

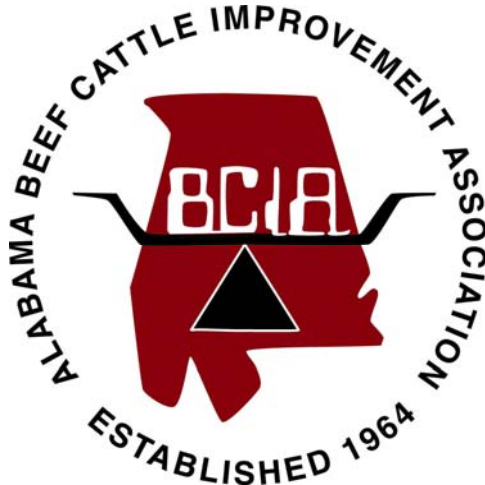
Performance Tips, Topics and Trails

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Celebrating 46 Years of Service to the Alabama Beef Cattle Industry

Quarterly newsletter published by Alabama BCIA, whose mission is to promote, educate and facilitate the use of performance data, record keeping and marketing opportunities for BCIA members, while providing a leadership role to improve the Alabama cattle industry.

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Plans for BCIA 2010-11 Season!

The planning for the 2010-11 BCIA sale and evaluation season has been completed.

A call for nominations for the AL BCIA bull evaluations is being issued to AL BCIA members and all interested seedstock producers.

Performance evaluations provide a uniform environment to develop, evaluate, and market bull calves and the genetics they reflect. Bull evaluations provide an excellent opportunity for breeders to display the genetics in their breeding programs, compare sires, and obtain performance data that is difficult to measure on the farm. AL BCIA bull evaluation sales present complete performance data featuring all evaluation gain data, carcass ultrasound, and breeding soundness exams on all bulls offered for sale.

The North Alabama Bull Evaluation held on the Donaldson Farm in Cullman is currently in its 38th year, having been established in 1972. The 2010 North Alabama Bull Evaluation will evaluate bulls born between August 15, 2009 through October 31, 2009 to be nominated by June 15, 2010. Bulls will be delivered to Donaldson Farms on July 13 and will be offered for sale on

Saturday, December 11 at Cullman Stockyards at 11 am. Bulls are managed and evaluated in outside paddocks located on steep inclines making for strong physical condition.

The new Wiregrass Forage Based Bull Evaluation will begin its 22nd year in 2010-11 to evaluate bulls for grazing performance. Advance Genetic Resource, LLC, Max Bozeman and Larry Reeves, will host the evaluation in Elba. Nominations of bulls born between October 15, 2009 to January 31, 2010 will be sought. The nomination deadline is September 1 and delivery will be November 17. The sale event will be held on October 22, 2011 in Elba at the evaluation site at 12 noon.

The Fall Round Up Bull Sale, which will be in its 15th year, will be held on Friday, November 12 at the Alabama Livestock Auction in Uniontown at 11 am. The age range of bulls to be accepted for nomination has been widened for this year's sale event to include bulls born from November 1, 2006 to May 31, 2009 to market 4 year to 16 month old bulls. The nomination deadline will be August 15, 2010.

2010-11 Plans continued on page 3...



Alabama Travels...

Michelle Elmore

Alabama BCIA has been busy for the past few weeks holding sale and bull evaluation committee meetings to analyze last year's sales and to plan for the upcoming 2010-11 year. The BCIA board of directors has also met to review all these plans and our planning is now done. The specifics for each bull evaluation and sale event is outlined in this newsletter for you to review and to use to make plans.

We are excited to be offering 2 bull evaluations to evaluate both feed and forage performance this year. The North Alabama Bull Evaluation will continue to evaluate bulls for feed performance at the Donaldson Farm in Cullman under the care of Tim & Stephen Donaldson and supervision of Gerry Thompson, Northwest Alabama Regional Extension Agent. The new Wiregrass Forage Based Bull Evaluation will kick off this year to evaluate grazing performance at Advance Genetic Resource, LLC in Elba under the care of Max Bozeman and Larry Reeves and supervision of Rickey Hudson, Southeast Alabama Regional Extension Agent.

