

By Matthew B. Wheeler Ph.D., University of Illinois

University of Illinois researchers have developed a new technique to determine the fertility of sperm samples in cattle.

“This work is a part of a five-year project to develop dairy cattle that are resistant to heat and diseases in tropical areas. We want to donate these cows to developing countries to increase their food production,” said Matthew B. Wheeler, professor in the Department of Animal Sciences at Illinois.

In order to develop these traits in cattle, the researchers need to determine which sperm samples work best for in vitro fertilization. A novel imaging approach, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, moves that effort forward.

“Although males may have sperm that are seemingly perfect, there could be morphological or DNA issues. This approach allows us to evaluate the spermatozoa and select the best in terms of fertility,” said Marcello Rubessa, a research assistant professor in Wheeler’s team.

Traditional techniques for imaging sperm samples are slow and labor intensive, and involve toxic stains. To circumvent this issue, Wheeler’s team, along with a group based in the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, used label-free imaging techniques developed in the Beckman Institute’s Quantitative Light Imaging Laboratory (QLIL) to determine what parameters of the sperm make them fertile.

“We knew from the fertilization experiments which sperm samples worked. We used our imaging technique to understand what parameters were important for success,” said Mikhail Kandel, a graduate student with the QLIL. “We saw that the relationship between the size of the head and the tail of the sperm is an important parameter for fertility.”

Additionally, the researchers also improved the speed of the technique. “We used artificial intelligence to automate the process of analyzing these sperm cells,” said Yuchen He, a graduate student with QLIL.

The researchers hope to improve the speed of the technique for future analysis. “The motility of the sperm is sometimes fast. Therefore, we need to do the measurements quickly,” said Gabriel Popescu, Director of the QLIL and professor in the Departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Bioengineering at Illinois.

“For many years, we have developed various techniques for label-free imaging knowing that we had to give away molecular specificity,” Popescu said. “However, our newly developed phase imaging with computational specificity brings back the molecular specificity via artificial intelligence, which is harmless and works on live cells. The applications are limitless, but one that truly benefits from absence of chemical stains is assisted reproduction, as described in this collaborative study.”

The researchers hope to further develop the technique for assisted reproductive technology in humans.

The study, “Reproductive outcomes predicted by phase imaging with computational specificity of spermatozoon ultrastructure,” is published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The study was supported by grants from the Ross Foundation, the United States Department of Agriculture, the National Institutes of Health, and the Integrated Grants Management System.

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Crops Get Pathogens from Livestock

Crops can be contaminated by pathogens from nearby livestock feeding operations, according to an intensive study by researchers at the University of California-Davis. The results seem to show how crops and produce, such as romaine lettuce, can become contaminated with those pathogens normally associated with livestock.

The researchers collected and tested swabs from almond orchards located next to a commercial poultry farm. Air, soil, and leaf samples were tested downwind from the orchards. Samples were then evaluated for aerobic plate count, generic *Escherichia coli*, other coliforms, and dust.

Study Examines Contamination

A new study is devising new strategies for preventing and controlling pathogen contamination throughout the food supply chain by identifying most likely contamination sources in meat processing plants.

Meat scientists in the Texas A&M University of Animal Science have a goal of determining how and where pathogens like *E. coli*, *listeria*, and *salmonella* survive in processing facilities. The study will also examine whether spatial organization and location of the food pathogen within the multispecies biofilm impacts tolerance to sanitizers. ♦



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CORPORATE REPORT

JBS Plans to Buy, Convert Lamb Processing Facility

JBS, the world's largest beef and pork processor, is planning to convert a Colorado lamb processing facility to process beef cuts, further limiting processing facilities for the sheep industry in western states, according to news releases.

JBS was expected to close on its purchase of the Mountain States Rosen lamb processing facility in Greeley, Colorado, but senators and house members from five western states have asked the Justice Department to intervene in the purchase.

Mountain States Rosen (MSR) is a farmer cooperative that was owned by 150 ranch families, but the processing plant fell into bankruptcy, and the Bazillian-based company purchased the plant in bankruptcy court. The MSR plant, located across the road from the JBS beef processing facility in Greeley, was owned and operated by JBS before selling the lamb plant to the cooperative in 2015. The Fence Post reported JBS plans to use the processing plant to grind hamburger and cut steaks for its beef plant, a plan that will leave western lamb producers with no place to process.

MSR processed about 360,000 lambs in 2019 and is considered the largest single processing facility in western states.

The lawmakers urged the Department of Justice to open an investigation and "take appropriate steps to prevent irreversible actions that might harm the ability of American sheep ranchers to get their products to market until the department can determine how best to protect competition in this significant part of America's food supply."

Signers of the letter included Republican Sens. John Barrasso of Wyoming, Steve Daines of Montana, Mitt Romney of Utah, and Michael Rounds and John Thune of South Dakota. House members who signed the letter included Republicans Rob Bishop of Utah, Liz Cheney of Wyoming, Greg Gianforte of Montana, Dusty Johnson of South Dakota, Devin Nunes of California, and Chris Stewart of Utah. A copy of the letter was sent to Agriculture Deputy Secretary Steve Censky.

Cargill Links With Cattle Groups

Cargill has joined the National Cattlemen's Foundation in a partnership to provide funding for North American cattle producers to obtain practical tools to assist in managing market shifts, reducing costs, managing natural resources, and withstanding extreme weather events.

The strategic partnership, intended to run over a four-year period, was funded by a \$3 million contribution from Cargill's protein business. The agreement establishes a professional development scholarship program and provides educational opportunities through various organizations.

Walmart, Sam's Club Set Goal to Source Beef More Sustainably By 2025

As part of its commitment to sourcing 20 commodities more sustainably by 2025, Walmart, operator of Walmart US and Sam's Club stores, announced a new set of goals to source beef products more sustainably.

