

ALBCIA's Purpose & Mission

Alabama BCIA's 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. Alabama BCIA is a non-profit organization of persons, firms, partnerships, and corporations in the State of Alabama who are engaged in the production and marketing of purebred or commercial beef cattle. Alabama BCIA was established in 1964 and cooperates with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) of Auburn University under formal agreement. BCIA is guided by a board of directors made up of purebred and commercial producers, industry leaders in the state, the director of ACES, department chair of Auburn Animal Sciences, and Regional and County Extension Agents.

BCIA Purposes and Goals:

- To promote the use of performance records as a tool for within herd improvement of production efficiency and quality.
- To provide a total herd performance testing program for Alabama producers.
- To emphasize economically important traits in beef cattle that can be improved through selection and culling programs based on records.
- To emphasize the importance of good management practices in breeding, feeding, health, and marketing programs.

BCIA Record Keeping Program

Performance minded cattle producers have a goal to produce better beef and genetics by collectively using the best genetic and management tools currently available. Alabama BCIA assists its members in reaching this goal by providing access to the Red Wing Cow/Calf Computer Software at the county, regional or state extension level. By working with Alabama Cooperative Extension agents, producers can enter cattle data and receive reports with performance information along with personal assistance to guide them in evaluating and managing herd improvement. Reports help to make good management decisions and to provide a method to track health information for BQA and source verification, and carcass data from the Pasture To Rail Program. Red Wing Cow/Calf can be used to build a performance database that can help make management and genetic selection decisions to guide the direction of the cattle operation. Participation in the program can be an excellent educational experience in the direction of herd performance and genetics and how they both can be improved.

BCIA Bull Evaluations and Consignment Sales

The BCIA sponsors two bull evaluations including the North Alabama Bull Evaluation in Cullman and the Wiregrass Forage Based Bull Evaluation in Elba. A consignment bull sale is held annually in the fall named the Fall Round Up Sale in Uniontown to market coming 2 year old bulls to 4 year old bulls. BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sales are held along with these bull sales to target open and bred heifers with genetic documentation, group age, and source information. Heifers must be sired by a properly registered bull. For bred heifers, a properly registered service sire is also required. The annual Herdbuilder Replacement Female Sale is a BCIA sanctioned sale with a regional focus in Uniontown. Bred heifers, open heifers, and a select group of cows with BCIA data are marketed.

BCIA Seedstock Continuing Education Program

The purpose of the Alabama BCIA Seedstock Continuing Education Program is to provide specialized education and resources for seedstock producers. This program enables established seedstock producers with the knowledge and skills to improve aspects of their business and also cattle producers interested in establishing a new seedstock operation. Seedstock producers, regardless of operational size or breed, can utilize this resource. The Alabama BCIA Seedstock Continuing Education Program features an educational resource manual, which is available on this website or in hard copy for a fee. The program manual is divided into 8 sections which include the following: Introduction from leaders in the Alabama seedstock industry, Business Goal Setting, Marketing and Market Positioning, Physical Aspects and Carcass Data, EPDs and Performance Data, Management, Reproduction, and Health.