

the Register

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Showing Off the Show-Me State, Part 2

Fall Focus 2025, held in Columbia, Missouri, included a tour of Cattle Visions, dinner at the Warm Springs Ranch, a day-long educational symposium, and more.

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Balancing Cow Weight with Industry Demand

The Impacts of Heifer Development on Pregnancy

The 2026 Sire Source: Bigger, Bolder, Broader Reach

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TRAIT	CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	CEM	MILK	MWW	STAY	DOC	CW	YG	MARB	BF	REA	SHR	\$API	\$TI
EPD	+13.3	+0.0	+102.3	+164.9	+39	+9.1	+32.3	+83.4	+18.2	+18.7	+61.4	-0.32	+96	-.054	+1.23	-.34	+199	+118
ACC	.46	.49	.50	.51	.30	.24	.32	.39	.45	.46	.37	.45	.41	.45	.03			
%	30	30	3	2	2	10	10	1	25	2	2	1	4	1	1			

EPDs as of 09/09/2025 highlighted from a **MATERNAL PERSPECTIVE** **ALL-PURPOSE PERSPECTIVE**

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SQUARE B TRUE NORTH 8052 x CCR COWBOY CUT 5048Z

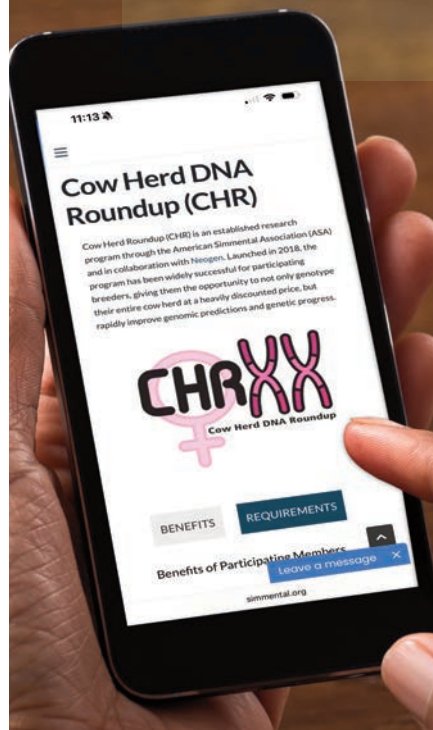
TRAIT	CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	CEM	MILK	MWW	STAY	DOC	CW	YG	MARB	BF	REA	SHR	\$API	\$TI
EPD	+14.9	-1.6	+84.6	+129.0	+28	+7.8	+30.4	+72.5	+14.4	+16.9	+44.5	+0.13	+76	+0.058	+0.52	-.39	+161	+97
ACC	.62	.71	.60	.60	.60	.35	.24	.33	.35	.48	.47	.37	.42	.40	.43	.02		
%	25	25	25	35	40	10	15	10	30	10	10	10	15	10				

EPDs as of 09/09/2025 highlighted from a **MATERNAL PERSPECTIVE** **ALL-PURPOSE PERSPECTIVE**

For a full data set, progeny photos, and more, visit Bull Search at [ABSbullsearch.ABSglobal.com](https://bullsearch.absglobal.com) or contact your local ABS Representative.



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- ◆ Simple trait selection
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- ◆ Frequently asked questions

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by Lilly Platts

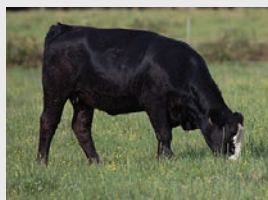
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The energy required to sustain a female throughout each yearly cycle not only matters for the cow, but also for the calf she produces.

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.47	.51	.49	.49	.49	.26	.18	.28	.36	.42	.42	.34	.39	.37	.40			
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2. What does it mean to “exanguiate” an animal?
3. Cattle maintained on a diet of high concentrates are likely to be deficient in which mineral?
4. Structures consisting of strong, fibrous bands that hold muscle and bone together are known by what term?
5. Which has the greatest water content: lean or fat tissue?
6. Name the market information branch of the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association.
7. What is the term that describes a genotype in which the heterozygous individual is superior to either the homozygous-dominant or homozygous-recessive individual?
8. What does \$API stand for?
9. Name the two best places to evaluate natural muscling on a calf.
10. How is anaplasmosis spread? ■

Answers:

1. Gall bladder; 2. Remove the blood; 3. Calcium; 4. Tendons; 5. Lean; 6. Cattle Fax; 7. Overdominance; 8. All Purpose Index; 9. The forearm and the round; 10. Bloodsucking insects and unclear surgical instruments.

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SimGenetics producers across the country are completing fall work and preparing for winter. Photo by Kelly Massey, Cabool, Missouri.

About the Cover



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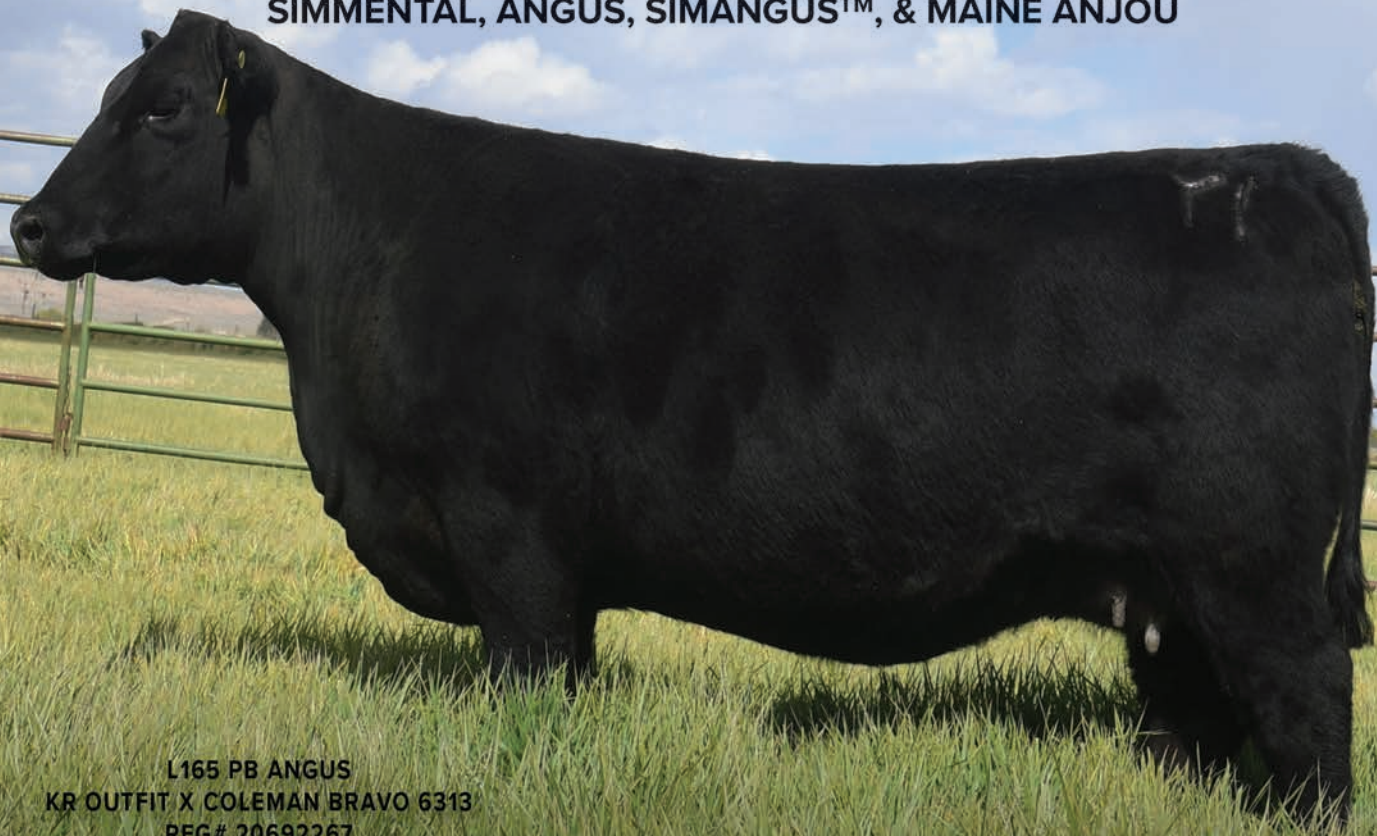
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Aug. 30–Sep. 1

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American Simmental Association

One Genetics Way, Bozeman, Montana 59718 USA

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www.simmental.org • email: simmental@simmgene.com

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North Central Region

Matt Aggen (2026)

27133 146th St

Harmony, MN 55939 • 701.866.3544

mattaggen@hotmail.com

Troy Marple (2026)

9450 Michaels Rd

Westmoreland, KS 66549 • 785.250.0522

troy.j.marple@gmail.com

Tim Clark (2027)

1999 18th St NW

Turtle Lake, ND 58575 • 701.799.7752

Tim.Clark@hubbardfeeds.com

Loren Trauernicht (2028)

901 E Pine Rd

Wymore, NE 68466 • 402.230.0812

mtrauernicht@diodecom.net

Eastern Region

Brandi Karisch (2026)

648 Polly Bell Rd

Starkville, MS 39759 • 225.717.3324

mbkcattle@gmail.com

Scott Trennepohl (2026)

6591 W 625 N

Middletown, IN 47356 • 765.620.1700

sttrennepohl@yahoo.com

Chris Ivie (2027)

PO Box 264

Summertown, TN 38483 • 931.215.0316

iviejc@usit.net

Mark Smith (2027)

304 Moeller Rd

Picayune, MS 39466 • 601.310.6695

smith5785@bellsouth.net

Western Region

Quin LaFollette (2026)

1476 Hwy 14A

Powell, WY 82435 • 307.899.3553

Quin@Blacksummitcattle.com

Chad Cook (2027)

PO Box 174

Walsh, CO 81090 • 719.529.0564

bridlebitsimm@gmail.com

Maureen Mai (2028)

427 Peaceful Way

Bonnors Ferry, ID 83805 • 208.660.2726

rymocattle@gmail.com

Ryan Thorson (2028)

1725 Road 261

Glendive, MT 59330 • 406.694.3722

ryanthorson7@gmail.com

South Central Region

Greg Burden (2026)

890 VZ CR 2205

Canton, TX 75103 • 405.780.0372

greg.gbcattle@gmail.com

Victor Guerra (2027)

PO Box 92

Linn, TX 78563 • 956.607.5515

vvg03@aol.com

Greg Walthall (2027)

1051 NE 500 Rd

Windsor, MO 65360 • 660.525.9921

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by Greg Burden, South Central Region

As I sit down to write this update, we find ourselves nearing the close of a mild summer here in Texas. The cooler weather has been a welcome change, and with it, fall calving is well underway across much of the region. State fairs are winding down, and with them, another busy show season draws to a close. It's been a full and

productive year for the American Simmental Association (ASA), marked by impressive participation and continued momentum in both the commercial and purebred sectors. Simmental cattle continue to draw strong interest across the board, consistently setting records in both the show ring and the marketplace.

One of the most significant developments for the ASA this year has been the appointment of our new Executive Vice President, Dr. Jon DeClerck. Although he officially stepped into the role in July, Dr. DeClerck has been actively involved since January, hitting the ground running and putting in countless hours during his first 90 days. He's taken part in several major industry events, including Fall Focus, meetings with the Canadian Simmental Association, and the Red Angus Convention. Some might ask why he's taken such an aggressive approach to his introduction — why the urgency? The answer is simple: to build relationships, to foster trust, and to give people the opportunity to get to know him beyond any preconceived notions or past perceptions.

And from the feedback I've received, that effort is already paying off. Many — if not most — who have met with Dr. DeClerck have come away with a strong impression of his professionalism, knowledge, and vision. He has demonstrated a deep understanding of International Genetic Solutions (IGS) and its significance to the broader beef industry. Dr. DeClerck brings a wealth of experience and a well-rounded perspective to his role, and I am confident that he is the right person to lead both ASA and IGS forward for years to come.

There's often a misconception floating around that half the ASA Board is made up of "just show guys," as if we're somehow divided in our priorities. Let me be clear: that couldn't be further from the truth. Regardless of whether our backgrounds lie in showing, commercial cattle, or seedstock production, we are united in our purpose. We are all working toward the same goal — to advance the American Simmental Association and promote the breed we believe in. We are cattlemen and women committed to the betterment of Simmental genetics and the long-term success of our industry.

What many of you may not know is that, behind the scenes, the board has spent several months — and a significant amount of financial and legal resources — exploring the idea of restructuring IGS with its own independent board of governance. While there was broad agreement that some change is necessary, the proposed path forward raised serious concerns. Specifically, the idea of altering our Articles of Incorporation in a way that would relinquish ASA's control over IGS did not, in our judgment, align with the best interests of our members. There was a strong push to make this happen by July 1, coinciding with Dr. DeClerck's formal start date — a move I believe was misguided and ill-timed.

At the end of the day, our responsibility as a board is to serve the membership — not to prioritize individual brands, agendas, or egos. It's time for all of us to come together in support of Dr. DeClerck and to focus on what truly matters: the future of the ASA and the strength of our breed. We've weathered challenges before, and we've always come out stronger on the other side — when we remain united.

As we head into the election season, I encourage each of you to participate in the process. The write-in period has taken place, and the general election is currently underway. Take the time to talk to the candidates. Ask questions. Share your concerns. And most importantly — vote. Your voice matters, and your vote helps shape the future of this Association. As board members, we do listen. We are here to represent your interests, and we take that responsibility seriously.

Thank you for your continued trust, your engagement, and your passion for the Simmental breed. Together, we can ensure a strong, unified path forward. ■

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Showing Off

the Show-Me State, Part 2

by Lilly Platts, photos by the Grant Company

Missouri's contribution to the beef industry and Simmental breed is immense and was the focus of a day-long showcase hosted by the Missouri Simmental Association at Fall Focus 2025. The American Simmental Association built on this momentum on day two of the event, hosting a day-long educational symposium featuring Missouri's leading beef cattle researchers; the Association also recognized some of its most influential breeders and promoters. The ASA Board of Trustees met following the conclusion of the event. This is part two of ASA's Fall Focus recap. Please see the October *Register* for part one.

Following an action-packed morning learning about beef production and agriculture at the University of Missouri's Trowbridge Livestock Center, Fall Focus attendees got back on the buses to visit the Cattle Visions headquarters. Jared Royer, co-owner of the company, welcomed everyone to the facility, which plays a large role in the sale of SimGenetics semen.

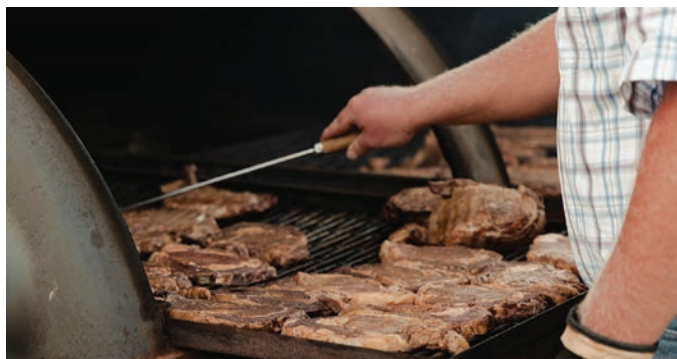
Attendees then split into several groups to participate in the educational portion of the afternoon. Dr. Jordan Thomas and Dr. Thiago Martins shared about Missouri's Show-Me Select Heifer program, which is leading the way in heifer development.



Right: Jared Royer welcoming Fall Focus attendees to the Cattle Visions facility. Below: Dr. Jamie Courter, Dr. Jordan Thomas, and Mike Siemens discussed heifer evaluation and selection.



Dr. Dave Patterson and Dr. Mike Smith were recognized for their work in heat synchronization protocols. Dr. Jamie Courter and Dr. Jordan Thomas joined Mike Siemens with Lucas Cattle, and Doug Frank with ABS, for a live heifer evaluation.



Fall Focus attendees gathered at the Warm Springs Ranch, home of the world famous Budweiser Clydesdales. Lucas Cattle Company sponsored a steak dinner at the Warm Springs Ranch.

The day concluded with dinner at the Warm Springs Ranch, home of the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales. Attendees explored the immaculately kept barns, and finished the night with a steak dinner, sponsored by Lucas Cattle Company.

The Saturday educational session kicked off bright and early at 8AM with a welcome from ASA EVP Dr. Jon DeClerck, and ASA Board chairman, Victor Guerra.



ASA Board chairman, Victor Guerra, welcoming producers to the Fall Focus Educational Symposium.

