



**Upcoming events:**

- August 6—Homeplace Producers Feeder Calf Board Sale, Hattiesburg, MS
- August 10—Deep South Stocker Conference, Meridian, MS
- September 15—MBCIA Fall Bull and Heifer Sale nomination deadline
- September—Beef Cattle Economics Learn at Lunch webinars
- October 25-27—Artificial Insemination School, Mississippi State, MS
- November 8—MBCIA Bull and Heifer Sale, Raymond, MS
- November 9—South MS Grazing School, Meadville, MS
- November 15—Improving Calf Value Short Course, Starkville, MS

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# Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association

*Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality*

## Deep South Stocker Conference this Month

The fourth annual Deep South Stocker Conference returns to Mississippi. This year's conference will be held August 10, 2012 at Kahilmus Auditorium on Mississippi State University's Meridian campus. This conference is a joint effort between the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the Mississippi State University Extension Service, and the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension.

This year's conference will be a one-day event with several educational seminars in the morning, and a tour of a stocker operator that afternoon. Registration for the conference will cost \$75/person. The seminars will cover pertinent topics in economics and marketing, forage management, health, and nutrition. In addition, a trade show will be held in conjunction with the conference to allow stocker operators the opportunity to network with industry professionals and to become aware of products and services that can improve their profitably and product quality.

Topics include:

- Forage production systems
- By-product feeds
- Parasite control
- Health management of high-risk calves
- Feeder calf board sale price analysis
- Tour of Miller Cattle Company



Contact Brandi Karisch at (662) 325-7465 or [bkarisch@ads.msstate.edu](mailto:bkarisch@ads.msstate.edu) for more information.

[www.deepsouthstocker.com](http://www.deepsouthstocker.com)

## MBCIA Bull and Heifer Sale Nomination Deadline Approaching

Plans are being made for the 2012 Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association Fall Bull and Heifer Sale. The 2012 sale is scheduled for Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 12:00 noon at the Hinds Community College Sales Facility in Raymond, Mississippi. This is an excellent sale facility that allows for a very professional presentation of the cattle.

**Sale nominations are due by:  
September 15, 2012.**

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](http://msucares.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/bcia_bullsale.html).

Heifer sale information is online at: [msucares.com/livestock/beef/heifer.html](http://msucares.com/livestock/beef/heifer.html)

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

For heifer sale information contact:  
Brandi Karisch  
[bkarisch@ads.msstate.edu](mailto:bkarisch@ads.msstate.edu)  
(662) 325-7465

