

the Register



Guided by History, Focused on the Future

McDonald Farms, Blacksburg, VA,
has a long history in agriculture
and the Simmental breed.

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The Processing Picture

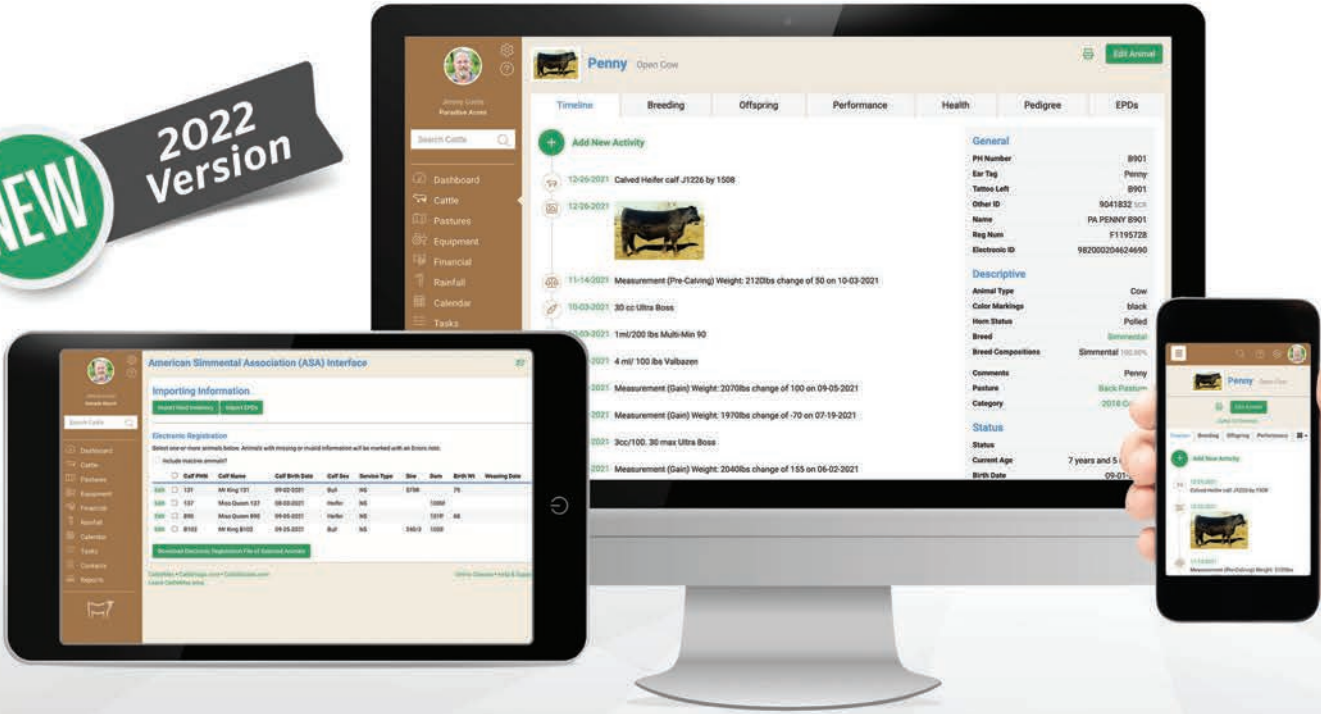
Dr. Rohan Fernando
Retires

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the Branding Pen

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ASA Spotlight

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by Lilly Platts

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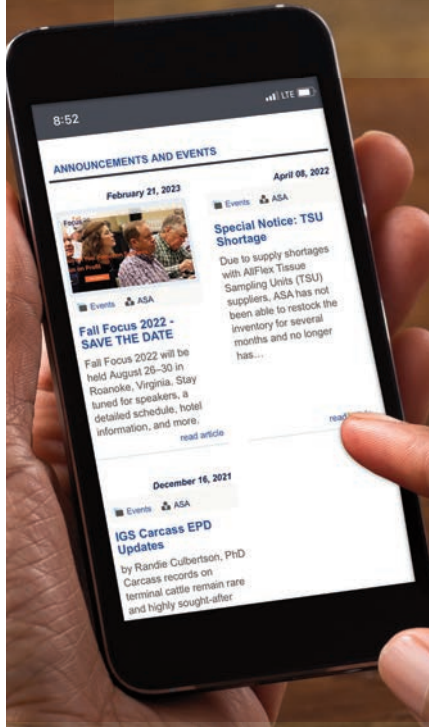
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- ◆ Down to the Genes

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Simmental females are efficient on grass, and add pounds to their progeny at weaning. Photo by Randy Moody.

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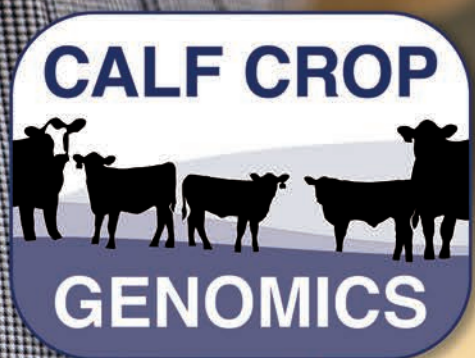
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**The decision you make
today will influence
the next 20 years.**



**Make it a
good one.**



by Victor G. Guerra

I hope this viewpoint finds you and your family well, enjoying optimum spring pasture conditions. We are coming off an early spring sale and show season in our region that highlighted impressive quality and strong interest in SimGenetics. This interest has trickled into the spring sale season at our respective ranches, as

demand for SimGenetics continues to gain momentum; utilization of various programs and vast genetics continues to increase consumer demand.

Several highlights come to mind as I reflect on the first months of 2022. The annual Rio Grande Valley Beef Improvement Association's Performance Gain Test recently wrapped up here in South Texas. The Simbrah bulls from numerous breeders performed at a high level and were met with enthusiastic demand from commercial and registered breeders alike. The American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation Female, and various other donated lots, once again poured in over \$100,000 to the Foundation, ensuring that we can continue to support programs that will expand SimGenetics' thumbprint across the industry. Also, at the 30th Annual Simmental-Simbrah Superbowl, the one-millionth dollar was awarded to the hardworking youth exhibiting SimGenetics from participating sponsors who have made this one-of-a-kind event possible.

As I write this, I am traveling to Bozeman, Montana, for our April Board meeting; I eagerly await welcoming new trustees to the board, especially after a tiresome quarantine season. In spite of our diversity, it is evident we all share the same passion for SimGenetics. I invite you to share your insight with each of us, as we look for ways to improve the American Simmental Association, as well as explore new programs and initiatives to create more opportunities for more breeders. SimGenetics' future may look different to each of us, but, if we strive to keep open minds I believe we can sustain and build off our recent success.

Although much of our region is particularly dry and a number of producers have been dealing with challenges created by natural disasters, I find hope and promise in how well our SimGenetics are performing. Better days are ahead for those facing challenges and I wish you the best as you either rebuild or battle this drought. Moving forward, I am excited about SimGenetics Training for Young Leaders and Entrepreneurs (STYLE) in Oklahoma, the AJSA National Classic in Wisconsin, and the various events that are geared toward developing one of our most precious resources: our youth. If you live near one of these junior events, I urge you to attend as it is impressive to see how SimGenetics are helping develop the next generation.

Congratulations to you on your recent success and I wish you continued success in all of your endeavors. Thank you for all you do for SimGenetics and I look forward to seeing you down the road. ■

2022 Annual ASA Fall Focus

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August 26-30, 2022 Roanoke, Virginia

Friday, August 26
Tours of local farms and Virginia Tech

Saturday, August 27
Symposium and Award Dinner

Sunday, August 28 - Tuesday, August 30
Board Meetings

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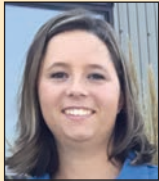
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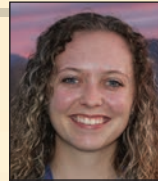
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- ▶ Foundation registrations completed within 2-3 weeks

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- ▶ Job or invoice number
- ▶ Registration number or tattoo of animal(s) in question

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by Dr. Randie Culbertson, Lead Geneticist, IGS

As I'm writing this article, my most pressing project is working on the development of a new genetic evaluation for mature cow weight. The conversation of publishing new traits for International Genetic Solutions (IGS) is not a new topic, and it may seem from

the breeder's perspective that data is submitted for these new traits and then ... crickets. The data you submitted has entered a big black hole and there is no indication of when you will see some outcome from the submission of the data. The process of submitting data and phenotypes to the publication of a new EPD is often a long, winding road. I assure you that your data has NOT fallen into a black hole, but there are multiple steps to take before those phenotypes are manifested into a published EPD for IGS.

The first challenge for the development of new EPD is deciding what trait to publish an EPD for. The philosophy of IGS is to publish EPD for economically relevant traits, or ERT. In theory, we can publish an EPD for any measurable trait with a heritability, but the bigger question is, should we? Things to consider when deciding what traits to publish: 1) what is the economic relevance of this trait, 2) what is the practicality of measuring the trait, and 3) is this a trait of interest for our breeders? If the trait has no relevance to breeders, or if the trait is difficult to measure, the likelihood of breeders collecting the phenotypes needed to run the evaluation decreases. In some cases, the economic relevance of the trait justifies the collection of phenotypes that may be difficult to gather. For example, carcass phenotypes (e.g., marbling) are challenging to collect, and the least reported traits in the IGS database. However, these traits are the end product for the beef industry and have a huge economic impact warranting their collection for use in the genetic evaluation.

When the need for a trait has been identified, the next step is data collection. To estimate the required parameters and build the models to run a genetic evaluation, a large number of records are required. This can be a limiting factor for developing a genetic evaluation for some traits. The number of records needed will vary depending on the trait and more is always better, but typically thousands of phenotypes on pedigreed animals are needed. The more phenotypes, the more reliable the estimates. In some cases, the collection of the phenotype may not be the challenge, but the collection of the appropriate data to form contemporary groups may be a limiting factor. It can take time to collect enough records to reach the critical mass needed to start the development of a genetic evaluation.

