

## GENETICS THAT PAY



\$20+ MORE PER CARCASS Success on the ranch is measured in dollars.

Data from the Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative finds packers pay \$20 to \$34 more for SimAngus<sup>22</sup> and Simmental-sired cattle than English-sired counterparts.<sup>3</sup>

Simmental influence also pays at auction. SimAngus-sired steer calves sold through Superior Livestock Auction earn more at sale time than all other calves.<sup>b</sup>

It's no wonder the percentage of **SimAngus** calves marketed through the industry's largest video auction has grown **eightfold** since 2010.

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<sup>th</sup> Effect of sire breed group on carcass value of feedlot cattle harvested through Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative, Lewis, Iowa, 2002 to 2018. Odde, K. & King, M. (March 2021). Kansas State University. Relationships Among Sire-Breed Group, Calf Sex and Year Group on Carcass Traits. Breeds represented in the English-sired group: Angus, Red Angus, South Devon, Hereford and Shorthorn.

b Effect of sire breed on sale price of beef steer calves sold through Superior Livestock Auction, summer 2020. Odde, K. 8. King, M. (December 2020). Kansas State University analysis of 394,900 head of beef calves. Estimating the Value of SimAngus-Sired Calves: Superior Livestock Auction – Summer Sales; 2020. For lots of 50 head or more.

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#### SMITH ISGRIG SOMETHING IN RED "SIR"

Red. Polled. 3/4 x 1/4. Sired by Something About Mary and out of our purebred Simbrah donor, Smith Diva's Dancing Queen, who is making her mark in the Diva family. SIR ranks in the top 4% for SAPI and STI. Half interest in a Diva Dancing Queen son, just sold for \$5,000 in the Synergy Sale.



#### SMITH DIRTY MIKE N BLACK

Black. Polled. Purebred Simmental. Sired by Executive Order and out of WLE Gracie Babe Y854. We have many calves on the ground by this young sire and we are excited about what he brings to SimGenetics.

IF YOU NEED A
SIMGENETICS BULL COME SEE OUR
BEEF BULLS!



Tim Smith, Joel Isgrig and Haley Smith 512-587-7896 • smithgenetics 1@gmail.com

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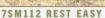
A group of curious SimGenetics calves in north-central Michigan. Photo by Grant Company.



## **MORE PREGNANCIES, MORE LIVE CALVES**

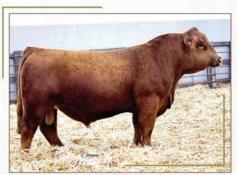
BREED-LEADING CALVING EASE DELIVERED BY ELITE SELECT SIRES FERTILITY







7SM122 STANDOUT



7SM92 RED MOON

CODE NAME	REG	CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	MILK	MWW	STAY	DOC	CW	YG	MARB	BF	REA	API	TI
7SM122 STANDOUT	3585120	21.7	-4.0	73.7	107.1	12.2	24.7	61.5	16.8	18.7	39.9	22	.52	053	.68	174.2	92.4
7SM116 PROGRESSIVE	3646242	20.3	-4.6	85.5	130.2	11.1	34.1	76.8	16.7	13.2	48.4	33	.47	078	.91	176.5	100.6
7SM92 RED MOON	3115609	17.5	-3.0	71.7	105.1	9.0	31.6	67.3	18.4	12.6	15.8	37	.33	075	.67	159.7	86.2
7SM97 IMPERIAL	3210738	18.1	-3.4	60.5	95.5	9.6	10.9	41.1	20.3	16.9	15.8	46	.98	069	.99	198.4	95.3
7SM112 REST EASY	3644912	16.7	-3.0	80.0	125.6	8.7	30.8	70.8	15.8	13.3	29.8	44	.17	079	1.02	149.8	87.9
7SM113 HIGHLIFE	3568376	15.6	1.2	97.5	141.2	7.7	26.9	75.6	20.2	5.7	32.9	62	.17	143	1.12	155.9	93.3
7SM93 BIG TIMBER	3133113	15.6	-4.1	75.5	112.0	7.8	25.7	63.4	18.2	11.3	28.0	17	.34	036	.50	160.2	88.5
7SM124 ENHANCEMENT	3764886	15.8	-3.6	85.0	130.2	10.2	35.8	78.3	21.0	15.9	47.9	34	.83	061	1.07	197.5	108.0
7SM104 BROAD RANGE	3404807	15.1	-2.2	91.7	151.4	10.5	17.9	63.7	16.3	15.2	49.3	23	.20	.004	1.26	154.1	92.9
14SM3100 NITRO	3459266	17.0	0.0	79.1	123.3	9.4	31.9	71.4	14.3	16.6	30.6	02	.53	.015	.47	148.6	86.6



#### In our November 19 Bred Fleckvieh Female Sale we will be offering two picks of our entire herd of over 250 Full Fleckvieh females! Nothing held back! Watch our website for the sale catalog: www.stanleymartinsfarms.com

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## FROM THE EDITOR by Lilly Platts



Lilly Platts

Greetings, SimTalk readers! Since the last issue hit mailboxes I had the privilege of attending ASA's Fall Focus event in Virginia. I had been looking forward to it for some time and wasn't disappointed. From a day-long educational symposium to an afternoon of touring farms, I came home better connected to our breed's community, and with a list of ideas. I always enjoy catching

up with ASA staff who work from afar and feel lucky to work with such a great group of people. We owe a huge thank you to Dr. Jackie Atkins, Nancy Chesterfield, Kathy Shafer, Linda Kesler, and the Virginia Simmental Association for organizing the event, and their behindthe-scenes work. I would also like to send out a thank you to Susan Russell, and Crystal Albers and Eric Grant with Grant Company, for packing their cameras and helping to cover the event. To read more about Fall Focus, head to page 36.

This issue of *SimTalk* features our annual spotlight on breeders who qualify as Performance Advocates, meaning they have submitted complete data on at least eight measurable traits. Many go above and beyond by gathering additional data, such as DNA. On that note, this issue kicks off a series of articles in collaboration with Neogen. Dr. Jamie Courter penned this issue's article, focused on the DNA information added to the database through ASA research programs.

I had the privilege of speaking to Jay Rezac, Rezac Land and Livestock, for the breeder feature. Alongside his family, Jay owns and operates a successful commercial cow herd and farming operation in Kansas. This past summer they were named Comercial Producer of the Year by the Beef Improvement Federation, and utilize Simmental genetics in their cow herd.

Many are dealing with the effects of drought, which makes planning for the future even more difficult. Dr. Rachel Endecott offers her top strategies for managing a cow herd when things get tough, with tips on culling, nutrition, and more. We also have an overview of the American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation, and plenty of industry news!

ST



SATURDAY NOV 19, 2022 1:00pm MST in Beaver, UT

130 BRED HEIFERS AND COWS SELL! SIMMENTAL, BLACK ANGUS, & MAINE ANJOU 10 ELITE SHOW HEIFER PROSPECTS



Yardley Top Gun x SAV Sensation 1/2 SM 1/2 ANGUS



Stepping Stone x Steel Force 5/8 SM 3/8 ANGUS



W/C Banchor x W/C Loaded Up 3/4 SM 1/4 ANGUS



Yardley Standout x Real Steel 5/8 SM 3/8 ANGUS



SAV President x Duff Stimulus PB ANGUS



W/C Banchor x SAV Synergy 1/2 SM 1/2 ANGUS

Don't miss out on the opportunity to attend our sale November 19, 2022. The females in this offering represent a lifetime of breeding the best to the best for cattle that excel in the showring, on the range, in the pasture, and in the feedlot! Our focus has always been on our maternal traits and cow families. We have Al'd for 53 years selecting the best bulls we can find; it shows throughout this offering. They are moderate made, solid footed, big topped, deep bodied, broody females loaded with style, substance, excellent teat and udder quality. Our cattle are low maintenance, good dispositioned cattle with natural fleshing ability to stay fat on grass. They take care of themselves wintering on desert winter range without hay and calve unassisted.

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TOP 5% CE-WW-YW-ADG-MCE-MWW-DOC-CW-TI
OUTCROSS PEDIGREE, IMPECCABLE EPD PROFILE,
PROVEN CALVING EASE. GADGET SONS AND
DAUGHTERS WERE SALE HIGHLIGHTS IN OUR
2022 VISION SALE



Polled Red & Black Simmental Cattle



## Built for the Future

by Lilly Platts

Rezac Land and Livestock, Inc., Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Commercial Producer of the Year. utilizes SimGenetics in their progressive ranching and farming operation. Through diversification and growth they have built a business that the next generation can take into the future.



The Rezac Family receiving the BIF Commercial Producer of the Year Award. Pictured left to right: Russell, Tiffany, Stacy and Jay.

#### **A Family Business**

Jay Rezac is the second generation to run the family operation, Rezac Land and Livestock, which was founded by his parents, Don and Barbara Rezac, on the northern edge of the Flint Hills of Kansas. Alongside his family, Jay has helped develop what started as a small operation to include a 900-head cow-calf herd, 450 sows, a large row-crop operation, and an extensive cattle buying business.

Expansion happened naturally since he and his brother, Lance, wanted to come back to the family place during a time when farming and ranching wasn't a popular career choice. "When we got out of college, my brother and I formed a partnership with my dad, and things just started evolving. In the 1980s no one wanted to farm, but it's what my brother and I wanted to do," he recalled.

The purchase of a neighboring ranch kicked off the expansion and the rest has fallen into place over the years. Jay has focused on the cattle operation, and Lance on farming. "We've always had different interests, which has worked out well. Lance never worried about the bulls I was buying, and I never worried about the corn he was planting," Rezac explained.



Rezac Land and Livestock runs a commercial herd of Angus and Simmental cows, as well as operating a large cattle buying and feeding business.

This expansion and focus on building a strong diversified business is now allowing the next generation to step up and lead. Rezac's daughter, Jayme, and her husband, Corey Lundberg, are helping manage the cow herd and a starting lot near Olsburg. Jay and his wife Stacy, along with their sons, Russell (wife Tiffany), and Matthew (wife Alexa), help manage the cattle and land near Onaga. Lance's children, Nicole and Garrett, are also partners in the ranch, also living near Onaga.



Family has been at the heart of the Rezac business since the beginning.

In order to bring their children into the family business, Jay and Lance followed the same plan as their father, Don. "As the kids came back we've done the same thing my dad did. We wrote them a note on the equipment and inventory, and they are paying those back each year to buy into the operation," Rezac said.

A willingness to step back and allow the next generation to make decisions has allowed them to successfully begin the transition. "Dads don't always let their kids do things, and I've always been pretty good about letting my kids do things," Rezac remarked.

#### **Progressive, Profitable Management**

Rezac Land and Livestock was recognized by BIF as the Commercial Producer of the Year during their 2022 symposium, held June 2, in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The award recognizes operations dedicated to improving the beef industry at a commercial level.

Progressive practices are evident throughout the Rezac family operation. The 900-head Simmental and Angus cow herd is managed with efficiency in mind, and to best utilize the available resources. By using a well-planned grazing system, cows are run through the winter with little to no supplemental feed. In the spring, cows are moved frequently, and gradually left on pastures longer as the grass matures, ensuring that pastures aren't overused. In the winter, cornstalks and crop residues are utilized. With the exception of extreme weather events and some supplementation during calving season, the cow herd doesn't require any extra feed, which is not normal practice in the area.



Located on the northern edge of the Flint Hills in Kansas, Rezac Land and Livestock is able to utilize forage and crop residues to graze cattle throughout the year.

Simmental genetics have been used for many years, and Rezac has identified breeders who consistently produce bulls that work well for their operation. Today, the cow herd is Angus and Simmental. "I always liked the Simmentals, and we try to buy a lot of our bulls from the same breeders. We like the growth in them. We've never chased big weights, as long as we can put a calf in our feedlot and it takes off and grows," he explained.



Commercial and maternal herds are maintained in order to meet production goals.

Efficiency is a requirement in the commercial cow herd. "We want a cow you can graze 365 days a year, and we only supplement with a little bit of feed around 30 days before calving. Then we feed them a little better through calving, and then they'll go back out and rebreed and we get a pretty high percentage of our calves in the first 30 days of the season. We're looking for a cow that can make a living and breed back, and have a calf and raise it well each year," Rezac said.

The cow herd has been split into maternally focused and terminal-focused groups. Balance and moderation are a priority in both groups, but this separation allows the Rezacs to put some emphasis on producing replacement heifers, as well as calves with strong carcass traits. "We try to stay really moderate in numbers. We don't go high milk, and our cows only weigh around 1,200 pounds. We have downsized our cows so they can utilize our resources better. In our terminal herd we're looking more for growth. In our maternal herd we're looking more for mothering ability, milk, and those traits," Rezac explained.

The Rezacs' extensive feeding business allows them to demand even more efficiency from their cow herd since weaned calves don't have to push the scales to make a profit. Instead, calves can enter their feedlot at moderate weights with a focus on consistent growth. Rezac Land and Livestock purchases upward of 5,000 head of feeder calves each year. This side of the business adds diversification, and additional opportunities to capture value throughout the industry. Calves are purchased from regions across the country. The majority are sold as feeder cattle, with the remainder retained for finishing in the family's feedyard.

The feeding operation also generates useful performance and carcass information. Their cattle are fed separately from purchased cattle in order to apply this data to management decisions. Rezac recalled the first group of cattle he received data back on, and the valuable steps forward they were able to make in response. Today, most of their cattle grade high choice and consistently yield a high-quality product.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

### **Built** for the Future

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

With few exceptions, the cow herd doesn't require any extra feed, which is not normal practice in the area.

Reflecting on the BIF Commercial Producer of the Year award, Rezac recalled believing someone else who had been nominated would win. When their name was called, he was surprised and excited. "It was very humbling and we felt very honored. We run around in circles on this place, working our tails off, and it was nice to be recognized," Rezac said.

The Kansas Livestock Association nominated Rezac Land and Livestock for the award. SI



Most cattle work is done on horseback.

The Rezac family.



# Looking for Performance?

## Ellingson Simmental Performance Bull & Female Sale

Friday, January 27, 2023 • 1:00 pm CST Sale Location: At the farm, Dahlen, ND



#### **Selling:** 80 Yearling Simmental and SimAngus™ Bulls **30 Open Yearling Heifers**

Sires include: Ultimate, Structure, High Road, State of War, Growth Fund, Bentley, Manifesto, Cowboy Logic, Proclamation, Guardian, Turnpike, Right Now, Epic, All American, Bulletproof, and All Aboard

Bulls will be SEMEN TESTED and GUARANTEED BREEDERS.



R Plus Yuma 9087G ASA# 3979132 CE BW WW YW MCE MWW MB REA \$API \$TI 8 2.3 84 134 3 65 -.08 .78 119 76 Was the high-seller in the 2020 R Plus Simmentals Sale that sold for \$150,000, to LaBatte Simemntals and Oberle Bros. We purchased the US semen rights and will sell his first calves on January 27.



HHS Georgia 802G ASA# 3627373 CE BW WW YW MCE MWW MB REA \$API \$TI 16 -1.2 83 126 10 63 .55 .68 178 96 Owned by Haven Hill Simmentals, Ellingson Simmentals and Strommen Simmentals. Averaged 20 frozen embryos per flush. Selling January 27 are sons by Cowboy Logic, Yuma, and Manifesto.



Ellingson Faith F813 ASA# 3461929 CE BW WW YW MCE MWW MB REA \$API \$TI 8 1.7 79 120 4 64 .14 .92 131 78 An Executive Order daughter that sold for \$40,000 in the 2018 NAILE Sale in Louisville, to Tyler Lyne of Canada. Sons by Yuma, All American, and IPU Bentley 81 F sell on January 27.



