

ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

Compiled by Julie Mais, editor

Important dates for Pathfinder

Launched in 1978, the Pathfinder® Angus Program identifies superior females in the breed based on performance data submitted through Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®). To qualify, a cow must be actively enrolled in AHIR, producing her first calf near the herd's average age for first calving. Second, her first three calves must post a minimum average weaning weight ratio of 105 in a contemporary group with a minimum of five herdmates of the same sex. Lastly, calves must be sired by a registered Angus bull.

All data on females must be received by the end of the business day Jan. 27, 2023, to be eligible for 2023 Pathfinder status. Pathfinder status will be announced Feb. 2, 2023.

At a glance

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| December 2022 | |
| 1 | Talon internship application due |
| January 2023 | |
| 6 | National Angus Bull Sale |
| 6 | Angus Foundation Heifer Package |
| 6 | Cattlemen's Congress in Oklahoma City, Okla. 150th Celebration Social |
| 10 | Angus summer internship application deadline |

National Angus Bull Sale

The 2023 National Angus Bull Sale will be Friday, Jan. 6, at 2 p.m. in the Super Barn Sale Arena during the Cattlemen's Congress in Oklahoma City, Okla. All consignments will be genomic-tested; will possess a complete set of expected progeny differences (EPDs) and dollar value indexes (\$Values); and must be free of any genetic conditions recognized by the American Angus Association.

All bulls born before Jan. 1, 2022, will have passed a complete breeding soundness examination (sometimes referred to as a BSE), physical and semen, within 30 days of the sale.

For more information about the sale, contact sale managers Jeff Mafi, at 816-344-4266 or jmafi@angus.org; or Alex Tolbert, 706-338-8733 or atolbert@angus.org.

Angus Foundation Heifer

The Angus Foundation Heifer Package will kick off the 84th National Angus Bull Sale, Friday, Jan. 6, 2023, at the Cattlemen's Congress.

The 2023 Angus Foundation Heifer Package is donated by Coleman Angus of Charlo, Mont. The heifer, Coleman Chloe 173 (AAA+*20076459), is the Coleman Chloe female with the highest maternal weaned calf value (\$M) in the ranch's herd. She is backed by a pedigree represented by the operation's most notable cow families.

The offering includes transportation to the buyer's ranch provided by Lathrop Livestock Transportation, Dundee, Ill.; and an advanced reproductive technology

package from Trans Ova Genetics, Sioux Center, Iowa.

The sale will start at 2 p.m. at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Celebrating "150 years of Angus" Social Event

Angus breeders and enthusiasts attending Cattlemen's Congress in Oklahoma City, Okla., won't want to miss the 150th Celebration Social event Friday, Jan. 6, 2023, at the Oklahoma City Fairgrounds.

Attendees will enjoy an evening of fellowship, entertainment, *hors d'oeuvres* and items sold to advance the Angus Foundation's mission of youth, education and research in the Angus breed. RSVP is not needed, and the event is casual with doors opening at 4:30 p.m. Auction will begin at 5 p.m.

CAB Refines Hot Carcass Weight Specification

Rewarding cattlemen and every segment of the beef industry for supplying consistent, premium beef has been a long-time focus for Certified Angus Beef (CAB).

It continues to be the focus as the brand adjusts its hot carcass weight specification to a maximum of 1,100 pounds (lb.). The revision is a result of the brand's continual work to evaluate progress of the industry, its specifications and make adjustments that support the industry's ability to produce the consistent, high-quality product consumers expect.

The brand's hot carcass weight specification is being adjusted from a maximum weight of 1,050-1,100 lb.

This change was implemented by the USDA and Canadian Beef Grading Agency Oct. 31, 2022.

With industry economics furthering the trend for heavier carcasses, cattle producers will have greater opportunity to capitalize on brand premiums. The brand estimates the hot carcass weight adjustment could increase the amount of certified carcasses 3-4%, adding approximately 200,000 certified carcasses to supply.

This change will have an immediate effect on supply; support brand partners and producers in navigating market dynamics driven by drought and tighter supplies and ultimately help deliver on growing consumer demand for years to come.

Angus Beef Bulletin

Advertising deadlines are fast approaching for the February issue of the *Angus Beef Bulletin*. The space reservation deadline is Jan. 3; materials deadline is Jan. 10; and the issue will arrive in mailboxes Feb. 15-20.

The *Angus Beef Bulletin* is a four-color magazine that provides commercial cattlemen management and marketing information.

To reserve an advertising space, contact your regional manager or advertising executive. You can view back issues online at www.angusbeefbulletin.com/extra/abb-back-issues.html.

AHIR Inventory Reporting

Inventory Reporting enrollment for AHIR Inventory Reporting is open from Nov. 1 to Jan. 15. The fee is \$2 for each female enrolled. This fee covers the AHIR reporting cost for the next calf crop. Annual requirements for each female enrolled in the program include reporting a calf (birth date,

sex, dam information), a reason for no calf, or a disposal code if the cow left the herd.