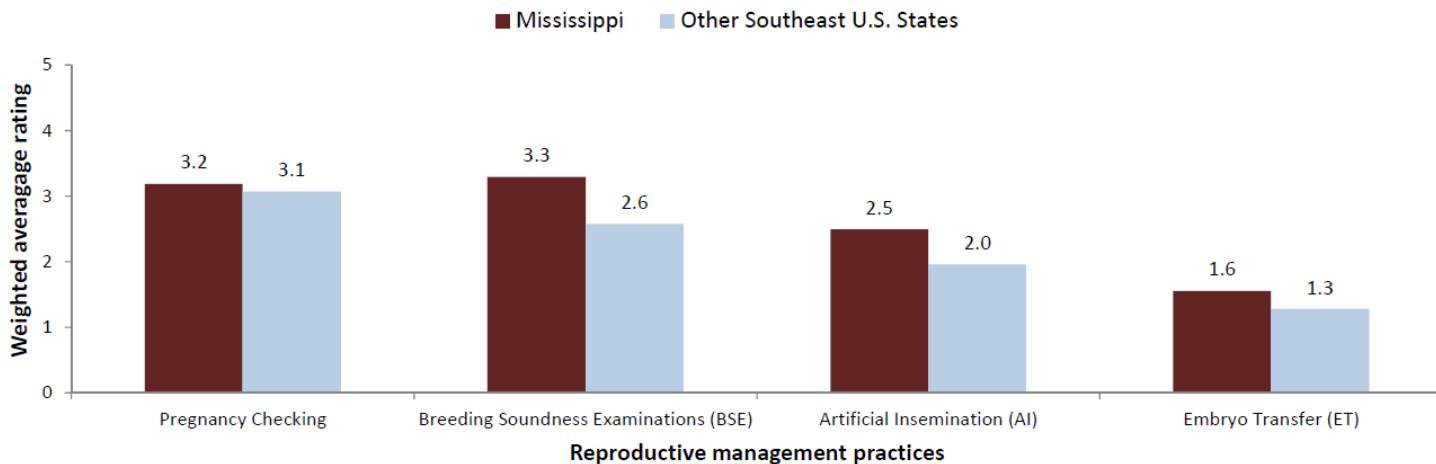


## Beef Cattle Producer Survey Results—Management Practices

Last month's MBCIA newsletter presented recent Mississippi and Southeast U.S. beef cattle producer survey calving seasons, cattle weights, and annual cow cost results. This month management practice use is highlighted. Once again this give producers information with which to compare their own data to see how they compare to other beef

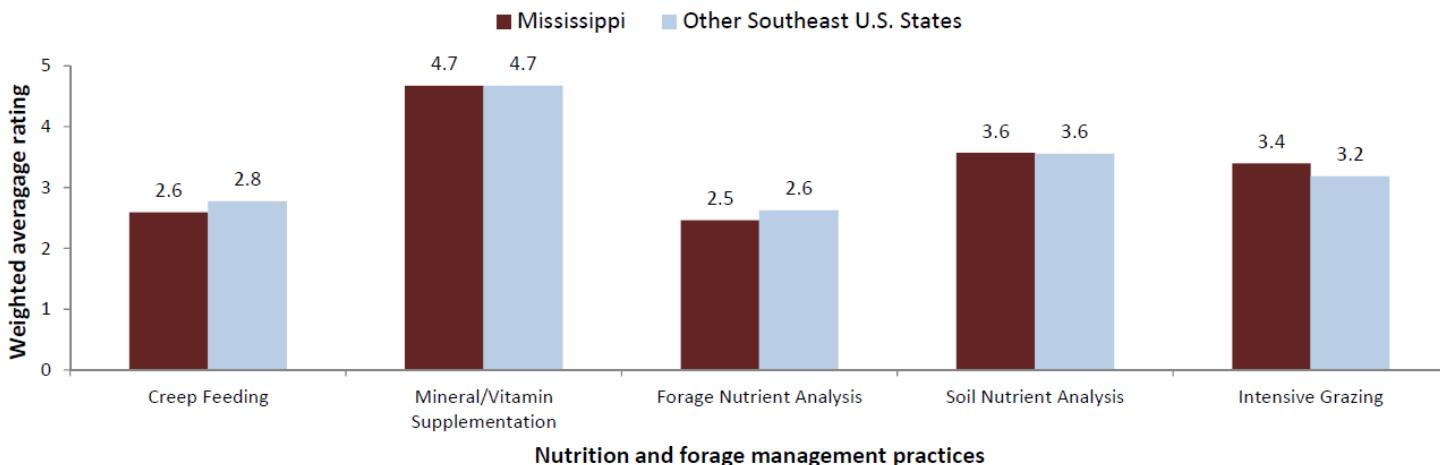
producer in these areas. It also reveals where overall improvements in the industry can be made. The other Southeastern U.S. states represented in the responses included Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