**Terry Ellingson & Family** 

Phone: 701-384-6225 Cell: 701-741-3045

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www.ellingsonsimmentals.com or www.simmental.org

## HAVEN HILL SIMMENTALS

#### PRIVATE TREATY BULL SALE

Haven Hill Simmentals is offering an outstanding set of bulls for sale by private treaty. Please take the time to look over the data if you are needing a quality bull. We have both purebred and percentage fall-born bulls that were bred and developed to be top-end bulls suitable for seedstock and progressive commercial producers. All have been DNA tested and passed BSE. Ultrasound scan data and videos are available. Let's talk about how to get your next bull(s) delivered.

#### HHS J Iron 822J



BD: 8/18/2021	1/2 SM 1/2 AN	Homo Black/Homo Polled	ASA# 3955010

			Direct				Mat	ernal					Car	cass			\$ In	dex
Trait	CE	BW	ww	YW	ADG	MCE	Milk	MWW	Stay	DOC	cw	YG	Marb	Fat	REA	Shr	API	TI
EPD	17.3	-2.7	68.4	102	.21	9.6	34.5	68.7	19.3	3.1	17.3	19	.93	014	.60	17	181.2	94.1
%	10	10	80	80	85	10	1	15	15	99	95	65	2	85	65	99	2	10

Adj. BW: 74 lbs. Adj. WW: 824 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,393 lbs.

SC: 37.3

Werner Flat Top 4136 TJ Flat Iron 259G TJ 33Y

**GAR Progress** HHS Miss 871B HHS Miss 829Z

FS: 5.9

Great phenotype, great yearling growth, very attractive bull.

#### Jason 830J



	BD: 8	3/14/2	021		5/8	SM 3	8/8 AN	1	- 1	Homo	Blac	k/Ho	mo Po	lled		AS	A# 395	55002
			Direct				Mat	ernal					Car	cass			\$ In	dex
Trait	CE	BW	ww	YW	ADG	MCE	Milk	MWW	Stay	DOC	cw	YG	Marb	Fat	REA	Shr	API	TI
EPD	12.1	1.5	95.2	147.5	.33	6.2	20.9	68.4	16.6	13	34.7	29	.58	054	.82	28	154.5	95.3
%	55	75	4	5	15	60	70	20	40	40	40	35	15	35	25	85	15	4

Adj. BW: 85 lbs. Adj. WW: 868 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,384 lbs.

FS: 5.6 SC: 43.6

PA Full Power 1208 LRS Iconic 303C LRS Ms Topgrade 303A **GW Predestined 701T** 

HHS Miss 836Z HHS Miss 861U

Look at his WW and YW! Look at his scrotal, Look at his ET Brother 831J.

#### HHS Jaxon 831J



BD: 8/17/2021	5/8 SM 3/8 AN	Homo Black/Homo Polled	ASA# 3954996
DD. 0/1//2021	3/0 3W 3/0 AW	monio biack/monio i onca	AJAN JJJTJJ

			Direct				Mat	ernal					Car	cass			\$ In	ndex
Trait	CE	BW	ww	YW	ADG	MCE	Milk	MWW	Stay	DOC	CW	YG	Marb	Fat	REA	Shr	API	TI
EPD	13.9	1.8	110	179	.43	7.4	20.9	75.8	19.5	16.7	53.3	20	.44	029	.96	28	162	101
%	30	80	1	1	1	40	70	3	15	10	4	65	30	75	10	85	10	1

Adj. BW: 88 lbs.

Adj. WW: 890 lbs.

Adj. YW: 1,410 lbs.

FS: 6.9 SC: 41.3

PA Full Power 1208 LRS Iconic 303C

**GW Predestined 701T** HHS Miss 836Z

LRS Ms Topgrade 303A

HHS Miss 861U

Extra frame. Extra pounds. ET Brother 830J.

#### HHS Justin 841J



PB SM BD: 8/21/2021 Hetero Black/Homo Polled ASA# 3954993

			Direct				Mat	ernal					Car	cass			\$ In	dex
Trait	CE	BW	ww	YW	ADG	MCE	Milk	MWW	Stay	DOC	CW	YG	Marb	Fat	REA	Shr	API	TI
EPD	11.1	1	77.1	119.1	.26	6.7	23.9	62.4	20.9	16.9	27.7	48	.50	107	.90	40	162.7	88.4
%	50	40	55	45	40	35	45	50	10	3	55	20	5	15	45	20	10	15

Adj. BW: 88 lbs. Adj. WW: 738 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,268 lbs.

FS: 6.5 SC: 38

CDI Entourage 156U HHS Mr Entourage 867B HHS Miss 836Z

MCM Top Grade 018X **HHS Miss Luck Ava 847A** HHS Miss 870U

Very docile. Big-footed. Two white-face ET brothers.

#### **DATA DRIVEN DECISIONS = PROGRESS IN PERFORMANCE**

#### HHS Jubel 842J



	DD. 0	12012	021		ГВ	JIVI			300	ietei	U Dia	CK/HC	JIIIO F	oneu		AS	A# 33.	14331
			Direct				Mat	ernal					Car	cass			\$ In	dex
Trait	CE	BW	ww	YW	ADG	MCE	Milk	MWW	Stay	DOC	cw	YG	Marb	Fat	REA	Shr	API	TI
EPD	11.6	1.5	91.5	140.5	.31	7.6	33.9	79.6	22.5	17.1	30.4	27	.63	058	.67	36	177.3	99.8
%	40	50	10	10	15	20	3	3	3	3	45	99	2	95	95	40	2	2

Adj. BW: 83 lbs.

Adj. WW: 777 lbs.

Adj. YW: 1,278 lbs.

FS: 6.5

SC: 36.2

WS Proclamation E202 **BCLR Manifesto G352** 

Elliott Miss 352

MCM Top Grade 018X **HHS Miss Lucky Ann 842A** 

HHS Miss 870U

Great maternal. Stout - best describes him. Natural calf from 842A donor.

#### HHS Jett 843J



BD: 9/28/2021

PB SM

Homo Black/Homo Polled

ASA# 3955006

			Direct				Mat	ernal					Car	cass			\$ In	dex
Trait	CE						Milk	MWW	Stay	DOC	CW	YG	Marb	Fat	REA	Shr	API	TI
EPD	12.6	.4	81.1	127.2	.29	7.5	23.9	64.4	16.3	13.8	26.6	32	.47	066	.71	40	155.7	90.2.
%	30	30	40	30	20	20	45	40	60	25	60	90	10	85	90	20	15	15

Adj. BW: 88 lbs.

Adj. WW: 760 lbs.

Adj. YW: 1,278 bls.

FS: 5.3

SC: 41.0

CDI Entourage 156U **HHS Mr Entourage 867B** HHS Miss 836Z

MCM Top Grade 018X HHS Miss Lucky Ava 847A HHS Miss 870U

Moderate frame. Deep-bodied. White-face ET Bull.

#### HHS Julius 844J



BD:	10/3/2021	PB S
υv.	10/3/2021	ID.

SM

Hetero Black/Homo Polled

ASA# 3955012

			Direct				Mat	ernal					Car	cass			\$ In	dex
Trait	CE	BW	ww	YW	ADG	MCE	Milk	MWW	Stay	DOC	CW	YG	Marb	Fat	REA	Shr	API	TI
EPD	9.2	1.8	86.7	137.2	.32	5.3	23.9	67.2	18.6	13.4	38	35	.42	078	.85	40	153.2	90.4
%	75	55	20	15	10	90	45	30	30	25	20	85	10	75	60	20	15	10

Adj. BW: 83 lbs.

Adj. WW: 800 lbs.

Adj. YW: 1,341 lbs.

FS: 6.3

SC: 38.3

CDI Entourage 156U HHS Mr Entourage 867B HHS Miss 836Z

MCM Top Grade 018X HHS Miss Lucky Ava 847A HHS Miss 870U

6.3 frame, white face ET. Deep-bodied. Smooth-fronted.

#### HHS Jake 882J



BD: 9/29/2021

5/8 SM 3/8 AN

Homo Black/Homo Polled

ASA# 3955001

			Direct				Mat	ernal					Car	cass			\$ In	dex
Trait	CE					MCE	Milk	MWW	Stay	DOC	CW	YG	Marb	Fat	REA	Shr	API	TI
EPD	17.8	-3	83.9	133.1	.31	9.8	26.8	67.7	17.9	17.3	4.3.5	07	.71	015	.55	33	174.7	97.6
%	5	10	25	20	20	10	20	15	25	4	15	95	10	85	75	60	3	3

Adj. BW: 72 lbs.

Adj. WW: 761 lbs.

TJ Frosty 318E

TJ Stone Cold 336G **TJ 11D** 

FS: 5.6

**GW Predestined 701T** 

HHS Miss 882C

HHS Miss Limelight 839Z

Moderate frame calving ease. Add pounds with his thickness.

HHS Justus 710J ASA #3954995 is not pictured.

EPD as of 9.19.22

SC: 43.1



Please scan to watch "Fitzpatrick 2022" on YouTube

### HAVEN HILL SIMMENTALS

#### **Bob and Kathy Fitzpatrick**

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## Perfomance Advocate Program enters Thirteenth Year

by Lilly Platts

#### PA Recognizes Dedicated and Driven Data-Reporting Operations



For thirteen years, the Performance Advocate Program (PA) has recognized cattle producers who maintain a commitment to data reporting. The 2022 program marked the third year under new guidelines, developed to identify the dedicated data reporting that fuels ASA's genetic evaluation.

A **Driven Performance Advocate** submits records on at least 10 of the 14 traits, and 90% of the contemporary group. A **Dedicated Performance Advocate** submits records on 90% of the contemporary group, and records on 8 of the 14 traits.

Performance Advocates listed here are for the fall 2020 and spring 2021 calf crops. The operations featured below have submitted data on at least 8 of the 14 traits, and represent operations that are committed to data reporting.

#### Far Out Cattle Ranch

Jerrid and Katie Brisendine and their children Chelsea, Trace, and Taylor live on the fourth-generation farm and ranch located in southeast Colorado and the panhandle of Oklahoma. They began their registered Simmental herd, Far Out Cattle Ranch, in 2005. What started with three head of registered cows has expanded to over 50 registered Simmental females, and 50 commercial cows. They strive to produce sound cattle that will excel in areas of short grass conditions. Artificial insemination is utilized, and in 2022, embryo transfer was introduced through the purchase of 50 additional cows.

The Brisendine family.

Data collection begins as soon as the first calf hits the ground and continues until it is sold as a mature bull or female. Birth weight, yearling weight, carcass, feed intake, and more is collected. Bulls and females selected to market are developed at Bridle Bit Simmental, where data continues to be collected, including through their feed intake system. Bulls and a select group of females are marketed through the Bridle Bit Simmental All Terrain Bull sale. Brisendine shared, "We are so thankful to the Cooks for letting us sell alongside them each year. While our program continues to grow we strive to push the Simmental breed toward a better future for the cattle industry."



A Smart Feed system monitors feed intake.

### Konesky Simmental Ranch

Konesky Simmental Ranch, Sand Coulee, Montana, consists of a small registered Simmental and SimAngus herd. The ranch was first started by George and Agnes Konesky in the 1930s. It was then passed down to their son, George, and wife Diane, and their son Joe and his wife Joyce. Now, Joe and Joyce and their children, Keaton and Hailey, are maintaining and running the operation. George and Agnes started the ranch with a mix of cattle, including Hereford, dairy, and Dutch Belted. When George and Diane took over, they chose to breed Simmental bulls into their herd. In the early 1980s they condensed down to red Gelbvieh cattle while Joe focused on registered red Simmental. In the 1990s, both George and Joe's family transitioned into black registered Simmental. They have now had registered Simmental cattle for 40 years.

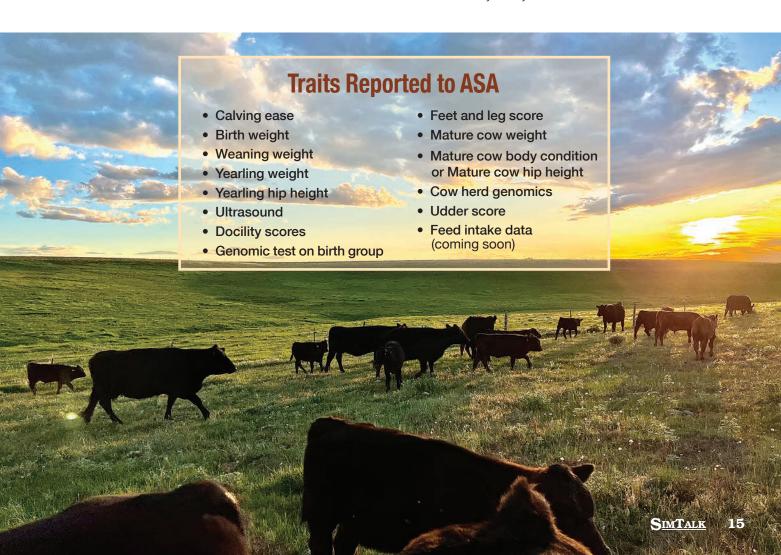
The operation's main goals are to produce cattle with good disposition, moderate milk, good udders, moderate frame and structure, calving ease, stayability, and marbling. While running a smaller operation, extensive efforts are put into maintaining and producing quality animals. In February 2023 they will sell a group of yearling bulls through the Bulls of the Big Sky sale.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 18** 

Joe has remained dedicated to learning, from college to participating in the Beef Improvement Federation, Nutrition for Beef and Beef-Ability, Feed to Carcass to Plate, and selling bulls at Midland Bull Test, and has also focused on data collection through THE and the Cow Herd DNA Roundup. He shared, "Having more understanding of my cattle herd, I started to use genetics from all over Montana and the western US in hopes of improving my herd."



The Konesky family.