Once enough records are collected, then the process of data analysis and model development begins. The first step is to examine and "clean" the data. This process involves running basic statistics to look at the quality of data collected and remove any "dirty" data. Data that is considered to be "dirty" are records that are not biologically reasonable for the trait. For example, in the mature cow weight records there are cows with mature weights of over 5,000 pounds. These are not feasible weights and were most likely entered incorrectly. As a result, these records are removed from the analysis as a way of "cleaning" the data. The records are also examined to begin the process of establishing contemporary groups. Contemporary grouping is crucial for genetic evaluation as it accounts for the environmental effect. During this process we might refine what we would require for future uploads to Herdbook.

With a clean dataset and established contemporary groups, the process of actually building the genetic evaluation begins. Careful consideration goes into the development of models for estimating EPD. The model must appropriately account for environmental effects and use the correct heritabilities to estimate the best genetic predictions. Model development is often a process of two steps forward and one step back. Once a prototype model has been developed, the resulting EPD and accuracies are examined through a validation process to give an indication of the level of genetic prediction the model provides and any bias that may be present. If the validation process produces poor results or indicates a bias, then we have to investigate the causes for the bias. In some cases, this requires a redefinition of contemporary groups, a new model, or re-estimation of heritabilities. Adjustments are made to the prototype and re-run. The validation process is repeated until the greatest level of genetic prediction is reached, bias is minimized, and a final model is established.

With the establishment of the final model, several test runs are made to integrate the new EPD into the weekly evaluation runs. The test results are made available to IGS partners for review. Each partner, including ASA, will examine the EPD for the new trait and bring up any concerns or questions. Once the IGS partners are satisfied with the EPD results and validations, the new EPD enters into the weekly IGS evaluation and is published on Herdbook.

The process of going from data to EPD can sometimes be a smooth, straight road but in my experience, it is typically a winding dirt road with a few potholes along the way. It may seem as though data is submitted never to be heard about again, but the process of delivering an EPD requires many steps to ensure the best EPD is being published. ■

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Guided by History, Focused on the Future

Dating back to 1763, McDonald Farms, Blacksburg, Virginia, has a long history in agriculture and the Simmental breed. Bill McDonald, who manages the family operation, has been a leader in the breed and industry and is committed to being a steward of the land and cattle. Fall Focus 2022 will feature a tour of McDonald Farms.

by Lilly Platts



A Deep Family History

McDonald Farms has stood the test of time and the family is now approaching 260 years of tending to the same land. During the Revolutionary War the farm served as a depot, and early in its history it also housed a grist mill, a tannery, and was used for producing “McDonald Surefire” gunpowder. Bill McDonald is guided by this deep family history. “When Joseph McDonald and his family first came to Blacksburg he had ten children — nine boys and one girl. He was in his 60s, and they were all skilled in different aspects. They were self-sufficient — they built their homes from logs cut here, grew hemp for linen, and sheep for wool,” he shares.

The first known herd of cattle on the McDonald farm was likely Shorthorn. Fast forward several generations, and the family began raising seedstock. McDonald says, “When we started in the seedstock business we knew this area had a lot of Angus cattle already. Then, we

knew the benefits of hybrid vigor, having used Simmental in a rotational cross before. So we felt like there was more genetic diversity within the Simmental breed to select from to find bulls and females that would complement the majority of the cow herds in this area, and across the country. We’ve been able to do that by selecting for homozygous polled and homozygous black cattle for our area. Having the wide, diverse genetic base that Simmental has, we’ve been able to select profitable cattle for the inputs at hand and the resources we have.”

McDonald’s decision to stay at the family farm simply made sense. He explains, “Coming from a long line of farmers on both sides of my families, it felt like I was bred for it. After graduating high school I attended Virginia Tech and got a degree in animal science. Then it seemed like if we were going to continue the farm it was time for me to step up and take my turn running it. I’ve thoroughly enjoyed doing it.”



Editor's note: *McDonald Farms was featured by Grant Company in the Stand Strong Simmental series*



McDonald Farms bulls are backed by data and meticulous record keeping.

The Bull Business

McDonald Farms held their nineteenth annual Pick of the Pen bull sale in April of this year. Over their years in the seedstock business they have built a reputation for raising bulls that excel in calving ease, growth, milking ability, carcass quality, and docility. “We’re trying to produce easy-calving, fast-growing, well-marbling, efficient cattle that will make use of the resources we have here,” McDonald explains. “One of our bylines in our program is that we’re trying to produce decathaloners and not sumo wrestlers. The cattle that are going to be in the herds of my customers — for decades at times — need to be athletes and need to do things well.”

McDonald has been a leader in the Simmental breed for many years — he served as chairman of the ASA Board of Trustees in 2012 — and has seen the development of many of ASA’s programs and partnerships, like International Genetic Solutions (IGS), genomic testing, and more. McDonald explains that the IGS partnership

has helped propel the breed to its current status in the industry. “We need to be able to gauge ourselves not just within our breed, but how we compare to other breeds. Our customers can come to us when they have questions about how it will benefit them within their cow herd. Diversity is our strength.”

Calving ease is at the top of many commercial producers’ lists when they look for a herdsire. McDonald shares, “The biggest thing that has changed in our operation through IGS has been calving ease. We hardly have to touch a calf, and only if it is a breech presentation or something abnormal. With all of the cattle we calve throughout the year — around 225, with 50 to 60 being heifers — we may only touch one or two. That’s been a real benefit to our program, and it’s been a real benefit to our customers. We wouldn’t have that without the multi-breed evaluation and IGS to help us make those selections.”

(Continued on page 16)



SAPI: 135
STI: 81

Long's Red Answer H8

W/C Hoc HCC Red Answer 33B x
WS Prime Beef Z8

ASA# 3784793 • Red • Homo Polled
Exciting, complete, homo polled, rare Red
Answer son!



SAPI: 147
STI: 86

Mr SR Mic Drop G1534

Mr SR 71 Right Now E1538 x
JBS Big Casino 336Y

ASA# 3568352 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
A true spread bull with extra MCE, Docility,
Marbling and production profit potential.



SAPI: 167
STI: 104

WS Proclamation E202

CCR Cowboy Cut 5048Z x WS Miss Sugar C4

ASA# 3254156 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Proclamation is one of the ELITE, must-use
superstars!



SAPI: 119
STI: 89

KRJ Dakota Outlaw G974

Rubys Turnpike 771E x BRKC Daphne DY37

ASA# 3632499 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Dakota Outlaw's first calves are "the talk"
of the country when it comes to fresh genes
to use in 2022!



SAPI: 114
STI: 77

SC Pay the Price C11

Pays to Dream x Trademark

ASA# 2988788 • Homo black • Hetero polled
Two-time NWSS Grand Champion Bull



SAPI: 104
STI: 76

WCL No Limits G302

Mr. CCF 20-20 x American Pride

ASA# 3659712 • Homo black • Homo polled
No Limits is a neat patterned bull out of
the legendary 20-20!



SAPI: 119
STI: 74

Mr CCF Clarified E3

Mr CCF 20-20 x

Miss CCF Sheza Superstar by Duracell
ASA# 3275273 • Homo black • Homo polled
Backed by the Louisville and Denver Champion
Sheza Bonnie, Clarified offers elite phenotype,
proven genetics, and a balanced EPD profile.



SAPI: 125
STI: 75

OBCC CMFM Deplorabull D148

W/C Executive Order x LazyH/Adkins Blkstr Z15

ASA# 3150188 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Deplorabull is the \$100,000 valued herdsire
prospect that was the talk of Kansas City and
Louisville in the fall of 2016. He was named
Bull Calf Champion at both the American Royal and
the NAILE.



SAPI: 114
STI: 81

GSC GCCO Dew North 102C

Duracell x Dew It Right

ASA# 3141837 • Homo black • Homo polled
Calving ease combined with tremendous
structural soundness! 2018 Fort Worth
Champion!



SAPI: 111
STI: 82

Longs Pay the Man E16

Pays to Believe x Shear Pleasure

ASA# 3327014 • Homo black • Homo polled
Great-built, stout, double-homozygous
Pays to Believe son!



SAPI: 132
STI: 87

LLSF Vantage Point F398

CCR Anchor x Uprising x Quantum Leap's Dam

ASA# 3492381 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled
3/4 Lead-off Bull in the 2019 NWSS Percentage
Champion for Lee.



SAPI: 112
STI: 72

Felt Perseverance 302F

W/C Executive Order 8543B x Rubys Rhythm Z231

ASA# 3493800 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled
Perseverance is a new, exciting baldy Executive
Order son with tremendous maternal genetics
behind him. The first dozen calves out of him have
been born light and easily out of first calf heifers.



SAPI: 173
STI: 104

LCDR Affirmed 212H

EGL Firesteel 103F x WS Miss Sugar C4

ASA# 3812282 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Use him to make those next generation
Purebreds. Excellent foot shape and depth
of heel.



SAPI: 117
STI: 71

WHF/JS/CCS Double Up G365

W/C Double Down x WHF Summer 365C

ASA# 3658592
Double Up is by proven calving ease sensation
Double Down out of the legendary WHF/Steen-
hoek multiple time champion WHF Summer 365C.



SAPI: 123
STI: 75

VOLK Backdraft CC F810

W/C Executive Order 8543B x JS Flatout Flirty

ASA# 3528566 • Red • Polled
Backdraft owns unrivaled maternal strength,
combining noted breed-leaders "Flatout Flirty"
and "Miss Werning KP 8543U."



SAPI: 118
STI: 75

PBF Red Paint F88

W/C Executive Order x Built Right

ASA# 3500551 • Red • Polled
Hot, red, calving ease bull. 2019 Iowa State
Fair Division Champion!



SAPI: 117
STI: 70

KSIG Steelin His Style 6D

Silveiras Style x Steel Force x SS Babys Breath

ASA# 3130639 • Homo black • Homo polled
1/2 SimAngus™, calving ease from the 2012
American Royal Champion!



SAPI: 115
STI: 72

GEFF County O 736E

Loaded Up x RAJE/PB Montecito 63W

ASA# 3289219 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled
County O goes back to the Rhythm donor at
Ruby's! He's a featured herdsire at Griswold
Cattle Co. OK and is making the right kind!



SAPI: 113
STI: 72

W/C Double Down 5014E

W/C Executive Order X Yardley Utah

ASA# 3336150 • Homo black • Homo polled
Double Down has now proven himself with scores
of very nice calves, and as expected, has stretched
the necks, yet provides the rib the industry is
demanding in the show room and the pastures.



