



2011-2012 Alabama Pasture to Rail Program Rules and Regulations

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As calves are being weaned in late summer in Alabama, producers have options in marketing their cattle: (1) sell calves either at the stockyard, directly to an order buyer or through a board sale, (2) retain ownership through a stocker phase and then sell or (3) retain ownership until the calf is ready to be harvested. The Alabama Pasture to Rail Program is a retained ownership program designed to provide producers with individual post-weaning growth, carcass and health information. After collecting carcass data on your herd for more than one year, selection/culling decisions can also be made on the herd utilizing carcass information. The 2011-12 shipping dates are listed on the following page, however this does not mean calves cannot be shipped at other times. If there are 50,000 pounds of calves ready to go outside of the set ship dates, we can facilitate shipping and feedlot coordination.

OBJECTIVES

The Alabama Pasture to Rail program is an educational program for cattle producers. The purpose is to give cattle producers the following opportunities without the investment required to finish an entire pen of cattle.

1. To obtain individual farm carcass data that can be used to assist producers with selection decisions pertaining to their existing breeding program.

2. To educate cattle producers on recommended health practices and custom feeding programs.

Where Will the Calves Be Fed?

Calves will be sent to either Decatur County Feed yard www.decaturfedyard.com or to the Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative www.tcscf.com.

Decatur County Feed yard is located in Oberlin, Kansas. They use a combination of ultrasound, visual appraisal and electronic identification to manage the cattle. Cattle will be sold when they reach approximately 0.4 inches of back fat. Calves are managed on an individual basis - not a pen basis.

The Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative (TCSCF) is located in Lewis, Iowa. The TCSCF has been in existence for 27 years; it is governed by a Board of Directors and managed with retired Iowa State University Extension Livestock Specialist Darrell Busby. TCSCF uses a combination of visual appraisal and electronic identification to manage the cattle. Cattle will be sold when they reach approximately 0.5 inches of back fat.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. A consignor may enter 3 or more home-raised calves born August 1, 2010 or after, provided they weigh a minimum of 600 pounds



2011-2012 Alabama Pasture to Rail Program Rules and Regulations

and a maximum of 850 pounds on day of shipment.

2. Consignments are due two weeks prior to shipment of cattle. A one-load minimum (approximately 70 head) is needed to make a shipment. Heifers are eligible for shipment. Mixed loads of steers and heifers are acceptable; however these loads may incur more cost.

3. Steers and heifers will be gathered at various locations around Alabama for shipping. Locations will be determined once all entries are received. At the shipping point, steers and heifers will be tagged, weighed and graded. Cattle will be shipped to Kansas or Iowa as soon as possible after processing.

4. Cattle will be fed to 0.5 in back fat as determined by the feedlot management.

5. Steers and heifers will remain the property of the consignor and thus, they assume responsibility for loss by death or injury. A named peril insurance in which all cattle will be covered is automatically provided. Bloat and respiratory disease are not covered by the peril insurance. Items covered under peril insurance include lightning strikes, smothering by snowstorms, tornados, electrocution, etc.

6. Final settlement will be made after all cattle in a pen have been harvested.

When Will the Calves be shipped?

Calves will tentatively be shipped:

August 2011 TBD

September 2011 TBD

October 2011 TBD

November 2011 TBD

Shipping dates to be determined.

For cattle sent to TCSCF Feedlots

1. Open to cow-calf producers and feedlot operators. If more entries are received than there is pen space for, priority will be determined by date entry is received.

2. Sire or sire breed groups will be identified. Individual steer/heifer entries will be accepted which may be either home-raised or purchased. A farm may make as many entries as they would like.

3. A pen reservation fee of \$20 per steer must accompany entry.

4. A \$300 per head advance is available for a ten head minimum. Interest incurred will be the responsibility of the consignor. TCSCF administrative office will need to be notified if an advance is requested by a consignor.