W/C Fort Knox 609F
By W/C Bankroll 811D
EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 147 \$TI: 88



W/C Pinnacle E80

By W/C Loaded Up 1119Y

EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 126 \$TI: 72



W/C Night Watch 84E
By CCR Anchor 9071B
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 153 \$TI: 86



Rocking P Private Stock H010
By WLE Copacetic E02
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 138 \$TI: 79



SSC Shell Shocked 44B

By Remington Secret Weapon 185

EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 138 \$TI: 76



THSF Lover Boy B33
By HTP/SVF Duracell T52
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 151 \$TI: 92



JC King of the Road 468H

By KBHR High Road E283

EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 178 \$TI: 96



Ruby NFF Up The Ante 9171G By Ruby's Currency 7134E EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 119 \$TI: 71



ACLL Fortune 393D
By MR TR Hammer 308A ET
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 92 \$TI: 69



W/C Double Down 5014E
By W/C Executive Order 8543B
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 115 \$TI: 73



Ruby SWC Battle Cry 431B By MR HOC Broker EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 95 \$TI: 72



Mr SR 71 Right Now E1538 By Hook's Bozeman 8B EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 152 \$TI: 94



GSC GCCO Dew North 102C By HTP/SVF Duracell T52 EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 113 \$TI: 81



PAL/CLAC Meant To Be 823E By Mr HOC Broker EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 701 \$TI: 67



Reckoning 711F

By W/C Relentless 32C

EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 117 \$TI: 68



TJSC King of Diamonds 165E
By LLSF Pays To Believe ZU194
EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 115 \$TI: 71



PBF Red Paint F88

By W/C Executive Order 8543B

EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 127 \$TI: 76



SC Pay the Price C11

By CNS Pays to Dream T759

EPD: CE: 7 \$API: 117 \$TI: 80



JASS On The Mark 69D

By W/C Loaded Up 1119Y

EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 114 \$TI: 72



W/C Relentless 32C
By Yardley Utah Y361
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 116 \$TI: 75



WLE Copacetic E02
By HPF Quantum Leap Z952
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 117 \$TI: 79



Holtkamp Clac Change Is Coming 7H By WLE Copacetic E02 EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 107 \$TI: 75



W/C Cyclone 385H
By W/C Bankroll 811D
EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 144 \$TI: 84



LLSF Vantage Point F398
By CCR Anchor 9071B
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 131 \$TI: 86



WS Revival B26
By LLSF Uprising Z925
EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 103 \$TI: 68



LLSF Pays To Believe ZU194
By CNS Pays To Dream T759
EPD: CE: 9.3 \$API: 126 \$TI: 79



W/C Bankroll 811D

By W/C Loaded Up 1119Y

EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 121 \$TI: 78



CLRS Guardian 317G
By Hook's Beacon 56B
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 207 \$TI: 118



KSU Bald Eagle 53G
By Hook's Eagle 6E
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 176 \$TI: 103



WLE Black Mamba G203

By WLE Copacetic E02

EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 137 \$TI: 82



FELT Perseverance 302F
By W/C Executive Order 8543B
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 119 \$TI: 76



W/C Express Lane 29G
By Rubys Turnpike 771E
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 143 \$TI: 86



CLRWTR Clear Advantage H4G
By LLSF Vantage Point F398
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 171 \$TI: 106



Erixon Bitten 203A

By NCB Cobra 47Y

EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 152 \$TI: 88



LCDR Favor 149F
By LCDR Witness 541C
EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 152 \$TI: 99



LLW Card Merit 03H

By TL Ledger

EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 112 \$TI: 69



TL Ledger 106D

By Profit

EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 112 \$TI: 69



GCC New California 131J By GEFF County O EPD: CE: 3 \$API: 98 \$TI: 65



OBCC Kavanaugh F236
By OBCC Unfinished Business
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 143 \$TI: 81



LLSF Favored One H98
By LCDR Favor
EPD: CE: 8 \$API: 135 \$TI: 98



JBSF Logic 5E
By W/C Relentless 32C
EPD: CE: 8 \$API: 116 \$TI: 74



WHF/JS/CCS Double Up G365
By W/C Double Down
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 114 \$TI: 68



TJ 50K 485H

By TJ Teardrop

EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 166 \$TI: 90



W/C Style 69E

By Style 9303

EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 132 \$TI: 67



Mr Ishee Triple Trailblazer 018H By KOCH Big Timber 685D EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 151 \$TI: 82



HRCC Hondo 035

By W/C Bankroll

EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 114 \$TI: 77



CDI Innovator 325D

By TJ Main Event 503B

EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 139 \$TI: 92



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### Performance Advocate Program Enters Thirteenth Year

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15** 

#### Reflected R Ranch

Curtis and Susan Russell, both former members of the ASA Board of Trustees, own and operate Reflected R Ranch alongside family near Sugar City, Colorado. Cows run on short-grass prairie, and an emphasis is placed on moderate frame, calving ease, fertility, and producing calves that are heavy-muscled. Bulls must meet strict requirements to make it into the sale pen, and the rest are marketed as steers. The top heifer calves are kept back as replacements. Females are expected to breed and calve early every year. Disposition is also a priority.



Curtis and Susan Russell.



Curtis weighing a newborn calf.

The cow herd is predominately black-hided, with the recent addition of some red genetics to meet customer demand. Cows are maintained on roughage year-round, either on pasture or low-quality baled feed such as corn stalks or cane hay, and free choice mineral; limited protein supplementation is provided as calving season approaches. Cattle are summered on nearby private pastures and/or grazing shares and brought home to winter pasture before calving in February and March. Nearly all calves are AI-sired or from embryo transfers.

#### **RLE Simmental**

RLE Simmental is owned and operated by Roger Eakins near Jackson, Missouri. Eakins started breeding Simmental cattle in 1995 after having raised Polled Herefords since 1974. The 40-head cow herd runs out on grass, and is currently transitioning to being an exclusively fall-calving herd in September of 2023. This shift will help with labor, pasture management, and more. Eakins shared that they intend to utilize grass for nine months of the year without hay or supplementation. Cows and heifers are AI-bred utilizing fixed-time estrus synchronization protocols, resulting in a tight calving season goal of 30 to 50 days. All cows are ultrasound pregnancy checked and embryos fetal sexed 80-90 days post AI. Reproduction and functional trait data is obtained and is a high priority in selection. The cow herd all has genomically enhanced EPD.



Roger Eakins started breeding Simmental cattle in 1995.



The Eakins family.

Bulls are forage developed and sold at an average of 18 months of age with New Day Genetics of Salem, Missouri. The sale and program is managed by Allied Genetic Resources. All heifers retained for replacements are enrolled in the Missouri Show-Me-Select program and must meet all the guidelines for the program before they are retained in the RLE herd, sold off the farm, or in the SEMO Show-Me-Select sale. Calves are DNA tested using GGP-100k and have genomically enhanced EPD. Other genetic traits are tested as needed. Eakins shared, "The Total Herd Enrollment (THE) program at ASA is a great tool to collect and report complete calving and performance data measurements on the entire herd."

#### Driven **Performance Advocate**

(reported 10 or more traits)

BREEDER		<b>SEASON</b>	TOTAL TRAITS
Clear Springs Cattle Co	Starbuck, MN	2021 S	13
McDonald Farms	Blacksburg, VA	2021 S	12
Rock Hollow Farm	Alachua, FL	2021 S	12
Bridle Bit Simmentals	Walsh, CO	2021 S	10
Double B Acres	Sterling, OH	2021 S	10
Green Valley Farm	Ithica, MI	2021 S	10
Roth Farms	Sterling, KS	2021 S	10
University of Illinois	Baylis, IL	2021 S	10
Wait, Megan	Pritchett, CO	2021 S	11

#### **Dedicated Performance Advocate**

(reported 8 to 9 traits)

wait, wegan	Titteriett, 00	2021 0	• • •
Belleview Farms Deer Creek Farm Eakins, Roger Kratzer, Andy Kirlin Simmentals Massey Farms Salinas Farms Toad Holler Simmentals	Madison, IN Roseland, VA Jackson, MO Marquette, KS Avoca, MN Burlington, NC Marion, MI Burlington Junction, MO	2021 S 2020 F 2021 S 2021 S 2021 S 2021 S 2020 F 2021 S 2021 S	9 9 9 9 9 9 9
Anderson Land and Livestock	Pilot Rock, OR	2020 F	8
Cow Camp Ranch Far Out Cattle Ranch	Lost Springs, KS Walsh, CO	2020 F 2020 F	8 8
Garretson, Jensen J-C Simmentals	Sedalia, MO Clare, MI	2021 S 2021 S	8 8
Klahr, Dean Konesky, Joseph	Topeka, KS Sand Coulee, MT	2021 S 2021 S	8
Kratzer, Andy Plunkett Cattle Co	Marquette, KS Alva, FL	2020 F 2020 F	8
Red Hill Farms Reflected R Ranch	Lafayette, TN Sugar City, CO	2021 S 2021 S	8
Rock Hollow Farm S/D Simmentals	Alachua, FL Lake, MI	2020 F 2021 S	8
			-



BETH DRAKE, MS - "I bought my

husband one for Christmas. He loves it!

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ONE PERSON can now SAFELY and **EASILY process calves without concern** of the protective mother cow!

SI

## BEST PRACTICES FOR SEEDSTOCK PRODUCERS

## Best Practices to Receive the Most Accurate Genetic Predictions

#### 1 Clearly define breeding objectives

With the ability to increase the rate of genetic change comes the possibility to make mistakes at a faster pace. Breeding goals need to be clearly identified to ensure that selection at the nucleus level matches the profit-oriented needs of the commercial industry.

#### 2 Use whole herd reporting

Inventory-based reporting captures more complete phenotypes on reproduction and longevity traits, and thus creates more accurate genetic selection tools.

#### 3 Properly define contemporary groups

It is important for the precision of the genetic evaluation to group animals treated uniformly. Proper reporting of contemporary groups reduces bias in EPD.

#### 4 Take data collection and reporting seriously

Phenotypes are the fuel that drives the genetic evaluation. Take pride in collecting accurate data. Report records on the complete contemporary group in order to paint the most accurate picture of the genetics in these cattle. If possible, collect additional phenotypes like mature cow weight, cow body condition score, udder scores, feed intake, and carcass data.

## Make both thorough and accurate phenotypic data collection for economically relevant traits a high priority

The quantity and quality of fertility traits need to dramatically improve. Providing disposal codes to identify why females leave the herd is vital. Commercial data resources, where the true economically relevant traits exist, are going to become more critical to capture. Breeders can help prove the genetics of their own seedstock by encouraging their commercial customers to join ASA's Commercial Total Herd Enrollment (THE) option and add valuable data to the evaluation.

#### 6 Use index-based selection

As the list of published EPD continues to grow, using economic selection indices will become even more helpful to reduce the complexity of multiple trait selection.

If the number of EPD increase, tools to reduce the complexity of sire selection for commercial producers must continue to develop. Breed associations and seedstock producers have the obligation to aid commercial clientele in making profitable bull selection decisions.



Jackie Atkins, PhD



Matt Spangler, PhD



Bob Weaber, PhD



Wade Shafer, PhD

#### 7 Use genomics

Genomic selection offers an opportunity to increase the rate of genetic change and break the antagonistic relationship between generation interval (the average age of the parents when the next generation is born) and the accuracy of selection (e.g., accuracy of EPD) — two components that determine the rate of genetic change. However, as with any tool, genomic information must be used correctly and to its fullest extent.

### Adding a DNA test to your decision is like knowing...

- ♦ 25+ calving ease scores
- 22 birth weights
- ♦ 25+ weaning weights
- 25+ yearling weights
- Stayability/productivity records on 15 daughters
- 6 carcass weights
- ♦ 10 marbling scores
- ♦ 8 ribeye area measurements

All this from a test you can complete before you wean the calf.



#### **Best Practices for Genomic Testing**

### All animals within a contemporary group should be genotyped.

If genomic data are meant to truly enable selection decisions, this information must be collected on animals before selection decisions are made. The return on investment of this technology is substantially reduced if it is used after the decision is made. The ASA's Calf Crop Genomics (CCG) program offers 50% off GGP100K test for breeders who commit to genotype the entire calf crop. See sidebar for more details.

## 2 Both male and female animals should be genotyped.

The promise of genomic selection has always suggested the largest impact is for lowly heritable and/or sex limited (e.g., fertility) traits or those that are not routinely collected (e.g., disease). This is indeed true, but it necessitates that genotyped animals have phenotypes. For sex-limited traits, this becomes a critical choke point, given that historically the vast the vast majority of genotyped cattle are males. If producers wish to have genomic-enhanced EPD for traits such as calving ease maternal and heifer pregnancy, they must begin or continue to genotype females. The ASA has a unique program called the Cow Herd DNA Roundup (CHR) to help herds collect female genotypes. See sidebar for more details.

## Genotypes can provide useful information in addition to predictions of additive genetic merit.

Do not forget the value in correcting parentage errors, tracking inbreeding levels, identifying unfavorable haplotypes, estimating breed composition, and estimating retained heterozygosity. All of these can be garnered from populations that have a well-defined set of genotyping protocols.

The beef industry should be congratulated for the rapid adoption of genomic technology, but there is a lot of work to do. Of critical importance is the fact that genomic technology will continue to change and does not replace the need for phenotypes nor the fundamental understanding of traditional selection principles including EPD and accuracy.

#### **Total Herd Enrollment (THE)**

A cow inventory reporting program, THE requires participants to provide annual reproductive and inventory status on their cow herd. THE is designed to improve quality of data submitted for the genetic evaluation, and in turn improve and develop reproductive EPD. By



submitting data on the entire calf crop or contemporary group, breeders will receive more accurate predictions of their cattle. The ASA has four THE options to fit most seedstock and commercial operations.

#### **Cow Herd DNA Roundup (CHR)**

The Cow Herd DNA Roundup (CHR) is designed to increase the number of female genotypes to better predict maternal traits, such

herds reduces bias created when only the best cattle are genotyped. Gathering massive amounts of genotypes on entire cow herds will significantly improve the genomic predictions and rate of genetic progress. As parentage testing is included, CHR herds will have pedigrees validated through



DNA. Participating breeders benefit from having genomically enhanced EPD on the entire cow herd — equivalent to a lifetime number of calf records in several traits for an exceptionally low cost.

#### **Calf Crop Genomics (CCG)**

Calf Crop Genomics, a research project launched by the ASA in collaboration with Neogen Genomics, offers 50% off GGP100K genomic test including parentage (\$25 compared to \$50 equivalent test) to participating breeders who test their entire calf crop. Geno-

typing entire calf crops is important to use genomically enhanced EPD (GE-EPD) for selection decisions, reduce selection bias in genomic predictions, and 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.



#### **Carcass Expansion Project (CXP)**

Despite the importance of carcass traits to our industry, few producers devote resources to collecting and recording actual carcass data. While the Carcass Merit Program (CMP) is a valuable

progeny test, it is limited in the number of records produced. We cannot depend on the CMP alone to bring in carcass data. In the age of genomics, it is clear we need genotypes on animals with actual carcass phenotypes.



Adding another layer of commitment to predicting carcass traits, the ASA initiated a new program, called the Carcass Expansion Project, in the fall of 2018 to increase the number of carcass records on genotyped animals. The ASA is are ramping up both phenotypic and genotypic data collection on terminal calves — a vital part of our vision.

## **Top Five Strategies**

## for Managing Through a Drought

by Rachel Endecott, Grey Horse Consulting, LLC

It seems like no part of the country has been immune from drought conditions in one form or another the past several years. What should you do when grass is short and feed is expensive? Here are my top five strategies for managing through a drought.





Early weaning is one strategy to help decrease the nutritional demands of a cow herd during drought.

## Honest evaluation of your resources, early

Let's be honest: if you're involved in production agriculture, you're probably an optimist. Or you'd be pretty miserable otherwise! But when you're dealing with impending or current drought, a dose of realism to accompany that optimism is probably in order. Taking an honest assessment of your available resources — grazing, harvested feeds, and options for purchased feeds — is something that needs to be done early. For example, here in Montana, we aren't going to grow much more native range than we already have on July 1 so we can make some assumptions about the rest of the summer at that time. Of course, precipitation patterns, growing seasons, and access to irrigation are all going to play a role in this assessment, but you know your situation and can come up with a pretty good estimate of available resources.

#### **Culling strategies**

If the honest assessment of resources tells us that we're going to be short on feed, some culling might be necessary. It's usually easy to take that first swath of cows you may be holding on to for "one more year" who have bad udders, bad teeth, or bad feet. That next level of culling hurts a little more. There are a couple of strategies for this. The first would be to keep the younger cows in a herd and cull older animals with the thought that young cows represent the best genetics in your herd. The other strategy is to maintain the older core of the cow herd and cull younger animals who have higher nutrient requirements because they are still growing, and who will generally wean lighter calves than mature cows. In practice, most producers are going to use some combination of these methods.

## Understand cow nutrient requirements during the production cycle

The amount of nutrients needed to maintain a cow varies during her production cycle. Understanding a little bit about that can really help to make the most efficient and economical use of resources. Cow

nutrient requirements are lowest after weaning during mid-gestation, and increase rapidly during the third trimester. Did you know that in the last few weeks of gestation, the conceptus (calf plus associated fluids) can gain upwards of two pounds per day? Think of how many nutrients that takes! As if that wasn't taxing enough, once milk production begins post-calving, nutrient requirements increase yet again. Energy requirements increase by 15% between mid- and late gestation and increase another 15% once lactation begins. Protein requirements increase around 25% from mid- to late gestation and nearly double once lactation begins! Shorting cows on nutrients during late gestation and lactation can lead to poor calf performance and lower-than-desired reproductive rates. Therefore, the most efficient and economical time to put weight on thin cows is post-weaning.