SAPI: 180
STI: 102

TSN Architect J618

G A R Home Town x TSN Miss Cowboy D350

ASA# 3928828 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
The most exciting calving ease SimAngus™
in the land with top % ranks in every trait!



SAPI: 114
STI: 73

SJW Exit 44 7111E

LLSF Pays to Believe x SVF/NJC Built Right N48
ASA# 3416614 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
The most talked-about new blaze bull across the nation!



SAPI: 141
STI: 79

Rocking P Private Stock H010

WLE Copacetic E02 x Rubys Wide Open 909W
ASA# 3775641 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Private Stock was the 2022 Fort Worth Champion Bull and the 2021 NAILE Champion Bull.

COOL Additions!

CATTLE Visions

573-641-5270

www.cattlevisions.com



SAPI: 211
STI: 116

CLRS Guardian 317G

Hook's Beacon 56B x CLRS Always Xcellent
ASA# 3563436 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Guardian was the \$85,000 selection in the 2020 "Bred For Balance" Sale. He's the breed's #1 SAPI Purebred and #2 Marbling Purebred!



SAPI: 134
STI: 87

CCS/WHF OI' Son 48F

CDI Innovator 325D x WHF Summer 365C
ASA# 3452997 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
OI' Son is one of the newest and HOTTEST bulls on the market! Siring champs for JS Simmental in his first calf crop!



SAPI: 102
STI: 70

Ruby/SWC Gentleman's Jack

One Eyed Jack x Upgrade
ASA# 3134708 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Producing extremely sound, deep-sided, high-quality progeny! His first crop of heifer calves has produced champions at the highest levels!



SAPI: 134
STI: 84

W/C Bet On Red 481H

W/C Fort Knox x W/C Relentless
ASA# 3808091 • Red • Homo Polled
Griswold's red bull purchase from the 2021 Werning sale!



SAPI: 170
STI: 109

CLWTR Clear Advantage H4G

LLSF Vantage Point F398 x Miss Sugar C4
ASA# 3858588 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Exciting, new sire that's ultra-complete out of one of the hottest donors!



SAPI: 127
STI: 79

W/C Bank On It 273H

PW/C Bankroll 811D x Hooks/ KS Sequoia
ASA# 3808104 • Hetero • Black Homo Polled
Griswold selected him at the \$202,000 high seller at Werning's 2021 sale!



SAPI: 138
STI: 84

W/C Express Lane 29G

Rubys Turmpike 771E x Hooks/ Shear Force 38K
ASA# 3644933 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Complete Turmpike son at Western Cattle Source, NE!



SAPI: 98
STI: 71

SWSN Cash Flow 81E

Profit x MR CCF Vision
ASA# 3348420 • Black • Polled
Cash Flow sired some of Hartman's and Vogler's high selling lots this past year!



SAPI: 147
STI: 101

SAS Infra-Red H804

All Aboard x Erixon Bitten
ASA# 3803257 • Red • Homo Polled
One of the hottest red bulls to sell in 2021!



SAPI: 124
STI: 79

SAS Big Casino H214

Drake Poker Face x Erixon Bitten
ASA# 3803217 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Big-bodied, performance-driven baldy!



SAPI: 187
STI: 91

Bar CK Red Empire 9153G

IR Imperial x CDI Verdict
ASA# 3766616 • Homo Polled
High-selling bull at BAR CKs 2021 Sale! Top 1%



SAPI: 145
STI: 79

W/C Fort Knox 69H Hardwire

W/C Fort Knox 609F x W/C Relentless 32C
ASA# 3808092 • Red • Homo Polled
Sloup's purchase at WC 2021 sale!



SAPI: 161
STI: 100

W/C Sugar Daddy 9002H

CDI innovator x WS Miss Sugar C4
ASA# 3808126 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Maternal brother to WS Proclamation and LCDR Impact and Favor. 9002H is the CE leader Innovator son and higher SAPI.



SAPI: 150
STI: 93

RBS Upper Hand H288

W/C Bankroll 4254F x RBS Uptown
ASA# 3827413 • Hetero Black • Homo Polled
Reck's 2021 high seller to Hart's, SD. Reck's describe him as impressive a bull they've raised. 902# WW combined with excellent feet, joints and profile!



SAPI: 105
STI: 70

LLSF Draft Pick H383

LLSF Better Believe It D64 x Kenco Steel Magnolia
ASA# 3804789 • Homo Black • Homo Polled
Reserve National Purebred Bull Calf Champion and leadoff in Lee's Champion Pen! Add power!



SAPI: 102
STI: 72

S&S TSSC Limitless 041H (1/2)

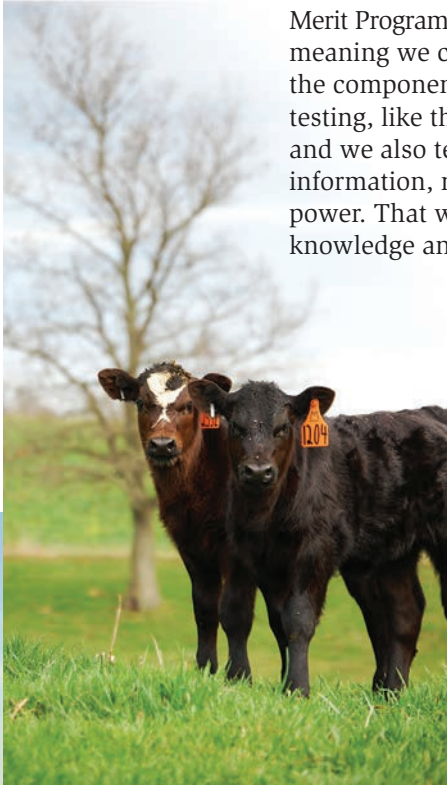
Conley No Limit x WS Revival
ASA# 3776857 • Black • Polled
Calf champion at 2020 NAILE and 2021 Royal!

Guided by History, Focused on the Future

(Continued from page 13)

Data is a top priority at McDonald Farms. “Knowledge is power,” McDonald says. “The more data we collect, the more we know about the cattle. The more we know about them, then we can make intelligent decisions on which cattle will add the benefits and new dimensions to our future herds through our cattle industry. We are participants in Total Herd Enrollment, and we also do the Carcass Merit Program. We are Performance Advocates, meaning we collect all the data we can on all the components and more. We also do DNA testing, like the Cow Herd DNA Roundup, and we also test our bulls so we have more information, more knowledge, and more power. That way our customers have more knowledge and more power.”

Bulls only make the sale pen if McDonald is confident in the data behind them and their performance. “As a seedstock producer, we feel like our biggest responsibility is to have a sharp knife and know how to use it. When cattle do not measure up to remain a candidate for the seedstock operation, we retain ownership of them and send them to a feedlot and get that information so we know how our cattle perform. If our bottom end is performing at a certain level we feel like our top end is also performing above that. To ensure that, we also do ultrasound work on the cattle we do retain — our bulls and heifers. There again, more data, more information, more power,” McDonald explains.



McDonald points to diversity as one of the Simmental breed's biggest strengths.

Southwest Virginia is extremely productive grassland.



Bill McDonald is the seventh generation on the family farm.



Looking to the Future

The McDonald family has seen many changes to the Blacksburg area over two-and-a-half centuries. Located in the southwest foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the area is extremely productive. “It has an abundance of grass, and grows an abundance of forage. It’s well shaded and well watered, so it’s almost ideal cattle country,” McDonald shares. “We’re always trying to raise cattle here that work well on grass.”

Urban development is encroaching on much of this valuable grassland, which is a challenge McDonald knows his family will have to deal with in the future, in addition to other issues. “The challenges farmers in this area face are similar to the challenges that other farmers and ranchers face. Low commodity prices for a product, and the challenge of the weather. We also have the challenges of activists who think we aren’t taking care of the environment like they think we should, or those who don’t think we are taking care of the animals like they think we should. But farmers and ranchers like myself know that we have to take care of the environment, and take care of

the animals, to make a living. And we need that to be sustainable, and having been in the business for 260 years I feel like my family have been good stewards of the environment and good stewards of the land and livestock.”

Keeping a multi-generational operation in business is a weighty responsibility, and McDonald’s view of the future is informed by his family’s history. “Looking to the future, we want to be able to have the opportunity present if the next generation wants to continue farming and ranching. We know they’ll have their challenges — they’ll have to rise to those challenges — and we know there are opportunities in challenges, so we try to instill in them the value of agriculture and what we have here, and hope they will respect that and continue on with it in one fashion or another,” he shares. “Over the years, my family had to adapt, just like we’ve had to to challenging times, changing weather, changing markets, and government programs. I think the constant is that they wanted to produce food and fiber for America and the world, and I feel like we’ve done a good job of that.” ■

BEST PRACTICES FOR SEEDSTOCK PRODUCERS

Best Practices to Receive the Most Accurate Genetic Predictions

1 Clearly define breeding objectives

With the ability to increase the rate of genetic change comes the possibility to make mistakes at a faster pace. Breeding goals need to be clearly identified to ensure that selection at the nucleus level matches the profit-oriented needs of the commercial industry.

2 Use whole herd reporting

Inventory-based reporting captures more complete phenotypes on reproduction and longevity traits, and thus creates more accurate genetic selection tools.

3 Properly define contemporary groups

It is important for the precision of the genetic evaluation to group animals treated uniformly. Proper reporting of contemporary groups reduces bias in EPD.

4 Take data collection and reporting seriously

Phenotypes are the fuel that drives the genetic evaluation. Take pride in collecting accurate data. Report records on the complete contemporary group in order to paint the most accurate picture of the genetics in these cattle. If possible, collect additional phenotypes like mature cow weight, cow body condition score, udder scores, feed intake, and carcass data.

5 Make both thorough and accurate phenotypic data collection for economically relevant traits a high priority

The quantity and quality of fertility traits need to dramatically improve. Providing disposal codes to identify why females leave the herd is vital. Commercial data resources, where the true economically relevant traits exist, are going to become more critical to capture. Breeders can help prove the genetics of their own seedstock by encouraging their commercial customers to join ASA's Commercial Total Herd Enrollment (THE) option and add valuable data to the evaluation.