In a recent blog post, the retail giant shared that it is exploring soil health, animal welfare, responsible use of antibiotics, and partnerships. David Baskin, Merchandising Vice President Meat, Walmart US, and Kyle Kinnard, Vice President and Divisional Merchandise Manager of Meat and Seafood, Sam's Club, said, "As the needs of the world have shifted, we are furthering our original goal while staying true to one of our earliest sustainability commitments — to sell more sustainable products while maintaining the low prices customers expect."

"Beef is one of these commodities. As the world population continues to grow, so does the global demand for protein, which brings a unique set of sustainability challenges and opportunities. Livestock grazing and beef production in the US can be part of a resilient, sustainable food system. Grazing lands cover about 40% of the United States. This includes iconic ecosystems and important wildlife."

In the retail giant's announcement, Walmart acknowledged the important role of the nation's farmers and ranchers in keeping well-managed grazing lands that can help secure clean water, enhance habitat, sustain rural communities, and store additional carbon in the soil, which helps mitigate emissions.

The company announced the following aspirations that will further their work and ultimately bring the companies closer to meeting their 2025 objectives in sustainable beef sourcing: Sustainably raised: driving soil health and animal welfare, the need for greater transparency and partnership, and collaboration is key.

Beyond Meat Sales Up

Beyond Meat, the plant-based meat and cell-cultured animal proteins firm, had better than projected revenues during the second quarter of 2020, despite complications from COVID-19. Strong retail sales made up for weak foodservice demand.

During that quarter net revenues were \$113.3 million, an increase of 68.5% from the same period one year previously. Chief driving force was the company's retail business which saw sales climb 194.9% from 2019. Internationally, retail sales rose 166.7%. However, foodservice sales dropped dramatically, by 60.7% nationally and 56.5% internationally.

North American Meat Institute Aligns with OSHA

The North American Meat Institute (Meat Institute) and the US Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) have signed a two-year alliance to provide Meat Institute members, the public, and other stakeholders with information, guidance, and access to training resources that will help protect workers, according to a release from the institute.

During the alliance, participants will develop information about recognizing risks of coronavirus transmission, best practices for preventing transmission and the challenges for exposure control in meatpacking and processing facilities. They will also conduct outreach to small- and medium-sized facilities about available guidance and compliance assistance resources, including the On-Site Consultation Program, as well as providing information on OSHA's enforcement policies and procedures related to the meatpacking industry, the release says. ♦



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NEWSMAKERS

Eichacker Named Dakotafest Woman Farmer and Rancher-of-the-Year



Cathy Eichacker

Cathy Eichacker, Eichacker Simmentals, was recently named the South Dakota Woman Farmer and Rancher-of-the-Year, during a Dakotafest Women in Ag event. Eichacker has dedicated countless hours

to youth, volunteering, and leadership, and is also an integral part of her family's seedstock operation. The Salem, South Dakota, rancher helped host the 2017 North Central Regional Classic, volunteers for 4-H and FFA, leads youth events, and volunteers within her community.

Eichacker and her husband, Steve, a current ASA Board of Trustees member, raise Simmental seedstock and also put up hay and farm. In addition to her organizational involvement, Eichacker is active in their family church and dedicates time to educating local youth about the beef industry. This spring, she improvised and held an online field trip to the farm for her son's class, and sent them regular updates on a newborn calf to help foster an interest in the beef industry.

The Dakotafest Women in Ag award came with \$500, intended to recognize hard-working women in South Dakota agriculture. This was the first year the award was given, and in addition to Eichacker, four other women from the livestock and farming industries were nominated.

In Memoriam . . .

Susan Knights Willmon, who many ASA members and staff knew through her work as a Breed Improvement Federation Board member, and as a Beef Data Specialist for ABS Global, lost her battle with metastatic breast cancer on August 30. She grew up in Northbrook, Illinois, but spent her adult life in Colorado. Willmon was a proud graduate of Colorado State University and the University of Illinois.

In lieu of flowers, the family is respectfully requesting memorial tributes be directed to the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture for the establishment of a scholarship fund in Willmon's honor. Please indicate the memorial is for the Susan Knights Willmon Scholarship and make payable to: Colorado Foundation for Agriculture; c/o Susan Knights Willmon Scholarship; 10343 Federal Blvd Unit J Box 224; Westminster, CO 80260. ♦

INTERNATIONAL

McDonald's Canada to Revert to Domestic Beef Sourcing

Starting this fall, McDonald's Canada announced that its restaurants will once again serve 100% Canadian beef.

For nearly two decades, we've maintained a strong commitment to sourcing Canadian beef. We are incredibly proud of the role we've played in supporting local ranchers and farmers," said Nicole Zeni, the senior manager of supply chain for McDonald's Canada. "In these challenging times, our ability to return to sourcing 100% of our beef from Canadian sources is a true testament to the resiliency of the industry."

McDonald's Canada has exclusively sold Canadian beef since 2003, but supply chain disruptions in April from the COVID-19 pandemic, including the temporary closure of Cargill's High River facility in Alberta, Canada, which handles 36% of Canada's beef processing, forced the restaurant to change suppliers. Ultimately, McDonald's Canada imported beef from New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, and the US, and removed Angus burgers from national menus.

International COVID-19 Problems

Other countries around the globe suffer many of the same problems that the US experiences when it comes to meat processing facilities. In fact, regulators in Germany are currently drafting stricter rules on the use of subcontractors at slaughterhouses directed at slowing outbreaks.

One proposed law would limit processors from hiring subcontractors from Eastern Europe for animal slaughter or any other meat processing activities. German use of lower-paid foreign workers mirrors hiring procedures and practices that have been used by packing houses in the US over the past several decades. One processor reported more than 1,500 positive coronavirus cases in one month.