#### **Early weaning**

Given the dramatic decrease in nutrient requirements post-weaning, early weaning is one option to decrease the amount of feed needed to maintain a cow herd. If times are extremely tough and maintaining a yearly calving interval is the goal, calves should be weaned before 80 days of age. The benefits of this strategy include the aforementioned dramatic decrease in requirements and should result in excellent breedback on the cows. The challenge is that you now have a bunch of 80-day-old or younger calves to manage, but desperate times may call for desperate measures. If this strategy is of interest to you, there are a number of Extension publications that summarize the research on early weaning with guidance on young calf management. A more common early weaning strategy might be to wean calves at four to five months of age instead of six to seven months. This will generally be after the current year's breeding season is over and won't make a difference in the current year's reproductive performance. It will still yield benefits in decreased nutrient requirements for the cow herd, which should be putting on condition if resources allow. This should result in improved reproductive performance in the breeding season after early weaning.

## Top Five Strategies for Managing Through a Drought

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23** 

#### **Test harvested feeds and balance appropriate rations**

Lastly, whether you are in a drought or not, always — always — get your harvested feeds tested for nutrient content at a verified laboratory. It's hard to manage if you don't measure first, and the information you get out of ration-balancing software is only as good as the information you put in. When every penny counts, why not do your best to make sure your predictions of animal performance are as accurate as possible? If you're unsure about how to get started, your local Extension office or local livestock feeds store is a great resource. They often have hay probes for lease and can provide guidance on what tests to request and nearby laboratories to use. Briefly, harvested forages should be sampled with a hay probe. Simply grabbing handfuls from the stack is not going to cut it. Wide variations from year to year and field to field are common, so collecting a representative sample is critical. It's recommended around 10% of each particular lot of hav should be sampled, mixed well, and a subsample of this mixture sent to the lab. Square bales should be

sampled from the end toward the middle, and round bales from the outside round toward the core. If you have access to byproduct or alternative feeds (ethanol byproducts, cottonseed hulls, citrus pulp, corn gluten feed, wheat middlings, etc.), don't neglect to get those feeds tested as well. Each lot can be quite different from the next so test early and often! Once you've received your nutrient analyses back, they can be entered into ration-balancing software to create rations for all ages and stages of beef cattle. Contact your local Extension office for assistance if you're looking for advice.

The beef cattle business is a risky one, and those operations that can mitigate risk the best are those who remain successful. Having a drought plan in place before a drought happens is key to surviving when times get tough.

SI





Rachel Endecott, PhD, founded Grey Horse Consulting in September 2020. Dr. Endecott grew up on a family cow-calf operation in southwest Montana, where she still ranches with her family today. She received her BS in animal science at Montana State University (MSU) and her MS and PhD at New Mexico State University in range beef cattle nutrition with minors in reproductive physiology and molecular biology. She spent eleven years as the Extension Beef Cattle Specialist at MSU. Endecott then directed the DNA department at the American Simmental Association and was the co-managing editor of ASA Publication, Inc., for three years.

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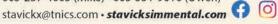
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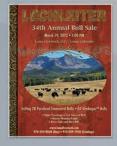


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<sup>a</sup>USMARC, Zimmerman, M., et al., "Breed and heterotic effects for mature weight in beef cattle," *J. of Anim. Sci.*, Vol. 99, 2021. <sup>b</sup>Adjusted for sire sampling, Angus was the heaviest at maturity among the 16 breeds evaluated.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

# Partnerships for a Better Beef Industry

by Jamie T. Courter, PhD, Technical Services Manager, Neogen Genomics

today's industry, data has become commerce. Whether in the form of genotypes, record keeping, or the combination of both, entities within the cattle business and outside have identified data as an integral part of the future. The beauty of the American Simmental Association (ASA) and their members is that while they value data, their involvement in International Genetic Solutions (IGS) shows an appreciation and understanding that partnerships and collaborations are what will drive the beef industry to the next level. The purpose of this article is to highlight how ASA's dedication to partnership, collaboration, and data collection have had a profound impact on the Simmental breed and the beef industry.



Figure 1: Number of genotypes in the American Simmental Association database by program and year.

#### Between 2015 and 2021, ASA, along with their breeders, has:

- Initiated three key research projects with Neogen.
- Provided 175,000 GGP profiles (genotypes) to the ASA database.
- Reported over 80,000 mature cow weights.
- Reported over 12,000 carcass records on animals with a GGP profile.

"With this new treasure trove of genomics and phenotypic data in the IGS database, ASA truly has a critical mass of data to accelerate genetic improvement to new levels."

John Irvine, Irvine Ranch, Manhattan, Kansas

#### **Cow Herd DNA Roundup**

Perhaps the most well-known research project at ASA is the Cow Herd DNA Roundup (CHR), launched in October of 2017. With male genotypes on the rise within the evaluation, the members of ASA identified the need to collect data on the other half of the mating equation. The goal of the project has been to provide inexpensive genotyping to breeders willing to test 90% of their cow herd in a single year. Commitment was also made by the board to offer an additional monetary discount per animal when members submitted a mature cow weight along with either a body condition score or hip height. At the time the project was launched, members could essentially test five cows for the usual price of two genomic tests. This groundbreaking project was a large effort put forth by Neogen, ASA, and its members.

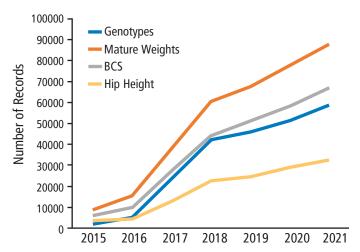


Figure 2: Increase in mature cow genotypes and records reported to ASA from 2015 to 2021.

#### Between 2017 and 2021:

- Over 53,000 genotypes have been submitted through CHR equal to 56% of all female genotypes in the evaluation (Figure 2).
- Over 155,000 records have been reported for mature cow weight, body condition score, and hip height combined (Figure 2).
- The percentage of females genotyped annually (compared to males) rose from 34% to 56% (Figure 3).

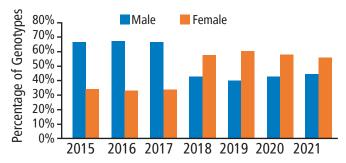


Figure 3: Comparison of the percentage of male to female genotypes in the ASA database from 2015 to 2021.

"To have been a part of CHR from the beginning is incredible. ASA has paved the way for other breeds around the globe to duplicate their efforts. Due to the success of these projects, IGS is quickly gaining and developing one of the most advanced genomic evaluations in the world. That is something every participant should be extremely aware and proud of."

Leoma Wells, Data Genie LLC, Roy, Montana

#### **Calf Crop Genomics**

Following three successful years, a large number of herds had been genotyped. While the project has been kept open to encourage remaining members and new members to take advantage of the opportunity, ASA also recognized a need to extend the research to females and calves under two years of age. This led to the launch of the Calf Crop Genomics (CCG) project in July 2020. Like CHR, reduced-cost genotyping is available for breeders willing to test 90% of their calf crop, with further rebates given when weight and/or carcass information is reported back to ASA.

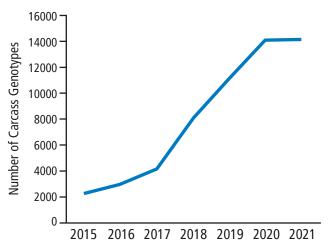


Figure 4: Number of genotypes in the ASA database with corresponding carcass phenotypes reported.

#### This project provides many benefits, including:

- Full contemporary groups being reported to the evaluation to give it a complete picture of a calf's performance compared to the entire year's calf crop.
- GE-EPD available early in a calf's life to allow for accurate selection and breeding decisions.

#### Other highlights of the project include:

- 27,000 genotypes in the project in only two years.
- Thousands of carcass records on terminal calves, with matching genotypes.

#### **Carcass Expansion Project**

Similar to maternal traits, obtaining actual carcass data on cattle is no easy task. This is supported by the relative lack of carcass records submitted to the ASA for years leading up to 2018. This led the ASA board to initiate the Carcass Expansion Project (CXP). To participate in this research project, a seedstock operation must either partner with their commercial customer or use their own commercial cow herd, retain ownership of cattle through the feeding phase, and report carcass data back to the evaluation. Because this is no simple feat, the ASA agreed to cover genotyping costs of all terminal calves with carcass records reported to the evaluation.

"In my tenure with the ASA and the variety of projects and programs I have worked with, the genomic research programs have been some of the most rewarding. They combine ideal data for the genetic evaluation with a great incentive to the breeders AND our members can immediately use more accurate tools to make better decisions. These programs exemplify a win-win scenario. The genomic research programs take a big commitment for the breeders, staff at ASA, and Neogen, but the reward is worth the effort. I am proud to say we have added roughly 100,000 genomic files through these sought-after groups of cattle (females, entire herds/calf crops, and terminal cattle)."

Dr. Jackie Atkins, director, Science and IGS Operations

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 34** 

## **Partnerships** for a Better Beef Industry

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33** 

### Impact on the American Simmental Association and its Members

These three research projects together have amassed a significant portion of the power and accuracy behind the suite of EPD offered to Simmental breeders. While the advantages of genomic information are constantly discussed, the true return on their investment would not be possible without continuous reporting of phenotypes as well. Table 1 provides the evidence of this hard work, showing the increase in genomic progeny equivalents from 2012 to 2021. Due to the strength of the evaluation, running a single genomic test on an animal provides the same amount of information as if they had already had four to 25 progeny, depending on the trait.

Genomic Progeny Equivalents							
Trait	2012	2018	2021	Difference			
Calving Ease Direct	5	15	25+	+20			
Birth Weight	6	21	22	+16			
Weaning Weight	4	22	25+	+21			
Yearling Weight	3	24	25+	+24			
Stayability	9	25	15	+6			
Docility	-	-	25+	+25			
Carcass Weight	-	-	6	+6			
Ribeye Area	4	5	8	+4			
Backfat	1	6	11	+10			

Figure 5: Progeny Equivalents.

#### Other impacts of these research projects on the database include:

- A total of 83,000 genotypes submitted that is over 47% of the entire database.
- A five-fold increase in phenotypes reported.
- An increase of two to six progeny equivalents for carcass traits.
- A change in ratio of M:F genotypes from 3:1 to approximately 1:1.

### In addition to the immediate impact of these projects, future impacts include:

- Future release of a mature weight EPD.
- Updated progeny equivalents table for maternal traits of interest.

From the outside looking in, the CHR and CCG projects have been a tremendous success. If any constructive motivation is to be made, it is for members to dig deep and consider involvement in the CXP. The ability to obtain 'free' genotyping from ASA is irreplaceable information to help increase the accuracy of carcass EPD on influential sires.

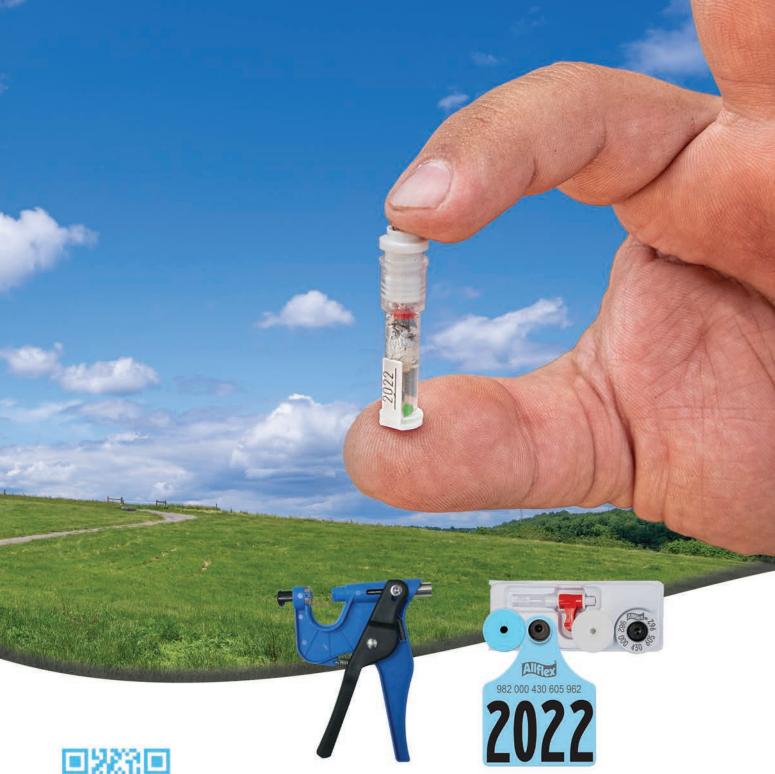
Overall, ASA members should be proud of what has been accomplished over the last five years. By working together, pooling information, and seeing the value of data, you have taken the Simmental breed to new heights. As we said at the beginning of this article, collaboration and data are the keys to the future of the beef business. Neogen is honored to be one of those partners, and we look forward to continuing to empower breeders for many years to come.

ST

*Editor's note:* To date, 100,000 genotypes have been submitted. This article analyzes data up to the end of 2021, and does not include data submitted in 2022.



Originally from Henderson, North Carolina, Dr. Jamie Courter received a bachelor's degree in animal science from North Carolina State University. Following graduation, she went on to obtain a master's degree in animal breeding and genetics from South Dakota State University. Her thesis research was conducted at the US Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, Nebraska, working with leading geneticists to perfect calculations of GE-EPD. This knowledge and experience led to her decision to attend the University of Nebraska–Lincoln for a doctoral degree, where she worked alongside Drs. Ron Lewis, Matthew Spangler, and Temple Grandin to better quantify docility for genetic evaluations.









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Fall Focus 2022, held in Roanoke, Virginia, August 26-30, was a successful gathering of Simmental enthusiasts from across the country. The event featured area tours, a day-long educational symposium, and a productive board meeting. The Virginia Simmental Association (VSA) co-hosted the event and gave everyone an informative glimpse into the state's beef industry, and the role Simmental plays. A huge thank you to everyone at the VSA for their help organizing and hosting.

ne highlight of the weekend was an early morning meeting of ASA's SimSpecialists team. Many members of the team were present, and spent time getting up to date on association programs, sharing experiences, and discussing ways their team can be better utilized. The combined years of experience of the SimSpeciaists is unmatched; from attending bull sales and helping potential customers understand indexes to presenting at educational field days, they offer a lot to the Simmental breed and are dedicated to expanding their reach.

After a quick lunch in downtown Roanoke, we hopped on buses and drove to Hillwinds Farm, owned and operated by Tim and Cathy Sutphin. The Sutphins have been using Simmental genetics in their commercial operation for some time, and have built a profitable family business. Tim discussed the genetic and management decisions that have allowed them to build their herd, and how Simmental genetics have been a major part of their success.

From there we jumped back on the buses and drove to Blacksburg for a tour of the Virginia Tech campus. The university's Beef Cattle Center runs a herd of cows, including Simmental, and holds a student-run bull sale — the Hokie Harvest Sale — each year.

After that, we drove just outside Blacksburg to Bill McDonald's historic farm, which was established in 1763. During the Revolutionary War the farm served as a depot, and early in its history it also housed a grist mill, a tannery, and was used for producing

"McDonald Surefire" gunpowder. Today, McDonald Farm raises Simmental seedstock, utilizing the abundant grass available in the Virginia hills. Bill and his family graciously opened their home, served ham and biscuits and mint sweet tea, and showed us all a great deal of hospitality.

We then headed back to the buses and drove out to Virginia Tech's Kentland Farm. Their newly constructed hay barn served as a beautiful setting for dinner, live music, and socializing. The Virginia Junior Simmental Association served a brisket dinner, and we heard from VSA president Mark Campbell, and Dr. Dan Eversole and Chad Joines with the VT's beef cattle program. Pouring rain threw a hitch in the schedule, but we were eventually able to head outside to watch Lane Giess's live feet and leg scoring demonstration.

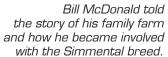
CONTINUED ON PAGE 40





Laura, Tim, Cathy, and Heath Sutphin. Opposite page: Fall Focus attendees gathered inside the Sutphin's barn to look at a group of heifers.