6 Use index-based selection

As the list of published EPD continues to grow, using economic selection indices will become even more helpful to reduce the complexity of multiple trait selection.

If the number of EPD increase, tools to reduce the complexity of sire selection for commercial producers must continue to develop. Breed associations and seedstock producers have the obligation to aid commercial clientele in making profitable bull selection decisions.



Jackie Atkins, Ph.D.



Matt Spangler, Ph.D.



Bob Weaver, Ph.D.



Wade Shafer, Ph.D.

7 Use genomics

Genomic selection offers an opportunity to increase the rate of genetic change and break the antagonistic relationship between generation interval (the average age of the parents when the next generation is born) and the accuracy of selection (e.g., accuracy of EPD) — two components that determine the rate of genetic change. However, as with any tool, genomic information must be used correctly and to its fullest extent.

Adding a DNA test to your decision is like knowing . . .

- ◆ 25+ calving ease scores
- ◆ 22 birth weights
- ◆ 25+ weaning weights
- ◆ 25+ yearling weights
- ◆ Stayability/productivity records on 15 daughters
- ◆ 6 carcass weights
- ◆ 10 marbling scores
- ◆ 8 ribeye area measurements

All this from a test you can complete before you wean the calf.



Best Practices for Genomic Testing

1 All animals within a contemporary group should be genotyped.

If genomic data are meant to truly enable selection decisions, this information must be collected on animals before selection decisions are made. The return on investment of this technology is substantially reduced if it is used after the decision is made. The ASA offers the Calf Crop Genomics (CCG) program to offer 50% off GGP100K test for breeders who commit to genotype the entire calf crop. See sidebar for more details.

2 Both male and female animals should be genotyped.

The promise of genomic selection has always suggested the largest impact is for lowly heritable and/or sex limited (e.g., fertility) traits or those that are not routinely collected (e.g., disease). This is indeed true, but it necessitates that genotyped animals have phenotypes. For sex-limited traits, this becomes a critical choke point given historically the vast majority of genotyped cattle are males. If producers wish to have genomic-enhanced EPD for traits such as calving ease maternal and heifer pregnancy, they must begin or continue to genotype females. The ASA has a unique program called the Cow Herd DNA Roundup (CHR) to help herds collect female genotypes. See sidebar for more details.

3 Genotypes can provide useful information in addition to predictions of additive genetic merit.

Do not forget the value in correcting parentage errors, tracking inbreeding levels, identifying unfavorable haplotypes, estimating breed composition, and estimating retained heterozygosity. All of these can be garnered from populations that have a well-defined set of genotyping protocols.

The beef industry should be congratulated for the rapid adoption of genomic technology, but there is a lot of work to do. Of critical importance is the fact that genomic technology will continue to change and does not replace the need for phenotypes nor the fundamental understanding of traditional selection principles including EPD and accuracy.

Total Herd Enrollment (THE)

A cow inventory reporting program, THE requires participants to provide annual reproductive and inventory status on their cow herd. THE is designed to improve quality of data submitted for the genetic evaluation, and in turn improve and develop reproductive EPD. By submitting data on the entire calf crop or contemporary group, breeders will receive more accurate predictions of their cattle. The ASA has four THE options to fit most seedstock and commercial operations.



Cow Herd DNA Roundup (CHR)

The Cow Herd DNA Roundup (CHR) is designed to increase the number of female genotypes to better predict maternal traits, such as maternal calving ease. Genotyping entire herds reduces bias created when only the best cattle are genotyped. Gathering massive amounts of genotypes on entire cow herds will significantly improve the genomic predictions and rate of genetic progress. As parentage testing is included, CHR herds will have pedigrees validated through DNA. Participating breeders benefit from having genomically enhanced EPD on the entire cow herd — equivalent to a lifetime number of calf records in several traits for an exceptionally low cost.



Calf Crop Genomics (CCG)

Calf Crop Genomics, a research project launched by the ASA in collaboration with Neogen Genomics, offers 50% off GGP100K genomic test including parentage (\$25 compared to \$50 equivalent test) to participating breeders who test their entire calf crop. Genotyping entire calf crops is important to use genomically enhanced EPD (GE-EPD) for selection decisions, reduce selection bias in genomic predictions, and increase the volume of genotyped animals for future improvements to genetic predictions. The latter two points make any singular genomic test in the future better for all members using genomics.



Carcass Expansion Project (CXP)

Despite the importance of carcass traits to our industry, few producers devote resources to collecting and recording actual carcass data. While the Carcass Merit Program (CMP) is a valuable progeny test, it is limited in the number of records produced. We cannot depend on the CMP alone to bring in carcass data. In the age of genomics, it is clear we need genotypes on animals with actual carcass phenotypes.

Adding another layer of commitment to predicting carcass traits, the ASA initiated a new program, called the Carcass Expansion Project, in the fall of 2018 to increase the number of carcass records on genotyped animals. The ASA is ramping up both phenotypic and genotypic data collection on terminal calves — a vital part of our vision.



The Processing Picture

by Lilly Platts

Getting quality beef products to consumers is a common goal across the industry, from seedstock producers to feeders. How this is accomplished, and how each step of this process is handled, is constantly at the forefront of industry conversations. ASA Publication editor Lilly Platts spoke to Denise Perry, plant manager at Lorentz Meats, a mid-sized processor in Cannon Falls, Minnesota. Perry and the Lorentz family have a long history in the industry, and provide meaningful insight into the industry and the complexities of operating a successful facility.

Platts: *Tell me how you became a part of Lorentz Meats.*

Perry: I grew up in Cannon Falls, poking my head over the counter at Lorentz Meats, back when they were still a custom processor. I have fond memories of my mom chatting with Ed Lorentz and deciding what meat she was going to bring home for dinner. I never imagined I would end up back in my hometown, with my PhD in animal and meat science, managing one of the most influential small meat processing plants and largest bison processor in the US. I like to tell people that I am a “recovering professor” as I taught animal and food sciences courses at the University of Wisconsin–Platteville for five years before I started feeling too disconnected from the industry and was itching to get closer to the action. I missed the meat world and was fortunate enough to land a spot with Lorentz Meats where I continue to grow personally and professionally.

Platts: *Lorentz Meats focuses on niche markets, like grass-fed, or organic. How has that market developed and grown?*

Perry: I do not believe there is one simple answer to why the niche industry has grown. I think in a general sense, people are increasingly disconnected from the raising of the animals that end up on our plates. Niche markets focus on reconnecting consumers with the growing, raising, and origins of the product. Consumers are taking the opportunity to make thoughtful, well-informed decisions relative to where their meat came from and they appreciate when they are able to connect with the raising and ultimate sacrifice of the animal. As Wendell Berry has written: “A significant part of the pleasure of eating is in one’s accurate consciousness of the lives and

the world from which food comes.” I believe we will see the niche markets continue to grow and evolve with the times. The pandemic has drastically changed the focus and conversation around our industry. Suddenly, sourcing meat from a small or very small processor is seen just as much as a niche as the raising claims themselves. Given the history of Lorentz, I think that speaks to how the market has grown. In 2001, Mike and Rob Lorentz expanded their parents’ original vision of the “mom and pop shop” to a federally inspected facility, allowing producers to brand and market their product to a customer base beyond Minnesota’s borders. Mike and Rob, both growing up in the meat industry, will tell you that the transition was not easy or absent of challenge. Running a meat processing facility is extremely challenging, from the unique skills required to produce, to managing the byproducts of production, working with tight margins, as well as understanding and working with government regulation. The reality is, it takes time, perseverance, vision, a vast array of knowledge, business acumen, and in many situations, some trusting investors. Mike was pushing grass-fed as a vision back in 2001, long before it was mainstream. In early 2000, they were also one of the first US plants to gain USDA approval to export elk processed at Lorentz to Europe.

Platts: *How have you seen brands find their market, and how does Lorentz Meats support that?*

Perry: Our focus is on brands that believe in the specific market they are catering to, many of whom have a personal connection with the markets they aspire to serve, plain and simple. If we produce for a grass-fed brand, we want the brand owner who is passionate about and truly believes in grass-fed beef’s benefit to the industry and/or consumers. This passion ensures the brand owner also holds their producers accountable for the claims connected to the brand. The validity of those claims are not just the brand owner’s reputation, but Lorentz Meats’s reputation as well. The same is true with any of the other brands we produce that may not be focused on a niche claim, but perhaps serve a certain cultural market, for example. I believe the brand owners we work with truly believe in the claim(s) and product they market to consumers.

Platts: *The sustainability of our food system was brought to the forefront due to COVID-19. Overall, what is your view of the current system?*

Perry: Ultimately, I see fragility in the general concept of our industrialized world, and the last two years have been a stark example of our general vulnerability to disruption. We have become a spoiled nation where, more

(Continued on page 22)

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Sample business card ad
pages in the Register

The Processing Picture

(continued from page 20)

and more, the majority has always had everything at their fingertips. Few of us remember a time when anything we wanted “now” was not easily accessible. I think the major issues and holes in the supply chain right now lie more with the naivety of our consuming public and their complete disconnect and understanding of what it takes to bring products to the store shelves. Supply chain disruptions across the board have all been huge indicators to the universal issue and ultimate hole in manufacturing, which is the workforce.

Platts: *Labor has been a major challenge across industries, including for meat processors. How has Lorentz Meats handled this?*

Perry: As a society, we need to understand the need for our work to contribute to society or we will continue to go down a very slippery and dangerous path of bare shelves. The work in the meat industry, in particular, can still be quite labor intensive and sometimes dangerous. The smaller the plant gets, the more labor intensive and skilled the work becomes because automation is not as practical for the variety of work we do. With all of that said, our employees were constantly reminded during the pandemic that they were not just coming into a “job,” but ensuring that store shelves continued to get filled with meat. Their work mattered. If there was food for them to purchase in the stores, then there was security in our communities. That was a larger-than-life message that we were so proud to remind our employees of through everything.

About Lorentz Meats

Lorentz Meats was founded in 1968 when Ed and Mary Lorentz purchased Bremer Brothers Meat Market in Cannon Falls, Minnesota. In 1997, their sons Rob and Mike purchased the business. The brothers have coordinated several expansions, and today, the facility has a slaughter capacity of 120 head per day. On average, they harvest 90 head of beef and/or bison per day, and employ around 150 people. The facility is federally inspected, and carries a number of food safety and animal welfare third-party certifications, allowing brand owners to expand into national markets such as Kroger, Whole Foods, Costco, Sam’s Club, and Aldi.

