

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality



Upcoming events:

- April 9-10—Magnolia Beef and Poultry Expo, Raleigh, MS
- April 10-12—Young Cattle-men's Conference, Jackson, MS
- June 7—Mississippi Hereford Association Annual Field Day, Mississippi State, MS
- June 13-14—MSU-ES Pasture and Forage Short Course, Mississippi State, MS
- June 30-July 3—Beef Improvement Federation Annual Convention, Hyatt Hotel, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- August—Mississippi Feeder Calf Board Sale, TBA
- September 1—Mississippi BCIA Fall Bull Sale nomination deadline

Inside this issue:

Production Economics Workshop	2
Prepare Bulls for the Breeding Season	2
25 Years of Testing Bulls	3
Protect the Health of Mississippi's Livestock	3
MBCIA Membership Application	4
BCIA Genetic Profit Tips	4

Mississippi BCIA 2008 Spring Bull Sale Results

The Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association wrapped up a record-breaking Spring Bull Sale on March 6, 2008. The MBCIA Spring Bull Sale was held in conjunction with the Hinds Community College Bull Test Sale in Raymond, MS. The MBCIA Sale featured 12 performance-backed bulls from breeders across the state. Thank you to all of the consignors and buyers for supporting the Spring 2008 MBCIA Bull Sale.

The top-selling lot was MSU Midland S158, an Angus bull. MSU Midland S158 was consigned by the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station of Mississippi State, MS and sold for \$4,750 to Richard A. Fisher, Sr. of Yazoo City, MS. Other breeders marketing bulls in the MBCIA sale included Calyx Star Ranch of Shuqualak, Mississippi and Southern Shine Pastures of Baldwyn, Mississippi. Sale receipts on twelve bulls totaled \$27,125 for a sale average price of \$2,260. The bulls sold to ranches in both Mississippi and Louisiana.

All breeds—12 bulls

Gross receipts—\$27,125
Average price—\$2,260
High-selling lot—\$4,750

Angus—7 bulls

Gross receipts—\$18,050
Average price—\$2,579
High-selling lot—\$4,750

Brangus—2 bulls

Gross receipts—\$3,325
Average price—\$1,663
High-selling lot—\$1,775

Charolais—2 bulls

Gross receipts—\$4,050
Average price—\$2,025
High-selling lot—\$2,200

Hereford—1 bull

Gross receipts—\$1,700
Average price—\$1,700
High-selling lot—\$1,700

Buyer appreciation is extended to: D. R. Bozeman, Jackie White, Jimmy W. Bates, M&M Farms, Phillip Plaisance, Richard A. Fisher, Sr., and WAN Farms. Thanks also goes out to our friends at Hinds Community College for help both in hosting and conducting the sale.

The objective of the Mississippi BCIA Bull Sale program is to encourage production and identification of genetically superior bulls by purebred breeders and to encourage the purchase and use of these bulls by commercial producers. Bulls offered through this sale have passed a breeding soundness exam, met minimum growth and scrotal circumference requirements, and are backed with extensive performance information. **For the first time in MBCIA sale history, all of the bulls offered in a MBCIA bull sale were marketed with complete ultrasound body composition data** including ribeye area and intramuscular fat percentage.



Buyers bidding on Mississippi BCIA bulls in Raymond

Mississippi BCIA looks forward to another successful bull sale in Raymond, Mississippi on November 13, 2008. Breeders interested in nominating bulls to the Fall BCIA Bull Sale should complete and submit nomination forms to the



MBCIA office by September 1, 2008. Bull sale rules, nomination forms, and other information on Mississippi BCIA are available on the BCIA website at: msucare.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/ or by contacting an office of the Mississippi State University Extension Service.



The production economics workshop will provide practical exercises and ranch examples for beef cattle producers

Beef Cattle Production Economics Workshop Scheduled

A Beef Cattle Production Economics Workshop is offered free of charge to interested beef cattle producers. Contact Lance Newman to reserve a space at the workshop.

Session 1

Monday, April 7, 2008
6:15 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Session 2

Tuesday, April 8, 2008
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location

EE Ranches, Inc. (cafeteria)
Hwy. 51 South
Winona, MS

Workshop Schedule

Evening Session 1

6:15 p.m.—Check-In and Pick-Up Course Materials
6:30 p.m.—Welcome, Introductions, and Instructions
Exercise: Audience Survey
6:55 p.m.—Topic: Cost of Production
Exercise: Enterprise Budgets
7:45 p.m.—Break
8:00 p.m.—Exercise: Analyzing Production Practices and Risk Management Using Budget Information

8:30 p.m.—Topic: Partial Budgets for Making Management Changes

Exercise: Rotational Grazing Partial Budget Example

Exercise: Artificial Insemination Partial Budget Example

9:00 p.m.—Adjourn

Evening Session 2

6:30 p.m.—Topic: Tax Issues and Updates for Beef Cattle Producers

Exercise: Records for Tax Purposes

Exercise: Drought and Taxes

7:45 p.m.—Break

8:00 p.m.—Topic: Record Keeping for Beef Cattle Producers

Exercise: Using Financial Management Software (Quicken and QuickBooks)

9:00 p.m.—Adjourn

Contact: Lance Newman

Area Agent Animal Science/Forages
101 Veterans Drive
Oxford, MS 38655
Phone (662) 234-4451
Fax (662) 236-5704
E-mail: lancen@ext.msstate.edu

Prepare Bulls for the Breeding Season

In order for a bull to successfully breed cows and heifers in a defined breeding season, it must produce an adequate amount of viable sperm cells and be able to deliver them to the female. This requires a healthy male reproductive tract and aggressive sexual behavior (libido).