UN Warns of Food Insecurity

More than 30 countries are vulnerable to becoming COVID-19-related "food insecurity hotspots". That is the prediction of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Food Programme. Lack of available food, either because the food doesn't even exist, or because of spikes in price not only endangers citizen's health but can also lead to socio-economic unrest.

Government and other institutions can be destabilized, making it even more difficult to distribute necessary foodstuffs where they are needed most. Food insecurity can lead to loss of household purchasing power, interruptions to agriculture and food production, reduced government capacity to protect vulnerable citizens, destabilized political structure, and exacerbation of existing conditions. ♦

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By Sheldon Ross, Lead Developer and Systems Administrator



Sheldon Ross

Inactive Animals Shaded Red on Animal List

Previously, using the animal search tool to take stock of active animals was an issue, because as a historical record of ownership, the animal search wouldn't separate current from disposed animals. The new red shading option to mark disposed animals makes it easier to identify animals that are relevant to breeder's current operation.

The list is sorted in two sections. The animals displayed at the top of the list in black are animals that are either currently active or have never been marked as disposed, were sold without

papers, or don't have a carcass record linked to them.

Animals that have a disposal code are automatically sorted to the bottom of the list and shaded a dark red color. The red provides a quick visual distinction that those animals are no longer active or relevant to the current breeding program.

Ways to Mark an Animal as Inactive:

- Provide a Calf Removal Code when submitting data.
- Document the animal is dead to ASA; ASA will update.
- Document the animal is sold without papers to ASA; ASA will update.
- Provide carcass data on the animal.

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Registered
CANSM - 1

PARISIEN
Horned

Tattoo: SBL 1X_ Left Ear

Single Birth Bull FB SM GE TraitTrac

Owner: 000363 - SIMMENTAL BREEDERS CARDSTON
Breeder: 010295 - ROSSIN, HENRI
Contemporary Breeder: 010295 - ROSSIN, HENRI

Birth Date: 1966-02-16
Original Issue: 1967-05-20

Herd Id	Contemp. Herd Id	Management Code	Weaning Doc	Pasture Unit	Feed Unit	AI	Simbrah	AI/Donor	Disposed	Code
0	0	0	0	0	0	No	Approved as AI Sire		false	

Birth Weaning Yearling US Wt US IMF US BF US REA

Date Value: 1966-02-16

Adjusted Ratio Ranks

Progeny Carcass Records: 115

A.

Disposed	Code
false	

An animal that isn't disposed.

B.

Disposed	Code
true	

An animal marked as Sold without Papers or Marked as Dead.

C.

Disposed	Code
true	33

An animal reported with a Calf Removal Code.

ADDITIONAL UPDATES

Contemporary Breeder: 010295 - ROSSIN, HENRI

Herd Id	Contemp. Herd Id	Management Code	Weaning Doc	Pasture Unit	Fe
0	0	0	0	0	

Birth Weaning Yearling

Date Value: 1966-02-16

Adjusted Ratio Ranks

Progeny Carcass Records: 115

Custom Report Creation ?

Report Name: []

Visual Data Selector Selected Headers

- Animal
- Actual Data
- Weaning
- Yearling
- Birth
- Carcass
- MatureData
 - WT
 - WDT
 - BCS
 - BCSDt
 - HH
 - HNdt
 - UddrScr
 - UddrScrDt
 - FLDate
 - ClewSet
 - HoofAngle
 - RearLeg

Save Report

Carcass Records Viewable on Expanded Report

For high-use sires and donor dams, the expanded report (on the animal's page) will indicate how many actual progeny carcass records are influencing an animal's carcass EPD's.

Mature Dam Data Available under Create Report

Members can now create their own report to pull the latest data on their cow herd. Once you're logged-in online, go to Herd Mgmt, Select Create Report to find the mature dam data options. ♦



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If you have recently advertised in *the Register* or *SimTalk*, you are automatically included in **Sales Call** for the month prior to your sale. **Sales Call** is broadcast to over 5,000 subscribers. **Sales Call** announces the date of your sale, location, provides a link to your sale catalog or website and a map.

PERSONNEL PROFILES

These profiles aim to personalize ASA's staff and connect faces with names and responsibilities.



Rachel Endecott



Rachel (left) and Janet Endecott.

Dr. Rachel Endecott started working for ASA in January of 2018. She grew up on her family's ranch near Ennis, Montana, where she lives today ranching alongside her mom and uncle. She received her B.S. in Animal Science at Montana State University, and her M.S. and Ph.D. in Ruminant Nutrition at New Mexico State University. Endecott worked as the Montana State University Extension Beef Cattle Specialist for five and a half years in Miles City, Montana, and in the

same position on campus in Bozeman, Montana, for another five and a half years before taking a job with ASA.

In her previous career she worked at the Fort Keogh Livestock and Research Laboratory during graduate school, crossing paths with Dr. Jackie Atkins. This connection led her to her current position at ASA. Endecott has been responsible for organizing ASA's DNA Department, and says, "This group is the best team I've worked with in my entire career."

Bailey Abell

Bailey Abell started working for ASA shortly after graduating from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She was offered the job of handling the day-to-day Feeder Profit Calculator (FPC) operations, and Abell currently handles much of the customer contact and certificate generation for the FPC.

Abell studied animal science and worked as a research assistant on multiple research projects with the animal science division, was a part of the meats judging team, and has been

involved in a variety of both agriculture-related and non-agriculture activities. Talking to producers, support from staff, and the opportunity to expand in her role with FPC and IGS are some of Abell's favorite things about working for ASA. Outside of work, Abell and her husband, Zachary, have two boys, Will (2), and Sam (1). They live on her husband's family farm, where they run a small herd of cows with his grandfather. They also enjoy traveling, camping, and working on their home.