For members enrolling for the first time, current herd inventory can be established within your AAA Login account. For members who enrolled last year during this time period, your inventory needs updated and all females to meet requirements to reenroll. For members who enrolled in July, now is a good time to enter the fall calving information for the females in your herd. For those interested in MaternalPlus®, weaning weights and heifer breeding records are also required.

All members enrolled in the Inventory Reporting option will have the opportunity to earn the MaternalPlus designation. In addition, members who are enrolled in the Inventory Reporting program will receive the Functional Longevity research EPD when released.

For more information call 816-383-5100 or email angus@angus.org.

Don't Miss the Conversation

Keep up on the latest discussions in the breed. New segments of *The Angus Conversation*, an *Angus Journal* podcast, drop every other week on all major podcast platforms.

Listen on your phone or via the web to these recent episodes:

- Denowh, Lowe: Keeping the Maternal Breed Maternal
- Eggers, Meyer: Making Progress, Carefully
- And updates from Angus Convention

“A really good breeder told me about 30 years ago ... part of this thing is getting there as fast as you can. He said, just as importantly, never back up. So, you know, try to balance risk and reward,” said Ben Eggers, Sydenstricker Genetics,

during a recent interview.

Guests share breeding philosophies, success stories and a look to the future.

To suggest topics or send comments to hosts Mark McCully and Miranda Reiman, drop a line in the comment box at www.TheAngusConversation.com. If you enjoy the podcast, be sure to rate it or subscribe to never miss out.

SCAN TO LISTEN

or visit www.theangusconversation.com



Angus summer internships

The American Angus Association will offer internships in summer 2023. College students looking for experience in media, communications, events or genetics can visit the Angus career center at angus.org/careers to submit a cover letter, résumé and three references by Jan. 10, 2023. More information can be found on page 78.

Black Books available

Order 2023 Angus Black Books now. The pocket-sized books include a calendar and space to keep management records on your cow herd. Any quantity is available for \$4.50 each.

To order, call 816-383-5100 or email blackbooks@angus.org.

Talon Internship student applications due Dec. 1

The Talon internship program provides college-aged students the opportunity to spend their summer on an Angus operation gaining valuable, hands-on experience.

Interns will gain extensive ranching

Continued on page 96

CURRENT ASSOCIATION FEES

Following are the correct fees for various American Angus Association services. Be sure to send the correct amount of money with the work being requested, as incorrect payments are the main cause of delays.

REGISTRATIONS

- Applications for animals less than 4 months of age\$12
- Applications for animals 4-10 months of age.....\$14
- Applications for animals 10-12 months of age.....\$19
- Applications for animals more than 12 months of age.....\$32

TRANSFERS

- Applications received less than 30 days from sale date\$5
- Applications received 30-60 days from sale date.....\$7
- Applications received more than 60 days from sale date\$12

MISCELLANEOUS

- Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) fee (per first weight submitted)...\$3
- Artificial insemination (AI) service certificate.....\$10
- Regular annual membership\$80
- Regular annual membership with *Angus Journal* subscription...\$130
- Lifetime membership (optional to pay in three \$500/year installments)...\$1,500
- Junior annual membership (less than 21 years of age).....\$20
- Embryo-transfer (ET) cal.....regular registration fee plus \$10
- Cell-clone transplant calf.....regular registration fee plus \$50

BREEDER'S REFERENCE Symbols are used with a registration number to denote important information about an animal.

SYMBOL MEANING

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| # | Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire | @ | Clone-ET |
| + | Embryo transfer calf | * | Parentage qualified to both parents and the mating |
| ^ | Cell clone | | |
| % | Split-ET | | |

The American Angus Association currently recognizes the following genetic conditions:

CODE MEANING

| | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| AM | Arthrogryposis multiplex |
| CA | Contractural arachnodactyly |
| D2 | PRKG2 gene mutation for dwarfism |
| DD | Developmental duplication |
| DM | Double muscling |
| DW | Dwarfism |
| HG | Horn gene |
| HI | Heterochromia irides |
| M1 | nt821 mutation for double muscling |
| NH | Neuropathic hydrocephalus |
| OH | Oculocutaneous hypopigmentation |
| OS | Osteopetrosis |
| RD | Red gene |
| SN | Syndactyly |
| WT | Wild type color gene |

The following single-letter descriptors appearing after a genetic condition code shall have the following meaning:

- P - refers to a "potential" carrier based on an ancestor known to carry that specific mutation.
- F - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be "free" of that specific mutation.
- C - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a "carrier" of that specific mutation.
- A - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a carrier of two copies of that specific mutation. It may or may not exhibit the phenotype associated with that genetic condition.