### Rate your use of the following reproductive management practices: (Never = 1 to Frequently = 5)



MS: n = 58; Other states: n = 69

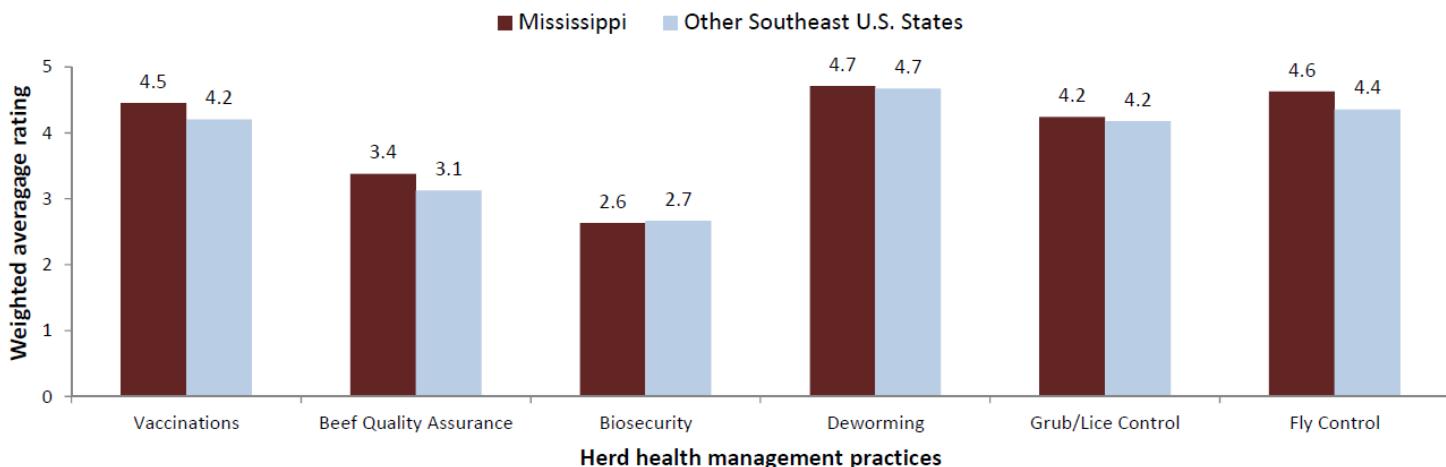
### Rate your use of the following nutrition/forage management practices: (Never = 1 to Frequently = 5)



MS: n = 58; Other states: n = 71

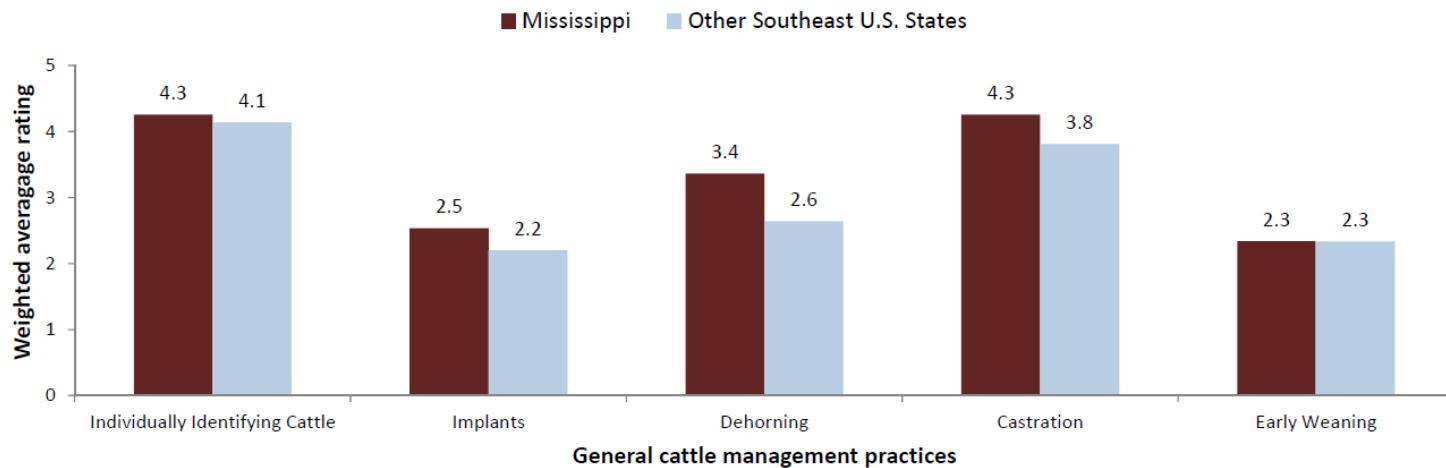
## Producer Survey Results (Cont.)

