

Association Link

BLS offers marketing opportunity

Another service provided by the Association is the Bull Listing Service (BLS). Commercial producers looking for specific Angus genetics can search a database of registered Angus bulls for

sale, while defining criteria for certain EPDs, sire groups and even locations.

Angus breeders purchase a listing for their registered Angus bulls for sale on the BLS, which is accessible at www.angus.org/bls.

Follow the links through "Data Searches" for the BLS search form. If you do not have access to the Internet, feel free to call our office for assistance. The BLS provides commercial cow-calf producers looking for specific seedstock another tool for locating Angus bulls for their operations.



Foundation to sponsor YCC representative

In coordination with the American Angus Association, the Angus Foundation is committed to sponsoring one individual as the Angus

representative to the 2006 Young Cattlemen's Conference (YCC) scheduled for June 1-9, 2006. Angus breeders interested in applying must have their application completed and mailed to the Angus Foundation with a postmark date before or on Friday, Jan. 6, 2006. Applications and instructions may be downloaded in Microsoft Word® or Adobe Acrobat® from www.angusfoundation.org.

The conference and tour begins in Denver, Colo., and concludes in Washington, D.C. Visits at various beef industry-related venues on the tour enable participants to expand their knowledge of beef topics ranging from industry structure to issues management, in addition to production research to marketing. Only a few young industry leaders are able to attend and must be nominated by one of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) affiliate members, be between the ages of 25 and 50, and be an NCBA member.



Monthly honors

July. Beller Feedlots, Lindsay, Neb., is the July 2005 Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) Feedlot Partner of the Month. The feedlot has enrolled more than 5,000 cattle in the Feedlot-Licensing Program (FLP) to date, with a *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®)-acceptance rate of 24.5%.

"Beller Feedlots has been a standout in the FLP since the operation was first licensed in December 2001," CAB Feedlot Specialist Paul Dykstra says. "The company focuses on feeding Angus cattle that perform in the feedyard and hit grid targets."

The feedlot's steady success rests on data feedback and cooperation with ranchers. Manager Terry Beller works closely with CAB staff and has been an active participant in the 2005 National Angus Carcass Challenge (NACC).

The July 2005 CAB Quality Assurance (QA) Officer of the Month is Dave Pfenninger, assistant manager at Stampede Feeders, Scott City, Kan.

Pfenninger took over the feedlot's CAB duties as a new employee this spring. He has since enrolled more than 2,000 head, with a 17% CAB-acceptance rate. Fike says Pfenninger was a standout candidate for the award.

"The experience he has had in managing his own feedlot has given him the business and marketing knowledge to help make Stampede Feeders successful," Fike says. "He is a valuable employee for the feedlot and is deserving of the QA award."

August. Schmitz Feedlot LLC, Clayton, N.M., is the CAB Feedlot Partner of the Month for August. The recognition comes from the feedlot

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staff's ability to procure and feed cattle to hit the CAB brand target.

"Roger Schmitz and Scott Stephens form a management team that consistently attracts high-quality Angus cattle to their northeast New Mexico yard," CAB Feedlot Specialist Gary Fike says. "With a CAB-acceptance rate of

31.6%, marketing through the grid has paid large dividends to the feedlot and its customers."

The acceptance rate, nearly double the national average, is the average on more than 1,200 cattle. Fike credits the performance to Stephens' keen eye at sorting cattle — a talent that earned him recognition as the 2003 CAB QA Officer of the Year.

Jacque McMillen and Marty Patterson share the QA officer duties at Pratt Feeders LLC, Pratt, Kan. Their efforts in enrolling cattle and working with the CAB supply development office earned the August QA Officer of the Month Award.

"Jacque excels as the primary CAB 'point person' at the yard, and Marty works to keep information moving smoothly through the process," Fike says.

"They are consistent, thorough and diligent at enrolling a huge volume of cattle and maintaining the necessary lines of communication with our office."

Fike adds that each plays a key role in Pratt Feeders' success in the CAB FLP. The duo's efforts jumped to a new level this summer when they entered a large number of the feedlot's AngusSourceSM cattle into the 2005 NACC.

Potential quality

When Jim Brinkley, Milan, Mo., decided to try his hand at feeding, he had a feeling the cattle could perform better than average. The first group of cattle surpassed expectations, but, in retrospect, the odds were stacked for them from the beginning.

Brinkley manages 140 registered Angus cows and breeds an additional 70 head of fall-calving and embryo transfer (ET) recipient females. Feeding cattle had to be secondary to the annual bull sale, but the idea was always in Brinkley's long-term business plan.