DNA TESTING FEES

ANGUS GSSM POWERED BY NEOGEN[®]

- Neogen[®] Angus GSSM (includes Parentage)\$37
- Add Genetic Condition Bundle (includes AM, NH, CA, OS, DD, M1, D2, OH, and Coat Color).....\$18
- Add Coat Color.....\$5
- Add AM Test.....\$8
- Add NH Test.....\$8
- Add CA Test.....\$8
- Add OS Test.....\$8
- Add DD Test.....\$10
- Add M1 Test.....\$10
- Add OH Test.....\$8
- Add Dwarfism (D2) Test.....\$10
- Add BVD Test (Hair or TSU Only).....\$4.50

ZOETIS[®] GENOMIC TESTS

- Zoetis[®] HD50K (includes Parentage).....\$37
- Add Genetic Condition Bundle (includes AM, NH, CA, OS, DD, M1, D2, OH, and Coat Color).....\$18
- Add Coat Color.....\$5
- Add AM Test.....\$8
- Add NH Test.....\$8
- Add CA Test.....\$8
- Add OS Test.....\$8
- Add DD Test.....\$10
- Add M1 Test.....\$10
- Add OH Test.....\$8
- Add Dwarfism (D2) Test.....\$10
- Add BVD Test (Hair or TSU Only).....\$4.50

OTHER DNA TESTS

- Parentage.....\$18
- Genetic Condition Bundle (includes AM, NH, CA, OS, DD, M1, D2, OH, and Coat Color).....\$45
- Coat Color Test.....\$18
- Arthrogryposis Multiplex (AM) Test.....\$22
- Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH)Test.....\$22
- Contractural Arachnodactyly (CA) Test.....\$22
- Osteopetrosis (OS) Test.....\$22
- Developmental Duplication (DD) Test.....\$22
- Myostatin (M1) Test.....\$22
- Oculocutaneous Hypopigmentation (OH) Test....\$18
- Dwarfism (D2) Test.....\$22

Rules of the American Angus Association are included in the Breeder's Reference Guide. Free copies are available from the Association. An online version is available through the "Rules and Forms" link at www.angus.org.

The following letter designations describe cases in which there is more than one genetic condition present:

- XF - Free of more than one genetic condition.
- XC - Carrier of more than one genetic condition.
- XA - Affected of more than one genetic condition.
- RTF - Recessive trait free (produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a genetic defect).

knowledge while complementing their skills as advocates for the beef industry. Applications for the Angus/Talon Youth Educational Learning Program student internship are due Dec. 1.

The late Cameron "Cam" Cooper of the Talon Ranch, Twin Bridges, Mont., developed the Angus/Talon Youth Educational Learning Program Endowment Fund in 2009 to be a one-of-a-kind educational experience for students. College sophomores, juniors, seniors and graduate students under the age of 25 and majoring in an agricultural-related field of study are eligible to apply.

Students interested in participating in the program can learn more and apply at bit.ly/AngusFoundationTalonProgram.

"A Legacy Built" campaign

In 1873, a Scottish Angus breeder named George Grant brought the first Angus bulls to the prairies of Victoria, Kan., to cross with native Texas longhorn cows. The results demonstrated the Angus breed's initial value in the United States. The legacy is still being built 150 years later through the Angus Foundation.

To honor the breed's history and future, the Angus Foundation is launching the "A Legacy Built" campaign. The campaign asks every member to give \$150 to the Angus Foundation, earmarked the Angus Fund, to build unrestricted donations for Angus programs.

To be a part of "A Legacy Built," members can donate through the Angus Foundation website at www.AngusFoundation.org; mail a check to the Angus Foundation; or pledge support during events like Cattlemen's Congress, National Western Stock Show or the National Junior Angus Show.

Runft joins CAB producer communications team

CAB recently hired fifth-generation rancher Lindsay Graber Runft as director of producer communications.

Runft oversees communications strategy and leads the brand's producer-facing messaging for seedstock breeders, commercial cattlemen, cattle feeders and allied industry organizations as CAB continues working to strengthen its relationship with those who supply the brand.

A native of south-central Kansas, Runft was raised on a small family farming and ranching operation. She graduated from Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in agriculture, double-majoring in agricultural communications and animal science. Runft earned a master's degree in agricultural communications from Texas Tech University, with research focuses on media market research and crisis communications.

For more than a decade, Runft has served the livestock industry's communication needs and elevated the voice of beef producers. Prior to joining the brand, she was executive director of the Livestock Publications Council and a public relations consultant for clients, such as Kansas Beef Council. Her experience also includes leading communications efforts for Livestock Marketing Association and managing creative services for Hereford Publications, Inc.


Angus Foundation sale lot donation program

The Angus Foundation launched the Fund the Future program to provide Angus breeders a unique opportunity to give back from

their own annual production sale, consignment sale, bull sale, online genetic sale or private treaty. Proceeds will benefit the Angus Fund, which provides unrestricted dollars for the Angus Foundation's mission.

The program asks breeders to donate a percentage of their choice on both live or genetic sale lots.

The Angus Foundation will provide the program logo and footnote to distinguish a Fund the Future lot in the breeder's sale book.

For more information or to participate in the Fund the Future initiative, visit www.Angus.org/Foundation/GetInvolved/FundTheFuture. 

WHICH BODY CONDITION SCORE WILL RESULT IN BETTER REPRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE?

A.



B.



C.



The #1 factor affecting when a cow breeds back is her body condition score (BCS) on the day she calves. Moving your herd's BCS from 4 to 5 can result in a 20% increase in conception rates. Now is the time to feed CRYSTALYX® *Blueprint*® to help increase your cows' BCS.

Take your cows' reproduction from good to great by picking up CRYSTALYX® at a dealer near you. CRYSTALYX.com | 800-727-2502



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