The Abell Family.

Randie Culbertson



Culbertson enjoys spending time with her horses, and has been exploring the Montana landscape.

Dr. Randie Culbertson started working for ASA in November of 2019, taking over Dr. Lauren Hyde's position. She was finishing her Ph.D. in Animal Breeding and Genetics at Colorado State University when her advisors gave her name to ASA's EVP, Dr. Wade Shafer. ASA was looking for someone to fill Hyde's position, and Culbertson came to Bozeman for an interview and was offered the job.

Culbertson is originally from New Mexico where most of her family still lives. She received her undergraduate at New Mexico State University, and moved

to Colorado to pursue a career in the horse industry riding show jumpers. She missed her connection to the beef industry, and applied to and was accepted at CSU to pursue a Ph.D. in Animal Breeding with a focus on beef cattle. Culbertson points to the ASA staff and her opportunity to work with top scientists in animal breeding as her favorite parts of ASA. Outside of work, she spends most of her time with her horses, Joon Bug and Maya. She has also started exploring many of Montana's outdoor opportunities, including paddle boarding and riding through the mountains. ♦



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COW SENSE

By Larry Maxey, Founder and Superintendent,
NAILE Fullblood Simmental Shows



larryhmaxey@gmail.com

2020 North American International Livestock Exposition

The theme of the past five editions of the Fleckvieh Forum focused on the “Pioneers” of the Simmental breed’s introduction to North America. Plans remain to continue that series. However, in this month’s column I want to pause, and in a timely manner provide information about the 2020 NAILE.

As my footnote for the September Forum advised, plans to conduct the 2020 NAILE have been made. I noted that the Kentucky State Fair, which is held in the same complex as the NAILE, was also going forward on a very limited basis due to strict Covid-19 health guidelines dictated by the State of Kentucky. And, depending on the outcomes from that event, further evaluations would obviously be considered to tweak, if necessary, the current plans for the NAILE.

It appears, as of this writing, that the State Fair, which finished August 30th, was a success. Essentially the event was open to participants only for the livestock shows. Extraordinary changes to the stall areas, flow of people and animals, and very limited number of visitors was part of those changes. There were many others as well. My understanding is that this same level of guidance will be in place for the NAILE, perhaps even more severe. Obviously, once the NAILE staff finishes a thorough review of the State Fair outcomes, this will allow for adjustments if necessary. Hopefully, we will know the result soon.

In consideration of the above, here is what we do know as of August 31.

- Junior Cattle Arrival: Noon, Thursday, November 12 through 11 am, Friday, November 13.
- First Round of Open Cattle Arrival: Noon, Thursday, November, 12 through Noon, Friday, November 13. This round includes the Fullblood Simmentals, Simmentals, SimSolutions, and other breeds.
- Junior Shows are scheduled for Saturday, November 14 and Sunday, November 15.
- Fullblood Simmentals will show on Monday, November 16 and Simmentals and SimSolutions on Tuesday, November 17.

As far as the NAILE Fullblood Simmental programs, the 2020 NAILE will once again feature three shows. They are the “**Pinnacle**” XII (Open Fullblood Simmentals); the “**Fleck Effect**” VII (Percentage Fleckvieh Simmentals); and the “**Challenge Cup**” IX (Junior Simmental Heifers). The Challenge Cup Show will be at 1 pm on Sunday, November 15, in Broadbent Arena. The Pinnacle Show will be at 9 am on Monday, November 16, in Broadbent to be followed by the Fleck Effect Show at the conclusion of the Pinnacle.

Our 2020 NAILE Fullblood shows will be the first year for us to have co-sponsors. This joint sponsorship will consist of the Fullblood Simmental Fleckvieh Federation and the Fleckvieh Foundation. Another first for the Fullblood Simmental segment that must be announced is that all entries for our three shows will now be handled online by the NAILE and must be made by October 1.

Since we are in a very uncertain period due to the impact of Covid-19, clearly much of the above information is subject to change. In an effort to keep everyone updated going forward, please visit us on Facebook under our NAILE Fullblood Simmental Shows page. Hopefully, things will settle down soon and a successful 2020 NAILE will be conducted. ♦

Listed below are ten questions designed to test your knowledge of the beef industry.

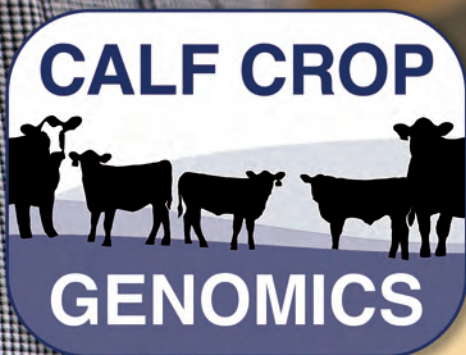
Elite: 9-10 correct; **Superior:** 7-8; **Excellent:** 5-6; **Fair:** 3-4; **Poor:** 1-2.

1. “Womb” is synonymous with what female organ?
2. What is the most reliable sign of estrus in cattle?
3. In normal fertilization, how many sperm cells actually are involved in fertilizing the egg?
4. Endometritis describes what condition in a cow?
5. What is the purpose of rectal palpation?
6. The mating of animals of the same breed, but which show no relationship close up in the pedigree is known by what term?
7. In hours, what is the average length of estrus (or heat)?
8. What is the characteristic color of the fat on a beef carcass that was grass-fattened?
9. If sires are selected for lower birth weights, what is to be expected of their calves’ weaning weights?
10. The Beef Improvement Federation recommends that birth weights be taken within how many hours of birth?

Answers:

1. The uterus; 2. Standing to
3. One; 4. Uterine infection; 5. Determination of pregnancy in cattle;
6. Outcrossing; 7. 10-16 hours;
8. Yellow; 9. They would decrease;
10. Twenty-four hours.