(Continued on page 14)



Showing Off the Show-Me State, Part 2

(Continued from page 13)



L–R: Drs. Ryan Boldt, Jackie Aktins, and Jon DeClerck shared updates on International Genetic Solutions and new trait development.

Experts from Missouri and beyond explored the opposing pressures of cow efficiency and beef demand. ASA and IGS staff provided an update on International Genetic Solutions and new trait development. The day closed with a focus on tools for reproductive and genetic success.

Throughout the day, Dr. Charlie Martinez and his team of graduate students conducted their “Eyes Don’t Lie” interactive bull selection simulation. Participants were tasked with selecting the right bulls for a scenario. Using state-of-the-art eye tracking technology, the computers logged where each person’s eyes traveled as they selected bulls. Martinez later shared the results of the day-long study, exploring the bull buying behavior he has observed. This technology offers an unbiased perspective on which traits producers actually spend time considering, and whether they put more emphasis on phenotype or EPD. The technology has many future applications, including the evaluation of sale catalog layout.

The day concluded with a dinner, and recognition of the Golden Book and Lifetime Promoter award winners. Erroll and the late Gayle Cook, and Darrell Stiles each received the Golden Book Award. Terry Burks and Warren Garrett each received the Lifetime Promoter Award.



Victor Guerra (L) and Greg Burden (R) present Darrell Stiles with the Golden Book Award.



Victor Guerra presents Terry Burks with the Lifetime Promoter Award.



Victor Guerra (L) and Quin LaFollette (R) present Erroll Cook with the Golden Book Award.



Victor Guerra (L) and Troy Marple (R) present Warren Garrett with the Lifetime Promoter Award.

2025 Annual ASA FALL FOCUS

ASA Board of Trustees Meeting

The American Simmental Association Board of Trustees convened in Columbia, Missouri, August 24–26, following the Fall Focus event. Five committees met to conduct business on behalf of ASA membership. The following highlights some of the more notable directives and resolutions passed by the full board during the meeting, though this is not a complete list:

Activities & Events

- Approved the South Dakota/Minnesota Regional Classic application. The 2027 North Central Regional will be held in Huron, SD, June 11–16, 2027.

Breed Improvement

- Voted to provide an additional \$28,500 to fund the UNL research proposal, continuing hydrops research. For more information about the current status of hydrops research, visit simmental.org.

Policy & Procedures

- Approved the Deceased Herdsire Policy, modeled after the existing Deceased Donor Policy. For more information, contact the DNA Department at dna@simmgene.com.
- This policy was set in place due to the new DNA rule for herdsires that was voted on by membership in January 2025. The rule requires a DNA test (high-density genomic panel) on all herd bulls/natural service sires born on or after January 1, 2025.
- Passed two directives requesting staff to explore ways to allow prefix sharing and to revisit the current genetic hold policy.

For more information, contact ASA or a Trustee from your region. The Board of Trustees also held a Town Hall meeting on the first morning of the meeting, welcoming input and conversation from the ASA membership. ■

Reserve Your Space Now February Register



Contact:

Nancy Chesterfield
nchesterfield@simmgene.com

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ASA 3943741 PB SM Homo Black - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
17	-3.2	87	135	18	0.74	0.79	188	105



KBHR HOMELANDER J071 x KBHR DEBUTANTE H113

KBHR MS HOMELANDER M006

ASA 4387136 3/4 SM 1/4 AN Homo Black - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
17	-5.3	74	117	24	1.38	0.35	222	111



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MR SR RED OCTOBER G1761 x WS ELECTRA E88

KBHR J103 MS RED AUTUMN

ASA 3943815 PB SM Red - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
17	-2.4	91	140	23	0.50	1.22	187	102



Full sister to KBHR Revolution!

HHS MR 847D x WS MISS SUGAR C4

KBHR J102 MS SUGAR SUITE

ASA 3943814 PB SM Homo Black - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
13	-1.3	88	136	19	0.64	0.81	178	101



KBHR KEYNOTE K229 x KBHR J276 MS AFFINITY

KBHR MS KEYNOTE M239

ASA 4387369 3/4 SM 1/4 AN Homo Black - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
14	-3.2	89	141	24	1.22	0.69	212	113

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KBHR MS EASTER K201

ASA 4104319 PB SM Homo Black - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
19	-3.9	86	132	24	0.74	1.08	205	106



WS JAM-PACKED 88J x CLRS GENOME 979G

KBHR MS JAM-PACKED M023

ASA 4387153 PB SM Red - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
18	-1.5	75	120	23	0.87	1.22	202	100



WS JAM-PACKED 88J x KBHR J103 MS RED AUTUMN

KBHR MS JAM-PACKED M003

ASA 4387133 PB SM Red - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
14	0.6	93	146	21	0.22	1.26	159	93



LBRS GENESIS 669 x KBHR E197

KBHR MS SPRING BLOSSOM J149

ASA 3943861 PB SM Homo Black - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
10	0.9	91	136	18	1.11	1.09	194	112



GIBBS 91146 ESSENTIAL x KBHR J029 MS SUGAR HIGH

KBHR MS ESSENTIAL M017

ASA 4387147 PB SM Homo Black - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
17	-2.8	90	141	18	0.77	0.87	192	108



BIEBER CL STOCKMARKET E119 x KBHR J103 MS RED AUTUMN

KBHR MS STOCKMARKET M026

ASA 4387156 1/2 SM 1/2 AR Red - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
14	-0.9	93	148	19	0.95	0.81	184	107



KBHR HANDYMAN H124 x KBHR J101 MS EMERGENCE

KBHR MS HANDYMAN M141

ASA 4387271 PB SM Homo Black - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
9	1.4	93	141	20	0.85	0.93	183	106



BIEBER CL STOCKMARKET E119 x WS ELECTRA E88

KBHR MS STOCKMARKET M012

ASA 4387142 1/2 SM 1/2 AR Red - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
18	-7.2	71	115	21	1.27	0.60	213	110



HOOK'S BEACON 56B x BAR CK MS X38 106Z

KBHR E197

ASA 3312190 PB SM Homo Black - Homo Polled

CE	BW	WW	YW	STAY	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
13	-2.0	60	82	22	0.74	1.02	176	88



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Balancing Cow Weight *with* Industry Demand

by Lilly Platts

The industry's push for larger carcass weights continues to put pressure on commercial producers who must also maintain a productive, profitable cow herd. Dr. Jamie Courter, Assistant Professor and State Beef Extension Specialist at the University of Missouri, explored this dichotomy during Fall Focus 2025.

Optimizing efficiency and productivity are central goals for all cow-calf producers. The end product and the demands of the packer are also a consideration, and often go against what is best for long-term cow-calf profitability. Bigger cows can produce bigger calves, but at what cost? Courter shared that the push for bigger carcass weights will continue in the future, and because of this, focusing on cow herd efficiency and profitability is more important than ever. "Whether we're talking about the end product, or selling a weaned calf, your motivation should still be the cow," Courter shared.

Mature cow size has been steadily increasing over time, which is evident in data across breed associations. Courter evaluated Angus, Red Angus, and Simmental trends, and saw a uniform trend throughout. "Regardless of breed, we are increasing cow size," she said.

The cow-calf phase of the production cycle accounts for 74% of the overall input required to produce one pound of carcass weight, and the bigger the cow, the higher this number is. "A 30% larger cow will consume 22-28% more dry forage matter," Courter shared. "Mature cow weight matters."

The cow-calf phase of the production cycle accounts for 74% of the overall input required to produce one pound of carcass weight, and the bigger the cow, the higher this number is.

Courter encourages producers to think about their cow herd as a whole unit, as opposed to individual animals. Heavier calves may bring more on sale day, but if the female that raised that calf required more input, those extra dollars may cancel out. "Yes, heavier calves make more money, but if we think about fixed resources, smaller cow size and more moderate weaning weights aren't always a bad thing," she said.

Many beef cattle traits are optimized somewhere in the middle, like docility, and Courter believes the same is true for cow size. An 1,100- to 1,200-pound cow usually strikes the right balance between input and productivity, and Courter encourages producers to look at their output as pounds weaned per acre, as opposed to individual cow performance. "The key is to avoid cows that are over 1,400 pounds, and that are consuming more nutrients than they are providing you in profit," she said. "The data shows that mature cow size is an intermediate-optimum trait."

Birth weight is as frequently discussed as mature cow size, and is another important factor in optimizing productivity. There are several EPD associated with birth, including calving ease direct, calving ease maternal, and birth weight. Calving ease direct predicts the probability of a first-calf heifer experiencing dystocia; calving ease maternal predicts the probability of first-calf daughters



Crossbreeding is one of the most valuable tools for increasing productivity without increasing input costs.

experiencing dystocia; and birth weight predicts the calf's weight compared to the breed average.

Courter shared that producers often put emphasis on the wrong trait. "Time and time again, producers think that birth weight is equivalent to calving ease, especially on the commercial side," she explained.

Using correlations, Courter explained that birth weight and calving ease are genetically related, but not the same trait. Conversely, the correlation between calving ease direct and the percentage of unassisted births is high. This means that producers who select primarily for birth weight may only be starting off with lighter, more issue-prone calves, and not actually solving dystocia problems. "When we select for low birth weight, we are not solving the problem," Courter shared. "Selection for birth weight does not ensure calving ease. It just creates light calves."

"Selection for birth weight does not ensure calving ease. It just creates light calves."

Data shows that calves that start out lighter will also be lighter at weaning and yearling. Commercial producers often use birth weight over other calving EPD when selecting bulls, which may lead to long-term financial loss. If calving ease direct predicts that a first-calf heifer can have a 60-pound calf unassisted, then putting emphasis on birth weight and pushing that weight down to 50 pounds is only taking pounds away long-term. "We need to be having these tough conversations with our commercial buyers," Courter shared.

Crossbreeding is one of the most reliable methods for increasing productivity while maintaining input costs, and



Above: Dr. Jamie Courter shared about the implications of cow size, and potential strategies for balancing productivity with cost.

Below: Cow size has a significant impact on input and overall production cost.

Courter emphasized this. "We know that crossbred cows raising crossbred calves wean over 23 % more weaning weight per cow exposed," Courter said. "Crossbreeding and mating systems will increase the resources we have while keeping cow size moderate."

Courter encouraged producers to consider crossbreeding systems, as well as maternal and terminal herds.

(Continued on page 20)



Balancing Cow Weight with Industry Demand

(Continued from page 19)

Increasing carcass weights while keeping cow size moderate is difficult, and while genetics and technology have produced bulls and cows that “do it all,” genetic potential can only go so far. Pushing the cow herd to meet end-product demands could have negative long-term effects. “If we want to avoid doing that to our cow herd, we need to start thinking about the story differently,” Courter explained. “We need to start thinking about creating maternal cows that will be the factory, while also creating terminal animals that are all pounds weaned,” Courter shared.

Specific crossbreeding systems have been considered labor- and resource-intensive in the past, but Courter countered this belief. Other industries, like dairy, have been successfully using sexed semen and technology to create maternal and terminal crosses. “With the advent of AI, sexed semen, and genomic testing, we are past that. We are past the argument of it being labor-, cost-, and resource-intensive,” she said.

Through crossbreeding and technology, producers can meet the demands of the industry while also maintaining profitability in the cow herd.

Courter concluded that through crossbreeding and technology, producers can meet the demands of the industry while also maintaining profitability in the cow herd. “My challenge to you is this. How can we adopt technology to meet what the market is telling us, and at the same time, not detrimentally impact our cow herd?” ■

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The Impacts *of* Heifer Development on Pregnancy

by Lilly Platts

Developing heifers is one of the biggest investments in the beef business, and ensuring that heifers are set up for a successful breeding season is essential. Recent research from the Iowa State University explores the effects of different management strategies, and reveals potential indicators of heifer success that could be especially useful during times of restriction. Dr. Randi Culbertson, Cow-calf Extension Specialist and Beef Geneticist for ISU, shared about this research during Fall Focus 2025.

Heifer development has a major economic impact, and the effects ripple throughout the cow herd for years. “The reproductive success of a heifer leads to the improvement in reproductive efficiency for the entire cow herd,” Culbertson said.

The ability to identify females that are not going to breed quickly can cut down on this cost. “If you can identify that a heifer isn’t going to get pregnant, she can go to the feedlot and you can recoup that cost,” Culbertson explained.

“Heifers that breed early tend to stay in the herd longer. Understanding the factors that affect puberty can ultimately affect that heifer pregnancy rate.”

Developing heifers is expensive, especially as input costs rise, and the earlier a female breeds, the faster she will recoup that cost. Research shows that females that reach puberty earlier as heifers breed faster later in their life, calve earlier, have more time to recover, wean bigger calves, and consequently are more productive long-term.

“Heifers that breed early tend to stay in the herd longer. Understanding the factors that affect puberty can ultimately affect that heifer pregnancy rate,” Culbertson said.

How quickly an animal reaches puberty depends on several factors, including genetics, environment, and nutrition. “We need to set these heifers up so they are cycling by the time we get to breeding season,” Culbertson explained.

Culbertson shared that the recent ISU study was inspired in part by research out of Nebraska suggesting that the standard advice, which is to make sure heifers weigh at least 65% of their eventual mature weight at breeding time, might not apply in every situation. Generally, producers are encouraged to develop heifers with the goal of reaching 60–65% of their mature weight by breeding time, but the research out of Nebraska makes the argument that heifers at 55% of their mature weight were equally fertile. Often, heifer development depends on available resources and overall environment, and if heifers can be developed with fewer inputs, producers could potentially save money during drought, or other restricted periods. “We want to match that development program to the type of cattle you have, and your production system,” Culbertson said.

Heifer development varies depending on the environment, and has a lasting impact on productivity.



Culbertson has observed the differences in management in her home state of New Mexico, where heifers are usually turned out on winter pasture. In the Midwest, where land is hard to come by and feed is plentiful, heifers are typically developed in drylots. Heifers on pasture tend to weigh less at breeding time, while heifers in drylots are usually heavier. Weight and Body Condition Score (BCS) are good indicators of maturity, but are not a surefire way to tell if a heifer is going to breed and stay pregnant. Other factors, like how these heifers put on fat, or how efficient they are, can also affect fertility.

Weight and Body Condition Score are good indicators of maturity, but are not a surefire way to tell if a heifer is going to breed and stay pregnant. Other factors, like how these heifers put on fat, or how efficient they are, can also affect fertility.

To further study the effects of management on heifer fertility, Culbertson and her team utilized ISU's McNay research herd, which has a long history of focusing on carcass traits. This lent well to the study, as Culbertson was interested in the development factors that can't be seen, like intramuscular fat (IMF), and muscle, in these two different management scenarios.

The team selected 124 Angus heifers from this herd for the study. The females were split into two groups: "restricted" and "non-restricted." The development of each group was controlled with feed and average daily gain, with the goal of getting the restricted group to 55% of their target mature weight, and the non-restricted group to 65% by breeding.

Every 60 days, the team took carcass ultrasound measurements on each female to track muscle development and fat deposition. Body weight and BCS scores were also tracked. Throughout the development process, the team observed lighter weights, smaller ribeye area, less backfat, and less IMF in the restricted group.

Prior to breeding, each heifer was given a reproductive tract score. The restricted group had noticeably smaller pelvic measurements between the two groups. Females were culled from both groups due to reproductive tract scores and other factors.

At breeding time, an identical synchronization protocol was used for both groups. In the non-restricted group, 100% of the females responded and were cycling. In the restricted group, 25% of the heifers did not respond to the synchronization protocol, indicating that they had not



Dr. Randie Culbertson shared about her team's research on heifer development during Fall Focus 2025.

reached puberty. These heifers were also culled. After breeding both groups by AI, a cleanup bull was turned out for 45 days. The total pregnancy rates between the two groups were very similar.

Culbertson and her team then evaluated the data collected throughout the study. They found that IMF and ribeye area were not strongly associated with heifer pregnancy. Backfat measurements were associated, however, indicating that the females in the restricted group that made it past culling and got pregnant may be more efficient. "If you think of two heifers, one in the restricted group and one in the non-restricted group, if they have the same backfat measurement, the heifer in the restricted group is more likely to get pregnant. She is more efficient," Culbertson explained. "If she doesn't have backfat, her odds of being open are going to be significantly higher."

An unintended observation in the study was "grass crash," or the shock that many heifers experience after being turned out on grass post-breeding. When heifers are developed in a dry lot, producers often turn them out on grass as soon as breeding is over. Conversely, if heifers are on grass but then held in dry lots to streamline breeding, their system can also be shocked. "We tend to see that the sudden change can be a problem," Culbertson said.

(Continued on page 26)

The Impacts of Heifer Development on Pregnancy

(Continued from page 25)



Producers invest a significant amount of resources in heifers, which can only be recouped if they successfully breed and calve.

