

Association Link

NJAA Announces new age rule for competition

Eight-year-old members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) are now eligible to show at Angus-sponsored competitions across the country. The new age rule, approved by the American Angus Association Board of Directors and the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB), takes effect Jan. 1, 2016.

“The recent change to age requirements will allow Angus juniors who are 8 years old on Jan. 1 to be eligible to compete at our nationwide shows,” says Jaclyn Clark, Association director of events and education.

The NJAA sponsored more than 50 junior shows during the past year, involving nearly 5,000 Angus youth. According to the new rule, an exhibitor’s birth date must fall between Jan. 1, 1995, and Dec. 31, 2007, to compete and be either a junior, regular or life member of the American Angus Association.

Major NJAA-sponsored competitions include the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic, Western Regional Junior Angus Show, Eastern Regional Junior Angus

Show, Atlantic Nationals, Northwest Preview, the All-American Angus Breeders’ Futurity and the National Junior Angus Show.

However, the Association cannot guarantee this will occur at all upcoming events, depending on planning stages of the shows. If there is a question, contact the show office directly.

CAB hires director of supply development

Justin Sexten has been hired by Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) as director of its supply development team. The Ohio native brings to his new post a broad expertise in beef production, research and education.

“As the cattle cycle enters its expansion phase, Justin’s 11 years of academic research and teaching in Illinois and Missouri make him a fitting match for this role at CAB,” says Mark McCully, vice president of production for the branded beef company.

Sexten’s career focus on replacement heifers and weaned-calf management provides an ideal background for leading CAB’s producer outreach team, he adds.

“We’ve observed an investment in

quality in the cow herd, after the extensive culling brought on by the drought of 2012,” Sexten says. Data suggest most of the herd replacements were Angus-influenced.

With a “cow herd built for quality,” Sexten says a rancher’s priority now lies in what to do after the genetics are in place.

“Emphasis on how we manage those genetics when it comes to nutrition and health is important,” he says. “We’ve made an initial investment. Let’s make sure we see that through to the end for the consumer’s sake.”

Prior to accepting the position at CAB, Sexten served as University of Missouri Extension beef specialist. There he coordinated the nutrition, reproduction, genetic and health management of 200 commercial Angus-based cows, as well as a 600-head feedyard.

Raised on a diversified livestock and row-crop farm near Washington Court House, Ohio, Sexten earned his animal science degree from the University of Kentucky in 1998. He followed with a master’s degree and doctorate in ruminant nutrition from the University of

Illinois in 2001 and 2004, respectively. Along with wife Julie and their three daughters (Macie, Morgan and Millie), the Sextens have relocated to the Wooster, Ohio, area.

As a CAB director of supply development, Sexten will work closely with the supply development and industry information teams. Externally, his focus will be cattle producers, academia, research groups and allied industry partners to communicate the value of quality beef production.

Annual meeting, convention Nov. 3-5

The 2015 Angus Means Business National Convention & Trade Show will be Nov. 3-5 at the Overland Park Convention Center in Overland Park, Kan. The three-day event will feature thought leaders from across the industry, including representatives from the seedstock, commercial and feeding sectors. Attend educational seminars, conduct Association business, listen to top-notch speakers and make connections at the conference.

Now in its second year, the event will

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feature expanded workshops that cover a variety of topics, including genomics, recordkeeping, herd management and performance tools. Industry-leading speakers, American Angus Association staff and other experts will be among the presenters.

A three-day trade show featuring allied industry partners will offer cattlemen a chance to browse through the latest in products and services available to the beef industry and to visit with Angus breeders from throughout the country.

Convention highlights will also include a preconvention Kansas regional cattle tour hosted by the Kansas Angus

Association Nov. 2, an international genomics symposium and nationally known entertainment.

For more information refer to the convention program mailed with this issue. Online registration, hotel and travel information, an updated schedule, and exhibitor information are available at www.angusconvention.com.

Auxiliary invites participation

For more than 60 years, the American Angus Auxiliary has promoted the Angus breed and supported future leaders within its ranks. The volunteer organization is made up of Angus women from all over the country, and each year, the group comes together for events held in conjunction with the National Angus Convention & Trade Show.

“The American Angus Auxiliary is open to anyone who would like to be a member and has a passion for kids and Angus cattle,” says Auxiliary President Lynne Hinrichsen, Westmoreland, Kan. “It’s an incredible group that shares camaraderie for the Angus breed, agriculture and scholarship support for our youth.”

Those interested in learning more about the organization are encouraged to attend the Auxiliary’s Annual Meeting at 3 p.m. Nov. 3, and the Annual Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Nov. 4. Both events will be at the Overland Park Sheraton.