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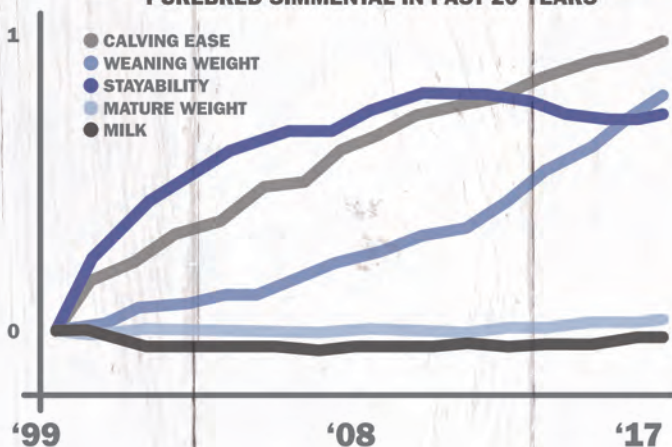
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*GGP-HD (Required for AI sires/donor dams)	\$90
*GGP-LD	\$50
GGP-uLD	\$33

*Add-on tests available

	Stand Alone ↓	Add-on ↓
**Parental Verification (PV)	\$18	Free
Coat Color	\$20	\$9
Red Charlie	\$15	NA
Horned/Polled	\$33	\$19
PMel (Diluter)	\$20	Free
Oculocutaneous Hypopigmentation (OH)	\$25	
BVD PI	\$5	

Genetic Conditions Panel \$25

(Must run with LD or HD)

- Arthrogryposis Multiplex (AM)
- Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH)
- Developmental Duplication (DD)
- Tibial Hemimelia (TH)
- Pulmonary Hypoplasia with Anasarca (PHA)
- Osteopetrosis (OS)
- Contractural Arachnodactyly (CA)

(Individual defect tests can be ordered for \$25.)

**Research Fee charged at \$1.00/min – Includes but is not limited to: DNA re-checks to more than 2 additional parents, multi-sire pastures, excess time spent to confirm parentage, mis-identified samples, and samples arriving at lab without proper ASA paperwork.

***Prices are subject to change

DNA Collector Fees: Allflex TSU - \$20.00 (box of 10) Allflex Applicator - \$40.00 Blood Cards - \$1.00 ea. (processing fee)
Hair Cards - \$5.00 ea. (processing fee) Sample Pull Fee - \$2.00 ea.

THE Enrollment

Spring 2021 THE Enrollment (dams calve January 1-June 30) — Early enrollment open October 15 through **December 15, 2020**.
Late enrollment available until February 15, 2021.

Fall 2021 THE Enrollment (dams calve July 1-December 31) — Early enrollment open April 15 through **June 15, 2021**.
Late enrollment available until August 15, 2021.

	Option A (TR)	Option B (SR)	Option C	Option D (CM)
Early Enrollment	\$15.00	FREE	\$7.50	\$500/herd
*Late Enrollment	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$8.50	\$500/herd

*Late enrollment fees

A re-enrollment fee of \$35.00 applies to any dam that is removed from inventory and re-enters the herd at a later date. A member who has dropped out of THE and wishes to return, may do so for the next enrollment season. Re-enrollment fee is \$35 per animal (maximum of \$350) plus enrollment fees. Non-THE registration fees will apply to the calendar year when a member did not participate in THE.

American Simmental Association Fees

First Time Membership Fee:

Adult First Time Membership Fee*	\$160
<i>(Includes: \$50 set-up fee and \$110 ASF)</i>	
Junior First Time Membership Fee*	\$40
Prefix Registration	\$10

*After January 1: \$105 for Adults and \$40 for Juniors

Annual Service Fee (ASF)*:

Adult Membership	\$110
Junior Membership	\$40

Fiscal year runs from July 1 – June 30

Registration Fees:

Registration Fees enrolled in THE

Enrolled in Option A	No Charge
Enrolled in Opt B or C <10 months	\$30
Enrolled in Opt B or C ≥10 months <15 months	\$40
Enrolled in Opt B or C ≥15 months	\$50

Transfer Fees:

First Transfer	No Charge
<i>Subsequent Transfers</i>	
Within 60 calendar days of sale	\$10
Over 60 calendar days after sale	\$30

Additional Transactions:

Priority Processing	
<i>(not including shipping or mailing).</i>	
Corrections	\$5

Registration Foreign/Foundation Fees:

Register Foundation Cow	\$17
Register Foundation Bull	\$25

Registration Fees not enrolled in THE:

Non-THE <10 months	\$42
Non-THE ≥10 months <15 months	\$52
Non-THE ≥15 months	\$62

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 CCR Ms 4045 Time 7322T

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SFG Queen B01
 SFG Queen Z11

EPDS as of 9/21/2020

Top 25%

Trait	Direct					Maternal				DOC	Carcass						\$ Index	
	CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	Milk	MWW	Stay		CW	YG	Marb	Fat	REA	Shr	API	TI
EPD	17.6	0.3	108.4	161	0.33	10.1	26.4	80.5	16.1	18.8	64.4	-0.36	0.28	-0.09	1.13	-0.48	163.3	102.5
ACC	0.60	0.72	0.66	0.65	0.65	0.36	0.25	0.36	0.34	0.39	0.57	0.42	0.47	0.44	0.52	0.20		
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DATE BOOK