After the study, when heifers were turned out on grass, the restricted group gained weight, and the non-restricted group lost weight. Management while transitioning heifers from the dry lot to pasture, or vice versa, is important. “Heifers losing weight can be problematic for pregnancy,” Culbertson explained.

The team’s observation that ribeye area and IMF didn’t have any effect on pregnancy rates is positive considering the industry’s push for carcass traits. Culbertson clarified that despite that observation, the non-restricted heifers in this study were not over-developed, or fat.

Culbertson concluded that more research is needed to determine if backfat is a solid indicator of heifer fertility. Within a group of females managed under the same protocol, it could help producers identify which are the most efficient, or thrifty, and the most likely to get bred. This could be especially helpful during times of drought or tight resources. “I really believe we should be developing heifers to their target body weight, but sometimes the environment steps in and we have scenarios where we are restricted. If this occurs, how do we select the heifers that can really be adaptive and perform in these environments?” ■

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The **2026 Sire Source:** **Bigger, Bolder, Broader Reach**

by Callie Cooley, ASA Publication Business Manager

Sire Source has been a trusted reference for cattle producers since its initial release over 15 years ago. Since then, it has expanded in size and evolved with the times.

Last year's refreshed format was a resounding success, combining sire listings with educational content that readers could immediately apply to their operations. Building on that momentum, the 2026 edition is expanding its reach and impact in a big way.

For the first time, the print edition will be mailed directly to all *SimTalk* subscribers, which includes over 40,000 ASA members, commercial producers, universities, and industry professionals. That's a fivefold increase from the previous 8,000, giving all sires included unprecedented visibility with a nationwide audience actively seeking genetics. The value doesn't stop with the printed edition. Every bull listing is also added to simmental.org, where it remains accessible for a full year after the release of the print publication.

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Sire Source is no longer just about introducing the newest sires to the industry, and it certainly isn't just another semen catalog. Exposure here can open doors in unexpected ways. Beyond semen sales, it's about building recognition for your program. The right producer may see your genetics in Sire Source and decide to attend your bull sale next year or connect with you on a future purchase. Whether you're highlighting new sires or proven sires with staying power, this publication gives advertisers the platform to reach both current and future customers.

Also new this year, Sire Source will be released as a stand-alone publication, allowing for more desirable delivery timing and even greater reader engagement. While the deadlines may feel early, don't let that deter you. Participating in this issue ensures that your sires are front and center in the most widely distributed edition yet.



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Making *the* Most of Your Herd's Genetic Potential *through* Nutrition

by Lilly Platts

Cow size is a constant topic of conversation in the beef industry, and the ideal weight varies by environment and program. The energy required to sustain a female throughout each yearly cycle not only matters for the cow herself, but also for the calf she produces. When resources are tight due to drought or the economy, producers are faced with tough decisions. A pregnant cow can withstand a lot, but it is imperative that her energy requirements are always met in order for her to produce the highest-performing calf possible. Dr. Allison Meyer, Associate Professor of Physiology and Ruminant Nutrition at the University of Missouri, shared about the relationship between cow size, nutrition, and calf needs during the 2025 Fall Focus Educational Symposium in Columbia, Missouri.

Meyer first challenged producers to figure out what their own females weigh, and to consider that muscle — which is often more present in crossbred cattle like SimAngus — is heavier than fat. “As we consider cow size, I want to challenge everyone, before throwing the first stone, to figure out what your mature cows weigh,” she said. “Your cows weigh probably more than you think they do if you don’t weigh them a lot, or your customer’s cattle weigh more than they think they do, because your breed still has muscle in it. That’s why we like them.”

Finding the ideal cow weight, which strikes the balance between input and output, can be tricky. Thriftiness is often prioritized, but if cow size is too small, calf size at weaning will also decrease. Meyer explained that by thinking about cows like factories, producers can determine whether or not their females are too big for their environment. “A cow’s job is to hang around for a long time and make as many products, or calves, as she can. When we think of it in terms of a factory, we don’t necessarily think that a big factory that makes a lot is a bad thing. It depends on what you are making,” she explained.

Evaluating the obvious external measures, like weight or frame size, doesn’t offer the full picture of cow efficiency. Muscle mass and nutrient utilization are also important. Muscle adds weight, and more weight requires more nutrient intake; however, muscle is also critical in times of stress. “Muscle is the place where you can put extra protein,” Meyer shared. “We can’t store protein just anywhere in the body, but when cows are hungry or go through periods of time where they don’t get enough nutrients, they can pull from their muscle.”

During pregnancy and lactation, this nutrient reservoir can be critical. “They can give their little fetus, or their udder, those amino acids,” Meyer added.

In her research, Meyer has found that cattle with thin muscle cannot withstand stress. Because of this, she encourages producers to keep in mind that the pendulum



First-calf heifers are still developing during pregnancy, making proper nutrition critical for both them and their offspring.

on cow size can swing too far in either direction. “I think that cows can get way too little, just as they can get way too big,” she said.

Cow-calf producers are beholden to the weather, and in many areas of the US, drought has greatly diminished resources. Too much moisture can also create challenges for females — grass might look abundant, but the protein in forages is often diluted with excess moisture. Across the country, volatile weather creates nutritional challenges for beef cows. “We have to keep in mind that a cow is regularly in situations where she is stressed because of the amount of nutrients she gets,” Meyer said.

Despite this challenge, producers are consistently working to maximize genetic potential, which can only be realized if a female isn’t stretched too far nutritionally. “Her calf has the genetics to do so much, and that can only happen if it has nutrients,” Meyer shared. “Her job as a factory is to give nutrients to her calf, and the only period of the calf’s life that she can do that is from the time it’s conceived to the time it’s weaned.”

Meyer shared that while individual seedstock producers may do everything they can to meet their cow herd's nutritional needs, and ultimately maximize the genetic potential of calves, there are many producers who either aren't able to do so, or who do not have the knowledge to do so. Testing hay is an easy, affordable step that many producers skip. "We're currently dealing with really weird conditions, so sometimes we think that our forage is great when it isn't. Many people have genetic information on every animal on the place, but haven't done a hay test in decades," Meyer said. "Not every hay bale that looks good actually has the right numbers."

Often, producers don't realize they aren't fully meeting the nutritional needs of their cow herd during gestation. "I know that many times when we don't feed cows well, it's by accident. I'm not casting blame on this situation, but I want us to think about the nutrients a calf needs from the time it's conceived until the time that it's weaned."

Much of Meyer's research focuses on cow needs in the late stages of pregnancy. Nutritional requirements increase during this time, but don't always align with the standard yearly schedule many producers follow. "The problem with that is that we've actually selected calving seasons primarily to give more nutrients to that cow actually when she's milking, and when we need to get her rebred, which means that many times she doesn't have as much of an opportunity to eat as many nutrients when she's in her late pregnancy," Meyer explained.

Physical appearance can also skew feeding decisions, and producers often don't realize that a cow was under-conditioned until after she has calved. "Sometimes we also imagine that when she's full and she has a big fetus in her, that she has a little more condition on her than she does," Meyer said.

This mistake can be hard to reverse, especially in the resulting calf. Cows naturally prioritize where nutrients go, and while the cow will sacrifice herself for as long as possible, a fetus may be shortchanged in order for a cow to continue maintaining her own body. "Now, we know that cows generally pull from themselves first," Meyer said. "They're kind of the ultimate martyr, but there is a limit because they need to keep themselves alive. It is bad for their calf if they are dead or if they can't make milk, so they do start to limit their calf and their ability to make milk."



Above: Dr. Allison Meyer sharing about the importance of cow herd nutrition during Fall Focus 2025.

Below: The variation in available resources like grass throughout the year can make it challenging for producers to always meet their cow herd's nutritional needs.

In a USDA-funded study, heifers were either fed to their nutrient requirements during pregnancy, or only to 70% of their protein and energy needs. The females and their offspring were evaluated based on a number of criteria. Overall, if cows were not given enough to eat, their calves didn't receive enough nutrition. Decreased birthweights were also observed, which is not a positive outcome when the lower weight is due to nutrition. "If we change the fetal growth trajectory, bad things can happen. We can change fetal development, their vigor, their cold tolerance, and all kinds of things like that," Meyer explained.

(Continued on page 32)



Making the Most of Your Herd's Genetic Potential through Nutrition

(Continued from page 31)

Meyer emphasized that the only correct way to decrease birthweight is through genetics, not nutrition. There is a misconception that feeding a cow “too well” can cause calves to have large birthweights, but Meyer shared that this cannot happen. “You actually cannot feed birth weight into a calf that its genetics didn’t have the potential for,” she said.

In the experiment, calf vigor was measured in the two groups of females based on the amount of time it took for calves to stand up after birth. Meyer shared, “We found that if the dams were nutrient restricted in this study [their calves] took longer to attempt to stand, and longer to stand.”

These calves weighed less through weaning, and Meyer shared that skeletal differences and a smaller ribeye area were also observed. These changes could be attributed to a number of factors — from getting less nutrients in utero, to the lower-quality colostrum their mothers produced; the females fed at 70% were put on a diet that met their nutritional needs at 100% after giving birth, but colostrum is produced before birth. Even on a full diet, these cows and calves weren’t able to catch up to their counterparts.

Differences were observed in the restricted females well past the first calf cycle. “We found that even though we had been managing them together since we weaned their first calf, and really we were feeding them similarly since they gave birth to their first calf, that they still were smaller if they had been nutrient restricted in the first pregnancy. They weighed less throughout their second pregnancy, the rest of their second pregnancy, and through their second lactation,” Meyer explained.

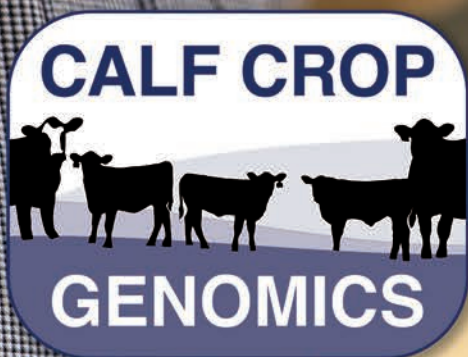
These females also had less muscle mass and smaller frame scores, which could be viewed as beneficial in certain programs, but Meyer cautioned that low muscle means these females won’t have the reserves to withstand environmental challenges. “What we do to a heifer, especially during her first pregnancy and lactation, does affect her forever. We expect her to grow about 20% of her mature body weight while she’s pregnant. But many times we think she’s developed because she’s pregnant, and I think that’s really wrong. I think we need to consider that she’s still being developed all the way through her first pregnancy, and probably until we’ve weaned her first calf,” Meyer shared.

Meyer also explored the implications of the current cattle market. Even newborn calves are worth a substantial amount, which means that getting them through the first three weeks of life isn’t only important from an animal husbandry standpoint, but also because of value. Additionally, because feedyards are asking more of cattle with the goal of larger finished weights, making sure calves are healthy from the beginning is more important than ever. Meyer concluded, “We don’t necessarily have to make cows bigger to make their calves have the potential to be bigger. We can just manage them better so that their calves can meet their genetic potential to do those things. What is the point of having great genetics if you don’t realize that genetic potential because a cow didn’t have the inputs she needed?” ■

SimGenetics producers from Missouri and beyond taking in Meyer’s presentation.



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good one.**



by Larry H. Maxey,
founder and superintendent, NAILE Fullblood Simmental Shows

Our Pioneers — Charles Goodnight (1836–1929)

In the next few editions of Our Pioneers I will be reaching way back in history in an attempt to chronicle the lives of some very famous and legendary cowboys. Each of these subjects lived in an era that has been

romanticized, fictionalized, and popularized extensively in volumes of books, movies, and TV shows. Interestingly, their stories remain popular to this day, although much of the portrayals of these legends have a heavy mixture of fact and fiction as Hollywood often does. Here, I will be as factual as possible as I sort through the bounty of material that thankfully exists.

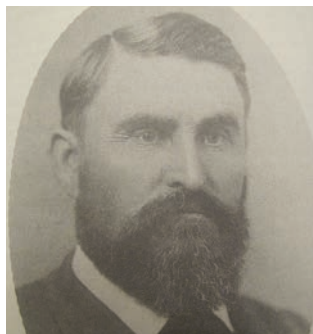
Charles Goodnight was born in Macoupin County, Illinois, near St. Louis, Missouri. He was descended from immigrant pioneer Hans Michael Gutnecht, from Mannheim, Germany. He moved to Texas with his mother and stepfather in 1846. In 1856, he joined a local militia and the following year he joined the Texas Rangers. He was involved in various Indian wars, mostly with the Comanche. With the start of the Civil War he joined the Confederate States Army. Most of his time was spent as a scout and he was active in guarding against Indian raids.

After the Civil War, he started herding feral Texas Longhorn cattle northward from western Texas to railroads in the north. At the time, this was known as “making the gather.” It was a statewide roundup of cattle that had roamed free during the four long war years. Worth only \$4 per head in Texas, they could fetch as much as \$40 in the north and east. In 1866, Goodnight and his friend Oliver Loving, also a legend, drove their first herd of cattle along what became known as the Goodnight-Loving Trail. From the headwaters of the Brazos River, they headed southwest, crossed the Pecos River at Horsehead Crossing, and then followed the river north into New Mexico to Fort Sumner. There, the cattle were sold to the US Army.

Looking at a map of the region, you might ask why Goodnight and Loving took such a long and circuitous route. The Comanche stronghold of the Staked Plains, around present-day Lubbock, Texas, was the main reason. As the Goodnight-Loving partnership grew, they extended the trail northward through northeastern New Mexico. It is also worth noting that historians credit Goodnight with the invention of the chuckwagon, which he introduced on his first drive.

In New Mexico, Goodnight and Loving met up with John Chisum, a cattleman from the area. (Chisum’s story will be profiled in a following edition.) They also formed a partnership with the task of supplying the US Army with those wild Texas Longhorn cattle. Unfortunately, Loving was critically wounded by an arrow during an Indian ambush and a few weeks later he succumbed to his wound. Goodnight and Loving were the closest of friends. Goodnight stayed by Loving’s bedside until his death. He then returned Loving’s body to Weatherford, Texas. It is said that Goodnight carried Loving’s photograph in his pocket and kept one on his desk as well.

After Loving’s death, Goodnight and Chisum continued their partnership. In order to reach new markets and the best price for their cattle, they extended the trail from New Mexico to Colorado and all the way to Wyoming.



Charles Goodnight, the father of the Texas Panhandle and cattle business pioneer. Photo by Billy Hathorn, courtesy of the University of Oklahoma Press.

In 1876, Goodnight founded the first Texas Panhandle ranch, the JA Ranch, in Palo Duro Canyon. The area was abundant with grass, water, timber, and game. In addition to raising cattle, Goodnight preserved a herd of native plains bison. It is said that descendants of these bison survive to this day in Caprock Canyons State Park. Bison from this park were introduced into the Yellowstone National Park in 1902. Goodnight also crossed these bison with his cattle and called them “cattalo.”

Because these pioneer cattlemen were truly legends helping to tame the West, there are treasure troves of documentation on their lives and achievements. That includes so many of their associates and others they crossed paths with during their times. I could probably list hundreds and not cover them all. However, for Goodnight and Loving, I will end with a more recent and fascinating account of their story that I am sure most of our readers will recognize. The novel, *Lonesome Dove*, by Larry McMurtry, is a fictionalized account of Goodnight and Loving’s third cattle drive. On the big screen, the character Woodrow F. Call (actor Tommy Lee Jones) represents Goodnight and Augustus McRae (actor Robert Duvall) represents Loving. That series was as popular as any depiction of life in the Wild West of the US in the 1800s. Granted, while so much of the Hollywood version takes great liberty with the facts, the plot for this story was based on real-life people who probably lived a more daring and adventurous life than even Hollywood can depict.

It is fitting that Goodnight was inducted into The Hall of Great Westerners of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in 1955. ■

Editor’s note: This piece originally appeared in the March 2023 edition of the Register.

Is there a Simmental pioneer who you would like to see profiled in this series? Reach out to Larry Maxey or the editor to submit your suggestions:

larryhmaxey@gmail.com • editor@simmgene.com

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| 2001 Sue Ann Fletcher Nichols Cattle Co. | 2019 Rocking P Livestock & Bob MacGregor |
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by Josie Phillips

November is the month to give thanks. During almost every grand drive speech, the judge encourages exhibitors to thank those who helped get them to the show. They tell us to thank our parents, our advisors, leaders, crew members, and mentors. I certainly try to do that, and I hope that all of you do as well. Sometimes we forget to give thanks to the folks behind the scenes who are providing all of us the opportunity to exhibit our cattle. One of my favorite weeks of the year is the National Classic, and I can't begin to imagine how much time and effort goes into planning and organizing a show of that magnitude. So, I thought it would be fun to get the inside scoop on how hard the ASA staff works to pull off such

a phenomenal show. I asked Mia Bayer, Director of Youth Programs and Foundation Manager, and Chance Ujazdowski, Progress Through Performance Coordinator, about their roles.