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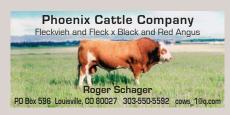
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(Continued on page 42)



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#### Looking Back at Fall Focus 2022

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37** 



ASA's Lane Giess led a live feet and leg scoring demonstration.

Virginia Simmental Association president Mark Campbell, who was instrumental in organizing Fall Focus 2022, welcoming attendees to Virginia Tech's Kentland Farm.

symposium

The Virginia Simmental **Association played a huge role** in organizing Fall Focus 2022.

Saturday kicked off the educational day, which was thoughtfully curated by ASA's Dr. Jackie Atkins. Barry Wesner, board chairman, welcomed everyone to the event. Virginia Secretary of Agriculture, Matt Lohr, kicked off the speaker lineup discussing the importance of agriculture in the state, and the larger role he sees it play in communities across the state.

New ideas and being at the forefront of developing science goes hand-in-hand with ASA's mission, and the next speaker, Dr. Alison Van Eenennaam, discussed something that could change the beef industry and raising livestock as a whole. Van Eenennaam works as a Cooperative Extension specialist in the field of animal genomics and biotechnology in the Department of Animal Science at University of California-Davis, and her current research focuses on genome editing, which she discussed in detail during her talk. The technology to insert or remove individual genes, which could change any desired trait, exists but is not legal to practice in the US. Van Eenennaam explained the science, its effectiveness, how it can be used, and the regulatory framework that currently prevents scientists from fully utilizing it. The use of genome editing also poses a moral question for many, which attendees were challenged to consider.

Dr. Troy Rowan, University of Tennessee, followed with his talk, "Laying the Groundwork for the Next Generation of Phenotyping, Genotyping, and Genomic Prediction." Rowan discussed genetic progress, and how to speed up genetic improvement. The accuracy of genetic predictions and the ability to measure useful phenotypes are the two basic pieces of the equation, and improving each is necessary to speed up genetic improvement. Rowan discussed the role of genomics, showing how the implementation of genomic testing improves our ability to predict an animal's genetic merit. He explained how Single



Dr. Alison Van Eenennaam discussing genome editing.

Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) technology is currently used, and how Sequence Imputed technology could improve genomic testing. Rowan then presented possible steps that could be taken to implement sequencing strategies, which are currently being used through research. He also discussed traits that would be extremely useful to the industry if measured, including disease risk and greenhouse gas emissions. Traits like these are difficult to measure due to variations in animals, genetics, environment, and more. However, work is being done at the university level to measure these phenotypes, and that work should eventually help breed associations—and ultimately, producers—make selection decisions.

The Virginia Simmental Association played a huge role in organizing Fall Focus, and the lunch on Saturday featured president Mark Campbell, and Virginia Cattle Industry Board member Paige Pratt.

After lunch, Dr. Vitor Mercadante, a professor at Virginia Tech, discussed advancements in fixed-time AI technology. He began by discussing beef production efficiency in the US, using Brazil as a comparison. It takes fewer cattle to produce more beef in the US, thanks in part to reproductive efficiency. The goal is to optimize pregnancy rates and develop and select replacement heifers that are highly fertile at the lowest possible cost. This sounds simple, but because fertility is generally lowly heritable, producers can't simply select females based on what their genetic merit should be for this trait. Mercadante broke down efficiency to include a combination of management, nutrition and animal health, selection pressure, and the use of reproductive technologies. Estrus synchronization is commonly used, and fixed-time AI can reduce the labor necessary to AI females since checking for heat isn't necessary. It also increases the portion of females exposed to AI, and more females



Dr. Troy Rowan discussing future improvements to genetic prediction.

Videos of each presentation from the educational day will be posted to fallfocus.org.



Dr. Vitor Mercadante presented tools for improving reproductive efficiency.

#### State Marketplace

(Continued from page 38)





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(Continued on page 46)

## AMERICA'S COV

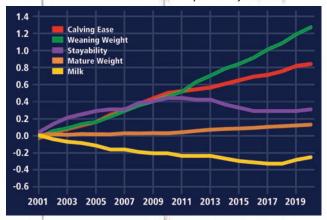
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Meet America's all-purpose cow – gentle and consistent, with calves that give the heterosis boost commercial cattlemen need to stay **profitable**.

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

#### **Maternal Trait Genetic Trends**

Purebred Simmental in past 20 years



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

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

#### \$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
- Breeding 25 females/year
- **3** Used for 5 years

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

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

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

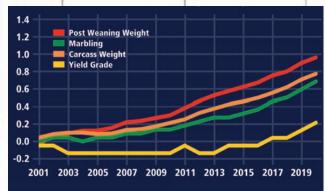
Simmental calves reliably perform in the feedyard – with better growth, better structure and fewer health problems. Simmental cattle add pounds without sacrificing marbling.

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

All to strengthen your bottom line.

#### **Terminal Trait Genetic Trends**

Purebred Simmental in past 20 years



#### \$Terminal Index (\$TI)

predicts profitability when all calves are harvested.

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

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

#### **Did You Know?**

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



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

#### Looking Back at Fall Focus 2022

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 41** 





Drs. Wade Shafer and Randie Culbertson presenting information on RFI and FI, and how accurate measurements can influence profitability.

are bred by AI in a shorter period of time. Mercadante then explained the financial impact of fixed-time AI on calving window, the number of cows that are bred, weaning rate, and weaning weights. Using the AI Cowculator, through beefrepro.org, he showed how fixedtime AI can increase profitability. He then discussed the management factors that affect the success of fixed-time AI pregnancy rates, and presented protocols producers may choose to use. The Beef Reproduction Task Force publishes detailed AI protocols for mature cows and heifers, which Mercadante broke down. Sexed semen protocols have also been added.

ASA's Dr. Randie Culbertson and Dr. Wade Shafer discussed genetic selection for Feed Intake (FI), and Residual Feed Intake (RFI). Feed represents 50 to 70% of total production costs, which increases dramatically when the cost of corn goes up. Balancing this cost with profitability can be tricky, as a decrease

in feed inputs can decrease animal performance. Decreasing feed costs without sacrificing animal performance would lead to a dramatic improvement in animal performance and profit. There are a number of questions, including how to define feed efficiency, selecting which phenotypes should be used for selection, how these factors can be incorporated into a breeding program and genetic evaluation, figuring out how this selection would impact other performance traits, and whether FI or RFI measurements should be used. Culbertson then discussed the pros and cons of both RFI and FI, which differ in their measurement. In conclusion, breeding objectives shouldn't only be the reduction of feed but to also increase the profitability of cattle.

Saturday evening was a time for celebration, and to recognize Golden Book Award recipients and retiring ASA trustees. Due to Covid, last year's Golden Book



Simmental producers eager to improve their operations through science fill the seats during the educational symposium.

#### awards



Last year's Golden Book Award recipients could be honored in person this year. L–R: Kevin and Lynette Thompson, Melissa and Gordon Hodges, and Parke and Nina Vehslage.



Gib Yardley, a 2022 recipient of the Golden Book Award, with wife, Denise, and past board chair, Randy Moody.



ASA EVP Dr. Wade Shafer, a 2022 recipient of the Golden Book Award, with wife, Kathy, and past board chair, Randy Moody.

recipients were not honored in person. To make up for this, they were recognized at Fall Focus 2022.

Sunday morning started off with a bull session, which gave Fall Focus attendees the opportunity to ask questions of board members. These exchanges sparked discussions that continued into committee meetings.

ST

**Editor's note:** Scott Riddle, a 2022 recipient of the Golden Book Award; and 2021 recipients Tom Hook, Steve Reimer, and Fred Schuetze were not present at Fall Focus.

Fall Focus 2023 will be hosted by the Colorado Simmental Association in Denver. Stay tuned for details.

#### State Marketplace

(Continued from page 42)

#### Nebraska cont.



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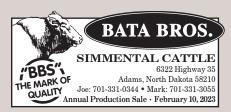
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(Continued on page 50)



### If Beef is Your Business



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

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#### American Simmental Association

To learn more about the CMP visit www.simmental.org, then click Carcass Merit Program under the Commercial tab.

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

#### Participants receive:

- ♦ \$65 for each AI-sired calf with carcass information
- ◆ Free semen on top young herd sires
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#### Become a Carcass Merit Program test herd today

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

#### **FOUNDATION FOCUS**

Mia Bayer, director, Youth Programs and Foundation manager, answers common questions about the American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation (ASF).

#### What are the primary goals of the ASF?

Our mission statement best sums up our goals: "The purpose of the Foundation is to encourage, by public or private contribution, and support worthwhile educational and charitable projects that are of interest and benefit to devotees of the American Simmental Association. Further, to receive, maintain, use, and apply donated funds for such purposes; and to implement such educational and charitable projects, including, but not limited to: Support of ASA's youth program through scholarships or program sponsorship; Continuing education programs for beef enthusiasts and members of the youth program; Expanded educational programs for ASA and members of the beef industry in the areas of performance testing, leadership, and bovine management; Research grants to qualified colleges and universities for documentation of bovine performance and research into the prevention of, or cure for, cattle diseases; and Other projects or activities as may be determined by the parent association."

#### **Explain the four pillars of the ASF.**

You may designate a donation to go to any of the four pillars. They include: Research and Technology, Youth, Education, and the ASF general fund. Each of these pillars support various projects that serve and benefit the American Simmental Association, its members, and the beef industry as a whole.

#### How are funds utilized?

After the funds have been designated to a certain pillar they are then used within that pillar to promote and develop different programs/projects. Some examples include:

- The Walton-Berry Graduate Student Support Grant, which supports graduate education with an emphasis on genetic improvement of livestock.
- The Steer Profitability Contest, which provides AJSA members a chance to learn about the opportunities and challenges associated with cattle feeding.
- Fall Focus, ASA's annual educational symposium, which includes speakers on genetics, breeding, and other industry-related topics.
- Merit Scholarships, which help AJSA members continue their education.
- National and Regional Classic support.

#### How does this financial support influence the larger beef industry?

The financial support that the ASF offers is helping develop leaders and make strides in the industry that not only benefit the Simmental breed, but the beef industry as a whole. For example, many past AJSA members have taken advantage of scholarships and leadership opportunities that have put them in positions to lead our industry. ASF-funded research projects are generating data that not only makes the Simmental breed stronger, but the industry in general.

#### How can producers become involved with the ASF?

The Legacy Lot program is a great way for a producer to get involved. Breeders have the opportunity to donate the proceeds from an animal or genetic lot sold in their sale. More information on becoming a Legacy Lot donor can be found on the ASF website.

#### Can donors specify how their donation will be used?

If a fundraiser is not specially designated to a certain pillar, the donor can pick which pillar they would like to donate to. If the donor does not indicate a specific pillar, the funds go into the general fund, which goes toward programs with the greatest need.

#### What are the main events or fundraisers throughout the year?

Funds for the Foundation are raised year round. Some donations come in as memorials and other funds are generated through various events held throughout the year. Many of the Major Progress Through Performance (PTP) shows and national events hold auctions where donated items, such as hunts, equipment, and other specialty items are sold. One of the fundraising highlights each year is the auctioning off of the Foundation Female. The Foundation board is always coming up with new and fun ideas to generate funds.

To learn more about the American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation, go to simmental.org and click on ASF.

SI

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#### State Marketplace

(Continued from page 46)

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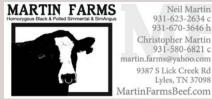
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Tom Williams Chappell Feedlot

Trait	Simmental Rank vs. Major Continental Breeds	Angus/Red Angus Rank vs. Major British Breeds
Marbling Score	First	Second
Carcass Weight	First	First
Weight Gain Feed Efficiency	First	Second
Weaning Weight	Second	First
Post Weaning Gain	Second	Second

Across-Breed EPD Table, GPE Rep. 22, MARC, USDA



www.simmental.org



#### **Protein Is not Protein Is not Protein**

by T.L. Meyer and Hannah Greenwell, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Protein is often the first limiting requirement when selecting diets and designing supplementation strategies for cows and growing cattle. Age and stage of production impact how much protein an animal requires. Understanding the different types of protein can help tailor supplements to meet protein requirements economically and effectively.

Crude protein (CP), the nitrogen content of the feed, is the initial measure of protein most commonly evaluated in feedstuffs. Crude protein can be further divided into rumen degradable protein (RDP) or rumen undegradable protein (RUP). Rumen degradable protein is the protein that is available for rumen microbes to use. These microbes work in the rumen to break down and ferment the forage consumed by the cow. Feeds with a higher percentage of RDP than RUP (as a percent of crude protein) include forages, soybean meal, and non-protein nitrogen (NPN) sources, such as urea and ammonia. These NPN sources are typically used in protein supplements 30% or higher in protein concentration.

Rumen undegradable protein is the remaining portion of the crude protein protected in the rumen and available for breakdown in the lower digestive system. Feeds with a higher portion of RUP include distillers grains, corn gluten meal, corn grain, and blood meal.

Microbial crude protein (MCP) comes from the turnover of microbes in the rumen, resulting in a source of protein digested in the lower digestive tract. As the microbes reach their lifespan, they become protein to be broken down into amino acids for the animal to absorb.

Crude protein and RDP requirements are often stated; rarely is an RUP or MCP requirement discussed. Instead, it will be represented as a metabolizable protein (MP) requirement. Metabolizable protein is the combination of RUP and MCP, or protein broken down post-ruminally. This differentiation is sometimes explained as the needs of the microbes (RDP) and the needs of the animal (RUP + MCP=MP). Metabolizable protein is essential to all ruminants, but plays a critical role in immature animals for growth, development, and achieving desired gain.

For example, a 1,300-pound cow in mid-gestation can maintain on a diet that provides 7.1% CP daily. This is her lowest CP requirement in the production cycle and should include both RDP and MP. If she is

consuming a forage-based diet adequate in protein and total digestible nutrients (TDN), a mature cow can turn over her rumen microbe population at a rate that meets her MP requirement. In contrast, a 1,000-pound replacement heifer mid-gestation lacks the rumen capacity to produce enough MCP to meet her required MP justifying supplementation of RUP. This is not unlike formulating diets for classes of growing calves.

In recent history, distillers products have provided an economical RUP supplement to growing cattle. With changes in price and supply, evaluating other feeds is warranted, depending on supplement goals. The table below lists protein sources and their composition of RDP and RUP. Pricing feeds based on nutrient content (i.e., \$/lb of RUP) is the best economical way to compare feedstuffs relative to the feeding goals. If selecting a feedstuff lower in CP or RUP than what is normally used, expect animal performance to reflect that decreased nutrient content. However, the lower CP or RUP feedstuff can make economic sense within resource and management constraints.

Feedstuff	Crude Protein, %	RDP % of CP	RUP, % of CP
Alfalfa Cubes	18.08	68.82	31.01
Dried Distillers Grain	30.79	32.00	67.93
Dry Corn	00.64	62.60	27.10
Gluten Feed	22.64	63.69	37.10
Cottonseed Meal	44.98	57.19	42.70
Field Peas	25.17	80.00	20.00
Whole Soybeans	39.97	70.99	29.01

#### **Meat Exports to Colombia Soar**

Demand for US beef and pork exports to Colombia have exploded this year, with pork well ahead of last year's record pace by 10%, with a total value of \$120 million. Beef exports are up a whopping 55% in volume and 78% in value at \$26.3 million, according to a report by US Meat Export Federation (USMEF). Colombia's consumption of pork on a per capita basis is nearly 26 pounds, and their domestic industry simply cannot keep up. The US pork exports have filled the hole in consumer demand, continuing to gain even more market share in the South American country.