OCTOBER

- 1 Trennepohl Farms' Early Opportunity Sale — Middletown, IN
- 3 Buckeye's Finest Sale — Zanesville, OH
- 3 Factory Direct Sale — Lafayette, IN
- 4 Traynham Ranches' Bull and Female Sale — Klamath, OR
- 4 WSA Midwest Fall Round-Up Sale — Lancaster, WI
- 9 Ladies of the Lone Star Sale — Grand Saline, TX
- 9 Red River Farms' Production Sale — Grand Saline, TX
- 10 Magnolia Classic — Starkville, MS
- 10 New Direction Sale — Seward, NE (pg. 49)
- 13-14 RA Brown Ranch's 46th Annual Bull and Female Sale — Throckmorton, TX
- 16 Buckles and Banners Sale — West Point, IA
- 17 Fred Smith Company Extra Effort Sale — Clayton, NC
- 17 Freedom Run Farm - Oktoberfest Fleckvieh Sale — Saline, MI
- 17 Gerloff Farms' Annual Bull Fest and Female Sale — Bland, MO
- 17 Indiana Performance Tested Bull Sale — Springville, IN
- 17 MN Beef Expo - White Satin On Ice and All Breeds Sale — Minneapolis, MN
- 24 Cattlemen's Preferred Sale — Ratcliff, AR
- 24 C&C Farms' Clear Vision Fall Production Sale — Winder, GA (pg. 15)
- 24 Clear Choice Female Sale — Milan, IN (pg. 21)
- 24 Pennsylvania Fall Classic Sale — Waynesburg, PA (pg. 29)
- 26 Rust Mountain View Ranch's Female Dispersal Sale — Mercer, ND
- 30 26th Annual Hokie Harvest Sale, Virginia Tech — Blacksburg, VA
- 31 7P Ranch's 45th Annual Production Sale — Tyler, TX (pg. 7)
- 31 Genetic Opportunity Sale — Albemarle, NC
- 31 High Ridge Farms' Genetic Opportunity Sale — Albemarle, NC
- 31 Red Hill Farms' "Bulls and Females of Fall VI" — Lafayette TN
- 31 Yon Family Farms Fall Sale — Ridge Spring, SC

NOVEMBER

- 1 Hawkeye Simmental Sale — Bloomfield, IA
- 1 Triangle J Ranch's Annual Female Sale — Miller, NE (pg. 49)
- 2 Hanel's Black Simmentals' Female Sale — Courtland, KS
- 2 Harriman Santa Fe Annual Bull Sale — Montrose, MO
- 7 Cason's Pride and Joy Elite Female Sale — Russell, IA (pg. 17)
- 7 Hilltop Simmentals' Dakota Ladies' Bred Heifer Sale — Worthing, SD (pg. 27)
- 7 Irvine Ranch 16th Annual Production Sale — Manhattan, KS
- 14 Deer Creek Farm's Annual Bull Sale — Lowesville, VA
- 14 Gibbs Farms' Bull and Replacement Female Sale — Ranburne, AL
- 14 SK Cattle's Complete Simmental Dispersal Sale — Aberdeen, SD (pg. BC)
- 15 Houck Rock Creek Ranch's Fall Private Treaty Bull Sale — Allen, KS
- 16 Bichler Simmentals' Production Sale — Linton, ND
- 20 Heartland Simmental Performance with Class Sale — Waverly, IA
- 21 9th Annual Strickland-Driggers Bull Sale — Glennville, GA
- 21 Best of Both Worlds Sale — Newark, OH
- 21 Callaway Cattle Company's 8th Annual AffordabULL Sale — Carrollton, GA
- 21-24 LMC and Friends Giving THANKS Online Sale VI — www.lamuneca.com
- 21 Southern Cattle Company Bull Sale — Marianne, FL
- 21 Stanley Martins Farms' Herd Reduction Sale — Decorah, IA (pg. 4)
- 21 Timberland Cattle's Fall Bull Sale — Vernon, AL
- 27 Chestnut Angus Female Sale — Pipestone, MN
- 28 Felt Farms' Foxy Ladies Sale — West Point, NE
- 28 Nolan and Bagby Performance Cattle's Breeding For the Future Bull and Female Sale — Rockfield, KY
- 28 Right By Design Sale — Middletown, IN (pg. 31)
- 30 WLB Livestock Complete Dispersal — Douglas, MB

DECEMBER

- 5 Jewels of the Northland — Clara City, MN
- 5 Montana's Choice Simmental/SimAngus™ Sale — Billings, MT
- 5 Next Step Cattle Company's 8th Annual Bull Sale — Livingston, AL
- 5 T-Heart Ranch's Fall Female Sale — LaGarita, CO
- 12 Hartman Cattle Company's Customer Appreciation Sale — Tecumseh, NE
- 12 NDSA Annual Showcase/Sale — Mandan, ND
- 12 North Alabama Bull Evaluation Sale — Cullman, AL
- 13 Trauernicht Simmental Nebraska Platinum Standard Sale — Beatrice, NE
- 19 South Dakota Source Sale — Mitchell, SD

JANUARY 2021

- 15 Diamond Bar S Bull Sale — Great Falls, MT (pg. 39)
- 18 National Western "The One – Volume XXVII" Sale — Denver, CO
- 19 Powerline Genetics' Bull Sale — Arapahoe, NE
- 22 Ellingson Simmentals' Annual Production Sale — Dahlen, ND (pg. 51)
- 23 Forster Farms 42nd Annual Production Sale — Smithfield, NE
- 29 Double J Farms' 47th Annual Private Treaty Bull Sale — Garretson, SD (pg. 37)
- 30 J&C Simmentals' Annual Bull Sale — West Point, NE (pg. 49)
- 31 Triangle J Ranch's Bull Sale — Miller, NE (pg. 49)

