

NEWS & NOTES

Interesting tidbits from around the industry

compiled by Shauna Rose Hermel, editor

Angus Convention heads to Ohio

Cattle producers will head to Columbus, Ohio, in early November for the 2018 Angus Convention. The host site was a natural to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) brand, and the schedule includes a CAB meats judging contest, several meals featuring the product, and an open house at brand headquarters in nearby Wooster.

The event will feature the fourth-annual Angus Genomics Symposium sponsored by Neogen GeneSeek. Speakers will discuss the newest genetic advances in the beef industry and the Angus breed. Geneticist/anthropologist Spencer Wells will keynote the symposium.

Merck Animal Health will again sponsor Angus University, the

convention's premier educational event. This year's workshop will bring top-ranked speakers, including general session speakers Mark Nutsch and Cameron Bruett. Afternoon breakout sessions will include Angus LinkSM, marketing and advertising, modern cattle handling, CAB, genetics, foot scoring and more beef-centered subjects.

Two convention attendees will go home toting a grand prize — either a complete livestock management handling system by Priefert Rodeo & Ranch Equipment and Tru-Test, or a John Deere XUV 835M Open-Station Gator Utility Vehicle.

Delegates to the 135th Annual Convention will conduct the business of the American Angus



Coverage of ARSBC

The Angus Media editorial team coordinated online coverage for the 2018 Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle (ARSBC) symposium Aug. 29-30 in Ruidoso, N.M. The website — www.appliedreprostrategies.com — offers the summary, proceedings paper, PowerPoint presentation and video of each speaker's presentation (as available) under the website's Newsroom tab.

New Mexico State University

Cooperative Extension Service hosted the event in collaboration with the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, New Mexico Beef Council, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Beef Reproduction Task Force.

Speakers provided the latest information on the application of reproductive technologies including nutritional interactions, management and male fertility, among other topics.

Association, electing its board leadership.

Additional details about the 2018 Angus Convention are available in the convention guide polybagged with the issue and online at www.angusconvention.com.

BQA certification required

Marketing beef direct to processors or through many Michigan auction markets for full value will now require Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification. BQA conveys commonsense husbandry techniques and scientific knowledge that demonstrate commitment to animal welfare, food safety and quality, safeguard the public image of the beef and dairy industries, and uphold consumer confidence in beef.

Recently, Wendy's, the third-largest hamburger chain in the United States requested that its beef supply be responsibly produced under BQA guidelines. This has prompted Cargill Protein and Tyson Foods (as of Jan. 1, 2019) to require that purchased cattle come from operations that are BQA-feedyard-certified. Other processors may soon follow suit.

For more information, refer to the article on the Marketing page of the September 2018 *Angus Beef Bulletin EXTRA* available at www.angusbeefbulletin.com/extra.

U.S. cattle on feed up 6%

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, released its *Cattle on Feed* report Friday, Sept. 21.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.1 million head Sept. 1. The inventory was 6% above Sept. 1, 2017. This is

the highest Sept. 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.07 million head, 7% above 2017. Net placements were 2.02 million head. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds (lb.) were 430,000 head, 600-699 lb. were 335,000 head, 700-799 lb. were 460,000 head,

800-899 lb. were 475,000 head, 900-999 lb. were 240,000 head, and 1,000 lb. and greater were 130,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 1.98 million head, slightly above 2017.

Other disappearance totaled 55,000 head during August, 12% above 2017.

Table 1: Cattle on Feed inventory, placements, marketings and other disappearance, 1,000+-capacity feedlots in the United States, Sept. 1, 2017 and 2018

Item	Number (000)		% of previous year
	2017	2018	
On feed Aug. 1	10,604	11,093	105
Placed on feed during August	1,928	2,070	107
Fed cattle marketed during August	1,979	1,983	100
Other disappearance during August	49	55	112
On feed Sept. 1	10,504	11,125	106

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▶▶▶ **Operating Committee approves FY19 plan**

The Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board (CBB) will invest about \$40.5 million into programs of beef promotion, research, consumer information, industry information, foreign marketing and producer communications during fiscal year (FY) 2019, subject to USDA approval.

In action at the end of its Sept. 11-12 meeting in Denver, Colo., the operating committee approved checkoff funding for a total of 14 "Authorization Requests" — or proposals — brought by seven contractors for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 2018. The

committee, which includes 10 producers from the Beef Board and 10 producers from the Federation of State Beef Councils, also recommended full Beef Board approval of a budget amendment to reflect the split of funding between budget categories affected by their decisions.

The seven contractors had brought a total of \$45 million worth of funding requests to the operating committee, almost \$5 million more than what was available from the CBB budget.

For more, visit <http://bit.ly/2OKHtpt>.

Uruguay to host World Secretariat

Uruguay will host the 2019 World Angus Secretariat March 18-29. The meeting will include a field trip March 18-23 visiting major studs in the country. Following the field trip will be conferences, country presentations, cattle and stud shows, as well as jury and sales at the Convention Center in Punta del Este.

A related commercial and services exhibition will be hosted in conjunction with the conference from March 25-28.

The Aberdeen Angus Breeders Society of Uruguay (SCAAU) is responsible for organizing the 2019 World Angus Secretariat. For more information, visit www.angusuruguay.com.

Watch for new tick

Confirmed reports of the longhorned tick, *Haemaphysalis longicornis*, in six states have prompted a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service entomologist to alert livestock producers to its possible arrival.

Sonja Swiger, AgriLife Extension veterinary/medical entomologist at Stephenville, said the longhorned tick isn't named for the iconic bovine symbol of the Lone Star State, but rather for the distinctive, but underrated "horns" sprouting from a portion of its head.

"This tick is a relative newcomer to the United States, and though it has not been confirmed here in Texas, it has been confirmed in Arkansas," she said. "It's not at all choosy about who or upon what

mammal it feeds on or who it dines with, as it has been found feeding right alongside other external parasites."

Some ticks, like the cattle fever tick, prefer to complete their life cycle on a single host. Not the longhorned tick, which Swiger said is a three-host tick, meaning it requires three different hosts to complete its life cycle. Animals on the menu include, but are not limited to: cattle, white-tailed deer, horses, goats, sheep, dogs, cats, opossum, birds and raccoon.

For more information, see the article on the Health & Nutrition page of the August 2018 *Angus Beef Bulletin EXTRA* available at www.angusbeefbulletin.com/extra. |

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