The business focuses on helping niche brands produce meat products, from processing to packaging and labeling. Niche meats generally refer to any non-commodity meat, but generally involve naturally or organically produced products. They recently implemented a five-head limit, but also cater to small local producers. To learn more about the business go to lorentzmeats.com.

Platts: *Major funding has been dedicated to encouraging the establishment of small processing facilities over the last two years. What are the challenges of starting a meat processing facility, and is this a trend a solution to supply issues?*

Perry: Diversification as a general rule is never a bad strategy. I have yet to hear a story where putting one’s eggs all in one basket ended well, and the same could be said for the meat processing industry. Do I think having exponentially more small and very small processors is going to prevent the potential future supply chain disruptions similar to what we may have seen during the pandemic? No. The way our economic system has been built — unless the structure changes significantly in the near future — we still need the large plants to help maintain food security and get products to all markets. Food security is a huge avenue to maintaining peace and civility. Do I think having exponentially more small and very small processors will impart a value on our rural communities and provide producers more options beyond marketing to the big plants and offer consumers more opportunity to reconnect with their food systems? Yes. Do I think, had we had more small and very small plants serving rural communities prior to the pandemic, we would have seen less animal waste when big packers were behind due to worker shortage during the pandemic? Absolutely. Lorentz Meats’s size in the processing market is very unique. We are big in the small and very small processing plant world, and we are tiny compared to the big meat plant world. At our size, we are able to produce volumes for our brand owners that have a national and international footprint. Small and very small plants, much like our Vermont partner, have the opportunity to make large regional impacts, opening up direct marketing opportunities for producers by way of restaurants, farmers markets, community supported agriculture (CSA) programs, local co-ops, independent grocery stores, etc. You get enough of those strategically placed throughout the US and suddenly “the little guys” have a large collective influence in serving producers and feeding our communities.

(Continued on page 24)



BALANCE THE SCALES



 **SimGenetics**
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American Simmental Association

BREED EFFECTS FOR COW MATURE WEIGHT (MWT)^{ab,c}

Angus	0
Charolais	-20 lb.
Hereford	-39 lb.
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That's why smart genetic selection pays off in the cow herd.

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^aUSMARC, Zimmerman, M., et al., "Breed and heterotic effects for mature weight in beef cattle," *J. of Anim. Sci.*, Vol. 99, 2021. ^bAdjusted for sire sampling, Angus was the heaviest at maturity among the 16 breeds evaluated. Solutions are deviations from Angus. YW EPDs were extracted from genetic evaluations conducted in 2019. ^cEstimate of MWT differences at 6 years of age. ^dThe study considered 108,857 weight records from 5,156 crossbred cows sired by 787 bulls.

The Processing Picture

(continued from page 22)

Platts: Consumer mistrust in the meat industry continues to grow. What do you see?

Perry: As a general rule, when it comes to food safety and quality, I trust what is coming from the large plants. People purchase and eat the products made in these plants. Why would these large processors want to risk making the millions of consumers they feed on a daily basis ill or worse, due to their facility's unsafe manufacturing practices? That would not be a very sustainable business model. As I used to preach to my students when I taught animal welfare, size of the farm does not guarantee a superior (or inferior) level of animal quality/safety/welfare/health. I do not immediately peg a large processing plant evil simply by size, any more than I do not immediately peg a very small plant as "better" simply due to their size. When it comes to more of the specialty raising claims, I do become a bit more skeptical of the larger corporation's or brand owner's ability to maintain integrity in such claims. I don't want to take a blanket approach to skepticism, but I would tell consumers to approach with caution. Producing something on a very large scale typically does not translate honestly to a specialty market simply from a sustainable supply standpoint.

Platts: What would you tell a cow-calf producer who is interested in becoming more involved with the end product, and possibly add value through specific raising claims?

Perry: I would recommend they work backwards. Go to the grocery stores (or online) and see what is out there for raising claims, what values they may share with specific labels. The more connected programs will likely also be found in local co-ops, maybe farmer's markets, Whole Foods, etc. Once they find a brand (or brands) that speak to them, I would encourage them to do a bit of additional research on the brand owner (website, etc.). If the values and story align with their values and the story they want their beef to tell to the end consumer, they should reach out to the brand owner and discuss opportunities to supply their feeders, etc. If the brand owner isn't interested in forging a relationship with a producer that actively sought them out in this way, they likely aren't the brand that type of producer (passionate) wants to work with anyway. ■



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2022 AJSA REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CLASSICS



Junior Division Public Speaking Topics

Option 1

Beef: it's more than just what's for dinner.
Discuss beef by-products and their importance in our daily lives.

Option 2

What are EPD?
Why are they important?

x x x x x x
x x x x x x

Option 3

If you could job shadow anyone in the beef industry for a day, who would it be and why?

Contest rules and details:

- ✘ At all AJSA Classics, Junior Public Speaking is a prepared speaking contest.
- ✘ Speeches should be three to seven minutes in length.
- ✘ Contestants are allowed to use two 3x5 note cards while speaking.
- ✘ All notes on these cards must be handwritten.
- ✘ Following the speech, each contestant should be prepared for questions from the judges. This Q&A session will be part of the score.

Please note these are Junior speaking topics only.

For more information on the speaking contest please visit the AJSA website www.juniorsimmental.org.

Dr. Rohan Fernando Retires

Adapted from authors Rodolfo J. Cantet, Jack C.M. Dekkers, Daniel Gianola, and Miguel Pérez-Enciso, in the journal *Genetics Selection Evolution*. Introduction by Dr. Wade Shafer



Dr. Mahdi Saatchi, Dr. Dorian Garrick, and Dr. Rohan Fernando

How Did Dr. Fernando's Work Influence ASA?

by Dr. Wade Shafer

Though his work has had a major impact on the genetic improvement of livestock around the world, and on ASA members' herds specifically, few in our sphere will have any knowledge of the recent retirement of one of the most influential quantitative geneticists of our time: Dr. Rohan Fernando. I suspect that's just fine with Rohan — who, at the same time, is one of the most brilliant and humble people I have ever known.

How has he affected ASA members? Fernando's seminal work on leveraging DNA in genetic prediction forms the backbone of the IGS evaluation. Besides providing the theoretical architecture for our evaluation, which was a "quantum leap" advancement in the genetic prediction world, he graciously participated in several meetings that framed the evolution of the IGS system. To recap those meetings, when Rohan spoke, which wasn't often, we all listened!

We will be forever grateful for Fernando's contribution to IGS. Though he is retiring from his full-time professorship at Iowa State, he plans to stay active scientifically. We certainly wish him well in his future endeavors... and hope that they will intersect with IGS endeavors from time to time.

From the Journal *Genetics Selection Evolution*

Dr. Fernando was born in Sri Lanka in a family with strong connections to agriculture, so he developed an interest in livestock. He attended Aquinas School in Colombo, a Catholic junior college, and then came to the United States, where he completed a bachelor of science in animal science at California State University–Fresno. He carried out postgraduate study at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he obtained masters and PhD degrees, with thesis work focusing on methodology in populations undergoing assortative mating and selection. He then continued his career as a tenured faculty member, first at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1985–1996) and as professor at Iowa State University thereafter.

He has been a productive scholar, with close to 15,000 citations and an h-index [a metric for evaluating the cumulative impact of an author's scholarly output and performance] of 57 in Google Scholar; excellent marks in a small field. His six most-cited papers include his seminal work on best linear unbiased prediction for marker assisted selection; his pioneering of Bayesian methods in animal breeding (at a time when Bayesianism was considered heretical); clarification of the role of markers in Bayesian regression models, including highlighting the importance of genetic similarity in prediction; and development of new methods for Bayesian variable selection. He also was a coauthor of the first paper pointing out the potential contribution of kernel methods to genome-enabled prediction.

In addition to many contributions in the areas mentioned above, Fernando's deep insights into difficult problems, coupled with his ability to arrive at elegant and convincing solutions, made him an ideal person to collaborate with, and to engage in discussion. During his career, he has assisted hundreds of students and collaborators, in a passionate and firm, albeit generous, quiet and humble, style. Those of us who have had the privilege of counting Rohan as a friend know that behind his sparse rhetoric, there is a person with very high ethical and spiritual dimensions. **He has been extremely helpful to many, representing a sort of "Mother Teresa of Calcutta-equivalent" of animal breeding; always giving, seldom requesting.**

Since he has been, in some sense, a "best seller" in our field, below is an abridged list of excerpts from statements made by persons whose life was influenced in one way or another by him. [The full article can be found at gsejournal.biomedcentral.com (volume 54, article 9).]

Daniel Gianola – University of Wisconsin

My first two guinea pigs (also known as graduate students) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1978) were Wilson Nelson Mulenga Mwenya and Rohan Luigi Fernando. Both were excellent but different from each other in interests. Mwenya became a dean at the University of Zambia, whereas Rohan chose scholarship. At that time, I had developed a “monster course” that covered essentially everything that was not being taught elsewhere, and with an important coverage of BLUP (best linear unbiased prediction), a very hot, mandatory, and mystical topic at that time. Most of us could follow Henderson’s algebra, but without understanding the implications. Mwenya and Rohan took the course and both did well. A problem, however, was that Rohan would not ask questions in class (typical of him) but would later show up in my office with questions for which I did not have a readily available answer. To get rid of this “nuisance parameter,” I would give him arcane books on mathematics and linear algebra and command: “read this and you will understand.” That did not work either, because he would return with questions about the books, so my problems got worse instead of better! Eventually, we helped each other understand important foundational issues from our field, some of which we continue to discuss. Apart from the mentor-mentee relationship, we later became colleagues and friends.

At that time, graduate students in animal breeding were beginning to take classes in mathematical statistics, and we gradually evolved from writing linear models into thinking in terms of joint, conditional, and marginal distributions. When Sotan Im and Jean-Louis Foulley (INRA, France) came to Illinois for a sabbatical, both being powerful mathematicians, our mental entropy about statistical theory and its relationship to quantitative genetics gradually began to dissipate. I believe their contribution was crucial in Rohan’s development as a quantitative scientist, and we finally understood the limitations and shortcomings of Henderson’s paper on BLUP under selection. It took us a few years of discussion, even with Henderson, who was a recurrent visiting professor at the University of Illinois, to get to that point.