How long have you worked for the ASA? Explain what your job entails.

Mia: I have worked for the ASA for four years. I oversee anything youth, show, or Foundation related. This includes planning and executing the National Classic along with Chance and other staff, working with host states to plan regional shows, advising the AJSA Board of Trustees, planning the Summit Leadership Conference, being the staff lead for the Activities and Events committee, attending and working all PTP shows, and more meetings than I can count. On the Foundation side of things, I work with the Foundation board to organize meetings, plan fundraisers, and attend fundraising events.

Chance: I have worked with ASA in some capacity since October 2011. I currently have a part-time position, and my primary responsibilities are coordinating the National PTP Shows and the AJSA Classic contests. This includes creating show programs, scoring contests, writing quizzes, researching public speaking topics, coordinating contest judges, handling results and Ring of Champions scoring, updating premium books and policy documents, and a whole lot more.

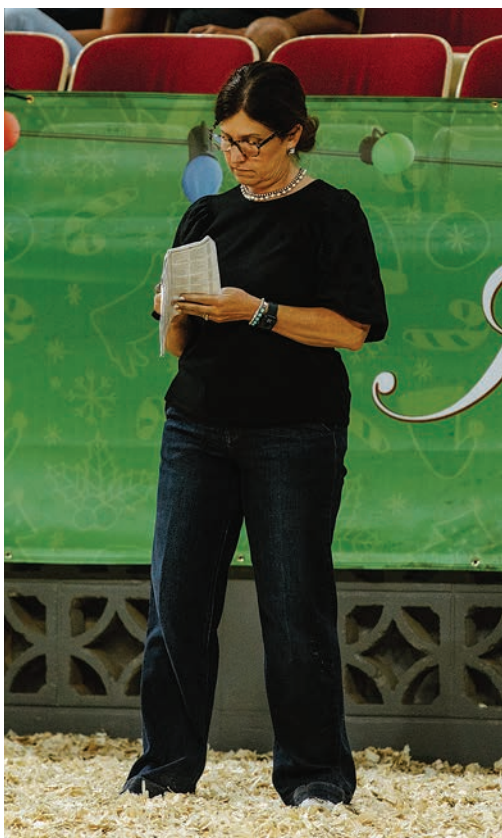
What is your favorite part of the AJSA National Classic?

Mia: The week is incredibly stressful, but I can honestly say there is nothing like the feeling I get from watching everyone parade in during opening ceremonies. The energy is contagious. Everyone is so excited for the week, and it gives me some much-needed energy to make it through the busiest week of the year.

Chance: Without question, the people are my favorite part of everything AJSA-related. Our industry is built upon relationships, and our organization provides opportunities to meet leaders, mentors, competitors, and friends at every event.

Can you estimate how many people are involved in planning and implementing our National Classic?

Mia: I think this has changed over the past couple of years as far as planning. Most of the planning is done with a smaller group, but the implementation is a different story. Multiple ASA staff, show interns, and lots of wonderful volunteers make it happen.



Mia Bayer leads the organization of each National Classic, and wears many hats during the event.



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Chance: Short answer: I'd estimate around 200 people. Long answer: It depends how you look at it. The bulk of the behind-the-scenes planning has been handled by three people: Mia, Emma, and myself. But the week definitely wouldn't be possible without the AJSA Board, other ASA staff, our AJSA interns, trustee candidates, state association volunteers, ASA board members, and many others. (There were over 120 contest judges alone!)

When do you start planning the following year's event?

Mia: For me it never really ends. Facility and hotel contracts are worked on year-round. I have a lot of meetings to plan not just for next year's event, but working on many years in the future as well. My goal is to have locations planned five years in advance, but that is very difficult to do. There are only a few venues that can hold the National Classic, and several other breeds need to use those locations as well. Currently we have scheduled Grand Island in 2026 and Louisville in 2027. I am working on 2028 and 2029.

Chance: Planning really is a year-round process. As soon as one year ends, we start discussing how to make improvements for next summer. The heavy lifting starts as soon as the National PTP Show season ends.

On average, how many hours do you work each day at the National Classic?

Mia: Hardest question yet, but I'll use a day from Madison last summer as an example. I leave the hotel at 5:45am and get back to the hotel around 10pm, and sometimes I still need to eat supper. The days are long, and the nights are short, but you are also mentally prepared for it. It comes with the job!

Chance: From day one to the end, I average 16-17 hours per day. People always ask if I had fun at the National Classic, and I jokingly respond, "When did I have time for that?"

How do you determine the "success" of our National Classic?

Mia: I always say if it looks like it went smoothly from the outside then it was a success. Meaning, there are times when behind the scenes it gets so hectic or we have a major issue, but it is our job to keep things going as smoothly as possible and make sure the juniors and their families are having a great week.

Chance: When the week is over, I ask myself two things: Did we provide our members and their families with an opportunity to meet their goals? And, in general, did people have a positive experience? If the answer to both is yes, the event was a success.

This past theme, Oh What Fun, was certainly fun.

How do you come up with the theme each year?

Mia: Honestly, coming up with a theme is really hard. You want to be original, but it's tough coming up with something new that will appeal to our junior members and be easy to work with. There is a lot of brainstorming between me, Chance, and Emma and we ask others for input of ideas.

Chance: ASA has only decided the theme for the past two years, and there isn't really a formal process. Mia, Emma, and I exchange ideas throughout the year. When we find a concept that we all like, we ask for input from a few people we trust and hopefully lock it in.

How long does it take to write each quiz? Do you have to do a lot of research when writing them?

Chance: Throughout the year, I bookmark new resources and record voice notes with new ideas. I set a goal each spring to write a specific number of new questions and research until I meet or exceed that goal, while also researching Public Speaking topics. The next step is compiling quizzes, using both old and new materials. Because I typically write multiple quizzes at



Chance Ujazdowski sporting his Christmas-themed attire at the AJSA National Classic.

once, it's difficult to say how long each one takes. Including state association events and AJSA Classics, I write around 30 quizzes each year.

What do you think sets the Simmental breed apart from other youth beef cattle organizations?

Mia: The AJSA has a reputation for producing young adults that will go out and make a difference in the industry. I think a lot of that comes from the dedication so many young members have to succeed not only in the show ring, but also in all of the educational contests we offer. No other breed gets to ring the bell!

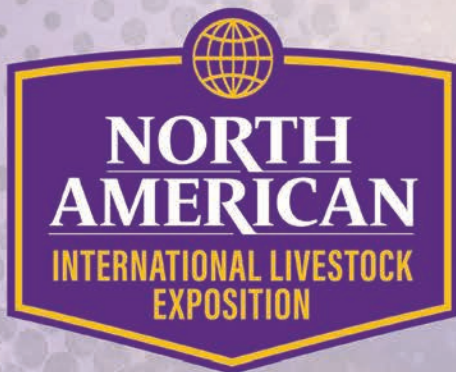
Chance: My first answer is no surprise: The growth and development that our contests create for all our exhibitors is something no other breed provides. I also don't think you can answer this question without recognizing the quality of our Bred and Owned Show. I think it's the best in the business.

You just finished a long week at the National Classic – what is the first thing you do at home to relax?

Mia: A cup of coffee on my porch and just quiet, with no questions from anyone. Mentally I just need a break.

Chance: I'm sure it would be more interesting to say that I go look at my calves in the pasture, but I sleep. That's it.

It's evident the Simmental breed has some of the best staff in the business! After a long hard day, a simple "THANK YOU" means a lot so I encourage everyone to join me in thanking Mia, Chance, and all the other ASA staff members for investing in us and making our breed one of the fastest-growing in the industry. We truly have the best staff and the best national junior show. I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and I look forward to seeing you all next summer in Grand Island! ■



Friday, November 14

- 9 am **Junior Show Check-In**
W1 Doorway | Proof of Registration and Cattle
- 2 pm **Sale Cattle On Display**
West Hall

Saturday, November 15

- 8 am **Junior Purebred Simmental Show**
Broadbent Arena
Judge: Jake Bloomberg, IL
- TBA **Eastern Region Foundation Fundraiser**
West Hall W7 | 30 minutes after show
- 2 pm **Sale Cattle on Display**
West Hall
- 4 pm **Social Hour**
The Hitching Post
Hosted by Kentucky Simmental Assc.
- 4 pm **The Select Simmental Sale**
The Hitching Post | Broadcast by CCI.live
Managed by Haefner Marketing Services

Sunday, November 16

- TBA **Junior Percentage Simmental Show**
Freedom Hall | Following Angus
Judge: Jake Bloomberg, IL
- TBA **Junior Fullblood Simmental Show**
Broadbent Arena | Following Limousin
Judge: TBA

Monday, November 17

- 10 am **Open Show Check In**
ASA Booth | Proof of Registration Only

Tuesday, November 18

- All Day **PTP Herdsman of the Year Voting**
Ballots available online to all NAILE Simmental exhibitors. Voting closes at 5 pm.

Wednesday, November 19

- 8 am **National SimGenetics PTP Show**
Freedom Hall
Judges: Kyle Pérez, NM and John McCurry, KS

2025 SIMGENETICS SCHEDULE



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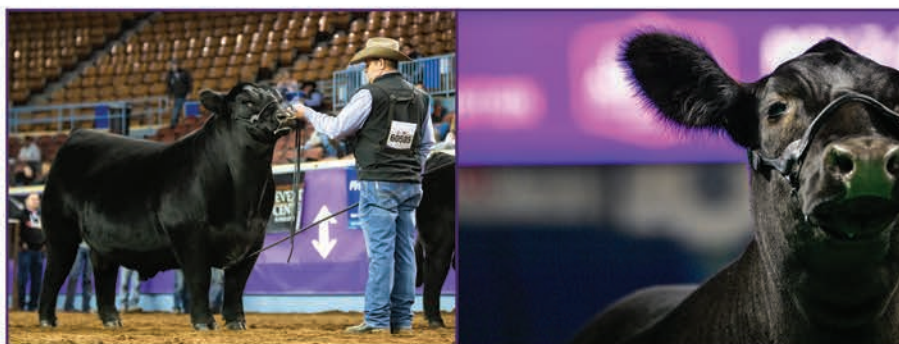
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PTP PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Chance Ujzdowski
920.740.7536
chanceu@simmgene.com

YOUTH PROGRAMS DIRECTOR & FOUNDATION MANAGER

Mia Bayer
715.573.0139
mbayer@simmgene.com

DNA Testing Requirements for Herdsires

In January, ASA membership voted to require a DNA test (GGP-100K genomic panel) on all herd bulls/natural service sires born on or after January 1, 2025. This new rule mimics the current DNA requirement for AI sires and donor dams.

Although the rule change isn't immediately affecting membership, it is never too early to prepare. By collecting and submitting DNA samples on bull calves born this spring and beyond if they'll go on to sire registered calves, producers can avoid future issues.

DNA Test for Bovine Congestive Heart Failure (BCHF) Risk Now Available

A test estimating a genomic prediction for risk for development of Bovine Congestive Heart Failure (BCHF) is now available as an add-on the GGP100K (\$9.50) or a standalone test (\$19.50). This is not an IGS prediction but molecular breeding value based on the Simplot and Neogen partnership studying heart failure in feedlot cattle. Because this is a molecular breeding value, results will be based solely on the DNA marker information and will not include other pertinent information that goes into EPD like pedigree, breed, and performance records. The test returns a molecular breeding value for risk of progeny developing heart scores correlated to BCHF (lower number is better). The average accuracy of animals tested is 0.32 (standard deviation 0.09). At this time the results will be reported through an email but not uploaded to Herdbook. Please contact Jackie Atkins at jatkins@simmgene.com with any questions.

W/C Double Down 5014E (ASA 3336150) Pedigree Update

The American Simmental Association has completed a pedigree correction for the bull W/C Double Down 5014E (ASA 3336150) following parent-verification DNA testing on his dam, W/C Miss Werning 5014C (ASA 3211676), which resulted in a change to her recorded sire. This adjustment has altered W/C DOUBLE DOWN 5014E's pedigree and breed composition, which in turn affects the breed composition and pedigree of his progeny. All impacted records were automatically updated in the ASA database immediately following his dam's pedigree change. For questions regarding affected animals, please contact the ASA DNA Department at dna@simmgene.com, or 406-587-4531.

Seeking Sire Nominations For CMP

Looking to test your top young sire across different environments? Want to enhance accuracy and gain valuable data on your young sire? The Carcass Merit Program (CMP) is for you!

Since 1997, the CMP has relied on select cooperator herds to test sires; however, ASA recently added a new CMP testing avenue, which will allow for MORE SIREs to be tested annually. CMP collects vital carcass data on calves, which improves carcass trait predictions and DNA marker predictions for all cattle in the IGS genetic evaluation, and supports breeders in evaluating their young sires and advancing their genetic programs. If you're interested in nominating a sire, fill out the nomination form at simmental.org (Programs, ASA Programs, CMP).

Sale Catalog Resources Added to ASA Website

Looking to add some information about EPD and indexes, genomics, the IGS multi-breed genetic evaluation, or the benefits of participating in ASA's programs to your sale catalog? Look no further! ASA has compiled a folder with various resources like logos, camera-ready ads, and answers to frequently asked questions that can be used in sale catalogs or other marketing materials. Visit www.simmental.org and click on "Sale Catalog Resources" under the Marketing tab to view the material.

Hydrops Update: TraitTrac and a Recommended Marketing Statement

ASA has been investigating a developing genetic condition that causes Hydrops pregnancies in a certain line of Simmental genetics. Here are some updates in relation to this research and ASA's actions/suggestions:

Hydrops has been added to Herdbook's TraitTrac with WS All Aboard B80 listed as a documented carrier. At this time there are no genetic holds placed on his descendants as there is not a DNA test available yet. Once there is a test, then Hydrops will follow the same policy as other genetic conditions.

Female progeny who are descendants of or are directly sired by WS All Aboard B80 (ASA# 2852207) are at risk for carrying a genetic abnormality called Hydrops. Daughters may develop a serious condition during late gestation that results in excess fluid in the fetal membrane, which typically causes the loss of the calf and occasionally the dam. There is no current test at this time to identify animals carrying this mutation. Research is ongoing regarding the transmission of the abnormality, and to develop a genetic test. Helping our producers navigate this issue is of the utmost importance to us. Therefore, given that there is neither a full understanding of this condition nor a test, careful consideration should be given regarding the question of whether to breed WS All Aboard B80 descendant females until more information is available to breeders.

For questions regarding established WS All Aboard B80 genetics, Hydrops symptoms, reporting an active case, or additional information, please visit the Hydrops Information Center at www.simmental.org or reach out to Jackie Atkins at jatkins@simmgene.com.

Price Adjustment Notification: uLD Genomic Panel, Semen Sample Processing, and TSU Fees

Due to increased costs from ASA's contracted laboratory, ASA will be raising the price of the ultra-Low Density (uLD or 9K) genomic panel and the processing fees for semen samples, effective immediately. Due to increased costs from the manufacturer, ASA will be raising the price of TSUs from \$22/box to \$23/box, effective immediately. These price adjustments are essential to cover rising expenses and production costs, and we thank you for your understanding.

If you have any questions, contact the DNA department at dna@simmgene.com. To view the current DNA testing prices visit simmental.org.

(Continued on page 42)

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Call 406-587-2778

(Continued from page 40)

Check-Off Bonus Program Reminder

While the July 15 deadline to submit all state association program requests seems far away, it's a good time for state associations to familiarize themselves with the check-off bonus program. Aside from the quarterly check-off money states can receive, state associations are also eligible for additional money in the form of yearly bonus checks if certain activities are completed throughout the year. Examples include hosting a field day with ASA representation and participating in the cost share program. To learn about the check-off bonus program, visit simmental.org and contact Callie Cooley at stateassoc@simmgene.com with any questions.

2025 Year-Letter is N

In accordance with the Beef Improvement Federation guidelines, the year-letter animal identification for 2025 is N, and will be followed by P in 2026, and R in 2027. The letter M was the year-letter designated during 2024. Per the BIF guidelines, the following letters are not used: I, O, Q, and V.

Office Holiday Schedule

Thursday, November 27 & Friday, November 28

Thanksgiving

Wednesday, December 24, Thursday, December 25 & Friday, December 26

Christmas ■

Cargill Deploys AI-Powered Robot Dog 'Spot' at Amsterdam Facility to Enhance Safety, Reliability, and Workplace Innovation

Cargill has introduced Boston Dynamics' four-legged robot, Spot, at its Amsterdam Multiseed crush and refinery plant to support daily inspections, identify hazards in real time, and enhance operational reliability. The AI-powered robot uses advanced sensors and real-time data collection to detect equipment and safety risks, helping keep operations running smoothly while protecting the people behind them.