Two bull consignment sales will again be offered to market 16 month to 4 year old bulls in November at the Fall Round Up Sale and 14 month to 2 1/2 year old bulls in February at the EPD Sale. Birth date ranges for both of these sales has been widened so review the specifics on page 1 and 4. BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sales will again be offered at the Fall Round Up Sale in November, the North Alabama Bull Evaluation Sale in December, and the EPD Sale in February. The Herdbuilder Replacement Sale will market bred and open heifers and a select group of bred cows with BCIA performance data in August in Uniontown. See page 4 for who to contact for more information for each sale event.

The time of year to wean and collect 205 day weights for fall born calves is fast approaching. Weaning time is a pinnacle of the BCIA year, for it is the time that our producers evaluate their calf crop and cow herds. I cannot stress enough the importance of turning in your records to take full advantage of the commercial performance record keeping opportunities that BCIA provides.

I am also very excited about the outstanding line up of educational opportunities for the upcoming summer months. Three exceptional educational events will be offered for commercial and seedstock producers. First, the 2010 Beef Improvement Federation Research Symposium and Annual Meeting will be June 28-July 1 in Columbia, Missouri. This year's "Gateway to Profit" conference has an outstanding line up of topics and speakers to address very timely topics for the selection of profitable genetics (not high production genetics), how to evaluate an investment in new technologies, beef production in a first world country affected by science, media, and politics, and the implementation of genomically enhanced EPDs. Pre-conference and post-conference tours will feature additional opportunities for learning and networking across the Missouri countryside. See page 5 for more details.

The BCIA Seedstock Continuing Education Program continues. BCIA along with the Auburn Animal Science Department and Alabama Cooperative Extension will host a field day as part of the Seedstock Continuing Education Program on July 31 at the Auburn University Beef Teaching Unit. Discussions will focus on bull and replacement heifer development from weaning to market, feeding of by-product feeds, addressing health issues from BVDV, Trichomoniasis, and other diseases, and business goal setting to develop a management plan. All interested seedstock producers are encouraged to attend as the program continues to provide specialized education for the seedstock industry. See page 5 for more details.

I am also very excited about the Beef Reproduction Task Force teaming up with the University of Tennessee to hold the annual Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle conference in the southeast this year. The conference will be held August 5-6 in Nashville at the Nashville Airport Marriott. This conference is an outstanding opportunity to hear from leading national reproductive experts close to home. Don't miss it and check out page 5 for more details.

Thanks for listening, *Michelle*

How to contact BCIA:

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Email: elmormf@auburn.edu

Website: www.albcia.com



DATES TO REMEMBER



- **2010 BIF Research Symposium & Annual Meeting to be held June 28-July 1 in Columbia, MO. See page 5 for more information.**
- **BCIA Seedstock Continuing Education Program Field Day to be held Saturday, July 31 at the Auburn Beef Teaching Unit. See page 5 for more information**
- **Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle Conference to be held on August 5-6 in Nashville, TN. See page 5 for more information.**

- June
15 Nomination deadline for NABEC Bull Evaluation
28 Beef Improvement Federation Convention, Columbia, MO
- July
13 Delivery for NABEC 2010, Cullman
15 BCIA Board of Directors Meeting, Clanton
31 BCIA Seedstock Continuing Education Program Field Day Auburn University Beef Teaching Unit
- August
5-6 Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle Conference Nashville, TN
15 Nomination deadline for 2010 Fall Round Up Sale
27 Herd Builder Replacement Heifer Sale. 11 AM, Uniontown
- September
1 Nomination deadline for 2010-11 Wiregrass Bull Evaluation
- November
1 Nomination deadline for 2011 EPD Sale
12 Fall Round Up Bull & BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale. 11 a.m., Uniontown
17 Delivery for 2010-11 Wiregrass Bull Evaluation, Elba
- December
11 North Alabama Bull Evaluation Center & BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale. 11 AM, Cullman
- February
11-12 Alabama Cattlemen's Convention & Trade Show & BCIA Annual Meeting, Montgomery
19 EPD Bull and BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale. 11 AM, Montgomery

2010-11 BCIA Sale Plans Set

Continued From Page 1

The 22nd Annual EPD Bull Sale will be held on Saturday, February 19, 2011. This age range for bulls has also been widened to include bulls born from September 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009 to market 2 1/2 year to 14 month old bulls. Weight per day of age (WDA) requirements will range from 2.0 to 2.5 lbs. for 2009 born bulls and all other bulls must weigh at least 1700 lbs.. The EPD Sale will be held at the Montgomery Stockyards in Montgomery. The nomination deadline will be November 1, 2010.

