



M I S S I S S I P P I

BCIA

BEEF CATTLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Upcoming events:

- January 20—MBCIA Spring Bull and Heifer Sale Nomination Deadline
- March 5—MBCIA Annual Membership and Educational Meeting and Supper, Raymond, MS
- March 6—Hinds Bull Test and MBCIA Spring Bull and Heifer Sale, Raymond, MS
- March 11—Beef Mythbusters Workshop, MSU, Hattiesburg, Magnolia, Oxford, Raymond, MS
- March 13-15—MSU-ES Cattle Artificial Insemination School, Mississippi State, MS
- March 24-25—Mississippi Fed Beef Challenge, MSU Meats Lab
- April 1—Cattlemen's Exchange Feeder Calf Board Sale, Winona, MS

MBCIA Fall 2013 Bull and Heifer Sale Results

The Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association held its Annual Fall Bull and Heifer Sale on November 14, 2013. The MBCIA sale featured 22 performance-backed bulls and 40 bred commercial heifers from breeders across the state.

Thank you to all of the consignors and buyers for supporting the Fall 2013 Mississippi BCIA Bull and Heifer Sale. Appreciation is also extended to Hinds Community College for hosting the sale and the Mississippi State University Extension Service Center for Technology Outreach Distance Education Team for facilitating online cattle video previews and distance bidding.

The top-selling lot was Sloans New Beginning, an Angus bull that sold for \$6,750. Sloan's New Beginning was consigned by Sloan Farm of Louisville, Mississippi, and sold to Mike Mitchell of Carriere, Mississippi. Other breeders marketing bulls in the MBCIA sale included Kiani Angus, Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station (MAFES), Monogram Farms, Phil Slay Farms, and Thames Angus Farms.

Heifer consignors included MG Farms and M&M Farms. The top-grossing bred heifers sold for \$2,000 each, and both MG Farms and M&M Farms had heifers in the sale garnering this price.

Sale receipts on 22 bulls totaled \$74,250 for a sale average price of \$3,375. In addition, the 40 bred heifers sold for total gross receipts of \$70,250 and an average of \$1,756 per heifer. The combined bull and heifer sale gross proceeds were \$144,500.

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. Heifers offered in these sales have met the requirements for the Miss Premium Heifer Program..

The MBCIA Fall Bull and Heifer Sale is held annually on the second Thursday in November, and the Spring Bull and Heifer Sale is held in conjunction with the Hinds Community College Bull Test sale on the first Thursday in March.



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	All breeds	Angus	Charolais
Number of bulls sold	22	19	3
Gross bull receipts	\$74,250	\$64,750	\$9,500
Average bull price	\$3,375	\$3,408	\$3,167
High-selling bull price	\$6,750	\$6,750	\$3,700



The MSU Extension Service can assist beef cattle producers in learning how to use computer programs to improve operational management

Free Beef Cattle Breeding Educational Computer Programs

Oklahoma State University maintains several beef cattle breeding and genetics related computer programs that are free to the public for download.

Cowgame

Cowgame is a beef herd genetic simulation program. The player starts with a fifty cow herd and makes selections based upon weaning weight, feedlot gain or yearling weight. The next year's calf crop is generated during each session and the genetic information is saved so that future selections can be made. Artificial insemination sires can also be used.

Inbreeding

Calculates the inbreeding of all individuals in a given pedigree that may be stored as a data file or entered directly into the portion of the program that calculates inbreeding.

X-Breeding

From data entered by the user, this program generates profit or loss by industry segment for purebreds, two-breed terminal, three-breed terminal, three-breed rotational and three-breed special cross. It is capable of using up to 14 different breeds of cattle.

These programs along with many others are online at

www.beefextension.com/new%20site%202/cccalc.html

Cattle Theft Investigation in Madison and Yazoo Counties Leads to Arrests

On October 22, the Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB), the law enforcement division of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, arrested five individuals for two counts of conspiracy to commit livestock theft, in conjunction with the Madison County Sheriff's Department. One suspect turned himself in to Yazoo County authorities, and all suspects will be charged in both Madison and Yazoo Counties.

During the course of the investigation, lead investigator Mike McGowan, of MALTB, and Russell Kirby, of the Madison County Sheriff's Department, discovered the suspects, Jimmy C. Davis, Bruce M. Strong, Eddie B. Douglas, Lenard E. Bassett, and Justin D. Washington of Yazoo County and Charles E. Washington of Madison County, had stolen a total of 91 head of cattle spread over the two counties from one cattle producer. The theft occurred over a seven month period of time, and five of the suspects were employed by the producer. More arrests and further charges are expected to be made at a later date.

products and investigates all agricultural crimes. The Bureau also handles the registration of all livestock brands in the State. To report or provide information regarding an agricultural crime, call (800) 678-2660.

Contact:

Jeff Stewart, Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau Director
(601) 359-1121
E-mail: jeff@mdac.ms.gov

Source: November 8, 2013 Press Release from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce; www.mdac.state.ms.us/agency/press_releases/pdf/2013_11_08a.pdf



"...Call the TipLine at 800-678-2660 to report agricultural crime information."

The Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau enforces laws to prevent the theft of livestock, timber, and agricultural

Plan Fat Cattle for Fed Beef Challenge

The 2014 Mississippi Fed Beef Challenge is a contest open to Mississippi beef cattle producers. It is a beef carcass contest organized as a jackpot with award banners. Fed cattle are to be delivered to the Mississippi State University Meats Laboratory on March 24 and 25, 2014. Each carcass will be fabricated to producer specifications. The time to fatten cattle for the contest is underway, and the contest is limited to the first 12 entries. Contact Dr. Brandi Karisch at 662-325-7465 or bkarisch@ads.msstate.edu for more information or to enter the Fed Beef Challenge.



Cattle Management Tips for Winter

Because cattle performance is affected by environmental conditions, it is worthwhile to properly to minimize winter stresses on cattle and manage them to best cope with these stresses. When temperatures drop below cattle comfort zones, cattle must eat more to keep warm and stay healthy. Behavioral adjustments of cattle to conserve heat include finding windbreaks, huddling in groups, or changing posture to minimize heat loss. Other adaptations to temperature stress include changes in breathing rate, blood flow to extremities, shivering, and feed and water intake. Although these adaptations are useful, producers must sometimes intervene and provide protection from the weather and excellent nutritional programs to help cattle cope with cold stress and maintain desired performance levels.

Beef cow and calf maintenance energy requirements each increase by 19% at 30 degrees Fahrenheit. During cold conditions, the effectiveness of hair as insulation is affected by wind, precipitation, mud, and hide thickness. In addition, calves tend to be more sensitive to cold stress than mature cattle. Consider that when cattle have wet and matted hair at 30 degrees Fahrenheit with the wind blowing 10 miles per hour, beef cow maintenance energy requirements increase by 41% for cows and 61% for calves with an average length hair

coat and 48% for cows and 69% for calves with a thin hair coat (typical of Brahman-influence cattle). Feeding programs should account for increased cattle nutrient requirements during periods of cold stress. Taking steps to minimize mud and to provide protection from the wind can also help cattle cope with cold stress.

Keeping close watch on cattle water supplies is usually associated with hot weather, but it can be just as important during the winter months. Make sure that water troughs and lines do not leak and contribute to muddy conditions. Freezing weather can lead to broken water lines. Winterize cattle watering tanks and troughs to prevent water line ruptures. During periods of extremely cold temperatures, monitor water supplies for surface freezing. It may be necessary during cold snaps to break up ice to allow cattle access to water.

Calving in Mississippi is common in the winter months. Keep a close eye on calves born during cold weather, particularly if it is wet as well. Calves dropped in muddy areas or standing water can experience severe and sometimes fatal cold stress. Make sure that calves dry off quickly, receive colostrum within the first 12 hours, and have some level of protection from wind and mud. Cows in good condition and on good nutritional programs can better care for new calves.



Good winter management of cattle can reduce animal stress and improve performance

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Assn.
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Phone: 662-325-7466

Fax: 662-325-8873

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Send questions or comments to Jane Parish,
Extension Beef Cattle Specialist,
Mississippi State University Extension Service

Joe Parish



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

MISSISSIPPI BCIA Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(Check one) Seedstock: Commercial:

Cattle breed(s): _____

Completed applications and \$5 annual dues or \$100 life-time dues payable to Mississippi BCIA should be mailed to:

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762

MBCIA Seeking Bull and Heifer Nominations for Spring Sale

The Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association (BCIA) Bull and Heifer Sale programs encourage production and identification of genetically superior cattle by purebred breeders and purchase and use of these cattle by purebred and commercial producers. The MBCIA promotes the advantages of purchasing breed-leading genetics and environmentally-adapted cattle locally.

Starting in 2008, Mississippi BCIA hosted a Spring bull sale on the first Thursday in March in conjunction with the Hinds Community College Bull Test Sale. The Hinds Bull Test/ Spring Mississippi BCIA Bull Sale partnership has been a great success. The Mississippi BCIA is pleased to continue to offer this spring bull marketing opportunity with its 7th annual sale. Bred heifers will also be offered for sale at the spring auction.

Preparation is now underway for the Spring 2014 Mississippi BCIA Bull and Heifer Sale to be held on March 6, 2014 at 12:00 noon at the Hinds Community College Sales Facility in Raymond, Mississippi. This sale will once again be held in conjunction with the Hinds Community College Bull Test Sale on the traditional Hinds Bull Test sale date.

Mississippi beef breeders are encouraged to nominate quality bulls and heifers that meet all the

requirements for the sale. Rules and Regulations for the BCIA Bull Sale along with a nomination form and other current bull sale information is posted on the BCIA website at: msucares.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/bcia_bullsale.html

Heifer sale information is online at:
msucares.com/livestock/beef/heifer.html

For bull sale information contact:
Jane Parish
jparish@ads.msstate.edu
(662) 325-7466

For heifer sale information contact:
Brandi Karisch
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(662) 325-7465

Bull and Heifer Breeders

JANUARY 20

Spring Bull and Heifer Sale Nomination Deadline