Spot performs approximately 10,000 autonomous inspections per week, capturing thermal, acoustic, and visual data across rapeseed and sunflower processing lines. The robot identifies maintenance issues such as equipment overheating, product leaks, and ventilation faults, alerting operators before problems arise.

In one case, Spot detected a decanter running above safe operating limits. Maintenance teams made immediate adjustments, preventing equipment failure and avoiding significant downtime. In another, Spot flagged bearings fluctuating between 40°C and 100°C, prompting lubricant replacement before damage occurred.

"Spot gives us peace of mind overnight and helps us wake up to data, not surprises," said Martin Blommesteijn, Plant Superintendent at Cargill Amsterdam. "It's more than just a robot — it's an early warning system that helps keep production safe and smooth."

Spot also scans for hazards such as open doors, misplaced equipment, or obstructed walkways, complementing Cargill's

rigorous safety standards with an extra layer of digital visibility. Spot's deployment is also changing how Cargill employees work, and how they feel about the future of food manufacturing. By automating repetitive tasks and increasing digital visibility, operators are shifting from manual oversight to data-informed decision-making.

Team members are gaining skills in programming autonomous missions, interpreting real-time inspection data, and using smart technologies to improve plant performance. This workplace transformation is part of Cargill's commitment to building a more attractive, innovative environment for the next generation of talent.

"We are building a new working environment where automation, digitalization, and AI support our teams to make our manufacturing and supply chains safer and more efficient," said Chris Kassios, Smart Manufacturing Process Lead at Cargill. "When employees see that we're investing in their tools and training, it shows that we're investing in their future too."

Following successful testing and team training completed earlier this year, Cargill is evaluating how Spot could scale across other European operations. The pilot is a key step toward more predictive, digital-first plant management, positioning Cargill at the forefront of safe, efficient, and talent-forward food production.

"This pilot is just the beginning," added Kassios. "Robotics and AI are helping us build a food system that's not only more efficient, but more resilient, sustainable, and human-centric." ■



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The Links Between Cow-Calf, Stocker, and Feedlot Segments of the Beef Industry

by Paul Beck, Oklahoma State University Extension

The beef industry is often described in segments — calves start on the ranch, many go through a stocker or backgrounding phase, and then enter the feedlot. But what happens early in a calf's life doesn't just stay there. Health, nutrition, and management decisions made before weaning or during grazing ripple forward, shaping feedlot performance, carcass quality, and ultimately consumer demand.

A recent *Applied Animal Science* special issue highlighted how pre-weaning and stocker management affect cattle performance later in the feeding phase and at harvest. Here are a few key takeaways:

Health Matters Most

Bovine respiratory disease (BRD) is still one of the costliest health challenges. Calves treated for BRD during receiving gained less on pasture, entered the feedlot lighter, and finished with lower carcass weights. They didn't "catch up" later, showing the value of preventing sickness.

Nutrition Has Mixed Carryover

Research showed limited long-term impacts of cow or stocker nutrition. Winter supplementation of cows did not consistently affect later calf performance. Distillers grains boosted gains on pasture, but advantages disappeared in the feedlot. Beef-on-dairy crosses responded to higher early-life nutrition with better growth and marbling, but compensatory gains were mostly confined to early finishing.

Management Leaves a Mark

Calves weaned with low-stress methods or grown as yearlings tended to produce heavier carcasses with better quality grades than those shipped directly to the feedlot. Weaning strategy, grazing management, stocking rate, and calving season all influenced growth and carcass outcomes, though results were sometimes inconsistent.

What This Means for Producers

The most consistent message is that healthy, well-managed calves perform better all the way through the beef system. Preventing BRD, castrating before marketing, and using low-stress weaning methods are management decisions that continue paying off beyond the ranch gate. Nutrition programs support short-term growth but don't always carry over into finishing. Early management decisions echo throughout the beef production chain. Keeping calves healthy and reducing stress is the surest way to add value in every segment.

Have You Scheduled Your Bull Breeding Soundness Exam?

University of Missouri Extension

Patrick Davis, University of Missouri Extension livestock field specialist, suggests your bulls have a Breeding Soundness Exam (BSE) prior to each breeding season. "The bull BSE helps make sure bulls are ready to be successful during the breeding season," says Davis. The BSE evaluates structure and fertility to make sure

the bull is adequate for a successful breeding season. Furthermore, during the evaluation, it's a good time to check for health issues and provide vaccinations to promote adequate health for the bull and the rest of the herd.

Components of the BSE:

- **Body condition score:** Body condition score (BCS) evaluates fat cover on a scale of 1 (emaciated) to 9 (obese). Davis suggests bulls enter the breeding pasture at a BCS of 6, which is a smooth appearance throughout. This provides the bull adequate energy reserves to successfully breed females.
- **Structural soundness:** "Since bulls will be covering a lot of pasture and cows during the breeding season, structural soundness is important," says Davis. One way to evaluate structural soundness is through foot scoring. Foot scoring evaluates the hoof through claw set and the pastern and heel length through foot angle. Both foot scoring parameters are evaluated on a 1 to 9 scale with an ideal range of 3 to 7.
- **Bull fertility:** During the BSE, the veterinarian will evaluate sperm motility and morphology, and make sure semen quality is adequate for optimum pregnancy rates.
- **Bull health:** "Since bulls are in the chute during the BSE, it's a good time to update vaccinations," says Davis. It's also a good time to test and make sure newly acquired non-virgin bulls are negative for trichomoniasis. Davis suggests doing these things to promote optimum health in your cattle operation.

"Contact your veterinarian to schedule your bull's BSE 30 to 60 days prior to the breeding season," says Davis. This helps identify bulls with poor fertility and structure so you can cull them and replace them with sound bulls. This further helps your cow herd achieve optimum pregnancy rates, which helps operation productivity and profitability. Furthermore, some veterinary clinics will partner with pharmaceutical companies to provide rebates on vaccinations and dewormer if you schedule your bull's BSE during their specific BSE day.

Unlock the Added Value of Producing More Calves

Industry Press Release

Successfully breeding cows and maintaining pregnancy is always financially beneficial. In today's cattle market, the value proposition and profit potential of getting a calf to market are even more significant with record-high prices.

"If you're in the cow-calf segment of the industry, the main driver of profitability is going to be your ability to produce calves," says Pedro Fontes, PhD, associate professor in beef cattle reproductive physiology at the University of Georgia. "That's highly dependent on whether we can generate and maintain those pregnancies."

For a cow herd with 100 head, increasing pregnancy rates by 5% and having those additional calves make it all the way to market would result in approximately \$12,000 more in gross revenue. Keep the following strategies in mind when looking to improve your reproductive program to achieve more pregnancies and calves and optimize your income.

2026 Spring Total Herd Enrollment

The American Simmental Association encourages all members to participate in our whole-herd reporting system, called Total Herd Enrollment (THE).

How to Update Your Inventory

Start with your Preliminary Inventory by accessing it online

(see reverse for instructions or use paper packet received in mail/email)

See Enrollment Template below

- 1 **Confirm that ALL spring-calving cows are listed on the form.** This should include any cow enrolled in the previous year, first-time heifers, purchased cows, and cows in associated junior accounts that run with your herd.
- 2 **Enroll or Remove each dam.** Enter an enrollment or removal code in the Primary Code column.
- 3 **A/B/C/D/N** — Enter an enrollment option: A, B, C, or D for each cow. If a cow is being removed, enter “N.”

Enrollment Template

AnmReg Nbr	AnmTatt	Primary Code	AddtnlCode	A/B/C/D/N	Season	Animal Name	BirthDt	BrdCds	EnrYear	BillCode	Remarks
1		2		3							

Do you still own the dam?

THE Enrollment Codes	
0	Cow Bred to Calve During the Season
1	Heifer Bred to Calve During the Season
2	Not Exposed – Moved to Next Season
3	Exposed and Failed to Conceive – Moved to Next Season
4	Exposed and Failed to Conceive – Moved to Next Year
5	Donor Cow
6	Recipient Cow
44	Not Exposed – Moved to Next Year

Optional Columns

- Additional Code (secondary reason for removal) only to be used if the first removal code is already in the primary code column.
- Remarks are for member use only. Enrollment will not be adjusted from this column.
- If you enter “H” in the Bill Code column, you will be billed half now and half later in the year.
- If you need to add a commercial dam, enter her tattoo (AnmTatt), date of birth (BirthDt), and breed codes (BrdCds).

Has the dam been sold, culled or died?

THE Removal Codes	
60	Exposed and Failed to Conceive
61	Aborted
62	Age
63	Appearance
64	Calf Loss at Calving
65	Calf Loss Post-Calving
66	Color
67	Died – Calving
68	Died – Other
69	Died – Sickness/Disease
70	Disposition
71	Herd Reduction
72	Hoof Condition
73	Horned
74	Injury
75	Production/Performance
76	Prolapse
77	Sickness/Disease
78	Sold, Breeding Purposes, Paper Not Transferred
79	Sold, Breeding Purposes, Paper Transferred
80	Structural Soundness
81	Udder Quality
82	Genetic Defect Status

Send Your 2026 Spring Inventory to ASA by December 15, 2025

- **Online:** using Data Entry section of Herdbook Services: www.simmental.org
- **Email:** THE@simmgene.com • **Mail:** One Genetics Way, Bozeman, MT 59718

Total Herd Enrollment Payment Options

	Option A (TR) Total Registration	Option B (SR) Selective Registration	Option C (LR) Limited Registration	Option D (CM) Commercial
Enrollment Fees:	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$7.50	\$390/herd
Registration Fees:	\$0.00	\$30/\$40/\$50^a	\$30/\$40/\$50^a	\$42/\$52/\$62^a
Choosing the best options:		^a Depending on age of calf	^a Depending on age of calf	^a Depending on age of calf
If you register > 45% of your calf crop.	✓			
If you register < 45% of your calf crop and don't use EPD for selection decisions.		✓		
If you register < 20% and use EPD for selection decisions.			✓	
If you have a commercial herd.				✓
Benefits of enrolling:				
EPD to make informative selective decisions.	✓	Reg. Animals Only	✓	Females Only
Herd participates in genetic evaluation.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reproductive record on every cow enrolled.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Commercial cows or cows of other breeds are eligible.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Requirements when enrolled:				
Every registered SM/SI dam must be enrolled.	✓	✓	✓	
Each dam enrolled must have calf or productivity reported/year.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deadlines to be met for enrollment and calf data.	✓	✓	✓	✓



Instructions for Online Enrollment

www.simmental.org



- Go to www.simmental.org and select **Herdbook**
- Log In** by entering
 - 6-digit member number (*zero filled example: 000317*)
 - Password
- Under **Data Entry** select **Online**
- Select the **Inventory** tab
 - Click **Spring**
 - Make sure year shows **2026**
- Select **Update Cow Inventory Online**
-OR-
Select file type, then **Download** to load your preliminary inventory into an Excel spreadsheet
- See front for Inventory instructions and codes for both methods of entry
- To upload completed Excel spreadsheet:
 - Save file to desktop and log in to Herdbook.
 - Under **Data Entry** select **Upload**
 - Enter a **Job Title** such as "(Year/Season) THE Upload"
 - Under **Type** select **Animal Enrollment**
 - Click **Browse** – attach saved THE file
 - Click **Upload File**
- Review **Errors** and/or **Warnings**
 - Errors**
(indicated by red triangle at left side of line)
 - Select the **Errors** tab – errors will be listed and **MUST** be resolved before submitting
 - Herds in Option D must email job number to THE@simmgene.com for final processing
 - Warnings**
(indicated by a purple triangle at left side of line)
 - Select the **Warnings** tab – review each warning listed, correct if needed
 - Job may be submitted without resolving all warnings
- Select **Submit Data**
 - If **Edit Job** button shows, select button, resolve the error(s) and submit again
 - Select **Proceed to Billing** for billing summary (*After December 15, 2025, all options will have a balance due reflecting the \$1.00 non-refundable late fee per animal*)
 - Select **Add Payment**. Enter credit card information. Select **Confirm**
 - Select **FINAL SUBMIT** (*Enrollment will not be completed without this step*)
 - The **Invoice Status** will change to **Complete**. Print and store for your records
- To save job and return later, click **Save and Exit**. The job will remain in an incomplete status under your account.
Please note that billing is based on the submission date, not the date it was started. Job must be submitted prior to December 15, 2025, to avoid late fees.

*Job must be submitted prior to
December 15, 2025, to avoid late fees.*

Know Your Pregnancy Rate

When evaluating your reproductive program, start with your pregnancy rate. Fontes recommends striving for a 90% pregnancy rate at the end of a controlled breeding season of approximately 65 days. “Some of this will depend on your production system, what area of the country you are located in, and the type of cattle you run,” says Fontes. “You might be in a lower-input environment, and it could be financially viable to achieve pregnancy rates in the high eighties (percentage) and still be able to profit from your cow herd.”

Management is key to establishing and maintaining pregnancy. Start by meeting the nutritional requirements of your herd via maintaining an average body condition score of 5 or greater. Then, have a quality health program established with your veterinarian that works around your reproductive calendar.

Another important metric is having cows that breed early and thus calve earlier. “One thing I always try to get folks to think about is getting more pregnancies in those first 21 days of the breeding season,” says Fontes. “The main reason is we know that when cows conceive early, they calve early, and they’re going to be more likely to breed back next year. Not only that, but those calves are weaned heavier because they are older at the time of weaning.”

Fontes believes a good benchmark is to have at least 60% of the cow herd calving within the first 21 days of the calving season.

Breed at Peak Estrus

Tightening up the breeding season and having more calves born early can be facilitated with estrus synchronization and artificial insemination (AI). Important to the success of AI breeding is identifying when cows and heifers are in estrus.

“If you synchronize a group of females and expose them to a round of AI, those females expressing estrus will get between 20–30% greater pregnancy rates than the ones that fail to express estrus,” says Fontes.

Estrus expression not only influences the ability of those cows and heifers to conceive, but it also impacts whether they can maintain their pregnancy until calving. “If you know the estrus status, you can manage those cows appropriately or breed those cows differently,” says Fontes. “One of the things we see producers doing is breeding cows based on estrus expression, even though they might be breeding in a fixed-time AI approach.”

How this looks in practice is that a producer can apply a visual estrus detection aid, like an ESTROTECT Breeding Indicator patch, to monitor estrus intensity. As the patch surface ink rubs off, it indicates the cow is starting to exhibit estrus. If 50% or more of the surface ink has rubbed off, that’s a sign the cow is going into high estrus intensity.

Create More Value Per Pregnancy

There is an opportunity with estrus detection to determine which females are the best candidates to breed with higher-value genetics or sexed semen to create more value from each pregnancy. “For those females showing high estrus intensity, more expensive semen or sexed semen can be utilized with higher success,” says Fontes. “Then, the females in lower estrus intensity or showing no estrus can be bred with lower-priced semen. This is another strategy that can help us control the cost of pregnancy.”

Semen from sires that are higher value typically have more performance such as higher weaning weight, yearling weight and marbling which generates additional revenue down the road.

The use of sexed semen is a way to increase the profit potential of pregnancy, too. Steers are worth more than heifers, so breeding for more males is a way to capture additional revenue during strong cattle markets. Also, if you are looking to rebuild your cow herd or develop replacement heifers to sell, sexed semen can be utilized to breed for additional females.

“There are a lot of things that can go south when it comes to reproductive management, but if you do the basics right, you’ll be able to make a big impact on pregnancy rates,” says Fontes. “Beef cows are pretty resilient animals, and if you give them the conditions to perform, they usually do.”

Benefits of Early Culling Open Breeding Heifers

by Mark Z. Johnson, Oklahoma State University Extension

Early culling of open breeding heifers has several benefits to your cow-calf operation’s bottom line. Pregnancy can be diagnosed by palpation at 60 days and by ultrasound as early as 30 days, so now is the time to take action and cull the open heifers. In addition to reducing grazing pressure on pastures there are several other long-term benefits. Typically, we should expect well-developed yearling heifers, at 65% of their mature weight, going into their first breeding season to conceive in a fairly short (45–60 days) breeding season. The easiest time in a beef breeding females’ life to get bred should be as a well-developed yearling heifer. Because of this, culling open heifers as soon as possible leads to the following:

Improved long-term reproductive performance of your cow herd. Reproductive traits are low in heritability; nevertheless, culling open heifers will improve the genetic potential for reproductive performance in your cow herd by eliminating the sub-fertile heifers. From a business standpoint, reproductive success (percent calf crop weaned) is of critical economic importance in the cow-calf sector.