5. Entries are due three weeks prior to beginning of test for Iowa cattle.



2011-2012 Alabama Pasture to Rail Program Rules and Regulations

6. At delivery, all steers/heifers will be double tagged. The original owner's ear tag will be removed.

7. No bulls or stags allowed. ---No horns allowed.

8. Ownership will be transferred to TCSCF for \$5 per steer or heifer. All ownership rights are conveyed to TCSCF, thus steers/heifers become the property of TCSCF. This eliminates the need for a feed deposit. Death will be a loss to TCSCF and the former owner.

9. Steers/heifers will be fed a warm-up ration for 28 days. They will be weighed on test at the end of warm-up. Steers/heifers will be placed on approximately 80% concentrate ration as soon as possible.

10. Steers/heifers will be weighed individually at least 4 times: upon delivery, start of test period, time of re-implant, and prior to harvest.

11. Steers/heifers will be harvested on at least two different dates five weeks apart, determined by the TCSCF Board.

12. A TCSCF Annual Meeting will be held in July.

13. The TCSCF Board reserves the right to disqualify any animal at any time if a problem arises with a steer/heifer entered in the program. Animals may be sold or returned to original owner upon reimbursement for expenses.

Feeding method used is different than some programs testing feedlot performance. The program will not require a feed deposit upon

delivery at the feedlot. Instead, the TCSCF Board will purchase steers/heifers for \$5 each, thus giving the Board title to animals and allowing them to borrow money to pay feed, veterinary, yardage, and other expenses related to feeding of the cattle.

Total feed dry matter is a calculated value based on Net Energy system with adjustments for delivery and final weight and carcass composition. All of the cattle fed together must be harvested before we can accurately split the feed bill.

How will the Calves be sold?

Calves will be sold based on their carcass characteristics. Calves will be sold on a carcass grid based on yield grade and quality grade. Decatur County sells all calves to Cargill, on a negotiated grid. TCSCF sells to Tyson, on a negotiated grid. The base for the grid is USDA Yield Grade 3 calves grading Choice-. Premiums and discounts are added to each calf when individual carcass data is taken.

Age and Source Verification

Both Decatur County Feed yard and TCSCF have negotiated programs with their packers to provide a premium for Age and Source Verified calves. In order to qualify producers must be enrolled in a USDA approved QSA or PVP program.



2011-2012 Alabama Pasture to Rail Program Rules and Regulations

COST TO THE CONSIGNOR

1. There is an initial \$65.00/head consignment fee which will pay for trucking costs and will be credited to your feeding costs. This fee is non-refundable once the calves are shipped.
2. All other expenses (feed, yardage, insurance, etc) will be deducted from the final producer check after the calves are harvested.
3. If all calves from a consignor were to die during the feeding period due to illness, the consignor is responsible for all charges to the point of death.

How you are paid for Your Calves

1. Your calf worth is determined by taking the hot carcass weight (HCW) of your calf and multiplying it by the Carcass Price Rec'd.
2. From the bi-monthly feed bills, AL P2R determines approximately how many pounds of concentrate your calf has been fed and the cost. Yardage, insurance, processing and check off costs are also calculated.
3. Take the costs determined in step 2 and subtract them from your calf worth.
4. You will receive a check for your calf worth minus expenses.

PRE-DELIVERY CALF MANAGEMENT

Producers are strongly urged work with their veterinarian and to carefully follow the pre-delivery health guidelines. Complete the health record enclosed.

The following must be done at least 4 weeks prior to delivery:

1. Castrated and dehorned and healed
2. Dewormed
3. Vaccinated for:
 - * IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV
 - * 7-Way Blackleg
 - * Pasteurella Bacterin Toxoid
4. Weaned and started on feed (5 lbs. per day). Do not implant calves at weaning. The implant program will begin when calves are started on feed. The pre-shipment health program is extremely important. Immunity is established only if calves are vaccinated without added stress. For added protection, the above series of vaccinations is given 30 to 60 days prior to weaning and repeated at weaning.