I have known Rohan for more than four decades and he has been an extremely important influence in my life as a scholar. I could narrate many anecdotes, but space is limited. However, I would like to end the statement with the following: **“If you were a coach, he should be in your starting five. If you do not love the man, go and see a shrink: you may be ill.”**

Katherine Hanford and Stephen Kachman – University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Rohan has influenced our lives in many ways, both personally and professionally. We have been friends and colleagues of Rohan since we met as graduate students in Daniel Gianola’s lab at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1981, and, over the past four decades, Steve and Rohan have continued their collaboration. We have numerous photos of Steve and Rohan sharing a laptop or writing on a whiteboard or a sheet of paper, working on problems ranging from how to implement a statistical method in software or deciphering a bit of statistical theory, to incorporating genomic information into genetic evaluations, and the pros and cons of Rohan’s latest favorite programming language. Whether spending time at Iowa State University, serving together on various committees and projects, or getting together at meetings, we always looked forward to the opportunity to spend time with Rohan, where Steve could be assured to leave with a new idea to pursue and Kathy would be caught up on Rohan’s kids.

Dorian Garrick – Massey University, New Zealand

Rohan Fernando has always been quiet and unassuming, so his presence could easily go unnoticed. I first met Rohan Fernando in the mid-1980s and quickly learned that his publications and his presentations were carefully thought out, from first principles, and always very thorough. I immediately had a lot of respect for his work, particularly his 1989 paper “Marker assisted selection using BLUP” when it first came out.

I didn’t really get to know Rohan well until I joined him at Iowa State University in 2007 and began working closely with him. His first big contribution to my academic career was in the understanding of Bayesian approaches to some animal breeding and related problems, particularly BayesA and BayesB.

Soon after my arrival at Iowa State University, I received my first 50k bovine genotype data on some 1,000 animals and I started working with Rohan on how we might make inference. Rohan convinced me of the merit of BayesA and BayesB and helped me understand some of the intricacies of those algorithms. The light bulb finally turned on when Rohan again patiently demonstrated to me the issues of Gibbs sampling. Once I finally understood more about BayesA and BayesB, we could start thinking about what we might do to further improve the algorithms and to expand the so-called Bayesian alphabet.

(Continued on page 28)

Dr. Rohan Fernando Retires

(Continued from page 27)

Rohan moved his office next to mine when Dr. Richard Willham retired, so we would not have to pace the length of the corridor between his old office and mine. A typical scenario would involve me thinking up a harebrained idea for improvement of an approach and suggesting it to Rohan. Sometimes he would immediately and politely point out its inadequacies. On a few occasions, when it warranted further consideration, he would go back to his pen and paper, or his whiteboard, and work the issue through. Then, often in the middle of the night, Rohan would start playing with small examples.

Reminiscent of my memories of Dick Quaas, most of the activities Rohan has worked on have led to useful extensions of known concepts and much improved understanding. Those that appear in refereed journals represent only the tip of the iceberg of such endeavors. Rohan almost always reverts to the most basic principles when considering a problem. He never takes some of the results others claim for granted. When Rohan referees a novel paper, it means rederiving all the findings in the paper.

Rohan has made a remarkable contribution to the lives of many students, postdoctoral fellows, and young and old scientists. I consider myself very fortunate to have crossed paths with him, and to have been able to work closely with him on a number of problems over the last 20 years.

Jack C. M. Dekkers – Iowa State University

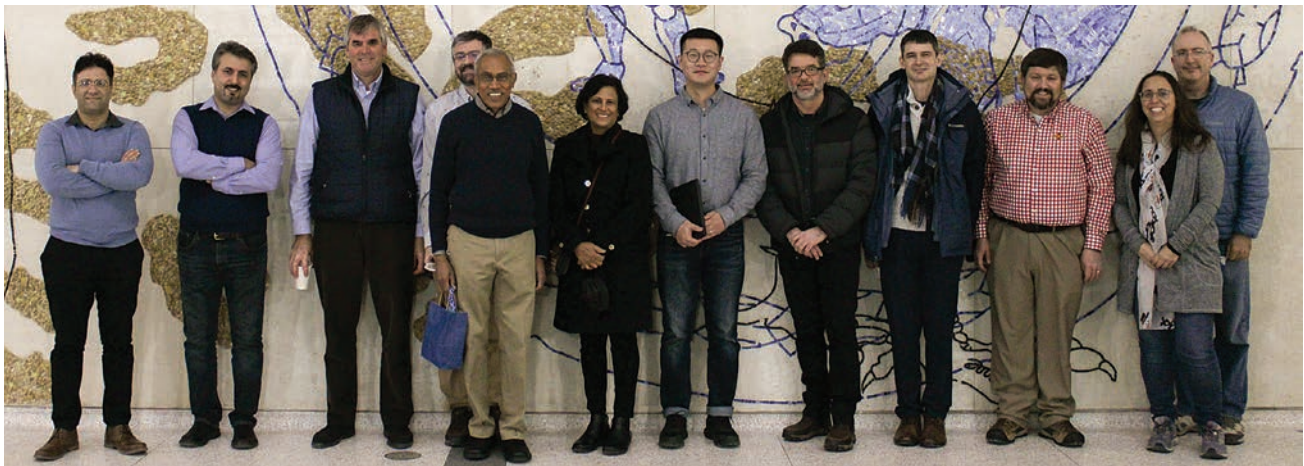
One of the most brilliant yet modest scientists with whom I have ever had the chance to work, along with one of the kindest and most patient persons that I have ever met. That is how I would describe Rohan.

I got to know Rohan after I started as a faculty member at Iowa State University in 1997. I had read some of his papers but, frankly, had trouble understanding them in full, mostly because I tend to approach problems from a more conceptual manner, in contrast to the mathematical and statistical rigor that Rohan employs. Yet, as we started to discuss problems in animal breeding, we were able to

find much common ground, where our approaches complemented each other. Over two decades of fruitful and enjoyable collaborations followed, resulting in 56 coauthored papers, and still going strong.

I have always admired Rohan's rigorous and meticulous attention to detail when it comes to statistical and quantitative genetics, always striving to get to the bottom of the problem and not taking anything for granted. I remember us visiting for hours in the late 1990s with Wolfgang Klieemann, who was a mathematics professor at Iowa State University. Wolfgang explained the mathematical basis of the Gibbs sampler and the Metropolis–Hastings sampler to us. And not until Rohan had fully convinced himself of their validity, was he willing to let Markov chain Monte Carlo replace, or rather, complement the likelihood-based philosophy that was ingrained into his approach to statistical genetics. Since that time, he has never looked back, and made, and continues to make, tremendous and novel contributions to the field of Bayesian statistics applied to animal breeding and quantitative genetics. Even now, upon his retirement, he is embarking on the power of machine learning, getting to the bottom of it, convincing himself that it works, connecting it to his knowledge of likelihood and Bayesian methods, and employing it to solve problems in our field.

In addition to being a superb scientist, Rohan has also been a great educator and mentor. The students, postdocs, and visiting scientists who have had the chance to work with him can attest to the close working relationship that he developed with each of them. Often, prior to COVID-19, when you walked by his office, you would see a student or postdoc sitting next to him behind the computer, as they were working together on a program or a paper. Even now, during the pandemic, lengthy Zoom calls with students and postdocs have been the rule of the day for Rohan. The patience and collegiality that he has exhibited over the years with all graduate students and postdocs who he worked with, regardless of whether they were his own or not, is truly remarkable and enviable. ■



Rohan and colleagues - Dr. Rohan Fernando and many of his colleagues, including Dr. Mahdi Saatchi.



2022 National Classic - Tentative Schedule

JUNE 24-30, 2022

ALLIANT ENERGY CENTER | MADISON, WI
 HOSTED BY THE ILLINOIS SIMMENTAL ASSOCIATION

**Schedule is subject to change - Follow AJSA Facebook page for all information and changes*

Friday, June 24th

8:00 AM Barns Open for Arrival Pavillion 1&2

**subject to change, at this time no cattle on grounds prior to 8:00 AM*

Saturday, June 25th

8:00AM	ALL Cattle In Place	Pavillion 1 & 2
	Check-In/Steer Weigh-in	Coliseum
	Opening Ceremonies	Coliseum
	State Booths	Hospitality
	Mentor/Mentee Kick-Off	Coliseum
	Livestock Judging Contest	Coliseum

Sunday, June 26th

	Cattlemen's Quiz	Exhibition Hall
	Public Speaking	Exhibition Hall
	AJSA Trustee Candidate Interviews	Exhibition Hall
	Interview Competition	Exhibition Hall
	Sullivan Supply Clinic	Coliseum
	Fitting Contest	Coliseum

Monday, June 27th - (Sure Champ T-Shirt Day)

	Genetic Evaluation Quiz	Exhibition Hall
	Foundation Golf Tournament	Bridges Golf Course
	Sales Talk	Coliseum
	AJSA Regional Meetings	Exhibition Hall
	ASA Adult Town Hall Meeting	Exhibition Hall

Tuesday, June 28th - **subject to change once entries close*

	Bred & Owned (Everything)	Coliseum
	Owned Cow/Calf	
	Simbrah, Fullbloods	
	Steers	

Wednesday, June 29th-

**subject to change once entries close*

Owned Percentage Heifers	Coliseum
Owned Purebred Heifers	

Thursday, June 30th

Showmanship	Coliseum
Awards Ceremony	Exhibition Hall

Hotel & Camping:

Hotel and Camping information can be found at www.juniorsimmental.org.

Entry Information:

View the website for updated National Classic rules and guidelines

Entries Open April 1 - www.juniorsimmental.org - ENTER ONLINE!

EARLY ENTRY DEADLINE: April 25, 2022

FINAL ENTRY DEADLINE: May 1, 2022

Watch the 2022 AJSA National Classic and AJSA Facebook page for updates!