Brinkley Angus Ranch had 22 steers in the "30.06" group of 35 fed by CAB-licensed partner Royal Beef, Scott City, Kan. That subset graded 100% USDA Choice, 60% CAB brand and 45.5% Yield Grade (YG) 2 or better.

"I was elated. In my mind, I thought the cattle could do well but I didn't expect to have 60% CAB acceptance on the group," Brinkley says. "It was encouraging."

Adding to the success were two steers that finished fifth and 18th in the Beef Empire Days carcass competition at Garden City, Kan., in June. The results affirmed the rigid breeding program Brinkley set in action five years ago.

"I look for maternal, growth and carcass traits in the bulls I select," he says. "There really aren't a lot of bulls in the industry that can meet all three of those areas. You really have to pay attention to the numbers and pedigrees to make a complete balance."

Herd management decisions always centered on Brinkley's three-way trait selection, and feeding the progeny gives him proof that it works. The data he is getting back on steers that don't make the bull sale provide him with another tool as he expands his breeding numbers to 230 cows.

Feedlot data provides input at culling time and builds accuracies on Brinkley's young sires that he compares against proven bulls in contemporary groups. It will also be a selling point for his bulls at sale time, he notes. The feeder steers came from the bottom cut of the registered herd.

"I really think producers should have confidence in their genetics," Brinkley says. "If producers incorporate these three traits into their selection criteria, they can benefit by feeding cattle and taking them to harvest."

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Angus events abound in Louisville

Join Angus members in attending Angus events at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky., Nov. 12-14. The Association's 122nd Annual Convention of Delegates is set for Monday, Nov. 14. The election of officers and five members

to the Association Board of Directors will highlight the annual meeting, scheduled for 2 p.m. at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center (KFEC). Elected delegates and other Association members will hear annual reports of the Association and its entities for fiscal year (FY) 2005.

American Angus Association staff will present an educational program at 1 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 13, at the KFEC South Wing prior to the candidate forum. The Annual Banquet will be Monday evening at the Executive West Hotel. Special honorees at the banquet will include the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Outstanding Leadership Award winner and inductees into the Angus Heritage Foundation.

The Angus show schedule will be the

same as it was last year. The junior show will be Sunday, Nov. 13; the bulls and cow-calf pairs will show in the Super-Point Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus show Monday, Nov. 14; and ROV females will show Tuesday, Nov. 15.

Angus Heritage Foundation to honor inductees

Three individuals who have made significant contributions to the Angus breed have been selected for induction into the Angus Heritage Foundation. They will be honored at the Angus Awards Banquet during Angus activities in Louisville, Ky.

The 2005 honorees include Harvey and Nina Lemmon, Woodbury, Ga.; Bill and Barb Rishel, North Platte, Neb.; and Vance and Connie Uden, Franklin, Neb. Morris Pipkin, formerly of Republic, Mo., will be inducted posthumously.

Make Denver plans now

Angus activities at the 100th National Western Stock Show (NWSS) will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2006, with the junior heifer show. The open female show is to start at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11. Angus sale bulls will be judged at 9 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, with the sale following at 2 p.m., beginning with the sale of the Angus Foundation Heifer Package.

The Angus reception is set for Thursday evening at the Denver Marriott City Center Hotel. The open bull show will be Friday, Jan. 13, followed by the Foundation Female Sale, which is sponsored by the Colorado Angus Association. The carload and pen bull shows in the yards will complete the event on Saturday, Jan. 14.

Hotel reservations for the NWSS can be made by calling the Marriott City Center Hotel, which serves as Angus headquarters for the event, at (303) 297-1300. A room rate of \$88 plus tax has been negotiated for the Angus group. Reservations must be made by Dec. 27.

Rishel Angus donates 2006 Foundation Heifer

Bill and Barb Rishel of Rishel Angus, North Platte, Neb., have donated B/R Ruby of Tiffany 4214 to the Angus Foundation to offer at auction at the 2006 NWSS to raise funds for the advancement of education, youth and research. This heifer is sired by Twin Valley Precision E161 and is a granddaughter of B/R Ruby of Tiffany 155, who is the dam of B/R New Design 323. A special feature of this year's Angus Foundation heifer offering is that she is bred to Ironwood New Level and is expected to calve in February 2006.

The heifer and her pedigree can be viewed on the Angus Foundation's Web site at www.angusfoundation.org.