Plans have also been set for the 2010-11 BCIA heifer sales. The Herdbuilder Replacement Female Sale will be held on Friday, August 27 at 11 am at the Alabama Livestock Auction in Uniontown. Bred heifers, open heifers, and a select group of cows with BCIA data will be sold.

BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sales will be held in conjunction with at the Fall Round Up Sale on Friday, November 12 in Uniontown, the North Alabama Bull Evaluation Center Sale on Saturday, December 12 in Cullman, and at the EPD Sale on Saturday, February 19, 2011 in Montgomery. These sales will target open and also bred heifers at the November sale, with genetic documentation, group age, and source information. See page 4 for more information.

ALBCIF Foundation Facts



The Alabama Beef Cattle Improvement Foundation, Inc. is committed to improving the quality of the beef cattle industry, through the use of science-based research and technology. For more information or to contribute, please use this contribution form, contact Michelle Elmore or a ALBCIF board member! Stay tuned to *Performance Tips, Topics, & Trails* for upcoming ALBCIF events & updates!



Alabama Beef Cattle Improvement Foundation Contribution Form

Please Select and Mark Your Level of Contribution

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALBCIF Visionary | \$10,000 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALBCIF Benefactor | \$5,000-10,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALBCIF Builder | \$2,500-5,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALBCIF Patron | \$1,000-2,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALBCIF Pacesetter | \$500-1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALBCIF Associate | \$250-500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALBCIF Partner | \$100-250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALBCIF Friend | \$1-100 |

Name: _____

Farm Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Amount Contributed: _____

Please make all checks payable to the Alabama Beef Cattle Improvement Foundation, Inc. and mail to ALBCIF, 40 County Rd 756, Clanton, AL 35045.



2010-11 BCIA Bull Evaluations & Sale Events

Event	Type	Birth Date Range	WDA Required	Nomination Due	Delivery	Sale Event Date	Site	Contact
North Alabama	Feed evaluation	8/15/09-10/31/09	2.5	6/15/10	7/13/10	12/11/10	Cullman	Gerry Thompson
Wiregrass	Forage evaluation	10/15/09-1/31/10	2.0	9/1/10	11/17/10	10/22/11	Elba	Rickey Hudson
Fall Round Up	On-farm evaluation	11/1/06-5/31/09	2.0 for 2 to 16 mo. old bulls*	8/15/10	11/11/10	11/12/10	Uniontown	Michelle Elmore
EPD	On-farm evaluation	9/1/08-12/31/09	2.0-2.5 for 25 to 14 mo. old bulls*	11/1/10	2/18/11	2/19/11	Montgomery	Michelle Elmore

*Please read rules for weight requirements for bulls older than specific ages listed.

Contact	Office Phone	Cell Phone	Email
Gerry Thompson	(256) 353-8702	(256) 508-2020	thompgl@auburn.edu
Rickey Hudson	(334) 693-2010	(334) 726-6814	hudsorg@auburn.edu
Michelle Elmore	(205) 646-0115	(205) 287-1080	elmormf@auburn.edu



2010-11 BCIA Replacement Heifer Sale Events

Event	Heifer Type	Sale Type	Nomination Due	Event Date	Location	Contact
Herdbuilder	Bred/Open/Bred Cows	BCIA Sanctioned-Regional Focus	6/18/10	8/27/10	Uniontown	Kevan Tucker
Fall Round Up	Bred/Open	BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale	8/15/10	11/12/10	Uniontown	Michelle Elmore
North Alabama	Open	BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale	10/15/10	12/11/10	Cullman	Michelle Elmore
EPD	Open	BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale	11/1/10	2/19/11	Montgomery	Michelle Elmore

Contact	Office Phone	Cell Phone	Email
Kevan Tucker	(251) 275-3121	(334) 534-2539	tuckejk@auburn.edu
Michelle Elmore	(205) 646-0115	(205) 287-1080	elmormf@auburn.edu

2010 BIF Conference: Gateway to Profit

One of the year's most thought-provoking and innovative programs in beef genetics offers cattle producers and university and industry leaders the opportunity to learn more about the value of genetic evaluation to overall beef production. Gateway to Profit, hosted by the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) will take place June 28 – July 1 in Columbia, Missouri. Leading industry experts will discuss the latest technologies and methodologies in beef genetics, and veterinarians can earn continuing education credits offered through the conference. Discounted registration fees for a one day registration and student travel fellowships are available.