National Classic Planning Committee:

Mia Bayer - AJSA Youth Coordinator -
 mbayer@simmgene.com / 715.573.0139

Paul Walker (Facilities) -
 pwalker@ilstu.edu / 309.963.4913

Jennifer Tarr (Contests) -
 tarrfoxcreek@gmail.com / 309.824.9517

Sherry Adcock (Shows) -
 sadcock4@gmail.com / 217.855.3059



DNA Updates

1.) Alternate parent candidates at time of ordering DNA. For research samples, if possible, members should only provide two parent options (sire and/or dam) when testing is requested. If additional candidate parents are needed, alternate parents can be supplied after the initial results are available on Herdbook. This process matches the general DNA testing.

2.) DNA Research fee application. DNA research fees are \$1/minute and may apply to parentage rechecks, misidentified samples, or other scenarios involving unusual increase in staff time. Each case is unique, so estimating the final charge is difficult. If there are a significant number of animals not qualifying to a parent(s), please reach out to the DNA Department to discuss a rough estimate of time and cost.

3.) Changes to coat color dilution. Previously the add-on coat color dilutor test has been included with some of the genomic tests (GGP LD, HD, and 100K options). Due to recent pricing changes, the ASA adjusted the process so the coat color dilution test is no longer automatically ordered on the GGP-100K. If members request the add-on dilutor test, they will be charged \$2.00 per sample. The stand-alone dilutor test price is not affected by this change.

4.) Updated Testing Timeline: 6–8 weeks. Due to COVID-19 and staffing issues at Neogen, ASA's DNA Department is experiencing increased turnaround times at the lab. Once samples are received at Neogen, DNA testing may take approximately six to eight weeks to complete. Please communicate any deadlines you may be working with to the ASA DNA staff. We will continue to have close communication with Neogen to ensure DNA results are available as quickly as possible. Expedited and tracked shipping is always recommended when ordering kits and shipping samples to Neogen.

5.) \$30 DNA Research Fee. Sample packages sent to the ASA office (with or without paperwork), instead of the lab, will incur a \$30 research fee. With the exception of research projects (CHR, CCG, CXP), all samples are to be sent directly to the lab with ASA paperwork.

Third Quarter Cost-Share Funds Available

The third quarter of the 2021–2022 fiscal year ended on March 31. This means that, for those who have not already done so, quarterly Check-Off dollars are available for distribution to state associations. The applications are located on simmental.org. Go to membership → State Associations → Promotional Check-Off Dollar Request. Please do not submit this list by email.

Many state association activities have occurred during these past months. Please submit any pictures or information about these events to editor@simmgene.com to be published in the State Scene section of *the Register*.

A webinar was conducted on January 6 regarding the programs that are available to state associations. If you were not able to attend it in person, it can be viewed on the ASA YouTube channel by searching “Simmental State Association Seminar 2022.” If you have questions after viewing the webinar, please contact Bert Moore at bmoore@simmgene.com.

Fall Focus 2022

Fall Focus 2022 will be held August 26–30, in Roanoke, Virginia. Stay tuned for speakers, a detailed schedule, and more. Hotel information is currently available at fallfocus.org.

ASA Provides Open-Breed Registration Promotion

Making access to complete herd data easier, the ASA Board of Trustees recently passed an open-breed promotion to dual-register cows that are registered with another breed association at the nominal rate of \$5.00 per head for the fiscal year 2022.

Starting in July 2021, the ASA will reduce the rate to register a cow already registered in another recognized breed association from \$17.00 to \$5.00 for the 2022 fiscal year (July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022). Any person can apply for registration on an animal registered with another breed association. To take advantage of ASA's open-breed registration promotion, all dual-registration requests must be received or postmarked during the 2022 fiscal year. To get started, email a list of the other breed association numbers with tattoos to simmental@simmgene.com.

2022 Year-Letter is K

In accordance with the Beef Improvement Federation guidelines, the year-letter animal identification for 2022 is K, and will be followed by L in 2023, and M in 2024. The letter J was the year-letter designated during 2021.

Per the BIF guidelines, the following letters are not used: I, O, Q, and V.

Digital Certificates Available

ASA recently launched a new feature on Herdbook allowing members to download official digital certificates for registered animals. After September 1, 2022, ASA will no longer scan and email or fax copies of printed certificates, and is encouraging shows, sales, and other events to utilize digital certificates. Digital certificates are the easiest, most reliable way to obtain an official record quickly. To download a digital certificate, search for your registered animal on Herdbook. If you are logged in and the animal is registered in good standing, there will be a button to download a digital certificate. Only the current owner of an animal can access the digital certificate. Please contact the registrations department with any questions at simmental@simmgene.com.

Herdbook Update to Birth Weight Ratio and Collection Method

The ASA Board of Trustees has passed a resolution to change the direction of the ratio for birth weights so that larger ratios are assigned to animals with heavier birth weights in their contemporary group and vice versa. This resolution came about to standardize the direction of the ratios so that higher ratios uniformly mean more of that trait.

Additionally, breeders can now indicate if they use hoof tape to estimate birth weight in Herdbook. There is a column called “BwMethod” next to the column where birth weights are entered in the animal entry page. If the weights were estimated using hoof tape, then simply put a T in the “BwMethod” column. If birth weights were obtained using a scale, there is no need to enter anything.

Calf Crop Genomic Testing Project



Calf Crop Genomics (CCG) is a recent program launched by the American Simmental Association in collaboration with Neogen. Calf Crop Genomics offers a 50% off GGP-100K genomic test including parentage (\$25 compared to \$50 equivalent test) to participating

breeders who test their entire calf crop group. Genotyping entire contemporary groups is important to:

1. use genomically enhanced EPD (GE-EPD) for selection decisions.
2. reduce selection bias in genomic predictions.
3. increase the volume of genotyped animals for future improvements to genetic predictions.

The latter two points make any singular genomic test in the future better for all members using genomics.

***Please visit simmental.org to review the program requirements. These samples include at least 90% of the birth group born in the same season (i.e. all female calves born in the same season, all male calves born in the same season, or all calves born in the same season). Calves with a removal code or sold will still count toward the total number (they are not an exception).

In the event when at minimum 80% of the birth group has a DNA sample submitted but 90% is unattainable, in order to qualify for the research genomic price, the member will be responsible to pay the difference between the cost of DNA tests submitted on the birth group and the cost of testing 90% of the birth group as a fulfillment fee. If a member does not reach 90% of the birth group with a genomic test, they will not qualify for the rebates offered for phenotypic reporting.

The fulfillment fee is nonrefundable even in the event the member sends in samples on the same calf crop later.

Cow Herd DNA Roundup Continues



The ASA Board of Trustees approved Phase II of the Cow Herd DNA Roundup. The project will continue to accept new herds at \$25 per sample for a GGP-100K genomic test. Members must test 90% of their calving-age cows to qualify for the reduced price.

When members submit mature cow body weights and body condition scores or hip heights on 90% of their calving-age cows, they will receive a \$5 credit to their account for each reported cow. Cows must be 18 months of age or older when mature cow measurements are taken to qualify for the \$5 credit. The \$5 credit will only be applied once in an animal's life. For example, if a member received a credit for the phenotypes in 2018 for that cow, they cannot receive another credit for the same cow with a new weight and BCS in 2019.

With the advent of the Calf Crop Genomics Project, the ASA Board of Trustees has amended the CHR program for females younger than calving age. Heifer calves and replacement heifers are no longer eligible for the CHR research rate as of January 1, 2021, but calving-age cows and new purchases of calving-age cows will remain eligible for the research rate.

SimmApp Available



Receive the latest beef industry news, ASA alerts, *SimTalk* and *the Register* magazines, Sire Source, press releases, industry events, deadlines, educational articles, and the ASA's YouTube channel all in one place. Sign up to receive push notifications and get immediate announcements tailored to your needs. SimmApp can be found on Google Play, Apple Store, or Amazon Appstore.

DNA Price Update

The price of several DNA tests will increase May 1. Neogen's cost of business has increased substantially, and in response, ASA will be increasing the cost of some tests. Please see the ASA fee schedule on page 64, go to simmental.org, and read the July/August issue of *the Register* for more details. ■



Clint Berry

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Works in breeding programs using various breeds and has no cost to the producer."



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by Larry H. Maxey,
founder and superintendent, NAILE Fullblood Simmental Shows
larryhmaxey@gmail.com

Editor's Note:

This is the twentieth in the series *Our Pioneers*.

Our Pioneers — The Garst Family of Iowa

Volumes have been written about several Garst family members (and I could devote many pieces to their history) but allow me, given space limitations, to do a much-condensed version here.

A good starting point to cover what has been described as the makings of a “financial empire” begins with Roswell “Bob” Garst (June 13, 1898–November 4, 1977). Characteristic of virtually everyone profiled in this series, humble beginnings seems to be a prerequisite. Bob married Elizabeth Henak on January 31, 1921. Times were tough everywhere and especially so on the farm. In 1926, Henry Wallace set up Pioneer Hi-Bred International and began marketing the first hybrid seed corn. Bob decided to try some of this new seed and bought one bushel in 1927, two in 1928, and three in 1929. These hybrids out-yielded his open-pollinated variety by a wide margin.

Bob had been selling real estate in Des Moines, but in 1930, he and Elizabeth decided to move back to their family’s farm in Coon Rapids. Bob had made an arrangement with Wallace’s company to sell his seed and pay him a royalty. This was essentially a verbal agreement between the two men that lasted over 50 years. That year, they harvested 300 bushels from ten acres — ten percent of the hybrid seed produced in the US that year. Bob traveled the region selling his seed one or two bushels at a time. It was a slow beginning but it proved to be the beginning of a financial success story.

Bob managed to accumulate substantial holdings of farmland over time. His sons, David and Steve, became an integral part of the family’s growing businesses. The seed corn business created grain surpluses, so cattle feeding grew on the Garst operations. Bob was an innovator and ahead of his time. His pursuits included the hybrid seed, corncobs as cattle feed, urea as a protein source for cattle, commercial fertilizers, herbicides, crossbreeding, performance testing, and others. His children were indoctrinated with a progressive mindset from an early age.

In the 1950s, prices for all categories of cattle were rock-bottom. A severe drought in the West didn’t help. You could buy “droughted-out” cows at five to eight cents per pound. Mountains of corncobs from their growing seed corn business presented challenges and people considered them a nuisance until the Garst family figured out how to use them as cattle feed using urea and molasses. Local feeders were “horrified” at the practice. Garst purchased several hundred open Hereford cows. Soon, plenty of cheap corncob-based feed and cheap cows put them in the cattle business.

