

Association Link

Search Pathfinder Report

The 2007 *Pathfinder*[®] Report, included in the April *Angus Journal*, lists 9,726 cows and 256 sires that qualify for Pathfinder status. You can search the Pathfinder

Report online at www.angus.org under the "Performance" link.

The Pathfinder program was started in 1978 and identifies superior Angus females based upon recorded

performance traits that are economically important to efficient beef production and include early and regular calving, as well as heavy weaning weights. Bulls that have sired a minimum of five or more

Pathfinder cows are listed as Pathfinder sires in this report.

Priorities First reveals commercial producer priorities

In fulfilling the mission to provide programs and services that will aid commercial cattle producers in achieving profitability, the American Angus Association commissioned an independent, in-depth study to provide a blueprint for prioritizing profit drivers in today's cattle operations.

A shortened version of *Priorities First: Identifying Management Priorities in the Commercial Cow-Calf Business*, by Tom Field, Fort Collins, Colo., is included in this issue, beginning on page 16. If you would like to read the entire report or would like to request copies of it, please contact Mary Pepple at (816) 383-5100 or e-mail mpepple@angus.org.

Outreach Seminars set for this month

The Association will continue its Outreach Seminars this month. On Saturday, April 14, a seminar will be in East Lansing, Mich. The Outreach Seminar will be part of the Michigan Angus Association's Educational Day. Visit www.angus.org for the time and location.

Association staff will also conduct an Outreach Seminar in Reno, Nev. The Seminar will be at 6 p.m. April 28 at John Ascauga's Nugget. Outreach Seminars last about two hours and allow the membership to interact with staff.

Honoring students

The *Certified Angus Beef*[®] (CAB[®]) brand recently awarded \$7,500 in Colvin Scholarship funds to five students pursuing careers in the beef industry. To be eligible for the scholarship, entrants were asked to write an essay addressing the following statement: The American Angus Association has identified a long-range goal of 30% CAB acceptance rate. What are your suggestions for increasing the acceptance rate and achieving this goal?

The first-place, \$2,500 scholarship was awarded to Blake Bloomberg of College Station, Texas. He is a senior animal science major at Texas A&M University (TAMU). Bloomberg plans to obtain a doctorate in animal science and pursue a career in livestock production and management.

Garrett Lampe of Scott City, Kan., received a \$2,000 award. Lampe is a junior at Kansas State University



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(K-State). He has a dual major in animal science, and agricultural communications and journalism.

Recipients of \$1,000 scholarships are Kyle Grim, East Berlin, Pa., a junior animal science major at Pennsylvania State University (Penn State); Kindra Wood, Holly Pond, Ala., a senior animal

sciences/preveterinary medicine major at Auburn University; and Dustin Volek, Highmore, S.D., a junior animal science major with minors in agricultural business and agricultural marketing at South Dakota State University.

“We are delighted to award Colvin Scholarships to these energetic and

articulate individuals,” John Stika, Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) president, says. “Each recipient exemplifies determination and commitment, and I have no doubt their dreams will be realized. The beef industry will benefit from these future leaders.”

Junior deadlines fast approaching

Many deadlines for junior shows and events are rapidly approaching. Make special note of an earlier-than-usual National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) deadline due to the earlier show dates in 2007. All National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members between the ages of 9 and 21 should have received an entry booklet in the mail. If you have not received the booklet, contact the Junior Activities Department at (816) 383-5100.

- ▶ April 15 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Atlantic National Junior Regional Preview Show.
- ▶ May 1 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Northwest Regional Preview Show.
- ▶ May 1 is the deadline for applying for the Gold Award and Outstanding Leadership Award. Also, applications for Angus Foundation scholarships and the CAB/NJAA Scholarship are due.
- ▶ May 15 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Eastern Regional Junior Show.
- ▶ May 15 is the ownership and entry deadline for the NJAS.
- ▶ May 15 is also the entry deadline for all NJAA creative writing,

National Angus Conference & Tour Set in Illinois

The 2007 National Angus Conference & Tour is scheduled for Aug. 29-31 and will headquarter in Peoria, Ill. The American Angus Association and the Illinois Angus Association will host the “Heartland Homecoming,” along with event partners Purina Mills LLC and Alpharma Animal Health.

“Each year the Association works diligently to plan a conference program and tour that participants will look forward to,” says Shelia Standard, Association event coordinator. “This year is no exception, as we look forward to bringing this event to the heartland, and the state where the Association charter was established.”

A daylong conference program is set for Wednesday, Aug. 29, at the Holiday Inn City Centre in Peoria. Industry experts and Association staff will discuss current topics such as reproductive and feed efficiencies, end product merit, customer service and Association programs.

The tour will kick off that evening with a stop at Weaver Angus Farms, Peoria.

photography and graphic design entries, and it is the deadline to submit entries and recipes for the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American CAB® Cook-Off.

- June 1 is the ownership and entry deadline for The All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity Junior Show.

For more information about junior events, activities and deadlines, contact the Junior Activities Department or go to www.njaa.info.

Ask for assistance with junior transfers

If you know of a junior member who has purchased an Angus animal to show and who has not received the transferred papers, and if the ownership deadline for a specific show is fast approaching, the Association can help.

Contact the Member Services Department at least two weeks prior to the show ownership deadline. Every effort will be made to get the transfer processed in time. Remember, however, late transfers are never accepted, regardless of the reason.



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The two-day tour will continue Aug. 30-31. Tour participants will get a behind-the-scenes look at two businesses in Peoria, as well as view Angus genetics on display by Illinois Angus breeders. A tour at the CAT plant and Keystone Steel and Wire will showcase how CAT tractors and wire and panels are manufactured.

Tour stops over the two days will include Werner Angus, Rapids City; Dameron Angus Farm, Lexington; Prairie View Farm, Gridley; and Sauk Valley Angus, Rock Falls. A fairgrounds stop in Eureka will allow other Illinois breeders to showcase their Angus cattle.

Registration materials will be available from the Association in the near future. Registration for the event is \$75, which covers meals at the event, conference materials and bus transportation during the tour. A block of rooms is available at the Holiday Inn City Centre at (309) 674-2500. Be sure to ask for the American Angus Association block to get the negotiated rate.

Watch www.angus.org for more information about this event.