The Miss American Angus competition is one of the ways the Auxiliary prepares Angus youth to be leaders for the breed. A poised spokesperson for Angus cattle and the entire beef business, Miss American Angus serves a yearlong term filled with showring appearances, speeches and education. Five young women will vie for the 2016 title, with a winner to be crowned during the Awards Recognition Breakfast Nov. 5.

A detailed schedule of events, lodging information and other key details for the Angus Means Business National Convention & Trade Show can be found online at www.angusconvention.com and in the official guide mailed with this issue.

Angus Foundation celebrates 35 years

As it celebrates its 35th anniversary, the Angus Foundation will host its Supporter Recognition Event Monday evening, Nov. 2, at the Sheraton Hotel in Overland Park, Kan. All Angus supporters who have contributed \$250 this fiscal year (Oct. 1, 2014-Sept. 30, 2015) to the Angus Foundation will be invited.

The Angus Foundation will auction registration number 18,000,000, with proceeds to support the Angus Foundation’s efforts in education, youth and research.

To honor American Angus Association Director Dave Nichols’ induction into the Saddle & Sirloin Portrait Gallery, an Angus bred heifer from Nichols Farms will be offered at auction to raise funds to establish the Dave Nichols Beef Cattle Research Fund through the Angus Foundation.

Angus events at the North American

Angus enthusiasts will travel to Louisville, Ky., for shows and events during the 2015 North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE). The week's activities begin Sunday, Nov. 15.

All shows will begin at 8 a.m. in the Kentucky Exposition Center (KEC) Freedom Hall. The Angus junior heifer show takes place Sunday, Nov. 15; the Super-Point Roll of Victory (ROV) shows for bulls, cow-calf pairs and females (in that order) will be Monday, Nov. 16. For more information about the show, visit www.livestockexpo.org.

Saddle & Sirloin induction

Bridgewater, Iowa, cattleman Dave Nichols has been selected as the 2015 inductee into the Saddle & Sirloin Portrait Gallery, widely considered the highest honor in the livestock industry. Nichols is a current member of the American Angus Association Board of Directors, and Nichols Farms has grown under his leadership to encompass 5,500 acres, 1,500 head of breeding stock and a small feedlot.

The Saddle & Sirloin Club will honor these and Dave's other industry contributions during a special program and portrait unveiling at 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15, in the South Wing Conference Center of the KEC.

Supporters can purchase ceremony tickets or make charitable gifts toward portrait and banquet expenses in Nichols' honor. For more information, visit www.nicholssaddleandsirloin.com.

Angus Media to provide online coverage of Range Beef Cow Symposium

Angus Media will be on hand to provide online coverage of the 2015 Range Beef Cow Symposium Nov. 17-19 at The Ranch in Loveland, Colo. The event is being hosted by Colorado State University's Department of Animal Sciences.

www.rangebeefcow.com is one of a series of event coverage sites coordinated by the *Angus Journal's* editorial staff. Visit the site now for a schedule of the event, online registration, travel information and an archive of coverage of previous symposiums. Visit the site newsroom after the convention for summaries of each presentation, as well as PowerPoints, proceedings papers and audio.

For more details, see "Range Beef Cow Symposium Heads to Colorado" on page 80 of this issue or visit www.rangebeefcow.com.

Keyes interns with CAB

The 2015-2016 school-term intern for CAB Industry Information is Jennifer Keyes, a senior in ag communications at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Keyes writes news releases and technical articles, travels for feature story interviews and photographs, and helps with social media posts.

The daughter of Kevin and Teresa Keyes grew up as part of the fifth generation on a family farm near Springfield, Neb., raising corn, soybeans, alfalfa and registered- and commercial-Angus cattle.

Her involvement in that farm business and various beef industry organizations inspired her to continue her family's legacy in college. A passion for

agriculture led her to pursue the degree in communications, through which she hopes to better tell the story of agriculture to the public.

Foundation to sponsor YCC participant

The Angus Foundation will nominate and sponsor an Association member between the ages of 25 and 50 to attend

the 2016 Young Cattlemen's Conference (YCC) — the beef industry and tour sponsored by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA).

Sponsorship and program nomination is granted to an active Association and NCBA member using an application process. Applications are available at www.angusfoundation.org and should

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be returned to the Angus Foundation no later than Jan. 11, 2016. Learn more about the YCC and the program's educational and networking opportunities at www.beefusa.org.

Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship

The Angus Foundation Board of Directors approved funds to provide \$1,000 scholarships to three youth who use Angus genetics in their seedstock or commercial operations. Awards will be given out in July 2016.

Applicants must be enrolled in a junior college, four-year college/university or

other accredited institution for the fall of 2016. They can be an entering freshman or a continuing student in any undergraduate program. The applicant or applicant's parents/guardians must have transferred or been transferred a registration paper in the last 36 months (on or after May 1, 2013).

Full details of eligibility can be found at www.angusfoundation.org.