Culling open yearling heifers right now still gives them the potential to be marketed as yearlings. At this age they still have the potential to finish out while in the A maturity group and harvest as fed cattle reaching the most valuable quality grades (Choice and Prime).

It is good management practice to breed heifers to calve a little ahead of our mature cow herd. It permits us to concentrate our management efforts during the heifer’s calving season and, as importantly, to give them a little extra time to breed back and calve on schedule the following year. With this in mind, hold your replacement heifers accountable. Cull opens as soon as practical to save on feed bills, capture their maximum value, and improve the fertility of your cow herd. ■

Cargill Unveils New “State of Steak” Report, Revealing what Diners Really Want from Steak in Foodservice

Cargill recently released its first-ever “State of Steak — Foodservice Edition” report, a comprehensive look at how consumer expectations for steak are evolving across the foodservice landscape. Built on new proprietary research, the report highlights the emotional and economic significance of steak — and the growing pressures on operators to get it right.

“Steak is more than just a protein — it’s a signal of quality, indulgence, and experience,” said Glendon Taylor, Marketing Director for Cargill’s North American Food Business. “Our research shows that steak can be a business driver for restaurants, but only if it consistently delivers on expectations like doneness, tenderness, and presentation. That’s why understanding the guest mindset is critical.”

To help operators navigate these shifting expectations, the report dives into the specific factors shaping today’s steak experience — from changing consumer preferences and definitions of quality to the operational challenges restaurants face in delivering consistently exceptional steak. Here are some of the most impactful insights revealed by the report:

- **The “Steaks” Are High:** One in four steak consumers reported being dissatisfied with their last restaurant steak, citing issues with doneness, cut availability, or inconsistent quality. In today’s competitive landscape, where past experience is the #1 driver of restaurant choice, missing the mark on steak is a missed opportunity for loyalty.
- **Brands Should Raise the “Steaks” on Menu Development:** The report found that guests gravitate toward the “Big Four” steak cuts — ribeye, sirloin, filet, and New York strip — and increasingly want menu clarity and flexibility. Foodservice operators that clearly label grades, offer recognizable cuts, and provide steak in a range of formats are better positioned to meet evolving expectations and maximize menu performance.
- **Steak Carries an Emotional Power:** Whether it’s a celebration, indulgence, or reward, steak holds deep meaning for diners. The report encourages operators to align menu messaging, format, and pricing with emotional need states — and to position steak as a premium everyday indulgence, not just a special-occasion splurge.

Cargill’s research points to several clear opportunities for foodservice operators looking to elevate the steak experience. Training both front- and back-of-house teams is essential, from servers who can confidently guide guests through cuts and doneness levels, to chefs who consistently deliver on flavor, texture, and visual presentation. Menus should feature the most popular cuts, highlight quality cues like USDA grade and “no artificial ingredients,” and offer flexibility in sizing and formats to appeal to a wider range of guests. And because steak is often tied to special occasions for consumers, restaurants can unlock additional value by pairing the steak experience with timely promotions or messaging that taps into celebration, indulgence, or comfort.

JBS USA Enters Agreement to Acquire and Expand Production Facility in Ankeny, Iowa

JBS USA recently announced it has reached an agreement to purchase a production facility in Ankeny, Iowa, with plans to build out the largest ready-to-eat bacon and ready-to-eat sausage plant in the company’s US portfolio. The facility was previously owned and operated by Hy-Vee.

The 186,000-square-foot facility will be transformed to produce fully cooked bacon and sausage products. The location previously produced other types of food for Hy-Vee stores. Due to the type of work involved, JBS is looking to hire former employees who previously worked at the facility for the retailer. After the initial capital investments and construction are complete, the plant is expected to be operational by mid-2026 and to create approximately 400 jobs when all phases of the project are finished.

“This announcement aligns with our long-term strategy of offering more value-added and prepared foods products to meet the needs of our customers and consumers,” said Wesley Batista Filho, JBS USA Chief Executive Officer. “We are proud to grow our operations in Iowa, where we already operate four production facilities, with another expected to break ground later this year.”

In May, the company announced its intention to build a state-of-the-art fresh sausage production facility in Perry, Iowa. JBS also operates plants in Council Bluffs, Marshalltown, and Ottumwa. “This facility in Ankeny will not only expand our prepared foods business in the US, it will also benefit from synergies and strategic supply of product from our other plants in the region,” said Rick Foster, Head of JBS USA Prepared Foods.

In 2021, JBS USA opened a fully cooked bacon facility in Moberly, Missouri, which has already been through an expansion. In Perry, the fresh sausage plant will provide raw material to this new facility, allowing the company to produce fully cooked sausage items in addition to bacon, supporting ongoing efforts to meet increasing customer demand for these types of products.

With a focus on supporting rural America and investing in its team members, JBS USA will offer its signature Hometown Strong and Better Futures programs in Ankeny. Through Hometown Strong, the company is investing significantly in rural communities across the US and Canada, supporting infrastructure, childcare, housing, schools, and more. The Better Futures program provides tuition-free community college for team members and their children. ■

A photograph of a herd of cattle being driven by four cowboys on horseback through a metal corral. The scene is set at sunset, with a warm orange and yellow sky. The cattle are in the foreground, and the cowboys are further back. The overall tone is professional and emphasizes the traditional aspects of cattle ranching.

TRUST THE ORIGINAL

The first multi-breed evaluation is still cattlemen's first choice.



FDA Approves Dectomax-CA1 for Prevention and Treatment of New World Screwworm

by Angie Stump Denton, Bovine Veterinarian

In late September, the US Food and Drug Administration conditionally approved Dectomax-CA1 (doramectin injection) injectable solution for the prevention and treatment of New World Screwworm larval infestations, and prevention of NWS reinfection for 21 days.

According to Zoetis, this conditional approval applies to beef cattle, female dairy cattle less than 20 months of age, pregnant beef cows, newborn calves, and bulls. “We understand the urgency with which America’s farmers and ranchers are asking for tools to fight New World Screwworm,” says FDA Commissioner Marty Makary, MD, MPH in a press release. “Today’s conditional approval — the first in the US for NWS — shows our dedication to rapidly advancing important animal medicines when they are needed most. We continue to work tirelessly to complete review of other NWS products to protect multiple animal species in the US.”

Dectomax-CA1 is eligible for conditional approval because it is intended to prevent and treat a serious or life-threatening disease in cattle, it addresses an unmet animal health need, and demonstrating effectiveness of the drug would require complex or particularly difficult studies.

“Under this conditional approval, the FDA has determined the drug is safe and has a reasonable expectation of effectiveness. We are making this treatment available to cattle producers immediately while the sponsor collects the data needed for a full approval,” says Timothy Schell, PhD, acting director of the FDA’s Center for Veterinary Medicine. “The FDA will continue to expedite review of animal drugs to help the US fight this devastating threat to our nation’s livestock and the livelihoods of the farmers and ranchers who care for them.”

Dectomax is already fully approved under a New Animal Drug Application for treatment and control of certain nematode and arthropod parasites in cattle and swine. Dectomax and Dectomax-CA1 contain the same active ingredient (doramectin injection) at the same dose. Because the original approval of Dectomax included adequate target animal safety studies, manufacturing information, and human food safety information, the FDA did not require new information to support those aspects for the conditional approval of Dectomax-CA1.

“New World Screwworm has the potential to bring unprecedented economic and animal health harm to livestock producers,” says Mike Lormore, DVM, MS, MBA, director of cattle and pork technical services at Zoetis. “Our top priority is to support keeping animals healthy and provide timely, efficacious solutions to our customers and partners. With this conditional approval, Dectomax-CA1 Injectable can now be used as part of safe, effective control measures against New World Screwworm.”

The withdrawal period for cattle is 35 days for Dectomax-CA1, as it is for Dectomax. Warnings to prevent drug residues in meat from treated cattle are the same for Dectomax-CA1 as for Dectomax: Not for use in female dairy cattle 20 months of age or

older. A withdrawal period has not been established for this product in pre-ruminating calves. Do not use in calves to be processed for veal.

In the first half of 2026, producers and veterinarians will begin to see the 250-milliliter and 500-milliliter bottles of Dectomax Injectable with a new label for Dectomax-CA1 (doramectin injection). Dectomax-CA1 is the same effective doramectin formulation as Dectomax Injectable. Dectomax-CA1 label will contain both Dectomax and Dectomax-CA1 indications while each drug has a unique application number.

To reduce the risk of antiparasitic resistance and preserve drug effectiveness against other parasites, producers and veterinarians are encouraged to use antiparasitic drugs like Dectomax-CA1 only when medically necessary, in accordance with the product labeling, and as part of a comprehensive parasite management strategy.

Livestock producers are encouraged to work closely with their herd veterinarian to implement strategic prevention and control measures. Visit Zoetis’ website for more information about Dectomax-CA1.

The Effects of Aging Period and Freezing Sequence on Consumer Palatability Ratings, Tenderness, and Color Stability of Longissimus Dorsi, Semitendinosus, and Biceps Femoris Steaks

Kansas State University

The objective of this recent Kansas State University study was to examine the effect of freezing and aging sequence on palatability, overall tenderness, and objective color readings of three different beef muscles and two aging periods.

The longissimus dorsi (LD; ribeye), semitendinosus (ST; eye of round), and biceps femoris (BF; bottom round) were fabricated into one-inch steaks, and assigned to one of the following treatment combinations: age (21 days) then freeze, freeze then age (21 days), age (28 days) then freeze, or freeze then age (28 days). Consumers evaluated samples for flavor, juiciness, tenderness, overall liking, and acceptability for each sensory trait. Samples designated for Warner-Bratzler shear force (WBSF) were allowed 20 minutes to bloom for raw color evaluation and then cooked for analysis.

The freezing treatment or aging period did not impact ($P > 0.05$) consumer sensory rating of tenderness, flavor, or overall liking. The consumers rated the ribeye as the juiciest ($P < 0.05$) compared to the eye of round and bottom round. As expected, the ribeye resulted in the highest ($P < 0.05$) tenderness rating for the consumer. The ribeye had the lowest ($P < 0.05$) WBSF values, indicating it was the most tender. Within flavor, the consumers rated the ribeye as the most flavorful ($P < 0.05$) followed by the eye of round, and then the bottom round. For raw and cooked color, the L^* (lightness) values differed ($P < 0.05$) between all main effects, including freezing treatments (Age Freeze > Freeze Age), aging periods (21 days > 28 days), and

muscle (ST > LD > BF). These results showed freezing and then aging or aging and then freezing does not affect palatability or shear force values. This indicates that reversing the freezing order is not an effective way to improve the tenderness of historically tough muscles.

The bottom line: The results indicate reversing the typical age and freezing order does not improve tenderness and therefore is not a valid way to improve palatability of historically tough muscles.

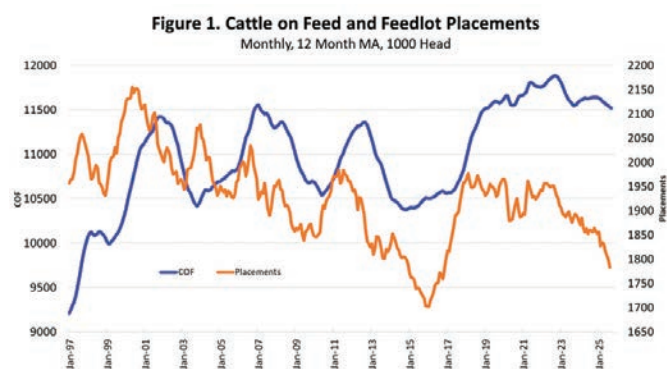
The full report is available at newprairiepress.org.

Feedlot Production Continues to Decline

by Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension

The September 1 feedlot total was 11.08 million head, down 1.1% year-over-year and the tenth consecutive monthly decrease compared to one year earlier. Feedlot inventories continue to decline slowly. Average inventories the past year are down just 3.1% from the peak in 2022, but the September 12-month moving average is at the lowest level since January 2019. With the September on-feed total up slightly from the previous month, the August total was likely the seasonal low for the year. The feedlot inventory on August 1 this year was the lowest monthly inventory since October 2017.

Total feedlot production is declining more rapidly than the slowly declining feedlot inventories would indicate. Feedlot placements in August were 90.1% of last year and the smallest August placement total since 2015. Figure 1 shows the relative comparison between 12-month moving averages of cattle on-feed and feedlot placements. Placements have declined more than the on-feed inventory up to this point, aided by a slower turnover rate in feedlots.



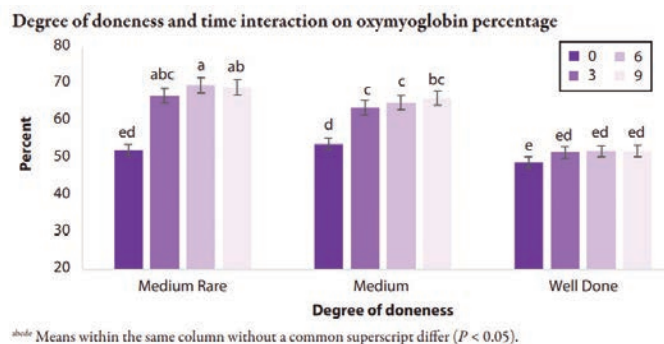
August marketings were down 13.6% compared to last year. Feedlot marketings for the first eight months of 2025 are down 5.4% year-over-year. Average feedlot marketings the past year are down 8.2% from peak average marketings in 2022. Smaller calf crops and limited feeder cattle supplies mean there are fewer cattle available for feedlot production. Feedlot production and beef production are expected to continue to decline into 2027.

The Impact of Degree of Doneness, Muscle Source, and Bloom Time on Cooked Color and Cooked Color Stability

Kansas State University

This recent Kansas State University study examined the differences in color stability among three different muscles cooked to varying degrees of doneness by taking color readings at four different time points. Steaks from longissimus lumborum (LL), psoas major (PM), and semitendinosus (ST) were cooked to medium rare (MR), medium (MED), or well done (WD) degree of doneness (DOD). Color was measured at zero, three, six, and nine minutes to observe color stability changes.

There was an interaction ($P < 0.05$) between DOD and muscle for L^* (lightness) readings. The ST had the highest L^* reading within the MR and MED DOD followed by the LL; however, there were no differences between muscles ($P > 0.05$) within the WD DOD. The zero-minute readings had a lower ($P < 0.05$) L^* reading in comparison to nine minutes, while not being different ($P > 0.05$) from three or six minutes. Similar to the L^* readings, there was an interaction ($P < 0.05$) between DOD and muscle for a^* (redness) readings. Within the MED DOD, the ST had the highest ($P < 0.05$) a^* reading, followed by the LL, while the LL had the highest ($P < 0.05$) a^* reading within the MR and WD DOD. There was an interaction ($P < 0.05$) between DOD and muscle and DOD and time for the oxymyoglobin (OMb, indicates color stability) percentage. Within the MR samples, the LL and ST muscles resulted in similar ($P > 0.05$) OMb percentage. The MR DOD had the highest ($P < 0.05$) OMb percentage for three, six, and nine minutes, while the zero-minute readings for MR and MED were similar ($P > 0.05$) and higher ($P < 0.05$) than all-time points for the WD DOD.



The bottom line: Muscle influences cooked color and its stability, so if there are significant differences among muscles, it might be necessary to provide consumers with specific cooking instructions for each muscle. The full report is available at newprairiepress.org.

In Memoriam...



Forrest Lucas

Cross Timbers, Missouri

Forrest Lucas, owner of Lucas Cattle Company and founder of Lucas Oil, passed away peacefully on August 23, 2025, at the age of 83. Born in 1942 in Jackson County, Indiana, Forrest's journey from a modest upbringing to transformative business leader is a testament to his vision, determination, commitment to honesty, and integrity in all his dealings. He learned the value of hard work and self-reliance from an early age when he took on caring for his family's fourth-generation farm.

In 1964, he purchased his first semi-truck and hauled freight across the country. Soon he invested in a fleet of trucks and began experimenting with oils, lubricants, and additives to find the most cost-effective solutions to cover more miles and avoid mechanical failures. Driven by resourcefulness and an inventive mind, he founded Lucas Oil alongside his wife Charlotte in 1989. The company specialized in oils and fuel treatments for the truck industry but soon grew to include almost any machine with an engine or moving part. Under his leadership, Lucas Oil grew into one of America's most respected and loved brands, known for its groundbreaking advancements in automotive high-performance lubricants and additives.

