

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality



Upcoming events:

- December 5—Beef Quality Assurance Training, Meridian, MS, 6:30 p.m.
- January 11—Beef Quality Assurance Training, Marshall County, Holly Springs, MS
- January 31 to February 3—Cattle Industry Annual Convention and Trade Show, Nashville, TN
- February 9—Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association annual membership meeting, Regency Inn, Jackson, MS, 1:00 p.m.
- February 9-10—Mississippi Cattlemen's Association Annual Convention, Regency Inn, Jackson, MS
- March 1—Hinds Community College Bull Test Sale, Raymond, MS
- May 8—South MS Gain on Forage Bull Test Sale, Tylertown, MS
- June 6-9—Beef Improvement Federation Annual Convention, Fort Collins, CO

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Mississippi BCIA 2006 Fall Bull Sale Results

The Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association recently wrapped up another very successful Fall Bull Sale. The Mississippi BCIA Fall Bull Sale was held at the Hinds Community College sales facility in Raymond on November 9, 2006. It featured 42 performance-backed bulls from breeders across the state.

The top-selling 2-year old lot was W A Grand Design 2494, an Angus bull. W A Grand Design 2494 was consigned by Woods Angus of Benton, Mississippi and sold for \$3,500 to Hubby Griner of Columbia, Mississippi. The high-selling yearling bull was Robbins Rito 112 R503 from Robbins Angus in Corinth, Mississippi. This yearling Angus bull sold to P. A. Tims of Poplarville, Mississippi for \$2,600.

Other breeders selling bulls in the BCIA sale included Carson Farms, Dillon Simmental Farm, Evans Angus Farm, Harvey Farms, J and J Farms, Kiani Angus, Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, Monogram Farms, Phil Slay Farms, Sedgewood Plantation, Southern Shine Pastures, Triple G Farm, and Woodpile Ranch. Sale receipts on forty-two bulls totaled \$87,950 for a sale average price of \$2,094. Bulls sold into both Mississippi and Louisiana. Three bulls were sold over interactive video to bidding sites in Batesville and Verona, Mississippi.

All breeds—42 bulls
Gross receipts—\$87,950
Average price—\$2,094
High-selling lot—\$3,500

Angus—38 bulls
Gross receipts—\$78,900
Average price—\$2,076
High-selling lot—\$3,500

Charolais—2 bulls
Gross receipts—\$5,000
Average price—\$2,500
High-selling lot—\$2,500

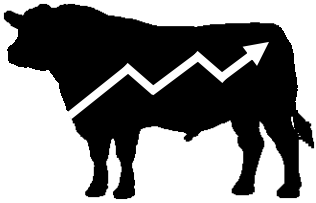
Hereford—1 bull
Gross receipts—\$1,850
Average price—\$1,850
High-selling lot—\$1,850

Simmental—1 bull
Gross receipts—\$2,200
Average price—\$2,200
High-selling lot—\$2,200



Distance bidding sites in North MS were new for the 2006 sale

Thank you to all of the consignors and buyers for supporting the Fall 2006 Mississippi BCIA Bull Sale. Buyers included: Allen Ball, Bobby Mellon, Chris McCoy, Danny Martin, Dobie Eakes, George Rowland, Hubby Griner, Jack C. Leonard, James C. Peden, James L. Steward, Jimmy Sullivan, Jody Wagner, John and Barbara Elliott, John G. McCain, Kenneth White, Leith Hawkins, Matthew Lewis, Olis Broom, P. A. Tims, Philip Brown, Ralph Martin, Richard A. Fisher, Sr., Russell Cannoba, Rusty Odom, and Steve White. The help from our friends at Hinds Community College in hosting and conducting the sale is also greatly appreciated. Mississippi BCIA looks forward to another successful bull sale in November 2007.



Bulls must have adjusted 365-day yearling weights of at least 900 lbs. to qualify for the 2007 Sale.

MBCIA Board Adopts New Bull Sale Guideline for 2007

In keeping with continued genetic improvement efforts, the Mississippi BCIA Board of Directors recommended and approved the following change to the annual fall bull sale requirements:

- 1) A minimum **365-day** adjusted yearling weight of **900 lbs.** is required to qualify for the BCIA Fall Bull Sale effective starting with the 2007 sale.