Recommended Health Program for Alabama Pasture to Rail Calves

A vaccination record, stating the calf has been vaccinated for IBR, PI3, BVD, BRSV (Respiratory); Leptospirosis (5 strain); Clostridium chauvoei, septicum, sordellii, novyi, perfringens types C & D, bacterin-toxoid (7-way Clostridial); Mannheimia hemolytica and Pasteurella multocida all according to manufacturer's recommendations.



2011-2012 Alabama Pasture to Rail Program Rules and Regulations

We recommend a modified live for IBR, PI3, BRSV, and BVD. The need follow label directions when utilizing modified live vaccine is extremely important. *This is imperative with calves nursing pregnant cows.*

Any implants given on the farm should be given long enough before shipment to “play out” before arrival at the feedyard.

Synopsis of Health Program:

- Approximately 3 month old calf:
- Vaccinations for Blackleg (7-Way Clostridial), IBR-BVD-PI3-BRSV (Respiratory), and Pasteurella. Also castrate and implant.
- Around weaning: - booster vaccinations for Blackleg (7-Way Clostridial) and IBR-BVD-PI3-BRSV (Respiratory) (Modified Live), Deworm.
- Two weeks or three weeks later:
- Booster vaccination for IBR-BVD-PI3-BRSV (Respiratory) (Modified Live)
- DO NOT REIMPLANT CALVES PRIOR TO SHIPMENT

Producers are strongly urged work with their veterinarian and to carefully follow the health guidelines.

For questions regarding the Alabama Pasture to Rail Program contact:

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Alabama Pasture to Rail Program Consignment Form and Health Processing Record

Farm						ALBCIA Herd code			Check Feed yard Preference
Owner									Decatur County Feed Yard [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Address									Tri County Steer Futurity [<input type="checkbox"/>]
City			State			Zip			
Phone									
Email						Premise ID			

Ranch Tag	AL P2R Tag	Sex	Birthdate	Estimated Weight @Shipment	Sire Registration Number	Sire Breed	Dam ID	Dam Breed

Mail COMPLETED Forms To:
Alabama Pasture to Rail Program
 120 CR 756
 Clanton, AL 35045

Phone: 205-646-3610 or 205-646-0115
Fax: 205-646-3607
Email: elmorjb@auburn.edu

Alabama Pasture to Rail Program Consignment Form and Health Processing Record

Alabama Pasture to Rail Program Health Record

<i>Option 1</i> 2-4 weeks prior to weaning	Product	Company	Route	Date
Clostridial 7-way			SQ only	
IBR/BVD/PI3/BRSV				
Pasteurella				
Deworm				
Treat external parasites (If a problem)				

At Weaning: Date _____

Treatment	Product	Company	Route	Date
IBR/BVD/PI3/BRSV				

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At Weaning: Date _____

Option 2 Next time calves are worked is at weaning	Product	Company	Route	Date
Clostridial 7-way			SQ only	
IBR/BVD/PI3/BRSV				
Deworm				
Treat external parasites (If a problem)				

10-14 days after weaning

Treatment	Product	Company	Route	Date
IBR/BVD/PI3/BRSV				

Directions for filling out this Health Record: Fill out either Option 1 or Option 2 section of this form; according to how your calves were treated. Remember to go over your specific plan and products with your herd veterinarian. He or she is your best source of advice on the health of animals in your herd.

Read and follow labels carefully.

Give all injections forward of the shoulder in the neck area.

Use clean syringes and needles.

Do not use disinfectants to clean; soap and hot water are fine.

Use 18 or 16 gauge needles 1½ to 1” for Intramuscular (IM) injections and ½ to ¾” for Subcutaneous (SQ) injections

Keep vaccines out of the sun and in a cooler. Only mix up enough modified live vaccine that can be used within 45 minutes.

Only inject into clean areas.

Use good head restraint when implanting. Keep implant needles sharp.

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