While the pork industry aims to fulfill demand, US beef preference in Colombia has evolved in the past few years. The Colombian market used to Save The Date

December 10, 2022

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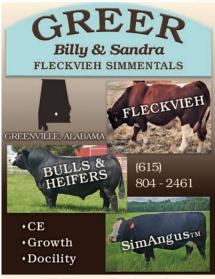




consist of a lot of variety meats: liver, tripe, etc. Over the past two vears, ground beef has increased in demand, because there is presently a hamburger craze there. Hamburger shops are popping up all over, and they favor the US product for the burgers. Despite inflation that challenges the spending habits of the local population, meat demand has been resilient. Aggressive, optimistic importers are a key factor, especially in Colombia, where 20 to 25 importers are convinced that they can buy high-quality US beef and sell it at a profit.

#### **Eating Poorly**

A new study by the US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) has found that the overwhelming majority of US adults overestimate the overall quality of their diets. The research found that only a small percentage of US adults can accurately assess the healthfulness of their diet, and interestingly, it is mostly those who perceive their diet as poor who are able to most accurately assess their diet. Additionally,



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most adults overrate the quality of their diet, sometimes to a substantial degree. The information was presented at a recent meeting of the American Society for Nutrition.

The researchers hoped to find out whether a single, simple question could be used as a screening tool for nutritional studies in order to potentially replace or complement the detailed dietary questionnaires commonly used in nutrition research. Previous studies have found that self-rated health is a strong predictor of morbidity and mortality, but there is scant research on whether self-rated diet quality is predictive of the actual quality of one's diet. The study used data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, a nationally representative survey of US adults conducted every two years. Participants were asked to complete detailed 24-hour dietary recall questionnaires and rate their diet as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor. Researchers then used the food recall questionnaires to score each participant's diet quality.

The study revealed significant disconnects between researcher-calculated scores and how participants ranked their own diet. Out of more than 9,700 individuals, about 8,000 (roughly 85%) inaccurately assessed their diet quality. Of those, almost all (99%) overrated the healthfulness of their own diet. Accuracy was highest among those who rated their diet as poor, among whom the researcher's score matched the participant's rating 97% of the time.

#### "Not One More Vet" Supports Veterinary Mental Health

by Maureen Hanson, Bovine Veterinarian

It's the mantra of so many veterinary teams. The words that flash through your mind after you are unable to save an animal. And whether the problem was medical, financial, or something else... The message is the same: I've failed. And when you carry this weight, the other stressors of working in a veterinary practice can feel unbearable. The bright, impassioned idealism to be the protector and savior of animals turns to ash, and depression begins to take over your life.

These words from the non-profit organization, Not One More Vet (NOMV) encapsulate the troubling reality that many veterinarians face. Long work hours, a workforce shortage, the burden of student debt, and difficult-to-please clients all contribute to their mental load.

"Research shows that veterinarians and their staff have a far higher suicide rate than that of the general public," said Darlene Bos, NOMV executive director. "We seek to transform the status of mental wellness in the profession."

NOMV does so through grants to assist veterinarians struggling financially; peer support in the veterinary community, with a current online network of more than 35,000 veterinary professionals; education about wellness; and research to further the advancement of wellness, mental health, and the reduction of suicide among veterinary professionals.

These efforts are made possible through private contributions, along with an annual fundraising event, Race Around the World. The 5K race is a fun and healthy way to raise awareness and funds for NOMV. The race takes place every September (Suicide Prevention Month).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 56



## GIGGALTITUDE Female Sale

# December 3, 2022 | LaGarita, CO 750+ HEAD OFFERED

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NOMV also has furthered its mission through corporate collaboration. CLEAR Blueprint, a free practice certification sponsored by Merck Animal Health, was developed by an interdisciplinary team of veterinary professionals, mental health professionals, and lawyers. The program is intended to empower teams to implement the changes that will develop and maintain healthy cultures that prioritize staff well-being for practice owners, veterinarians, support staff, and everyone involved in veterinary medicine.

Last year, Zoetis launched an online campaign to honor dairy veterinarians. The program was developed "to help reverse an alarming rise in veterinarian suicides among those who work difficult, tiring hours while protecting and caring for cattle."

Zoetis solicited nominations to celebrate dairy veterinarians, donating \$5.00 for each person honored. The campaign resulted in a \$10,000 donation to NOMV. "One more veterinarian lost to suicide is too many," said Jared Shriver, senior vice president of US Cattle at Zoetis. "We hope others will follow the lead of the dairy families that spoke up to support the crucial contributions of their community's veterinarian."

#### Plan for Sustainable Feedlot

A developer of an advanced waste treatment technology says it will partner with a cattle ranch to build a 15,000-head sustainable beef feedlot near Dalhart, Texas.

Bion Environmental Technologies, Inc., announced a letter of intent with Ribbonwire Ranch to construct the facility that will include innovative barn systems, anaerobic digesters, and Bion's cutting-edge waste treatment technology. Construction will begin in 2023. The agreement contains a provision for expansion of up to 60,000 head capacity or annual production of 180,000 head. Bion says it expects formal agreements with foodservice and retail customers over the next few months.

In a statement, Bion said the Dalhart facility will be developed to produce blockchain-verified sustainable beef, reduce the stress on cattle caused by extreme weather and temperatures, while remediating the environmental impacts associated with cattle Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). Bion's patented technology will refine the waste stream into valuable coproducts that include clean water, renewable natural gas (RNG), and

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 58** 



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organic fertilizer products. The revenues generated from these new product lines will transform a cattle feeder from a marginally profitable business into a lucrative one.

Ribbonwire Ranch is owned and operated by Doug Lathem and Chad Schoonover and their families. The ranch is located on the northern edge of the legendary XIT Ranch, a Panhandle ranch that dates back to 1885.

Chad Schoonover, co-founder of Ribbonwire Ranch, said "We are excited to be partnered with Bion for this initial system. This could change the industry. This new approach allows us to capture what has otherwise been lost, while still providing a humane environment that doesn't pollute the air, water or land."

Doug Lathem, co-founder of Ribbonwire, said "I am proud that we are working on a better way to feed cattle, one that will allow our kids and grandchildren to live and work in this area for generations to come."

Bill O'Neill, Bion's CEO, expressed his appreciation to Ribbonwire for recognizing this opportunity and wanting to be part of it. "We are fortunate to be working with a forward thinker like Ribbonwire Ranch. We realize that this announcement is just

a first step in making sustainable beef a reality. However, it is an important step to giving the consumer the sustainable beef they want and helping cattle feeders and producers create more value for their cattle. And equally important is the fact we are keeping the waste stream from polluting the air, land, and water, and verifying those improvements in the process."

#### **Meat Industry Labor Shortage**

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) is expressing concerns about shortages of skilled labor that threatens to limit prospects for future meat processing capacity gains aimed at meeting increased demand. The NASDA contends that the need for sustainable, skilled workers — and providing the training and tools needed to produce safe, high-quality meat products — is essential. Fewer workers and an increased demand for meat in the post-pandemic era are focusing on an issue that is affecting farmers, ranchers and meat processors. NASDA reached the conclusions following a recent meeting to discuss concerns about the future of the meat industry in general.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 60** 



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The group also cited specific efforts in the states of Oklahoma and Iowa that addressed similar challenges by adopting their own meat industry education and training programs, while establishing a task force to study the feasibility of creating artisanal butchery programs, respectively. NASDA also recommended funding for USDA's Meat and Poultry Processing Workforce Development Program and the Meat and Poultry Workforce Technical Assistance Program, which combine to provide technical assistance and workforce training and development.

#### Tips to Avoid Nitrate and Prussic Acid Poisoning Following Drought

Nitrates and prussic acid build up in forages to levels dangerous to livestock during drought. Livestock face severe illness and even death after eating affected forages, says University of Missouri Extension agronomist Jamie Gundel.

Nitrates tend to concentrate in the bottom third of the plant. It shows in the plant's stem and stalks more than leaves, Gundel says. Plants most susceptible to nitrate buildup include sorghum, Sudangrass, sorghum-Sudangrass hybrids, corn, millet, and perennial grasses. Some weeds can also accumulate nitrates, including curly dock, jimsonweed, Johnson grass, kochia, lamb's quarters, nightshades, pigweed, Canada thistle, and smartweed.

Poisoning symptoms include labored breathing, muscle tremors, weakness, lack of coordination, diarrhea, frequent urination, and dark red blood after death. Death usually occurs within four hours of consumption.

Gundel suggests the following to reduce nitrate levels in forages:

- Raise the cutter bar six inches or more above the ground.
- Test forages for nitrate levels.
- Wait three to five days or more after a "good" rain for plants to regrow before grazing.
- Increase residual grazing and/or harvest height.
- Make silage, which causes forage to lose 25%–50% of nitrates.
- Slowly increase nitrate levels in feed.
- Do not feed to reproductive stock.
- Most importantly, do not green chop and feed.

During drought, prussic acids also can cause high cyanide levels in stressed leaves of young plants of Johnson grass and some sorghum lines. Pearl millet is unaffected. Prussic acid poisoning symptoms include accelerated breathing, foaming of the mouth and nose, involuntary urination, depression, inability to stand, muscle tremors, and bright red blood after death. Death can happen within 15 minutes. Prussic acid concentrates in the new growth of plants, especially after drought, frost, or herbicide damage. Levels drop over time and are not a problem in properly cured hay, says Gundel.

To avoid prussic acid poisoning, Gundel suggests the following:

- Graze when forage is over 18–24 inches tall. Avoid grazing plants under two feet tall, especially during dry weather.
- Do not graze hungry livestock on sorghum or sorghum-Sudangrass hybrids. Poisoning increases with the amount of high-risk forage consumed.
- Do not graze short regrowth forage after hay or silage harvest or after close grazing.
- Wait two weeks or until forage grows two feet to graze after a "good" rain following drought, frost, or herbicide damage.

Do not graze sorghum, sorghum-Sudangrass, hybrids or Sudangrass during or after drought, or if plants show signs of moisture stress. Test for toxicity levels before grazing.

#### Researchers Look at Why Consumers Will Pay High Prices for a Great Steak

by Greg Henderson, Bovine Veterinarian

Why are consumers willing to pay high prices for steaks?

A research project from Texas Tech University's Davis College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, in collaboration with groups in Ireland and Australia, is trying to answer that question.

The project started with a simple idea from a doctoral candidate, who wanted to know why consumers would pay \$75 for a steak when much cheaper options were available. It has evolved into L GEN 2000, a collaborative genomics project funded by a \$603,960 grant from the University of New England, that seeks to relate the genetic differences in the culinary quality of various beef cattle.

"We discovered the part of the brain stimulated when you have your best experience in life — first kiss, first love, marriage, children, whatever it is — gets turned on when you eat a high-quality piece of beef," says Markus Miller, a professor and the San



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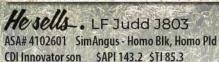
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Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo chair of meat science, food processing, and preservation in the Department of Animal & Food Sciences.

"Why would people want to eat beef when in every country on the planet, it's the most expensive protein? The reason is because of what it does to you physiologically. It makes you feel warm and fuzzy," Miller adds. "You feel happy, you feel good about yourself. And food does that to everybody."

The L GEN 2000 project will collect data from consumers across three countries with different methods of raising beef cattle, compile that data and try to isolate the genes that give consumers the best dining experience.

In the US, consumers in the test project will eat steaks from 100% grain-fed beef. The beef produced for the tests in Ireland will be 100% grass-fed and the beef in Australia will be a mixture of the two, with the goal being to find out if the different methods of raising beef cattle produce different genetics.

"This genomics project will look at beef in different production systems and relate it to the genome of the beef animal," Miller says. "It may be that we have the same genetics everywhere and there's no genetic difference, but we need to know.

"Understanding the differences, or lack of differences, allows us to know how to manage feeding and production. It will help us maximize the quality and healthfulness of beef in relation to all outputs like methane, carbon, and water use."

#### Cattle Producers Raise Concerns with Executive Order on Biotechnology

The White House announced an Executive Order on "Advancing Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing Innovation for a Sustainable, Safe, and Secure American Bioeconomy." It outlines a "a whole-ofgovernment approach to advance biotechnology and biomanufacturing toward innovative solutions in health, climate change, energy, food security, agriculture, supply chain resilience, and national and economic security."

On its face, the executive order promotes a science- and risk-based system to support the development and use of products of biotechnology. US cattle producers are regular consumers of products developed using biotechnology, from livestock feed derived from genetically modified ingredients

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 64** 

Annual Meeting and Banquet - December 9, 2022

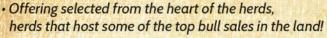
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However, the Executive Order directs the Secretary of Agriculture to "submit a report assessing how to use biotechnology and biomanufacturing for food and agriculture innovation, including... cultivating alternative food sources."

At a press conference held in anticipation of the release of this Executive Order, a senior Administration official further specified that, "We're also looking to improve food security and drive agricultural innovation, including through new technologies that protect crops from disease, enhance seeds and fertilizers, and foods made with cultured animal cells."

US Cattlemen's Association (USCA) President Brooke Miller issued the following statement: "The cultivation of animal cells for human consumption does not further the goals of the Biden Administration in supporting independent agricultural producers. Instead, it promotes corporate and consolidated control of the food supply system. Cell-cultured products cannot be independently produced — the technology is shrouded in intellectual property protection and requires intensive capital resources. These factors could lead to

the monopolistic control of America's sovereign food supply that we see already today in the US livestock and meat industries."

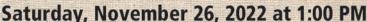
#### **How Consumers are Coping with Rising Food Costs**

US food shoppers in August scaled back purchases in the face of persistent inflation, according to new data from Information Resources Inc. (IRI), which recently merged with the NPD Group. "While retail food and beverage sales have been fairly resilient, we're seeing signs of consumer stress, particularly among low-income households. Consumers are buying less in discretionary food and beverage categories, and are shopping more frequently in search of better prices," said Krishnakumar Davey, president of thought leadership for consumer packaged goods and retail at IRI and NPD.

At the same time, consumers are willing to pay a premium for some categories, such as pasta, pasta sauce, butter, and frozen entrées, that are considered affordable indulgences for more cash-strapped shoppers, Davey said in a press release.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 66** 





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Food prices continue to climb on a year-overyear basis despite recent price moderation in other areas of the economy, IRI said. Beef was number five on the list of categories showing price increases in August, up 3.3% from July, the IRI report showed. Ahead of beef were carbonated beverages, up 5.3%; fresh fruit, up 5.3%; ice cream, up 3.7%; and fresh vegetables, up 3.4%.

Overall, retail food and beverage unit sales declined 4.5% in August compared to a year ago, and volume sales declined 4%. Consumers are bargain hunting, with trips to the store up 3.5% vs. a year ago for the latest 12 weeks ending August 21.

Quick trips are up 6.7% during the same period, while pantry stocking trips are down 0.6%, suggesting that consumers are looking for deals and "cherry picking" stores where they can get the best value, IRI said. When they stock their pantries, there is an uptick in trips to mass merchandisers and club stores.

The analytics firm's August data showed that prices of consumer goods remain elevated across categories. Prices for food at home rose 1.6% from the end of July to the end of August, and 13.4% year over year through the week ending August 28.

#### Australia's Beef Supply Poised to Recover in 2023

Australia's beef supply is forecast to make a substantial step toward recovery in 2023 after falling to the lowest level in decades in 2021 and generating only a marginal improvement in 2022, USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) said in a new attaché report from Canberra.

The Australian cattle industry is expected to continue its strong herd rebuild in 2023 but with female slaughter rates rising, the report said. The herd rebuild follows a severe multi-year drought in the country. Now, most cattle producers have experienced great pasture conditions for the third successive season, and the forecast in the coming months is for well-above-average rainfall.

Cattle producers have also had the benefit of record cattle prices in recent years, which has boosted confidence to continue to push forward with a strong herd rebuild, FAS said. With the support of increased female slaughter, it is expected that overall cattle slaughter, beef production, and beef exports all will rise in 2023.

Calf crop production in 2022 is forecast to increase by 6% from the prior year, due to the continued shift toward increased beef cow breeding

stock following drought-breaking rains that began in early 2020 across a large part of the beef producing regions in Australia.