Gateway to Profit, hosted by BIF, is an international gathering of progressive veterinarians, academics, commercial and seedstock beef cattle producers and allied-industry representatives who want to hear, share, learn and apply genetic principles to beef production. Tours of local cattle operations, educational destinations and social events provide additional opportunities for learning and networking. Additional details can be found at <http://muconf.missouri.edu/bif/>. The reserved hotel block will be available until May 29

and the pre-registration deadline is June 4. Registration can be made online or by mail.

Gateway to Profit will center on two general sessions. The first session is entitled "Genetic Selection to Achieve Your Profit Objective Using Today's Tools." The second session will be "The Future of Beef Cattle Selection in the U. S." The first session will highlight on breeding objectives for the selection of profitable genetics, a producer panel discussing the application of selection tools, and how to evaluate an investment in new technologies. The second general session will highlight beef production in a first world country affected by science, media, and politics, the implementation of genomically enhanced EPDs, and how new genetic technologies will impact beef cattle selection.

BIF was formed more than 40 years ago as a means to standardize beef cattle performance programs and methodology, and to create greater awareness, acceptance and usage of these concepts of genetic improvement. BIF represents more than 40 state and national beef cattle associations, including Alabama BCIA. Visit <http://www.beefimprovement.org> for more information.

BCIA Seedstock Continuing Education Program Field Day: Auburn

Alabama BCIA, working in cooperation with the Auburn Animal Science Department and Alabama Cooperative Extension System, will host a field day for interested seedstock producers as part of the BCIA Seedstock Continuing Education Program on Saturday, July 31 at the Auburn University Beef Teaching Unit. Discussions will focus on bull and replacement heifer development from weaning to market, feeding of by-product feeds, addressing health issues from BVDV, Trichomoniasis, and other diseases, and business goal setting to develop a management plan. Speakers will include experts in their respective fields of study from Auburn such as Dr. Darrell Rankins of the Auburn Animal Science Department, Dr. Dan Givens of the Auburn College of Veterinary Medi-

cine, and Dr. Walt Prevatt of Auburn Agriculture Economics and Rural Sociology Department.

The schedule of events for the field day are currently being planned so stay tuned for more detailed information very soon. For more information, please contact Michelle Elmore at (205) 646-0115 or elmormf@auburn.edu.

The purpose of the BCIA Seedstock Continuing Education Program is to provide specialized education and resources for seedstock producers. The program strives to benefit producers establishing businesses and for established producers who want to expand their business. Alabama BCIA is welcoming all seedstock producers to utilize this program by attending this field day, viewing the program resource manual at www.albcia.com or hard copy by request.

Applied Reproductive Strategies Conference: Nashville

The Beef Cattle Reproductive Task Force and the University of Tennessee are presenting an Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle Conference in Nashville, TN on August 5-6. The conference will be held at the Nashville Airport Marriot. Session topics will center on pregnancy physiology, estrous synchronization, AI, management practices for environment and nutrition, and embryo transfer. Leading university experts, producer panels, and industry leaders will present discussion under these topic areas. Specific discussions for session one will focus on a cow's estrous cycle, puberty in heifers, post-partum anestrous in cows, AI techniques, and gender sorted semen. Session two will focus on estrous synchro-

nization protocols that work best for heifers and for cows. Session 3 will focus on implementing AI programs and marketing. Session 4 will address management practices to adapt to your environment and the affects of nutrition on reproductive performance. Session 5 will address embryo transfer programs in donor set up and recipient protocols. Registration is \$150.00 per producer and \$75.00 per student by July 22. For a registration form, full agenda, and for more information, please visit <http://beefrepro.unl.edu> or contact Dr. Justin Rhinehart with University of Tennessee Extension at (615) 835-4561 or jrhinehart@utk.edu.

Alabama Beef Cattle Improvement Association, Inc.
Alabama BCIA
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Clanton, AL 35045

TO:



Alabama BCIA is a cooperative agreement between the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and the Alabama Beef Cattle Improvement Association, Inc. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System offers educational programs, materials, and equal employment opportunity without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.