The MBCIA Board of Directors is also currently reviewing sale order specifications for the 2007 fall bull sale. Look for updated information on sale order guidelines in the MBCIA newsletter and on the MBCIA website at msucare.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/bcia_bullsale.html in early 2007. Contact Jane Parish in Animal and Dairy Sciences at 662-325-7466 with any questions about bull sale eligibility.

Make Plans to Attend MBCIA Annual Membership Meeting

Mississippi BCIA will hold its annual membership meeting on Friday, February 9, 2007 at the Regency Inn in Jackson, MS in conjunction with the Mississippi Cattlemen's Association annual convention. The BCIA session will start at 1:00 p.m.

Educational presentations at the MCA convention will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 9 and continue through Saturday, February 10. For the complete schedule of events, call the Mississippi Cattlemen's Association at (601) 354-8951.

MBCIA Annual Membership Meeting

Friday, February 9, 2007, 1:00 p.m.
Regency Inn, Jackson, MS

Online Calculator Estimates Beef Yields

Beef producers now have an online calculator to help estimate subprimal yields and their approximate values, based on current market prices, before their cattle go to market. The Beef Cutout Calculator (a featured link at www.beefresearch.org), is funded by the Beef Checkoff and designed by faculty and graduate students at Colorado State

University. By plugging a few numbers into this interactive tool, users can generate a report that estimates cutout weights for individual animals, differentiated by USDA yield grade, cutting style, external fat trim level and initial live animal or carcass weight.

Source: Drovers Alert

"...Grants of up to \$500 will be made to cattlemen for storm damage that has not or will not be reimbursed from any other source..."

Cattlemen's Foundation Grant Program

The Mississippi Cattlemen's Foundation is in the final stages of collection and disbursement of Katrina Fund donations. Individual producers, companies and cattlemen's associations from across the nation have sent contributions, along with their best wishes for the quick recovery of our members dam-

aged by the storm. Based on response, grants of up to \$500 will be made to cattlemen for storm damage that has not or will not be reimbursed from any other source. Applications for this statewide program are due by December 22 and can be accessed online from www.ms cattlemen.org.

National Animal ID—Draft User Guide Says Permanently Voluntary

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has released a Draft User Guide for the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) and is requesting comments on the document. Of particular interest is the new guide's focus on a strictly voluntary system, rather than an evolving mandatory system that has been emphasized in the past.

The overview reads, "Participation in NAIS is voluntary at the Federal level. Under our current authorities, USDA could make the NAIS mandatory, but we are choosing not to do so — again, participation in every component of NAIS is voluntary at the Federal level. The NAIS does not need to be mandatory to be effective; we believe the goals of the system can be achieved with a voluntary program. As producers become increasingly aware of the benefits of the NAIS and the level of voluntary participation grows, there will only be less need to make the program mandatory."

At the NAIS Community Outreach Event in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 31, Chuck Conner, USDA deputy secretary, and Bruce Knight, USDA under secretary for marketing and regulatory programs, told of the upcoming guide and the intent for the NAIS to be permanently voluntary.

Conner told event attendees, "Some of you who have worked on the system for a long time feel that we can best achieve our objectives through a mandatory system. But the best system, simply put, is one that will work. That means a system farmers will participate in and support. And that's a voluntary system."

Centralized Ultrasound Bull Scanning Sites Still Available

Mississippi BCIA members can take advantage of central ultrasound scanning opportunities offered through BCIA. Scanning is being offered by appointment only and is only for registered bulls from Mississippi beef operations. Scanning fees are \$15 per head and cover scanning costs and image processing. To participate in one of the central ultrasound scanning sites, contact Rhonda

"Since we've had some confusion on this, we need to be as clear as we can be. This is Voluntary with a capital V. Not a currently voluntary, then maybe a mandatory system. This is a permanently voluntary system at the federal level."

The NAIS Draft User Guide replaces all previously published program documents, including the 2005 Draft Strategic Plan and Draft Program Standards and the 2006 Implementation Strategies. The guide provides information on how producers can participate in the voluntary NAIS, how participation would benefit them and how the system is being implemented.