**Rate your use of the following herd health management practices:**  
**(Never = 1 to Frequently = 5)**



MS: n = 58; Other states: n = 71

**Rate your use of the following general cattle management practices:**  
**(Never = 1 to Frequently = 5)**



MS: n = 58; Other states: n = 69

### Key survey results include the following:

- Mississippi producers surveyed reported more frequent use of reproductive management practices than producers in other Southeast states
- Implementation of reproductive management practices across the board are a key area in which improvements can be made
- Mineral and vitamin supplementation was reported to be the most frequently used nutritional management practice
- There is notable room for improvement in the use of forage nutrient analysis for nutritional management
- Reported use of biosecurity and Beef Quality Assurance practices have sizeable room for improvement
- In general, parasite control and vaccination practice use was quite frequent among the producers surveyed
- Producers reported more frequent use of individual cattle identification and castration practices than implant, dehorning, or early weaning practices



Mineral and vitamin supplementation is a frequently used practice on Mississippi cattle operations

## Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality

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

Phone: 662-325-7466  
Fax: 662-325-8873  
Email: [jparish@ads.msstate.edu](mailto:jparish@ads.msstate.edu)



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

*Jane Parish*

Mississippi State

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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: \_\_\_\_\_

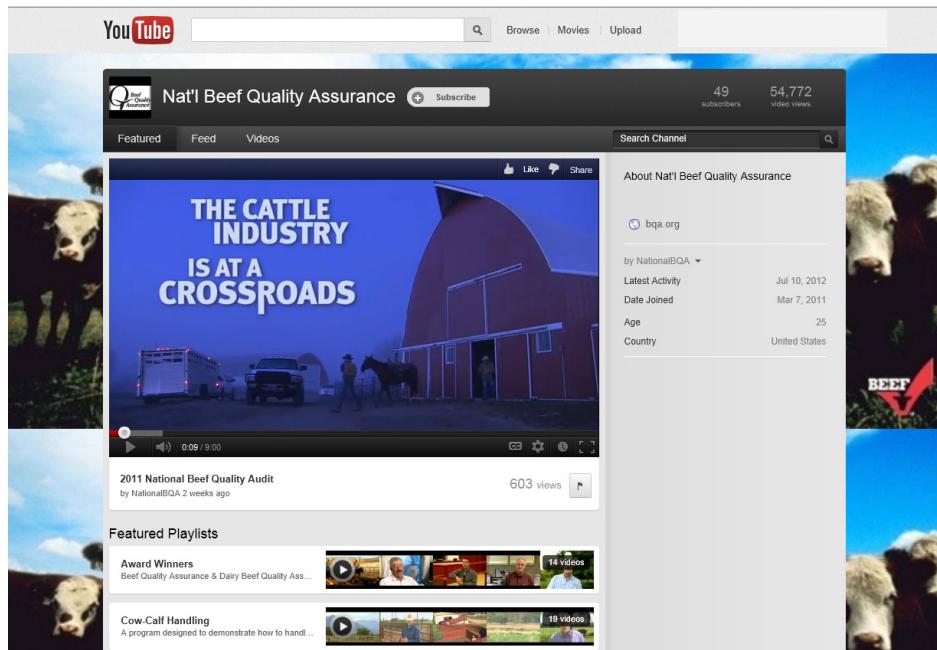
Cattle breed(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

## 2011 National Beef Quality Audit Information Online

The National Beef Quality Audit (NBQA) is a comprehensive survey that evaluates beef industry efforts to improve beef quality. Conducted every five years since 1991, the checkoff-funded Audit assesses progress the industry makes on a variety of production issues that ultimately affect consumer demand for beef. Extensive enhancements were made to the 2011 NBQA design to provide the industry with direction on factors beyond the physical characteristics of beef, such as food safety, sustainability, animal well-being, and the disconnect between agricultural producers and consumers.



The 2011 National Beef Quality Audit was released this summer. These results are available online at:

[bqa.org/audit.aspx](http://bqa.org/audit.aspx)

A video is also posted on YouTube addressing this latest National Beef Quality Audit. That website address is:

[www.youtube.com/NationalBQA](http://www.youtube.com/NationalBQA)