Lucas Cattle Company is an industry-leading SimGenetics producer. The Lucas family first became involved with SimGenetics cattle around 20 years ago, and has since built a 1,400-head seed-stock herd. They also run a 1,000-head commercial herd. The annual bull sale, held in October, markets over 100 head of SimAngus and Simmental bulls, as well as a large group of spring-bred heifers.

Forrest is survived by his wife, Charlotte; his children, Dwayne Lucas, Mike (Genny) Lucas, Kathy (Gary) Bowling, and Morgan (Katie) Lucas; his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and his sisters Carol (Larry) Cummins, Connie Jo Schooler, and Brenda Harris. Forrest was preceded in death by his parents, Raymond and Marie Lucas; children, Greg Lucas and Tammy Vanlaningham; and step-son Bobby Lucas.

In Memoriam...



Travis Pembroke

Fairview, Oklahoma

Travis Pembroke passed away on Friday, August 22, 2025. He grew up with registered Angus cattle in Oklahoma. Travis helped exhibit cattle at state fairs and shows across the nation. Throughout high school, he was an active member in the Fairview FFA Chapter, receiving both the State FFA and American FFA Degrees. Travis graduated from Fairview High School in 1992 and pursued further education at Oklahoma State University.

Travis met the love of his life, Beth Ann Murphy, in 1995 when Travis went to Lexington, Kentucky, to help with show cattle at an operation managed by Beth's father. Together, they

continued Pembroke Cattle Company, taking over managing the cattle operation. Travis also decided to use the talents he gained over the years working on show cattle to start a custom fitting service. Within two years the custom fitting service had gotten bigger than they could have imagined. There were times when the two had more than 80 head that had been sent in from across the United States and Canada.

Travis and Beth also started to have sales of their own. As their breeding cattle operation started to grow and the Pembroke's were starting to market a lot of cattle, the cattle were going out and winning at numerous shows around the country. Travis enjoyed hosting small group cattle camps in the summer that helped train youth in the basic skills of show cattle selection, preparation, nutrition, and showmanship. He served in the Fairview community as the president of the Fairview School Board from 2016 until his passing. He was also a member of the Fairview Mennonite Brethren Church. Travis was a board member of the American Chianina Association and a board member of the "Live Like Lily Foundation" that provides scholarships in memory of Lily Romanchuck. Travis had a passion for flying his Cessna 182 airplane and had his private pilot license.

Travis is survived by his wife, Beth (Murphy) Pembroke, and children, Bret and Bryson Pembroke of Fairview; parents Lonnie and LaDonna Pembroke of Fairview; father-in-law David Murphy (Shelby) of Lexington, KY; sister Jackie Sperling (Andy) of Claremore; brother-in-law Dale Murphy of Lexington, KY; niece Kate Sperling and nephew Evan Sperling of Claremore; and maternal grandmother Joyce Martens of Fairview. He is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Jack and Lorene Pembroke; maternal grandfather, Don Martens; and mother-in-law Linda (Holland) Murphy.

ASA Welcomes Dr. Ben Crites



The American Simmental Association is excited to welcome Dr. Ben Crites to the team as the ASA and IGS Director of Commercial and Industry Relations. Ben grew up in southwest Michigan where his family owns a Christmas tree farm. He received his undergraduate degree from Michigan State University and completed his master's and PhD in Reproductive Physiology at the University of Kentucky. His doctoral research focused on the impacts of selenium on beef cattle fertility. During his tenure at the University of Kentucky, he also served as an Extension associate and assisted with Extension programs throughout the commonwealth.

Most recently, Ben served as the director of Beef Market Development at STgenetics, where he co-managed the beef team, conducted customer meetings, and assisted with sire acquisition. Ben and his wife, Jamie, reside in Paris, Kentucky, with their son McCoy. As a family, they enjoy traveling and visiting new places together. "We are in exciting times in the US beef industry, with record high prices being captured across the country. As the US cow herd rebuilds, there are great opportunities for producers to utilize Simmental and Sim-influenced genetics to increase performance, while keeping mature cow weight in check," Ben shared.

(Continued on page 52)



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(Continued from page 00)

Dr. Wade Shafer Honored with 2025 Red Angus Association of America Industry Service Award



Dr. Wade Shafer was recognized with the Red Angus Association (RAAA) of America's 2025 Industry Service Award during the 72nd Annual National Red Angus Convention in Loveland, Colorado. The award honors individuals, companies, and organizations whose efforts have significantly advanced the Red Angus breed and the beef industry. Shafer's first exposure to Red Angus came as a graduate student in animal

breeding at Colorado State University in the mid-80s, when the RAAA's genetic evaluation program was centered there. That experience left a lasting impression.

"It became obvious to me that RAAA and its members were highly focused on the traits of greatest economic impact on cow-calf production," Shafer said. "At that time, it would have been fair to conclude that RAAA was the lone ranger in that area."

Though he later spent his career with the American Simmental Association (ASA), including serving as executive vice president, Shafer said he has always considered himself "breed agnostic," in that he supports utilizing any breed and sires within those breeds that improve profitability for cattle producers. "If

you're truly a proponent of crossbreeding, you are necessarily breed agnostic and, logically, an advocate for genetic improvement across all breeds and breed combinations," he explained.

That perspective helped fuel the creation of International Genetic Solutions (IGS), a collaboration founded by RAAA and ASA that has evolved into the world's largest and most powerful beef cattle genetic evaluation. "To be acknowledged by RAAA affirms that the collaboration RAAA and ASA initiated a decade and a half ago has been appreciated."

Shafer credits his lifelong mentor, former Colorado State University professor Richard Bourdon, PhD, of Rapid Canyon Red Angus, for shaping his outlook on cattle breeding and introducing him to the Red Angus community. He also noted Greg Comstock's role in helping launch IGS and Tom Brink's efforts as a tireless advocate for the collaboration.

Looking ahead, Shafer plans to continue his involvement with IGS following his retirement from ASA. He said Red Angus cattle will remain an important part of genetic progress in the beef industry. "Due to their outstanding maternal characteristics, they make a very logical and viable component in crossbreeding systems," Shafer said. "It has been said, and I would agree, that RAAA has a larger proportion of members who are focused on genetic improvement than any other breed. Their support of and partnership in IGS solidifies their commitment to the beef industry — a commitment that transcends the role of a typical breed association by serving the industry above all." ■

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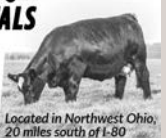
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VOL. VI

DECEMBER 19, 2025

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DECEMBER
19 2025

DNA Services (Contact ASA For Testing Kits)

Genomic Tests:

*GGP-100K	\$50
GGP-uLD	\$40

**Add-on tests available*

	Stand Alone ↓	Add-on ↓
SNP Parental Verification	\$20	Free
STR Parental Verification	\$40	\$18
Coat Color	\$22	\$9
Red Charlie	\$26	\$19
Horned/Polled	\$38	\$22
PMel (Diluter)	\$22	\$3
Oculocutaneous Hypopigmentation (OH) ...	\$29	\$16
BVD PI	\$6	
Bovine Congestive Heart Failure (BCHF) ...	\$19.50	\$9.50
Semen Sample Processing Fee	\$10.00	

Genetic Conditions Panel \$29

(Must run with GGP-100K)

Arthrogryposis Multiplex (AM)
Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH)
Developmental Duplication (DD)
Tibial Hemimelia (TH)
Pulmonary Hypoplasia with Anasarca (PHA)
Osteopetrosis (OS)
Contractural Arachnodactyly (CA)

(Individual defect tests can be ordered for \$29.)

***Research Fee charged at \$1.00/min – Includes but is not limited to:
DNA re-checks to more than 2 additional parents, multi-sire pastures,
excess time spent to confirm parentage, mis-identified samples,
and samples arriving at lab without proper ASA paperwork.*

****Prices are subject to change*

DNA Collector Fees: AllFlex TSU - \$23.00 (box of 10) • AllFlex Applicator - \$90.00 • Blood Cards - \$1.00 ea. (processing fee)
Hair Cards - \$5.00 ea. (processing fee) • Sample Pull Fee - \$3.00 ea.

THE Enrollment

Spring 2026 THE Enrollment – (dams calve January 1–June 30) –
Early enrollment open October 15 through **December 15, 2025**.
Late enrollment available until February 15, 2026.

Fall 2026 THE Enrollment – (dams calve July 1–December 31) –
Early enrollment open April 15 through **June 15, 2026**.
Late enrollment available until August 15, 2026.

	Option A (TR)	Option B (SR)	Option C	Option D (CM)
Early Enrollment	\$15.00	FREE	\$7.50	\$500/herd
*Late Enrollment	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$8.50	\$500/herd
*Late enrollment fees				

A re-enrollment fee of \$35.00 applies to any dam that is removed from inventory and re-enters the herd at a later date.

A member who has dropped out of THE and wishes to return, may do so for the next enrollment season. Re-enrollment fee is \$35 per animal (maximum of \$350) plus enrollment fees. Non-THE registration fees will apply to the calendar year when a member did not participate in THE.

American Simmental Association Fees

First Time Membership Fee:

Adult First Time Membership Fee*	\$160
<i>(Includes: \$50 set-up fee and \$110 AMF)</i>	
Junior First Time Membership Fee*	\$40
Prefix Registration	\$10

**After January 1: \$105 for Adults and \$40 for Juniors*

Annual Service Fee (ASF)*:

Adult Membership	\$110
Junior Membership	\$40

Fiscal year runs from July 1 – June 30

Registration Fees:

Registration Fees enrolled in THE

Enrolled in Option A	No Charge
Enrolled in Opt B or C <10 months	\$30
Enrolled in Opt B or C 10 months <15 months. ...	\$40
Enrolled in Opt B or C >15 months	\$50

Transfer Fees:

First Transfer	No Charge
<i>Subsequent Transfers</i>	
Within 60 calendar days of sale	\$10
Over 60 calendar days after sale	\$30

Additional Transactions:

Priority Processing <i>(not including shipping or mailing)</i>	\$50
Corrections	\$5

Registration Foreign/Foundation Fees:

Register Foundation Cow	\$5
Register Foundation Bull	\$25

Registration Fees not enrolled in THE:

Non-THE <10 months	\$42
Non-THE 10 months <15 months	\$52
Non-THE >15 months	\$62



TNT Assurance J455 ASA# 3942173

CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
8	2.7	115	180	.41	5	31	88	.23	1.12	145	98

Adj. WW: 833 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,490 lbs.



RF Caliber 014G ASA# 4017365

CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
4	6.7	111	172	.39	3	18	73	-.06	1.08	112	86

Adj. WW: 893 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,538 lbs.



LCDR Anthem 33K ASA# 4113686

CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
15	-1	100	158	.36	8	21	71	.67	1.09	182	109

Adj. WW: 805 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,341 lbs.



Bridle Bit Recharge K256 ASA# 4058272

CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
15	-2.1	85	137	.32	9.5	30	73	.67	1.34	180	103

Adj. WW: 728 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,232 lbs.



KBHR Revolution H071 ASA# 3789458

CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
12	1.5	107	163	.35	4.7	23	77	.43	1.16	165	104

Adj. WW: 799 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,518 lbs.

For catalogs and information:



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EPD as of 8.26.25

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LBRS Genesis G69 ASA# 3603651

CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
9	2.8	114	173	.7	4	24	81	1	.98	189	120

Adj. WW: 767 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,325 lbs.



Hook's Galileo 210G ASA# 3563620

CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
18	-2.4	90	140	.31	12	36	81	1.22	.67	208	115

Adj. WW: 714 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,329 lbs.



Ellingson Ace J183 ASA# 3940088

CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
7	3.5	108	167	.36	3	30	84	.24	1.23	118	93

Adj. WW: 929 lbs. Adj. YW: 1,641 lbs.



Miss R Plus 3007A ASA# 3979131

CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	MARB	REA	\$API	\$TI
7	3.6	74	115	.25	7	25	62	.05	.96	111	73

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NOVEMBER

- 8 Gibbs Farms' 20th Annual Bull & Replacement Female Sale — Ranburne, AL
- 8 MSA Fall Harvest Sale — Springfield, MO
- 13 Bickel Brothers' Simmentals' Feeder Calf Sale — Mobridge, SD
- 14-16 Boyle Ranch's Red, White and Beautiful Fleckvieh Female Sale —
www.auctions.boylerranchfleckvieh.com
- 15 Lazy C Diamond Ranch's Annual Sale — Kintyre, ND (BC)
- 15 Next Step Cattle Co.'s Annual Sale — Livingston, AL
- 15 Strickland Cattle's 14th Annual Bull and Female Sale — Glennville, GA
- 17 Bichler Simmentals' 21st Annual Production Sale — Linton, ND
- 19 Anderson Cattle Company's Online Simmental Female Sale — www.dvauction.com
- 22 C&C Farms' Clear Vision Fall Sale — Jefferson, GA
- 22 Great Lakes Beef Connection Bred Female Sale — Clare, MI
- 22 Stanley Martins' Farms Dispersal Sale — Decorah, IA (pgs. 10, 11)
- 23 Windy Creek Cattle Company's Female Sale — Spencer, SD
- 28 Heishman Cattle Company's Black Friday Bull Sale — Mt. Jackson, VA
- 29 Nolan and Bagby's Breeding for the Future 14th Bull and Female Sale — Rockfield, KY
- 29 Trennepohl Farms' Right by Design Sale — Middletown, IN

DECEMBER

- 5 Yardley Cattle Co's Focus on the Female Sale — Beaver, UT (pg. 5)
- 6 Jewels of the Northland Sale — Clara City, MN
- 6 Western Choice Simmental Sale — Billings, MT (pg. 65)
- 6 T-Heart Ranch and L-Cross Ranch High Altitude Female Sale — La Garita, CO
- 10 Keller Broken Heart Ranch's Replacement Bred Heifer Dispersal — Mandan, ND (pgs. 16, 17)
- 11 University of Tennessee Performance Tested Bull Sale — Lewisburg, TN
- 12 The Midwest Made Elite Female Sale — Prairie City, IA
- 12 NDSA's Classic Sale — Mandan, ND (pg. 67)
- 13 North Alabama Bull Evaluation Sale — Cullman, AL
- 13 Sandeen Genetics' Buildin' A Brand Sale — Blakesburg, IA (pg. 7)
- 13 South Dakota Simmental Association's State Sale — Mitchell, SD
- 14 Trauernicht Simmental's Nebraska Platinum Standard Sale — Beatrice, NE
- 19 Buck Creek Ranch's Grand Event Vol. VI — Yale, OK (pg. 59)
- 20 Griswold Cattle Company's Classic Female Sale — Stillwater, OK

JANUARY 2026

- 5 Little Bitterroot Ranch's Private Treaty Sale (Beginning) — Hot Springs, MT
- 9 Diamond Bar S Bull Sale — Great Falls, MT (pg. 55)
- 11 Bricktown National Simmental Sale — Oklahoma City, OK
- 15 Walking 5 Ranch's Annual Bull Sale — Lavina, MT
- 18 The One and Only Simmental Sale — Denver, CO
- 20 Franzen Simmental's Production Sale — Leigh, NE
- 20 Powerline Genetics' Arapahoe Sale — Arapahoe, NE
- 23 Double J Farms' 52nd Annual Bull and Female Sale — Garretson, SD (pg. 57)
- 23 Ellingson Simmentals' Annual Production Sale — Dahlen, ND (pgs. 56, 61)
- 24 Cow Camp Ranch's Annual Spring Bull Sale — Lost Springs, KS (pg. 54)
- 24 Forster Farms' 47th Annual Production Sale — Smithfield, NE
- 24 J&C Simmentals' Annual Bull Sale — Arlington, NE (pg. 55)
- 25 Triangle J Ranch's Bull Sale — Miller, NE (pg. 55)
- 26 APEX Cattle's Annual "Heterosis Headquarters" Bull and Female Sale — Dannebrog, NE
- 31 The Vision Elite Bred Female Sale — Des Moines, IA

FEBRUARY 2026

- 1 Hartman Cattle Company's 12th Annual Simmental Bull Sale — Tecumseh, NE
- 2 46th Annual Gateway "Breeding Value" Bull Sale — Lewistown, MT
- 2 Bell Simmentals' Annual Production Sale — Fordville, ND
- 2 Long Simmentals' 6th Annual Production Sale — Creston, IA
- 3 Koepplin's Black Simmental 38th Annual Bull Sale — Mandan, ND
- 4 Begger's Diamond V Big Sky Genetic Source Bull Sale — Wibaux, MT (pg. 55)
- 5 K-LER Cattle Company's Annual Sale — St. Charles, MN (pg. 54)
- 5 Genetic Edge Production Sale — Mandan, ND