FEBRUARY

- 1 APEX Cattle "Heterosis Headquarters" Bull and Bred Heifer Sale — Dannebrog, NE
- 1 Gateway Simmental 41st Annual "Breeding Value" Bull Sale — Lewistown, MT
- 3 Begger's Big Sky Genetic Source Bull Sale — Wibaux, MT (pg. 39)
- 3 Lazy C Diamond Ranch's Production Sale — Kintyre, ND
- 4 Hart Simmentals' Power Bull Sale — Frederick, SD
- 4 Stavick Simmental's Annual Sale — Veblen, SD (pg. 37)
- 5 Cow Camp Ranch's Annual Sale — Lost Springs, KS (pg. 47)
- 5 Kunkel Simmentals' Annual Bull and Bred Female Sale — New Salem, ND
- 6 39th Annual Klain Simmental Ranch's Production Sale — Ruso, ND
- 6 Powerline Genetics' PAP Tested Bull Sale — Castle Dale, UT
- 6 Prickly Pear Simmental Ranch's Bull Sale — Helena, MT (pg. 39)
- 6 Value Based Genetics Sale — Decorah, IA
- 7 Hartman Cattle Company's Simmental Bull Sale — Tecumseh, NE
- 8 Dakota Power Bull Sale — Valley City, ND
- 9 Edge of the West Production Sale — Mandan, ND
- 10 Jackpot Cattle Company's Bull Sale — Wessington, SD
- 10 River Creek Farms' Spring Bull Sale — Manhattan, KS (pg. 47)
- 11 Lassle Ranch Simmental's Annual Bull Sale — Glendive, MT
- 12 Bata Brothers/Bell Family 23rd Annual Bull Sale — Rugby, ND
- 12 Bred For Balance Sale — Starbuck, MN
- 13 Kenner Simmentals' 25th Annual Production Sale — Leeds, ND
- 13 Mississippi/Dixie National Simmental Sale — Jackson, MS
- 13 Rydeen Farms' 23rd Annual "Vision" Sale — Clearbrook, MN
- 15 Bulls of the Big Sky — Billings, MT (pg. 39)
- 15 Houck Rock Creek Ranch's Spring Private Treaty Bull Sale — Allen, KS
- 15 Iowa Simmental "Mark of Excellence" Sale — Des Moines, IA
- 16 QBVJT Power By Design Sale — Oakes, ND (pg. 51)
- 19 32nd Annual Power Bull Sale — Carstairs, AB
- 19 Dakota Xpress Annual Bull and Female Sale — Mandan, ND (pg. 51)
- 19 R&R Cattle Company's Annual Production Sale — Chamberlain, SD
- 19 Sandy Acres' Bull Sale — Neligh, NE (pg. 49)
- 20 7P Ranch's 27th Annual Spring Bull and Female Sale — Tyler, TX
- 20 Dixon Farms, Inc., Private Treaty Sale — Atwood, KS
- 20 Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic Simmental Sale — Kearney, NE
- 20 Yon Family Farms Spring Sale — Ridge Spring, SC
- 21 Bred For Balance Annual Sale — Starbuck, MN
- 24 C Diamond Simmentals' Annual Production Sale — Dawson, ND
- 25 Illinois Performance Tested Bull Sale — Springfield, IL
- 26 Mid-America Simmental Sale — Springfield, IL
- 27-3/6 Hofmann Simmental's "Buy Your Way" Bull Sale — Clay Center, KS

MARCH

- 1 Hanel's Black Simmentals' Black and White Bull Sale — Courtland, KS
- 1 Sweet 16 Online Bull and Female Sale — www.lot1.com
- 2 Hill's Ranch's Bull Sale — Stanford, MT
- 3 Klein Ranch's Annual Production Sale — Atwood, KS
- 4 Brink Simmentals' Phone Auction — www.brinkgenetics.com
- 4 Keller Broken Heart Ranch's Annual Sale — Mandan, ND (pg. 51)
- 5 Eichacker Simmentals' Annual Bull and Female Sale — Salem, SD (pg. 37)
- 5 KSU's Annual Legacy Sale — Manhattan, KS
- 6 Kentucky Beef Expo Sale — Louisville, KY
- 6 Powerline Genetics' PAP Tested Bull Sale — Castle Dale, UT
- 6 Trinity Farms' Generations of Excellence Sale — Ellensburg, WA (pg. 43)
- 7 Gold Bullion Group's Annual Bull Sale — Wamego, KS
- 11 17th Annual Cattleman's Kind Bull Sale — San Saba, TX
- 13 Carcass Performance Partners Bull and Female Sale — Lucedale, MS ◆

Processing Expansion Program Opened

The state of Wyoming has announced the "Wyoming Meat Processing Expansion Grant Program", designed to provide support for meat processing facilities and citizens affected by supply disruptions and regional shutdowns of processing facilities due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency.

Governor Mike Gordon has announced that he has appropriated \$10 million in federal CARES Act funds for the program, which seeks to strengthen the state's local food supply chain and address meat shortages at retail locations and food banks. The grants required a portion of products to be provided to local food banks, pantries, soup kitchens, prisons, schools and other charitable organizations to help feed hungry or under served populations.

Beef Outperforms Chicken

More money is being made from beef than from chicken during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a recently released report. Stronger demand and pricing are driving beef, while chicken is suffering from oversupply, weak pricing and very sluggish consumption, especially while food service is slumping so dramatically.

With beef production almost back to normal levels, grocery stores are likely to ramp up promotion of beef in the meat case this fall. Meanwhile, chicken pricing and demand are too low to justify ads that would help generate sales.

Runaway Beefalo Avoids Slaughter

A beefalo that escaped from a Connecticut processing plant in early August will be allowed to live the rest of its life on a farm once it has been captured. The decision came after news of the escape generated social media calls for the animal to be saved, while other people considered the steaks the animal would generate could be served to people in need.