Comments on the guide are being accepted through Jan. 22, 2007. You can submit them by e-mail to: animalidcomments@aphis.usda.gov. Include "NAIS Draft User Guide" in the subject line. You can also mail comments to:

NAIS Program Staff
Attn: NAIS Draft User Guide
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service,
USDA
Unit 200
4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD 20737

The NAIS will continue to evolve as details are addressed through ongoing dialogue with stakeholders.

Source: *Hereford eNews*, Vol. 3, Issue 47

"...the NAIS Draft User Guide explains how producers can participate in the voluntary NAIS, how participation would benefit them and how the system is being implemented..."



Live animal ultrasound scanning provides valuable information for breeders and their bull customers

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement
Association—Productivity and Quality

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Send questions or comments about this
newsletter to Jane Parish, Extension Beef
Specialist, Mississippi State University
Extension Service

Mississippi State
University does not

discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion,
national origin, sex, sexual orientation or group
affiliation, age, disability, or veteran status.



Visit MBCIA online at
[http://msucares.com/
livestock/beef/mbcia/](http://msucares.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/)

MBCIA Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(Check one) Seedstock: Commercial:

Cattle breed(s): _____

Completed applications and \$5 annual dues payable to
Mississippi BCIA should be mailed to:

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association
c/o Jane Parish, Extension Beef Specialist
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762

BCIA Management Calendar—December 2006

GENERAL

Fill out a premises identification form for your farm from the MS Board of Animal Health. The quality of any remaining summer grazing or crop residues has likely declined rapidly by now. Protein and Vitamin A supplementation may be needed on these forages. Manage winter annual pastures to maintain at least four inches of stubble height. Limit grazing for a few hours per day is a good way to efficiently utilize winter forages and can provide acceptable protein supplementation to residual summer forages. Overgrazing can reduce winter forage availability over the grazing season and should be avoided. There is still time to test the quality of stored forages, if not already done, and order winter supplements at fall prices. Watch body condition, and group the herd into winter-feeding groups such as mature cows with average condition, thin mature cows, and first-calf heifers. Match forage and feeding programs to the nutritional needs of each group. Stockers, heifers, and fall pairs may be good groups to utilize annual ryegrass and other lush winter grazing. Be ready to handle severe weather conditions. Cattle energy requirements increase as the temperature drops below 15 degrees F. Keep proper free-choice minerals and clean water available for cattle at all times. Provide high magnesium mineral supplementation to cows on lush winter grazing, and watch for signs of grass tetany. Maintain a complete herd health program in consultation with a veterinarian including internal and external parasite control and vaccinations. Continue to watch for lice, and implement a control program as needed. Continue good production and financial record keeping. Plan a labor schedule for the holidays.

SPRING CALVING—January, February, March

Continue developing replacement heifers to reach 2/3 of mature weight by breeding time. Separate bred heifers from the cows, and provide adequate supplemental nutrition. Monitor body condition closely. Nutritional requirements increase about 10 to 15% in the last 30 to 45 days prior to calving. Maintain a good nutritional program targeting a body condition score of 5 (moderate condition) at calving for cows and 6 (high moderate) condition at calving for heifers. Do not underfeed in an attempt to reduce calf birth weight. Gather calving supplies such as calving record books, ear tags, obstetric equipment, disinfectants, and colostrum. Check bred heifers frequently. They should begin calving in December if bred ahead of the mature cow herd. Consult with a veterinarian to schedule pre-breeding vaccinations. Gather information about bulls at central test stations and in purebred herds to locate potential herd sires. Check sale dates and review bull performance information.

FALL CALVING—October, November, December

Take yearling measurements. Continue observing heavy bred females frequently. After calving, move pairs to clean pasture and watch calves for scours. Consult with a veterinarian for advice on scours prevention and treatment. Tag, castrate, dehorn, and implant calves as appropriate, and maintain good calving records. Calculate fall calving percentage when the fall calving season is completed. Cow nutrient needs increase dramatically after calving. Make sure lactating cows are in good condition for breeding. Heifers should weigh at least 65% of their expected mature weight at breeding. It may be time to start feeding the best quality hay now and supplement according to test results.