The female slaughter rate remained low in the first half of 2022. In the second quarter, the rate was at 45%, far below the ten-year average of 52% for the period. The April-June quarter is seasonally the highest, so the very low slaughter rate indicates the industry is strongly continuing to rebuild the herd, the report said.

Another important contributor is that high beef prices, along with labor shortages, have caused some farms, especially dairy farms in the southern states, to convert entirely or partially to beef production. FAS said.

#### Manage Shrink when Marketing **Weaned Calves this Fall**

by Paul Beck, Oklahoma State University

When selling calves, shrink is a concern because it is a reduction in the sales weight, but abnormal level of shrink is often used as a health indicator for cattle arriving in receiving facilities at stocker operations, grow yards, and feedlots. Adjustments in price are common to compensate for varying shrinkage and gut fill.

Shrink is often characterized in two categories; fill shrink and tissue shrink. Fill shrink is the loss of excreta from the digestive system. This type of shrink is common in marketing and can be recovered quickly in a few days once cattle are back on feed and water. Tissue shrink is more severe, with shrinkage levels greater than 6%, associated with long periods without feed and water along with other stressors, such as long-distance transport, weaning, rough handling, or heat stress. Tissue shrink may take up to 30 days to recover.

Selling calves directly after weaning leads to some of the highest levels of shrink. Weaning is stressful and calves are often unfamiliar with water and feed locations, so may refuse to eat or drink even when feed and water are offered. Preconditioning programs have been designed to reduce the effect of weaning stress on calves later in production by enhancing the immune system and teaching calves to eat from a feed bunk and drink from a water tank or fountain at the ranch of origin.

Preconditioning calves before marketing reduces shrink because the stress of separation from the dam has already occurred and calves are familiarized with handling and feed and water sources. Unweaned calves transported directly

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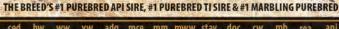
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to the auction market can have shrinkage of 7% to 10% while preconditioned calves can have 2% to 5% shrinkage.

Dietary interventions can be used to reduce shrink. Steers coming off wheat pasture were transported for four hours either directly off pasture or after they were given access to hay and water for 24 hours. Initial shrink after only 30minute hauls were similar and only around one half of a percent of initial weight. Weight loss of steers moved directly from pasture was much greater than steers fed hay before transport when hauls were one to two hours.

After four hours of transit, steers directly off wheat lost 37 pounds (5.1% shrink). Steers given access to hav before transport lost 28 pounds (3.85% shrink) over the same haul. This shows that shrink losses were about 1.28% per hour of transport, but providing access to a dry hay before transport decreases shrinkage rates to 0.96% per hour. The reduced shrink was likely due to slower passage rate of feed through the digestive tract and less water loss.

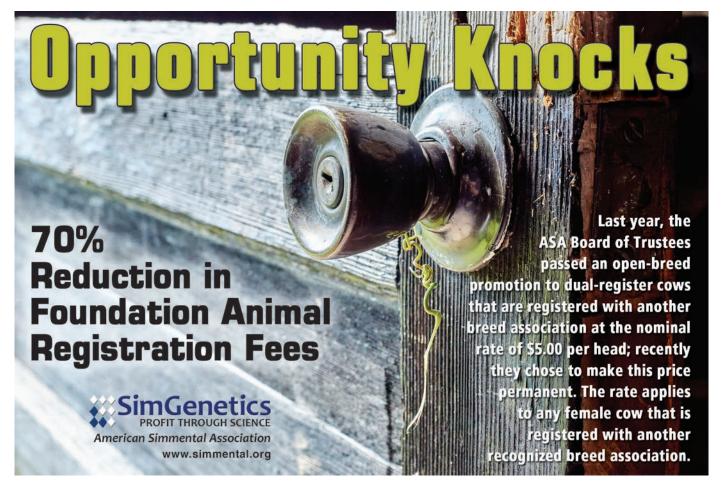
Cattle market surveys have shown that calves that are gaunt or shrunk prior to marketing have a \$2 to \$4 per hundredweight premium over cattle with average fill. These premiums are unlikely to cover the lost revenue from the excessive weight loss due to shrink. Calves that were classified as "full" or "tanked" were discounted \$4.73 and \$11.10 per hundredweight, respectively, in a survey of Arkansas feeder cattle markets. These large discounts are reflective of the buyer's belief that excessive shrink will occur before cattle reach their final destination. There is value to both the buyer and seller for calves to have a fair weigh-up at marketing.

#### 2023 Checkoff Budget Approved

The Cattlemen's Beef Board (CBB) will invest approximately \$38.5 million into programs of beef promotion, research, consumer information, industry information, foreign marketing, and producer communications during fiscal 2023, subject to USDA approval.

In action at the end of its September meeting in Denver, the Beef Promotion Operating Committee (BPOC) approved Checkoff funding for a total of 13

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 70** 



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Authorization Requests for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023. The committee, which includes ten producers from the Cattlemen's Beef Board and ten producers from the Federation of State Beef Councils, also recommended full Cattlemen's Beef Board approval of a budget amendment to reflect the split of funding between budget categories affected by their decisions.

Nine contractors and three subcontractors brought 14 Authorization Requests worth \$48 million to the BPOC, nearly \$9.5 million more than the funds available from the CBB budget.

"Producers are behind all the decisions that the BPOC makes during these meetings each September," said CBB and BPOC Chair Norman Voyles, Jr. "We carefully consider every Authorization Request to determine how to use Checkoff dollars to drive beef demand and provide producers with the best possible return on their Checkoff investments."

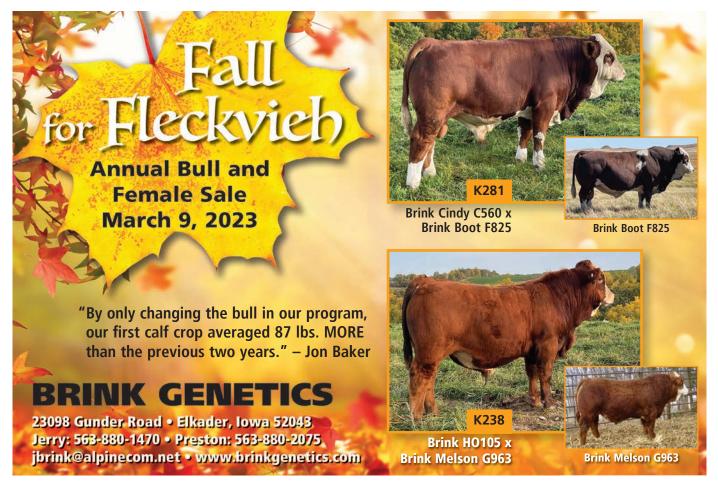
"As we expected, the proposals we reviewed were remarkably innovative, containing many thoughtprovoking ideas and concepts. Our challenge is balancing the budget while also distributing our limited amount of Checkoff dollars in a manner that we believe will best drive beef demand. I'd like to thank

all our contractors and committee members for their hard work and careful consideration as we all work together to advance the entire beef industry."

In the end, the BPOC approved proposals from nine national beef organizations for funding through the FY23 Cattlemen's Beef Board budget, as follows:

- American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture - \$900,000
- Cattlemen's Beef Board \$1.850.000
- Foundation for Meat and Poultry Research and Education - \$450,000
- Meat Import Council of America / Northeast Beef Promotion Initiative - \$550,000
- National Cattlemen's Beef Association -\$25,720,000
- National Institute for Animal Agriculture -\$70,000
- North American Meat Institute \$360,000
- United States Cattlemen's Association -\$450,000
- United States Meat Export Federation -\$8,200,000

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 72** 





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### INDUSTRY UPDATE

Broken out by budget component — as outlined by the Beef Promotion and Research Act of 1985 the FY23 Plan of Work for the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board budget includes:

- \$9,400,000 for promotion programs, including beef and veal campaigns focusing on beef's nutritional value, eating experience, convenience, and production.
- \$9,000,000 for research programs focusing on pre- and post-harvest beef safety, scientific affairs, nutrition, sustainability, product quality, culinary technical expertise, and consumer perceptions.
- \$7,470,000 for consumer information programs, including Northeast influencer outreach and public relations initiatives; national consumer supply chain engagement.
- \$2,630,000 for industry information programs, including public relations, including nutritioninfluencer relations and work with primaryand secondary-school curriculum directors nationwide to get accurate information about the beef industry into classrooms of today's youth. Additional initiatives include outreach and engagement with food, culinary, nutrition,

- and health thought leaders; media and public relations efforts; and dissemination of accurate information about the beef industry to counter misinformation from anti-beef groups and others, as well as funding for Checkoff participation in the annual national industrywide symposium about antibiotic use. Additional efforts in this program area include beef advocacy training and issues/crisis management and response.
- \$8,200,000 for foreign marketing and education, focusing on 13 regions, representing more than 90 countries around the world.
- \$1,850,000 for producer communications, which includes investor outreach using national communications and direct communications to producers and importers about Checkoff results. Elements of this program include ongoing producer listening and analysis; industry collaboration and outreach; and continued development of a publishing strategy and platform and a state beef council content hub.

The full fiscal 2023 Cattlemen's Beef Board budget is approximately \$42.7 million.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 74

# trickland –

Strickland Cattle

11th Annual Bull Sale

Saturday, November 19, 2022, 1:00 PM EST Glennville, Georgia

Selling

20 Black Angus • 10 Black & 5 Red Simmental 60 Rills 25 SimAngus<sup>™</sup> (including 10 coming 2-year-olds)

**Sires Include:** Cash Flow

IR Imperial D948

KBHR High Road E283

GAR Dual Threat CDI Secret Agent 407C

Basin Payweight Hook's Eagle 6E

GAR Hometown WS All Aboard

- All bulls have passed a complete breeding soundness exam.
- All bulls have 50K or 100K genomically enhanced EPD.
- Sale Catalog and Videos Available November 1.

Broadcast live on Live Auctions TV | Auctioneer: Col. Luke Mobley | Videos available at: www.lukemobley.com



For more info or to request a sale catalog, go to simmental.org or contact: Jes Strickland 803-617-8415 – www.stricklandcattle.com Jessie Driggers 912-237-0608 – www.driggerssimmentalfarm.com

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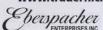
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LHT MS **TEARDROP 43J** 

Sired by TJ Teardrop 783F Bred to TJ Gold

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## INDUSTRY UPDATE

#### Cattle Liquidation Underway

Two-thirds of farmers and ranchers in the American Farm Bureau's recent survey designed to gauge the impact of drought conditions in the West have indicated that they are selling off portions of their herds. Insufficient and poor-quality forage is forcing the liquidations, which cut into operation income. Average herd sizes are expected to be down by 36% in the surveyed region. The survey results come as the US Bureau of Reclamation announced water reductions in Arizona, Nevada, and a part of Mexico in response to continued depletion of the Colorado River. The cuts came after it was projected that Lake Mead, a major reservoir on the river, would be in its first-ever "Tier 2" water shortage condition during the current year.

More than 60% of the US West, Southwest, and Central Plains is in severe drought or higher. The 17 involved states support 74% of the nation's beef cattle, responsible for 18% of the US agricultural production. The survey was conducted over the months of June and July in the droughtstricken region.

The largest herd decline was in Texas, with herds reported down 50%, followed by New Mexico, down 43%, and Oregon at 41%. Washington is expected to have the smallest decline at 14%. Ninety percent of respondents reported an increase in local feed costs as prevalent or higher in their areas, up from 87% in 2021. As the region provides over 70% of the nation's hay, insufficient forage is forcing producers to locate feed from further sources. Scarce and low-quality forage also impacts feed conversion ratios necessary to reach desired market weights.

Cattle inventories have continued to decline, with the number of heifers capable of producing next year's calf crop dropping due to increased feedlot placements. In many western states, the government owns the majority of land. The survey found that 71% of respondents removed animals from rangeland due to poor or insufficient forage. Eighty percent of Nevada's area and 63% of Utah's land are federally owned, creating additional hardships for those ranchers.

SI



# Selling 14 Bulls in the

11th Annual Strickland-Driggers Bull Sale on Saturday, November 19, 2022 at 1:00 PM EST in Glennville, Georgia

ASA#	Tatt	DOB	Color	Breeds	Sire	Dam's Sire	\$API	\$TI		
3952291	14J	9/16/21	BLK	PB SM	LBRS Genesis G69	Hook's Beacon 56B	177.3	107.9		
3952310	12J	9/9/21	BLK	PB SM	KBHR High Road E283	DRG Shear Force 14A	176.2	94.1		
3952295	11J	9/8/21	BLK	PB SM	KBHR High Road E283	WS All-Around Z35	174.3	103.3		
3952316	19J	9/19/21	Red	PB SM	CDI Secret Agent 407C	IR Imperial D948	173.9	89.6		
3961240	37J	11/4/21	Red	PB SM	CDI Secret Agent 407C	WS All-Around Z35	169.8	93.9		
3952286	36J	10/18/21	Red	PB SM	CDI Secret Agent 407C	SRS Right-On 22R	150.8	87.7		
3952317	34J	10/15/21	BLK	PB SM	Hook`s Eagle 6E	CCR Cowboy Cut 5048Z	167.8	100.8		
3952289	33J	10/15/21	BLK	PB SM	Hook`s Eagle 6E	CCR Cowboy Cut 5048Z	157.1	93.4		
3952307	32J	10/14/21	BLK	5/8 SM 3/8 AN	GW Triple Crown 018C	Hook's Beacon 56B	175.8	94.6		
3952308	4J	8/29/21	BLK	5/8 SM 3/8 AN	Hook`s Eagle 6E	GW Marshall 756A	166.2	92.4		
3952297	3J	8/24/21	BLK	3/4 SM 1/4 AN	KBHR High Road E283	DRG Shear Force 14A	165.6	92.9		
3952290	7J	9/1/21	BLK	1/2 SM 1/2 AN	Hook`s Eagle 6E	YON Final Answer A53	165.1	97.8		
3952312	5J	8/29/21	BLK	3/4 SM 1/4 AN	KBHR High Road E283	J Bar J Nightride 225Z	162.7	88.4		
3952283	26J	9/28/21	BLK	5/8 SM 3/8 AN	Hook`s Eagle 6E	Thomas Grade Up 6849	162.3	95.3		
EPD as of 9/2/22 Sale Catalogs & Videos Available November 1st										

Sale Catalogs & Videos Available November 1st

- All 14 bulls have been 100K DNA tested
- · All 14 bulls have been ultrasoundscanned for carcass traits
- 100% Fall Born A.I. breeding and embryo transfer
- Nationwide shipping
- Free shipping in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina on total purchases over \$10,000
- ASA THE participants since 2005

Broadcast live on Live Auctions TV: www.liveauction.tv

Auctioneer: Col. Luke Mobley

Catalog & videos of all bulls can be viewed at: www.lukemobley.com and www.driggerssimmentalfarm.com

Driggers Simmental Farm, 3649 Hugh Driggers Road, Glennville, GA 30427 | (912) 237-0608

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# FEBRUARY 11TH, 2023 | SPERS |

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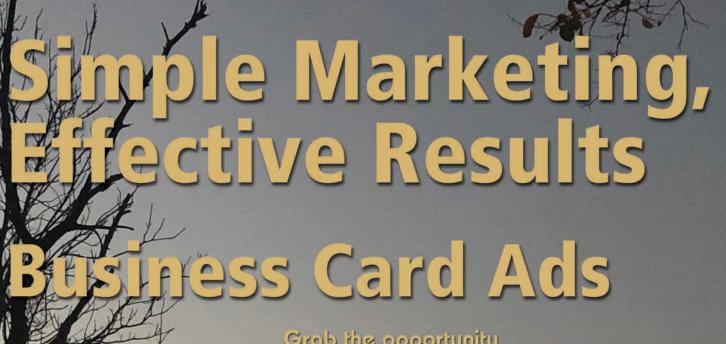
WWW.RLFLECKVIEH.COM

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#### RL FLECKVIEH Limerock Ranch

Randy Lehman 319.521.4389 Bryce Lehman 815.990.2312





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For more information contact:

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Rebecca at rprice@simmgene.com

Call 406-587-2778

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Nov. 15, 2022
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Selling:
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\*Dr. Bob Hough, Western Livestock Journal, "Breed trends in feeder cattle," January 2020.
Kansas State University Superior Livestock Auction data analysis, 35,483 lots of beef calves marketed via 211 video auctions, 2010-2018.