- 5 Stavick Simmental's King of the Range Bull Sale — Veblen, SD (pg. 57)
- 6 Kunkel Simmentals' Annual Production Sale — New Salem, ND
- 6 Silver Dollar Simmentals' 2nd Annual Bull Sale — Rugby, ND
- 7 Gibbs Farms' 3rd Annual Spring Sale — Ranburne, AL
- 7 Klain Simmental Ranch's Annual Production Sale — Ruso, ND
- 7 Ruby Cattle Company's Annual Bull Sale — Murray, IA
- 7 Springer Simmental's Sale of Value Based Genetics — Decorah, IA
- 8 Oak Meadow Farms' 8th Annual Production Sale — Cresco, IA
- 9 Nelson Livestock Company's Production Sale — Wibaux, MT
- 9 Prickly Pear Simmental Ranch's Bull Sale — Helena, MT
- 10 Kaelberer Ranch Production Sale — Mandan, ND (pg. 56)
- 10 Werning Cattle Company's 45th Annual Production Sale — Emery, SD
- 11 Jackpot Cattle Co.'s Annual Private Treaty Bull and Heifer Sale — Miller, SD
- 11 River Creek Farms 36th Annual Production Sale — Manhattan, KS (pg. 54)
- 11 Traxinger Simmental's Annual Bull Sale — Houghton, SD
- 12 Bar CK "Profit Sharing" Bull Sale — Culver, OR
- 12 Lassle Ranch Simmentals' 33rd Annual Production Sale — Glendive, MT
- 13 11th Annual Modoc Bull Sale — Alturas, CA
- 13 Bred for Balance Sale — Starbuck, MN
- 13 Jared Werning Cattle's 4th Annual Production Sale — Parkston, SD
- 13 TNT Simmentals' 41st Annual "Carrying On" the Explosive Difference Sale — Lehr, ND (pg. 56)
- 14 CK Cattle and Wager Cattle's 9th Annual Production Sale — Highmore, SD
- 14 Kenner Simmentals' 30th Annual Production Sale — Leeds, ND
- 14 Rhodes Angus Open House Bull Sale — Carlinville, IL
- 14 Rydeen Farms' Annual "Vision" Sale — Clearbook, MN
- 15 Trauernicht Simmentals' Bull Sale — Wymore, NE
- 16 Bulls of the Big Sky — Billings, MT (pg. 55)
- 16 TC Reds and Weis Cattle's Bull Sale — Saint Ansgar, IA
- 17 Quandt Brothers' 14th Annual Production Sale — Oakes, ND (pg. 56)
- 18 Hart Simmentals' 51st Annual Production Sale — Frederick, SD
- 19 Illinois Performance Tested (IPT) Bull Sale — Springfield, IL
- 20 Dakota Xpress Annual Bull and Female Sale — Mandan, ND (pg. 56)
- 20 Illinois Beef Expo Multi-Breed Sale — Springfield, IL
- 20 R&R Cattle Company's Annual Production Sale — Chamberlain, SD
- 20 Sandy Acres Simmentals' Bull Sale — Creighton, NE (pg. 55)
- 21 Flittie Simmental/Schnabel Ranch Simmentals/Lazy J Bar Ranch's Joint Production Sale — Aberdeen, SD (pg. 57)
- 25 C Diamond Simmentals' Annual Production Sale — Dawson, ND
- 26 Meyring Cattle Company's 2nd Annual Production Sale — Alliance, NE
- 28-3/7 Hofmann Simmental Farms' "Buy Your Way" Bull Sale — Clay Center, KS
- 5 Kearns Cattle Company's 37th Annual Bull Sale — Rushville, NE
- 5 Keller Broken Heart Ranch's Annual Production Sale — Mandan, ND (pg. 56)
- 6 Eichacker Simmentals' Annual Production Sale — Salem, SD (pg. 57)
- 7 Cason's Price and Joy Spring Bull Sale — Russell, IA (pg. 54)
- 7 Gibbs Farms' 3rd Annual Spring Sale — Ranburne, AL
- 7 Moriondo Farms and MM Cattle Company's Spring Production Sale — Mount Vernon, MO
- 7 Powerline Genetics' PAP-Tested Bull Sale — Castle Dale, UT
- 7 Trinity Farms' Generations of Excellence Sale — Ellensburg, WA
- 12 B&B Simmental's Bull and Heifer Auction Sale — Gregory, SD
- 13 Powerline Genetics' March Edition Bull Sale — Arapahoe, NE
- 14 Carcass Performance Partners' Bull Sale — Lucedale, MS
- 14 Gonsior Simmentals' 26th Annual "In the Heartland" Sale — Fullerton, NE
- 19 Brink Genetics' Spring Bull and Heifer Sale — Elkader, IA
- 19 Western Cattle Source's Annual Bull Sale — Crawford, NE
- 20 3C Christensen Ranch and NLC Simmental Ranch 54th Annual Production Sale — Wessington, SD (pg. 57)
- 20 Black Summit Annual Bull Sale — Powell, WY
- 20 Colorado Select Bull Sale — Fort Collins, CO
- 21 The Bull Sale at Buck Creek Ranch — Yale, OK
- 21 Lechleiter Simmentals' Annual Bull Sale — Loma, CO
- 21 Ohio Beef Expo Eastern Spring Classic Sale — Columbus, OH
- 21 Red Hill Farms' More Than a Bull Sale XXI — Lafayette, TN
- 21 TeKrony Brothers Simmental's 14th Annual Bull Sale — Clear Lake, SD
- 23 Bridle Bit Simmentals' All Terrain Bull Sale — Walsh, CO (pg. 54)
- 25 Diamond H Ranch's Annual Production Sale — Victoria, KS (pg. 54)
- 28 Clear Choice Bull Sale — Milan, IN (pg. 54)
- 28 Heishman Cattle Company's Blue Ridge Classic Sale — Mt Jackson, VA
- 28 T-Heart Ranch's High-Altitude Bull Sale — La Garita, CO (pg. 54)

APRIL 2026

- 1 Roller Ranch's 3rd Annual Bull Sale — Hewitt, MN
- 4 McDonald Farms' 23rd Annual "Pick of the Pen" Bull Sale — Blacksburg, VA
- 4 Belles and Bulls of the Bluegrass — Lexington, KY
- 4 The Gathering at Shoal Creek — Excelsior Springs, MO
- 8 WD Cattle Company's Bull Sale — Washington, KS
- 15 Trennepohl Farms' Top Ten Sale — Middletown, IN
- 17 Foster Brothers Farms' "Hybrid Advantage" Bull Sale — Wildorado, TX
- 17 Trennepohl Farms' Turn-Out Time Sale — Middletown, IN
- 25 Clear Choice Customer Sale — Milan, IN (pg. 54)
- 25 Cow Camp Ranch's Spring Turn-Out Sale — Lost Springs, KS (pg. 54)

MAY 2026

- 2 Stars and Stripes Sale — Hummelstown, PA
- 16 Mississippi/Alabama Simmental State Sale — Cullman, AL
- 18 Red Hill Farms' Maternal Monday Online Sale — www.redhillfarms.net

JUNE 2026

- 10-13 AJSA Eastern Regional Classic — Lebanon, IN ■

MARCH 2026

- 1 Windy Creek Cattle Company's Bull Sale — Spencer, SD
- 2 Hanel's Black Simmentals' 8th Annual Production Sale — Courtland, KS
- 2 S/M Fleckvieh Cattle's Private Treaty Bull Sale — Garretson, SD
- 4 Klein Ranch's Heart of the Herd Sale — Atwood, KS
- 5 22nd Annual Cattleman's Kind Bull Sale — San Saba, TX
- 5 Hill's Ranch Production Sale — Stanford, MT

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the Register is an 8 1/8 x 10 7/8 inch glossy, full-color publication that provides a direct and consistent line of communication to the ASA membership.

Ad Sales Staff

For All Your Advertising Needs



Nancy Chesterfield

406-587-2778

nchesterfield@simmgene.com



Rebecca Price

406-587-2778

rprice@simmgene.com

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One Genetics Way
Bozeman, Montana 59718 USA
406-587-2778 • Fax 406-587-8853
register@simmgene.com

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Issue	Sales Close	Ad Materials Due	Camera Ready Due	Approx Mail Date
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March '26	Jan 29	Feb 3	Feb 11	March 20
April '26	March 2	March 4	March 13	April 20
Sire Source 2026	March 5	March 9	March 13	April 20
May/June '26	March 30	April 2	April 10	May 18
July/August '26	May 22	May 27	June 5	July 13
September '26	July 31	August 4	August 13	Sept 18
October '26	August 17	August 19	August 28	Oct 5
November '26	Sept 28	Sept 30	Oct 9	Nov 16
2027 Calendar	Oct 25	Oct 27	Nov 5	Dec 18

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The ASA offers a variety of digital advertising options. For more details, visit simmental.org.

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Every effort will be made to provide proofs on all ads — if all ad material arrive in *the Register* office prior to the deadline and a correct email address or fax number is provided.

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the Register and its staff assume no responsibility or obligation to verify the accuracy and truthfulness of advertising copy submitted to *the Register*. However, *the Register* reserves the right to reject any advertising copy or photo which *the Register* deems unsuitable for publication for any reason, including copy or photographs which are false or misleading.

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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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MARLBORO MAN DONOR
PROSPECT. SELLING
SAFE IN CALF TO
CONTRABAND.



BOOMER DAUGHTER
SELLING SAFE IN CALF TO
HIGH POINT.

DEADWOOD DAUGHTER
SELLING SAFE IN CALF TO
NIGHT CAP.



ESSENTIAL DAUGHTER
SELLING SAFE IN CALF TO
MEDICINE MAN.

WESTERN *choice*

SALE SATURDAY

- 50 Registered Bred Cows and Heifers, Open Heifers
- Added this year - ELITE Embryo Packages

SIMMENTAL BANQUET

- Annual Meeting and Banquet Friday night
- Semen and Fun Auction
- Join us at 6:00 PM
- All are welcome - Please RSVP 559-696-4941

CATTLE JUDGING CONTEST

- Youth Judging Contest
- Classes and Reasons
- Contest begins at 9:00 AM on Saturday morning

REBUILD WITH SOME OF THE *most elite females in the West.*
SATURDAY - DECEMBER 6, 2025

Billings Livestock Commission at 1:00 PM MT

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Rocky Forseth 406-590-7984
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Broadcasting Real-Time Auctions

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Association



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Simmental
ASSOCIATION
Classic Sale

New Sale Day:
FRIDAY, DEC. 12, 2025

1 P.M. KIST LIVESTOCK AUCTION,
MANDAN, ND

Elite Selection:

Bred Heifers | Open Heifers | Embryos
PUREBRED SIMMENTAL & SIMANGUS™ Genetics
Reds & Blacks

*Offering Donor-Quality
Females & Stunning Show
Prospects from
North Dakota's finest
Simmental breeders*

Sale Manager LOGAN HOFFMAN | 701-388-2618 |

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HIGH \$API



LCDR Anthem 33K

By HHS Entourage
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 182 \$TI: 109



KSU Bald Eagle 53G

By Hook's Eagle 6E
EPD: CE: 16 \$API: 193 \$TI: 105



CLRS Guardian 317G

By Hook's Beacon
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 193 \$TI: 109



Gibbs Culmination 2411K

By LBRS Gene205
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 205 \$TI: 121



KBHR Revolution H071

By HHS Mr 847D
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 164 \$TI: 104



KBHR Keynote K229

By CLRS Guardian
EPD: CE: 18 \$API: 236 \$TI: 121



OMF Rest Assured J18

By OMF Epic E27
EPD: CE: 16 \$API: 166 \$TI: 84



TERS Kodiak 206K

By Gibbs Essential
EPD: CE: 18 \$API: 175 \$TI: 91



HLTS/CLRWTR Ahead of Time K1

By ES Right Time FA 110-4
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 163 \$TI: 92



CLRWTR Clear Advantage H4G

By LLSF Vantage Point F398
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 151 \$TI: 95



Bar CK Red Empire 9153G

By IR Imperial
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 170 \$TI: 92



KBHR Charger K102

By Mr SR Red October
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 197 \$TI: 103

% BULLS



5/8 SimAngus™

HA Magnifique 72L

By Hook's Galileo 210G
EPD: CE: 23 \$API: 215 \$TI: 108



3/4 SimAngus™

Schooley Krown 28K

By KBHR Revolution H071
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 166 \$TI: 105



3/4 SimAngus™

LLSF Vantage Point F398

By CCR Anchor 9071B
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 114 \$TI: 84



1/2 SimAngus™

W/C Style 69E

By Style 9303
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 133 \$TI: 76



3/4 NAILE and
NWSS Champ
3/4 SimAngus™

Reckoning 711F

By W/C Relentless 32C
EPD: CE: 6 \$API: 106 \$TI: 66



3/4 SimAngus™

W/C Fort Knox 609F

By W/C Bankroll 811D
EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 133 \$TI: 86



3/4 SimAngus™

LTS Succession 29J

By W/C Relentless 32C
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 94 \$TI: 64



3/4 SimAngus™

WHF/JS/CSS Woodford J001

By EGL Firesteel
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 141 \$TI: 81



3/4 SimAngus™

CLRS Jet Black 706J

By Redhill 231A
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 150 \$TI: 89



3/4 SimAngus™

Harkers Medicine Man 0105L

By SO Remedy
EPD: CE: 6 \$API: 91 \$TI: 73



1/2 SimAngus™

TSN Architect J618

by GAR Home Town
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 176 \$TI: 101



3/4 SimAngus™

Hook's Galileo 210G

By Bridle Bit Eclipse
EPD: CE: 18 \$API: 208 \$TI: 114

NEW HOTTIES



GCC Night Owl 3104L
By Rocking P Private Stock H010
EPD: CE: 19 \$API: 170 \$TI: 89



FRKG Classic 948K
By SO Remedy 7F
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 121 \$TI: 76



LLSF Dauntless K07
By HPF/HILL Uprising C104
EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 102 \$TI: 64



WINC All Right 213K
By OMF Epic
EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 136 \$TI: 82



SFI High Velocity K7F
By WLE Copacetic E02
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 116 \$TI: 77



W/C Satisfy 161L
By Mr SR 71 Right Now E538
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 140 \$TI: 89

Featured high-seller
to Ferguson in
Werning's '24 sale!



I Reckon 043J
By Reckoning 711F
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 123 \$TI: 75

Reserve Show
Bull of the Year



JWC Western Feel 354M
By OMF Journeyman
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 122 \$TI: 77



Only One 905K
By SFI Platinum F5Y
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 95 \$TI: 65



LLW CARD Compass 086K
By LLW CARD True North G71
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 128 \$TI: 83



TL On the Run 106K
By Second Chance
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 111 \$TI: 75



Wheatland 3-D 1142J
By CKCC LD Dimension 8965
EPD: CE: 8 \$API: 118 \$TI: 76

PROVEN



THSF Lover Boy B33
By HTP/SVF Duracell T52
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 141 \$TI: 90



Holtkamp Clac Change Is Coming 7H
By WLE Copacetic E02
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 100 \$TI: 75



Rocking P Private Stock H010
By WLE Copacetic E02
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 145 \$TI: 87



SSC Shell Shocked 44B
By Remington Secret Weapon 185
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 120 \$TI: 72



WLE Black Mamba G203
By WLE Copacetic E02
EPD: CE: 16 \$API: 136 \$TI: 83



WHF/JS/CCS Double Up G365
By W/C Double Down
EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 94 \$TI: 70



LLSF Pays To Believe ZU194
By CNS Pays To Dream T759
EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 126 \$TI: 79



LCDR Patriot 8K
By Mr Entourage
EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 164 \$TI: 101



W/C Night Watch 84E
By CCR Anchor 9071B
EPD: CE: 18 \$API: 149 \$TI: 84



Mr SR 71 Right Now E1538
By Hook's Bozeman 8B
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 145 \$TI: 93



W/C Cyclone 385H
By W/C Bankroll 811D
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 141 \$TI: 79

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025

1 PM CST @ THE RANCH - KINTYRE, ND

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60 BRED HEIFERS || SELECT EMBRYO & GENETIC LOTS

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We can't wait to visit with you about all
we have to offer on November 15th!!*



LCDR 25M | ASA: 4485270 | API: 198 TI: 110
LCDR ANTHEM X LCDR MS KOURTNEY 208K (EGL FIRESTEEL)



LCDR 20M | ASA: 4485263 | API: 142 TI: 93
MADER WALK THE LINE X CDI MISS ABUNDANCE 42E



LCDR 23M | ASA: 4485267 | API: 195 TI: 115
KBHR GUNSMOKE X LCDR MS HEIRLOOM 92H

EPDS 10/13/25



LCDR MS MAGNOLIA 155M
ASA: 4485226 | API: 169 TI: 98
LCDR ANTHEM X WHF DELILAH 45D
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