The beefalo, which weighs an estimated 2,000 pounds according to reports, is a cross between bison and cattle. After its escape, it has been spotted on a number of occasions, but retreats to thick brush whenever humans come near. The beefalo's owner has promised that it will be returned to the 140-acre Massachusetts farm where it was raised. ◆

RATES & POLICIES

Serving as American Simmental Association's (ASA) official publication, *the Register* is mailed nine times annually, has a circulation of 5,500+, and is focused primarily on ASA's paid membership. *the Register* is an 8 1/8 x 10 7/8 inch glossy, full-color publication that provides a direct and consistent line of communication to the ASA membership.

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February '21	Dec 28	Jan 4	Jan 18	Feb 4
March '21	Jan 29	Feb 10	Feb 17	March 8
April '21	March 1	March 10	March 19	April 5
May/June '21	April 1	April 9	April 20	May 10
July/August '21	June 18	June 25	July 9	July 23
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Mr. Hoc Broker C623
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SSC Shell Shocked 44B
By Remington Secret Weapon 185
EPDs: CE: 19 \$API: 121 \$TI: 60



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By HTP/SVF Duracell T52
EPDs: CE: 18 \$API: 150 \$TI: 81



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EPDs: CE: 16 \$API: 142 \$TI: 77



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By Ruby's Currency 7134E
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By MR TR Hammer 308A ET
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By W/C Executive Order 8543B
EPDs: CE: 17 \$API: 119 \$TI: 75



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By MR CCF 20-20 3/4 SimAngus™
EPDs: CE: 14 \$API: 112 \$TI: 70



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By CCR Anchor 9071B
EPDs: CE: 10 \$API: 123 \$TI: 80



WS Revival B26

By LLSF Uprising Z925
EPDs: CE: 11 \$API: 113 \$TI: 67



LLSF Pays To Believe ZU194

By CNS Pays To Dream T759
EPDs: CE: 8 \$API: 112 \$TI: 71



W/C Bankroll 811D

By W/C Loaded Up 1119Y
EPDs: CE: 14 \$API: 135 \$TI: 73



CLRS Guardian 317G

By Hook's Beacon 56B
EPDs: CE: 20 \$API: 202 \$TI: 98



KSU Bald Eagle 53G

By Hook's Eagle 6E
EPDs: CE: 14 \$API: 173 \$TI: 96



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By W/C Executive Order 8543B
EPDs: CE: 13 \$API: 106 \$TI: 67



HPF Tradecraft D010

By JF Milestone 999W
EPDs: CE: 6 \$API: 110 \$TI: 71



MR CCF The Duke G42

By Mr CCF Vision
EPDs: CE: 13 \$API: 112 \$TI: 70



Erixon Bitten 203A

By NCB Cobra 47Y
EPDs: CE: 18 \$API: 156 \$TI: 77



LCDR Favor 149F

By LCDR Witness 541C
EPDs: CE: 9 \$API: 157 \$TI: 97



SFG The Judge D633

By CCR Cowboy Cut 5048Z
EPDs: CE: 10 \$API: 152 \$TI: 92



TL Ledger 106D

By Profit
EPDs: CE: 10 \$API: 112 \$TI: 64



GPG Focus 135F

By Mr CCF 20-20
EPDs: CE: 9 \$API: 115 \$TI: 69



OBCC Kavanaugh F236

BBy OBCC Unfinished Business
EPDs: CE: 13 \$API: 138 \$TI: 79



LHT Viper 65E

By W/C Loaded Up 1119Y
EPDs: CE: 16 \$API: 134 \$TI: 67



JBSF Logic 5E

By W/C Relentless 32C
EPDs: CE: 7 \$API: 109 \$TI: 63



Long's Stand Alone B35

By Built Right
EPDs: CE: 7 \$API: 127 \$TI: 69



Mr CCF Vision Z60

By Mr NLC Upgrade U8676
EPDs: CE: 11 \$API: 107 \$TI: 80



Perfect Vision 26D

By MR CCF Vision
EPDs: CE: 14 \$API: 112 \$TI: 70

20-20's brother



Rousey Gold Strike 512C

By Hooks Trinity 9T
EPDs: CE: 16 \$API: 144 \$TI: 89



JSUL Something About Mary 8421

By W/C Relentless 32C
EPDs: CE: 9 \$API: 101 \$TI: 62



CDI Innovator 325D

By TJ Main Event 503B
EPDs: CE: 14 \$API: 149 \$TI: 91

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**SATURDAY
NOV. 14**

12:00 Noon
Aberdeen Livestock
Aberdeen, SD



H33



B27

Yardley High Regard x
Miss Werning KP 8543U
Due 4-13-21 TKCC Carver 65C

H33 - Son sired by W/C Pinnacle E80



C528

CCR Cowboy Cut x Kappes Sadie T635
Due 3-7-21 Hooks Eagle 6E



G58

Rubys Turnpike x Kappes Sadie M166 C509
Due 2-25-21 OMF Epic E27

115+ HEAD

2020 Calf Crop Sires:

TJ Franchise, LCDR Favor, W/C Pinnacle,
CDI Trustee, W/C Bankroll, CDI Innovator,
W/C Doctors Order, OLF Thor, TKCC Carver
& SK Smooth Criminal

2020 New Service Sires:

Hook's Eagle, OMF Epic,
CLRS Guardian, &
OHL Good Times



110Y

SAV Bismarck x
R&R Monica T713
Due 4-5-21 OHL Good Times 6192G



D148

Yardley High Regard x SWC Ruby Ynona 139Y
Due 2-16-21 LCDR Favor 149F



G27

CDI Innovator x Kappes Kava Ms B33 D404
Due 2-7-21 W/C Doctors Orders 655F

Contact Bruce or Sterling Kappes

Bruce 605-380-1303

Sterling 605-216-3581

1522 S 6th Street, Aberdeen SD 57401

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