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JC103J ASA 3870324 Daughter of JC MR HURON 7262G



JC107J ASA 3870332 Daughter of HOOK'S FRONTLINE 40F



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JC168J ASA 3870459 Daughter of KBHR ALL AMERICAN G104



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### **OCTOBER**

- 22 Clear Choice Female Sale Milan, IN (pg. 38)
- 22 The Magnolia Classic Starkville, MS
- 22 MN Beef Expo White Satin On Ice and All Breeds Sale Minneapolis, MN
- 22 New Day Genetics Fall Sale Salem, MO
- 22 Pennsylvania Fall Classic Sale Waynesburg, PA
- 23 High Ridge Farms Genetic Opportunity Sale Albemarle, NC
- 28 28th Annual Hokie Harvest Sale Blacksburg, VA
- 28 Yon Family Farms Fall Female Sale Ridge Spring, SC
- 29 7P Ranch's 47th Annual Production Sale Winona, TX
- 29 Bred For Success Sale Marion, MI
- 29 Cattlemen's Preferred All Breed Bull and Commercial Female Sale Harrison, AR
  - and Commercial Female Sale narrison
- 29 Deep South Genetics Sale Troy, AL
- 29 H2O's Farm Complete Dispersal Sale Walkerton, IN
- 29 High Society Sale Hillsboro, OH
- 29 Red Hill Farms Bulls and Females of Fall VIII Lafayette, TN (pgs. 50, 90)
- 29 Yon Family Farms Fall Bull Sale Ridge Spring, SC
- 30 Cattlemen's Preferred All Breed Bull and Commercial Female Sale Harrison, AR

#### **NOVEMBER**

- 1-7 Boyle Ranch's Fleckvieh Female Sale Washta, IA
  - 5 26th Annual Southern Showcase Sale Armuchee, GA
  - 5 Cason's Pride and Joy Elite Female Sale Russell, IA
  - 5 Dakota Ladies Sale, Worthing, SD
  - 5 Irvine Ranch's 18th Annual Production Sale Manhattan, KS
- 5 Missouri Simmental Association's "Fall Harvest" Sale Springfield, MO
- 5 Moser Ranch's Annual Bull Sale Wheaton, KS
- 6 Triangle J Ranch's Female Sale Miller, NE (pg. 46)
- 7 Hanel's Black Simmentals Annual Female Sale Courtland, KS
- 12 Gibbs Farms 17th Annual Bull and Replacement Female Sale — Ranburne, AL (pg. 91)
- 15 Elliott Livestock and Wild Rose Cattle Company's Bull and Bred Heifer Sale — Clifford, ND (pq. 77)
- 15 Rainbow River Simmentals Online Production Sale, Vol. 3 www.rainbowriversimmentals.com (pq. 58)
- 18 Hilltop Simmentals Female Sale CCI.Live (pg. 49)
- 19 11th Annual Strickland-Driggers Bull Sale Glennville, GA (pgs. 38, 72, 74)
- 19 Callaway Cattle Company's AFFORDABULL SALE, Hogansville GA
- 19 Next Step Cattle Co.'s 10th Annual "Boot Brand" Genetics Bull Sale — Livingston, AL
- 19 Stanley Martins Farms Fleckvieh Female Sale Decorah, IA (pq. 4)
- 19 Yardley Cattle Company's Focus on the Female Sale Beaver, UT (pg. 6)
- 20 49th Annual MSA Simmental Sale Cannon Falls, MN
- **21** Bichler Simmentals 18th Annual Production Sale Linton, ND (pg. 89)
- **26** Great Lakes Beef Connection Female Sale Clare, MI (pg. 79)
- 26 Nolan and Bagby Performance Cattle's Breeding for the Future Bull and Female Sale Rockfield, KY (pg. 64)
- 26 Stavick Simmentals 2nd Annual Queen of the Prairie Female Sale Veblen, SD (pg. 25)
- 26 The Event, Vol. III, at Tucker Cattle Company Pleasant Dale, NE
- 26 Trennepohl Farms Right By Design Sale Middletown, IN

#### **DECEMBER**

- 2-4 Hoosier Beef Congress Sale Indianapolis, IN
  - 3 Jewels of the Northland Clara City, MN
  - 3 T-Heart Ranch's Fall Female Sale La Garita, CO (pg. 55)
- 3 Tom Brothers Private Treaty Sale (Opening Day) Campbellton, TX (pg. 56)
- 3 Western Choice Simmental Sale Billings, MT (pq. 65)
- 10 NDSA Classic Simmental Sale Mandan, ND (pg. 62)
- 10 North Alabama Bull Evaluation Sale Cullman, AL
- 10 Tylertown Simmentals Inaugural Sale Cedar Hill, TN (pq. 53)
- 11 Trauernicht Simmental's Nebraska Platinum Standard Sale — Beatrice, NE (pg. 73)
- 12 Franzen Simmentals Production Sale Leigh, NE (pg. 61)
- 16 Buck Creek Ranch's Grand Event Vol. III Yale, OK

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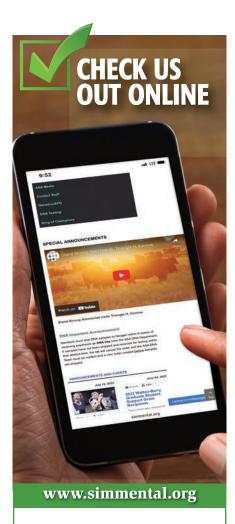
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#### Sections include:

- ♦ Industry News and Events
- **♦** ASA Spotlight
- ♦ EPD FAQs
- ♦ Women of ASA
- ♦ Down to the Genes

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### **JANUARY 2023**

- 8 Bricktown National Simmental Sale Oklahoma City, OK
- 13 Diamond Bar S Bull Sale Great Falls, MT
- The One and Only Sale Denver, CO
- Powerline Genetics Bull Sale, Arapahoe, NE
- Double J Farms 49th Annual Bull and Female Garretson, SD (pg. 50) 27
- Ellingson Simmentals Annual Production Sale Dahlen, ND (pqs. 11, 46)
- 28 J&C Simmentals Annual Bull Sale West Point, NE (pq. 42)
- 29 Reck Brothers-N-Sons Genetic Advantage Production Sale Blakesburg, IA
- 29 Triangle J Ranch's Annual Bull Sale Miller, NE (pg. 46)
- APEX Cattle "Heterosis Headquarters" Annual Bull and Bred Heifer Sale — Dannebrog, NE (pg. 27)

#### **FEBRUARY**

- 1 Begger's Diamond V Ranch's Big Sky Genetic Source Bull Sale — Wibaux, MT
- Lazy C Diamond Ranch's Annual Sale Kintyre, ND
- Michael Erdmann Angus Production Sale Aberdeen, SD
- Stavick Simmental's Annual Sale Veblen, SD (pgs. 25, 50)
- Cow Camp Ranch's Annual Spring Bull Sale Lost Springs, KS (pgs. 5, 38)
- 3 Kunkel Simmentals Annual Bull and Bred Female Sale New Salem, ND
- 41st Annual Klain Simmental Production Sale Ruso, ND
- Blue River Gang's 38th Annual Production Sale Rising City, NE
- Prickly Pear Simmentals "Made In Montana" Sale Helena, MT
- Springer Simmental's Value Based Genetics Sale Decorah, IA
- 43rd Annual Gateway "Breeding Value" Bull Sale Lewistown, MT (pg. IBC)
- Long's Simmentals 3rd Annual Production Sale Creston, IA
- 7 Koepplin's Black Simmental 35th Annual Bull Sale — Mandan, ND
- River Creek Farms 33rd Annual "Built To Work" SimAngus Bull Sale — Manhattan, KS (pg. 42)
- Traxinger Simmental Annual Bull Sale Houghton, SD
- Felt Farms Bull Sale West Point, NE
- Houck Rock Creek Ranch's Spring Private Treaty Bull Sale Allen, KS
- Lassle Ranch Simmentals 30th Annual Bull Sale Glendive, MT
- 10 Bata Brothers/Bell Family Annual Joint Simmental Bull and Female Sale — Rugby, ND (pg. 46)
- Bred For Balance Sale Starbuck, MN (pgs. 42, 87)
- TNT Simmentals 38th Annual Bull Sale Lehr, ND (pg. 46)
- CK Cattle & Wager Cattle's 6th Annual Production Sale Highmore, SD
- Dixie National Simmental Sale Jackson, MS
- 11 Kenner Simmentals 27th Annual Production Sale — Leeds, ND
- RL Fleckvieh Limerock Ranch's Mature Cow Herd Dispersal Brandon, IA (pg. 75)
- Rydeen Farms 25th Annual "Vision" Sale Clearbrook, MN (pgs. 7, 42) 11
- Oak Meadow Farms 5th Annual Production Sale Cresco, IA
- Dakota Power Bull Sale Hannaford, ND
- Nelson Livestock Company's Production Sale Wibaux, MT (pg. 42) 13
- Edge of the West Production Sale Mandan, ND (pg. 46)
- Werning Cattle Company's 42nd Annual Production Sale Emery, SD
- Hart Simmentals Beef Builder Bull Sale Frederick, SD
- Jackpot Cattle Company's Bull Sale Wessington, SD
- Dakota Xpress Annual Production Sale Mandan, ND 17
- Mader Ranches 34th Annual Bull Power Sale Carstairs, AB 17
- R & R Cattle Company's Annual Production Sale Chamberlain, SD 17
- Sandy Acres Bull Sale Neligh, NE (pg. 42) 7P Ranch 29th Annual Spring Bull and Female Sale — Tyler, TX
- Flittie Simmental/Schnabel Ranch Simmentals/Lazy J Bar Ranch's Joint Production Sale — Aberdeen, SD
- Yon Family Farms Spring Sale Ridge Spring, SC
- 19 K-LER Cattle Annual Production Sale St. Charles, MN
- Trauernicht Simmentals Bull Sale Beatrice, NE
- Bulls of the Big Sky Billings, MT (pgs. 42, 86)
- Quandt Brothers Cattle Company's 11th Annual Production Sale — Oakes, ND
- 22 C Diamond Simmentals Annual Bull and Female Sale Dawson, ND
- 23 Illinois Performance Tested Bull Sale Springfield, IL
- 24 Mid-America Sale Springfield, IL
- Emmons Ranch Sale Olive, MT
- 25-3/4 Hofmann Simmental Farms "Buy Your Way" Bull Sale Clay Center, KS
  - 27 Lehman Family Farms Production Sale Mitchell, SD



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# ates and Policies

#### **Ad Sales Staff**

#### For All Your **Advertising Needs**



Nancy Chesterfield 406-587-2778 nchesterfield@simmgene.com



Rebecca Price 406-587-2778 rprice@simmgene.com

#### **Subscriptions**

- Domestic \$50/year
- First Class \$100/year
- All International \$150/year (US)

imTalk is an 8 1/8 x 10 7/8 inch publication produced by the Register, the official publication of the American Simmental Association. Published four times annually, SimTalk is a glossy, full-color publication with a circulation that targets commercial users of SimGenetics. Advertising in SimTalk provides a unique opportunity to brand and trademark your program to thousands of potential customers. If you are serious about communicating with the commercial beef business, consider an advertising presence in every one of our four annual issues.

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January 2023	Dec 2	Dec 9	Dec 16	Jan 13						
March 2023	Jan 21	Jan 28	Feb 10	Mar 1						
Early Fall 2023	July 21	July 28	Aug 11	Aug 29						
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#### **Design Charges**

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Although every effort will be made to provide proofs on all ads, if all ad material arrive in the SimTalk office prior to the deadline and a correct email address or fax number is provided.

All accounts are due and payable when invoiced. Interest charges of 1.5 percent per month (18 percent APR) will be added to accounts 30 days past due. If an account becomes 60 days delinquent, all ASA Publication, Inc. work may be suspended until full payment is made. After review by the ASA Executive Committee, ASA privileges may be denied to those with accounts over 90 days delinquent.

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#### **Editorial Policy**

Opinions expressed are the writers' and not necessarily those of SimTalk. Photographs are welcome, but no responsibility is assumed for material while in transit or while in the office.

#### ASA PUBLICATION, INC

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GeorgiaDriggers Simmental Farm38, 72, 74Strickland Cattle72, 74
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Illinois         Allied Genetic Resources       5, 7, 50, 55, 56, 61, 65, 67, 79, 81, 86, 87, 90, 91, IBC         Haven Hill Simmentals       12, 13, 38         Rhodes Angus       38         Rincker Simmentals       38         Wildberry Farms       38
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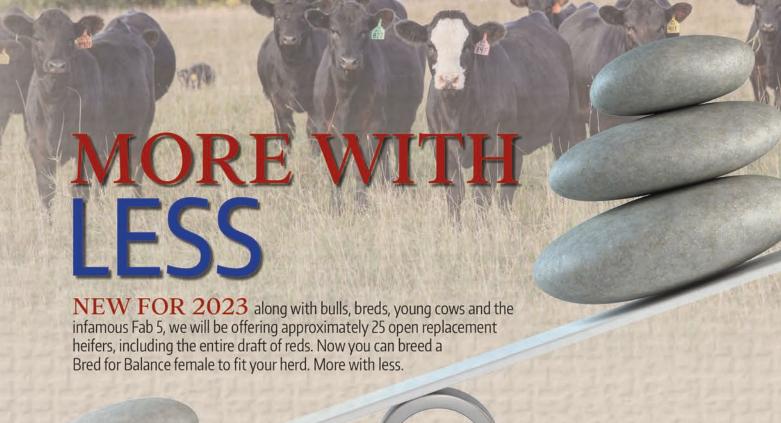


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BCLR Cash Flow • ET brothers out of 352 and 836Z sell



HHS Miss 836Z



Elliott Miss 352

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**1098J** ASA# 3996523 PB SM - GIBBS 7382E BROAD RANGE SON

 CE
 YW
 STAY
 MARB
 RE
 SAPI
 STI

 19.6
 149.6
 21.0
 0.40
 1.16
 180.6
 96.4



**1229J** ASA# 3996969 SIMANGUS - GW TRIPLE CROWN 018C SON

 CE
 YW
 STAY
 MARB
 RE
 SAPI
 STI

 12.5
 132.5
 22.4
 0.81
 0.91
 178.8
 97.8



**1586J** ASA# 3996726 PB SM - CLRS GUARDIAN 3176 SON

 CE
 YW
 STAY
 MARB
 RE
 SAPI
 STI

 15.5
 149.3
 22.5
 0.72
 1.40
 194.8
 107.7



1033J ASA# 3997204 PB SM - GIBBS 9114G ESSENTIAL DAUGHTER

 CE
 YW
 STAY
 MARB
 RE
 SAPI
 STI

 19.6
 158.6
 21.0
 0.41
 1.06
 182.8
 101.5



**1140J** ASA# 3997162 SIMANGUS - GIBBS 9121G KENWORTH SON

 CE
 YW
 STAY
 MARB
 RE
 SAPI
 STI

 11.4
 164.3
 17.8
 0.76
 0.69
 170.3
 101.8



**1557J** ASA# 3997019

SIMANGUS - BRIDLE BIT ECLIPSE E744 DAUGHTER

 CE
 YW
 STAY
 MARB
 RE
 SAPI
 STI

 10.8
 144.5
 15.9
 0.98
 0.48
 170.5
 101.4

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