Information can be found in the resources section on the home page. The Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship application will be available online Dec. 1.

Low-density genomic tests available

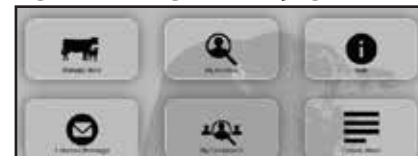
In addition to the previously available high-density genomic tests (HD50K for Angus from Zoetis and GGP-HD for Angus from GeneSeek), low-density options are now available. These new tests allow animals to have genomically enhanced expected progeny differences (GE-EPDs) at a lower cost, with nearly identical accuracy. The i50K for Angus from Zoetis and GGP-LD for Angus from GeneSeek can be ordered from your AAA Login account. For more information, see "By The Numbers" on page 68 of the July *Angus Journal*.

New look for AAA Login

The American Angus Association rolled out an updated look to its AAA Login website. Taking a cue from the current look of smartphones and tablet devices, the login site is intended to be more user-friendly for any producer looking to access or submit data on their herd.

Gone is the Classic Menu page of multiple tabs that, in total, contained more than 300 link options. Instead, the home login page has been broken down into six different categories or graphic buttons (see Fig. 1). Pop-up descriptions for what can be found under each button are visible as the user hovers over a specific button.

For more information, see the "Login Lowdown" column in the September *Angus Journal*.

Fig. 1: AAA Login home page**AGI blog**

AGI staff have established a blog to share information on timely topics. Short, informative articles on performance programs, genomic testing and more are posted at <http://angusgenetics.wordpress.com>. If you have ideas for a blog post topic, send your suggestion to Tonya Amen at tamen@angus.org.

Initiative to engage future cattle producers

Applications are available online (www.angus.org/Performance/Documents/FASEnrollmentForm.pdf) to enroll in Future Angus Stockmen, a program launched by the Association to embrace the next generation of cattlemen through learning opportunities, while building a bond with the Angus breed and its member-driven organization.

Geared toward college-age or recent graduates who want to raise high-quality Angus-based cattle, the program

will offer educational opportunities that teach participants how to thrive in the cattle industry, social networking to connect them with fellow producers, and leadership development to instill an entrepreneurial spirit and drive to improve their businesses. Young people who enroll in the program will have the chance to apply for scholarships.

For more information, contact Ginette Gottswiller, director of commercial programs, at 816-383-5100 or ggottswiller@angus.org.

Tag Store offers affordable identification

Cattle producers looking for affordable ways to identify their herd should visit www.customcattletags.com, a service provided by the American Angus Association. Anyone can order ear tags, applicators, syringes and accessories.

Custom Cattle Tags provides high-quality, low-cost, customized ear tags, blank tags and prenumbered tags.

Lifetime membership options

The American Angus Association offers producers a lifetime membership option. The \$1,500 membership lasts throughout the life of the sole person named on the membership. Payments may be broken into three nonrefundable yearly installments.

Lifetime memberships can be issued to one person only, and are not meant for partnerships. The membership option may be used for a farm name, provided only one person is included on the membership.

Watch *The Angus Report* each week on RFD-TV

The Angus Report delivers weekly Association and industry news on RFD-TV, every Monday at 8:30 a.m. EST. The program offers busy cattlemen and women the opportunity to quickly catch up on important industry issues.

State Angus associations, publications, breeders and others looking for website content are encouraged to post segments of the free program on their websites. Videos will be updated regularly at www.angus.org and through the Association's Facebook and Twitter pages.

Bulls will be offered at NWSS Bull Sale

The 2016 National Western Angus Bull Sale will be Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2016, at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo. All consignments will have Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) performance information and a complete set of Angus EPDs. The official AHIR adjusted yearling weight EPD (if applicable) must meet the breed average for nonparent sires.

All bulls born before Jan. 1, 2015, must have passed a complete breeding soundness examination (sometimes referred to as a BSE), including both physical and semen, within 30 days of the sale.

For more information about the sale contact David Gazda, sale manager, at 706-296-7846. For information about the NWSS, visit www.nationalwestern.com.

2016 Angus Foundation Heifer set to sell this January in Denver

Schaff Angus Valley of Saint Anthony, N.D., is donating the 2016 Angus Foundation Heifer to headline the

Angus Foundation Heifer Package set to sell Jan. 13, 2016, at the NWSS in Denver, Colo. The chosen female, SAV Emblynette 5368 (AAA Registration No. 18141862), born March 23, 2015, has been selected for her individual quality and maternal excellence. She is the one-of-a-kind natural daughter of the elite fifth-generation Pathfinder®, SAV Emblynette 5483, who has a weaning

ratio of 104 on seven calves and has earned a stellar production record, while her Pathfinder granddam remains productive in the SAV program at 18 years of age.

Visit www.angusfoundation.org for more information.