To make sure bulls have these traits, a breeding soundness exam (BSE) should be performed within 30 days of the breeding season. This exam, performed by a veterinarian, will ensure that the bull produces an ample number of viable sperm cells in each ejaculate and that the reproductive tract and skeletal structure are sound enough to deliver the semen. Unfortunately, libido is more difficult to assess so bull performance should be observed four several days after they have been turned in with the cows. If a bull refuses to cover a cow that is standing to be mounted by other cows, his libido is

questionable. Do not rush to judgment. Some bulls, especially older bulls that have been used several times, will only cover a cow a few times and it might not be observed.

Some male reproductive tract problems to be aware of include persistent frenulum (a thin piece of tissue that connects the penis to the prepuce), penile hair rings, torn or injured prepuce, deviation of the penis, and penile warts. Most injuries that cause swelling or laceration can be corrected by rest from sexual activity to allow healing. A persistent frenulum can be torn or cut to allow extension of the penis, warts can be manually removed, and some deviations can be surgically corrected. The most important thing to remember is that a BSE is not a one-time procedure. It should be performed at least once a year or before each breeding season.

“...a breeding soundness exam is not a one-time procedure.”

Hinds Bull Test Celebrates 25 Years at Bull Sale

The Hinds Community College Bull Test presented plaques honoring long-time bull test consignors on March 6, 2008 at the annual bull sale. Rogers Bar HR, Windy Hills, and Monogram Farms received recognition at the start of the sale. Awards for high indexing bulls of each breed on test were also awarded.

Lou-Jen Farms, Monogram Farms, and Stevens Farm. Angus, Brangus, Gelbvieh, and Hereford bulls were offered in the sale.

“...Long-time bull test consignors were honored at the bull sale.”



Dr. Muse congratulates Dr. Harlan Rogers on his long-time support of the Hinds Bull Test



Roland Preuss accepts a plaque from Dr. Muse honoring many years of testing bulls at Hinds

Eighteen bulls sold in the Hinds Bull Test Sale for a sale gross of \$25,750. The high-selling lot was a Brangus bull that sold for \$2,400. BRINKS UPPERCUT 415S83 was consigned by Double W Ranch LLC of Houston, Texas and went to Stevens Farm of Magee, Mississippi. Additional bull sale consignors included Bayou Pierre Farm,



Protect the Health of Mississippi’s Livestock

Organizations involved in the Mississippi Animal Disease and Disaster Preparedness program are continuing to encourage increased enrollment. The process is quick, easy and **important**.

The significance of the program lies in its ability to limit revenue and livestock loss in the event of a natural disaster or contagious disease outbreak. Rapid response in these events is critical to maintain health of the state herd and the only way to ensure rapid response is cooperation from livestock owners. Registering a farm means the owner will be alerted quickly when there is a potential disease threat to their animals.

The information required for registration is minimal and only includes the owner’s name, 911 address, phone number, type of

operation and species kept at that location. The data will be stored at the Mississippi Board of Animal Health and **only accessed on an as-needed basis in the event of an emergency**.

Many people in the state have received information on this program at local meetings and in the mail. To confirm registration, please contact the Board of Animal Health or send another registration form. Duplicates will be identified. If a producer has not yet registered and still has a form from a previous mailing or meeting, they can send it in at any time. If the form has been misplaced or one was not received, please feel free to contact a local office of the Mississippi State University Extension Service or Mississippi Board of Animal health.



Program enrollment and participation is quick, easy, and important

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Assn.
Box 9815
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Phones: 662-325-7466, 662-325-7465
Fax: 662-325-8873

Email: jparish@ads.msstate.edu
jrhinehart@ads.msstate.edu



Send questions or comments to Jane Parish or Justin Rhinehart, Extension Beef Specialists, 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/>

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
Jane Parish, Extension Beef Specialist
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762

BCIA Genetic Profit Tips – April 2008

Complete Reporting

Traditionally, some breeders have only reported performance data on calves that they want to register. However, this leads to biased and inaccurate EPD. Complete reporting of every animal in the herd is critical to obtain the best estimates of genetic merit. By only reporting the best calves (for whatever trait), producers are not making their herd look better; they are inadvertently penalizing their highest-performing calves. In the example to the right (adapted from BIF, 2002), weaning weight (WW) ratios are used to see what happens when only the best calves are reported. (Incomplete reporting has the same effect on EPD that it does on ratios.)

Those high-performing calves (calves 3, 4, and 5) receive much lower ratios, and subsequently EPD, than if they had been compared to their entire contemporary group. Another reason to use complete reporting, sometimes referred to as whole herd reporting, is to take advantage of genetic evaluations for cow stayability and fertility. As new genetic predictions of cow efficiency, maintenance, and fertility are developed, associations are going to need lifetime performance records on those cows to make the best estimates possible.

Source: National Beef Cattle Evaluation Consortium. 2006. Beef Sire Selection Manual. J. Bormann, Kansas State University.

Suppose we have 10 calves with an average adjusted weaning weight of 625.

Calf	BIF	
	Adj WW	WW Ratio
1	742	119
2	694	111
3	655	105
4	643	103
5	639	102
6	606	97
7	605	97
8	578	93
9	562	90
10	524	84
AVG:	625	

Now suppose that the producer only reports the top five calves, which means the new average adjusted weaning weight is 675.

Calf	BIF	
	Adj WW	WW Ratio
1	742	110
2	694	103
3	655	97
4	643	95
5	639	95
AVG:	675	