Is there a Simmental pioneer who you would like to see profiled in this series? Reach out to Larry Maxey or the editor to submit your suggestions:

larryhmaxey@gmail.com

editor@simmgene.com

Farrington Carpenter of Hayden, Colorado, was an early breeder of performance-tested cattle. The Garsts, ever the innovators, started using Carpenter performance-bred bulls. With ample feed, the Garst herd grew to 4,000 cows, mostly Herefords. Joining the ranks of the Iowa Beef Improvement Association (IBIA) and utilizing AI, the benefits were quickly evident — crossbreeding was essential, and they used Charolais and Red Angus with success.

In the 1960s came the “new breeds” from Europe. The Garsts quickly purchased semen supplies and used 20% of the Simmental and Limousin semen in America that first fall. Steve’s wife, Mary, got involved with the AI side of the business. In 1975 she took over responsibility for the cattle operation. From 1978–1980, she served as a trustee of the American Simmental Association. She was also a director for the IBIA and the Purebred Council. The Garsts estimated that in a period of 25 years, they performed over 140,000 inseminations. Experimenting with many breeds, they settled in with Simmental and Gelbvieh. Steve explained that the IBIA and the *Simmental Sire Summary* were of great value in their selection programs.

There are endless and ever-fascinating stories about the Garst family. They range from the September 23, 1959, visit to their farm by Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet premier, to extensive world travels by Roswell.

Let me end on a humorous note. On October 2, 2019, Elizabeth “Liz” Garst, a granddaughter of Roswell and Elizabeth, was interviewed by Brian Campbell for his podcast, “Mid-Americana: Stories from a Changing Midwest.” During the interview, Liz told a story about the massive corn cob mountains of her youth. A common practice, against parents’ wishes, was to climb to the top of the mountain with cardboard and slide to the bottom. Because voids often developed in the cobs, one could easily fall in and get trapped. This happened to her brother, requiring assistance from Liz. She got him out, but in the process he lost one of his new school shoes and received the condemnation of their mother. Long thereafter, remnants of that shoe were found in a feed bunk, having gone through the grinder and constant gnawing of a curious cow. Perhaps the cow didn’t like the taste of leather.

Many thanks to the Garsts of Iowa, well deserving of a true “Pioneer” status. ■



Summer Schedule and Deadlines

May 25

Photography Contest, Trustee Application, Silver and Gold Merit Award application deadline. **All the above applications can be found at www.juniorsimmental.org.**

- Mail 8 x 10 inch photos, mounted on 10 x 13 inch black foam core board, to: ASA Publication, Inc., One Genetics Way, Bozeman, MT 59718, ATTN: AJSA Photo Contest.
- Four category options: Simmental cattle, people, landscape, general agriculture.
- Best of Show winning entry gets their photo on the cover of the September *Register*.

June 8 – 11

Eastern Regional Classic, Lebanon, IN

June 24 – 30

National Classic, Madison, WI

October 15

2022 Steer Profitability Competition entry deadline, entry forms available at www.juniorsimmental.org

Check out the 2022 AJSA rules at www.juniorsimmental.org



Indian Students Attend First Bull Sale

ASA SimSpecialist Dr. Jack Whittier mentored and coordinated an internship with ten students from India in March and April, and they recently had the opportunity to attend their first bull sale. The Altenburg Super Baldy Ranch Sale was held March 19, and the students took in a day of firsts from hearing an auctioneer to walking through pens of bulls.



The students are from two Indian universities, and are studying animal and vet sciences.

The students, who were from the Assam Agricultural University and Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology in India, completed internships at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Panhandle Research and Extension Center. Whittier says, “My objective was to give them as many hands-on experiences with American animal agriculture as possible.” *Photos taken by ASA SimSpecialist and CMP Coordinator Susan Russell.*



The students experienced their first bull sale lunch.

MENU MORSELS

Spicing up your dinner table with tasty, beef-based dishes.

Beef and Bacon Gnocchi Skillet

Ingredients

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 package (16 ounces) potato gnocchi | ½ cup heavy whipping cream |
| 1 ¼ pounds lean ground beef (90% lean) | 1 tbsp ketchup |
| 1 medium onion, chopped | ¼ tsp salt |
| 8 cooked bacon strips, crumbled and divided | ¼ tsp pepper |
| 1 cup water | 1 ½ cups shredded cheddar cheese |
| | ½ cup chopped tomatoes |
| | 2 green onions, sliced |

Directions

Preheat broiler. Cook gnocchi according to package directions; drain and set aside. Meanwhile, in a large cast-iron or other ovenproof skillet, cook beef and onion, crumbling beef, over medium heat until no longer pink, 4–6 minutes. Drain. Stir in half of the bacon; add gnocchi, water, cream, and ketchup. Bring to a boil. Cook, stirring, over medium heat until sauce has thickened, 3–4 minutes. Add seasonings. Sprinkle with cheese. Broil 3–4 inches from heat until cheese has melted, 1–2 minutes. Top with tomatoes, green onions, and remaining bacon. ■

Editor’s Note: Each month a favorite beef recipe is presented in this space. The Register encourages and welcomes contributions to this column. Email your recipe to editor@simmgene.com.

Wisconsin Elects Directors



The Wisconsin Simmental Association held their annual meeting April 3, in Tomah at the Cranberry Lodge. Pictured are the newly elected 2022–2023 board of directors. Front row from left to right: Ashley Dudkiewicz; Emily Mueller, secretary; and Frankie Warzynski, treasurer. Back row from left to right: Marcus Reinhardt, vice President; Dylan Warzynski; Luke Lieftring; Eric Lee, president; Justin Kimball; Nathaniel Moll; Dustin Tiffany, and Dan Angotti. Not pictured is Bret Paulsen. ■





Thank You to all who made donations to the 2021 Silent Auction.
Photos are samples of auction items from 2021.

silent

auction at the National Classic

Are you looking for a way to support the American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation? We will again be hosting a Silent Auction during the National Classic in Madison, WI, June 24-30, 2022. All proceeds go directly to the Foundation. So, you want to contribute but aren't sure what to bring?

Below are several ideas of how to fill your basket.

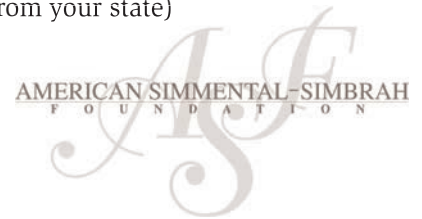
In the past, we have had some unique handmade items as well, which we love. We encourage individuals as well as state associations, junior and adult, to participate. Items will be displayed for bidding throughout the week and the auction will end prior to the close of the event.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Foundation Board Member, Tonya Phillips at 606-584-2579.

See you in Madison!



1. Coffee Lovers Basket
2. Golf Theme Basket
3. Farmhouse Theme Basket
4. BBQ or Camping Basket
5. Gardening Basket
6. Beach Basket
7. Car Emergency Kit
8. Ice Cream Sundae or S' mores Basket
9. Movie Night/Board Games Basket
10. State Basket (highlighting items from your state)



Developing leaders through friendship, networking, and communication skills!



by Walker Housley

We are all wrapping up the calving season, preparing for the spring and summer turnout, the grass is turning green, and the weather is warming up. As summer rolls around we look forward to trips to the beach, grilling out around the pool, and long days in the barn working hair in preparation for the summer show season. We are also looking forward to seeing everyone this summer for our Eastern Regional in Lebanon, Indiana, and the National Classic in Madison, Wisconsin. This June I look forward to meeting our new members and enjoying time spent with old friends. During our AJSA events we have a multitude of things happening. From contests to cattle shows to water balloon fights, we are always sure to have a good time. However, one of my favorite parts of the National Classic is the people. Within our breed, I have been able to make so many great industry connections and longtime friendships.

From my first Eastern Regional hosted by my home state in 2015, I have always enjoyed the AJSA experience. The competitive atmosphere and buzz of excitement is like no other. That atmosphere and buzz wouldn't be achievable without the great exhibitors of the Simmental breed, many of whom I get to call my friends. Some I don't remember how we met, others I distinctly remember our first encounter, but the relationships I hold that connect me across the nation are credited to the AJSA.

The connections you make while at the National Classic not only makes for a more enjoyable junior show career, but it also sets you up for success later in life. After your years in the AJSA have passed, the reality of the

world sets in. You never know what might happen. That Sales Talk judge you impressed at a Regional five years ago may very well give you the opportunity to land your dream job. Or maybe that state association junior advisor stalled next to you at the National Classic can put you closer to achieving your goals. Or maybe that junior member who looked up to you when they first started still looks up to you ten years later and values your advice and opinions. Whatever the scenario, the availability to make industry connections, mentors, mentees, and friends at an AJSA event this summer is overwhelming.

At the Regional and National Classics there are so many opportunities to meet new people and start building your lifelong relationships. If you're new, sign up for the mentor/mentee program to meet your junior board and other new AJSA members. If you're in line at the Cattleman's Quiz competition and have some time to kill, strike up a conversation with the person behind you in line. Branch out in the barns among different states and connect with people across the country. You never know where those small conversations can carry you in life. My one piece of advice: step out of your comfort zone and embrace the opportunity to meet your lifelong friends and mentors.

The National Classic is not just a yearly competition, it's an event that generates memories, friendships, and good times year after year; take advantage of it. It's the only place where you can get beaten by your friends and still humbly and happily congratulate and celebrate with them. It's the only place where you can see one another three times a year and still pick up where you left off. It's the only place where you can travel miles and miles from your house and still feel at home. It's the AJSA National Classic. It's not a breed association, it's a family. ■

2022 Classic Schedule

Event	Dates	Location
Eastern Regional	June 8-11	Lebanon, IN
National Classic	June 24-30	Madison, WI

www.junior simmental.org



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*Held in conjunction with the 2022 AJSA National Classic.
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Merit Scholarships and The Summit Leadership Conference.*

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Carcass Trait Accuracy Improves with Beef on Dairy Data

by Megan Underwood, Bovine Veterinarian

“Do we provide a substantially different environment for seedstock bulls that we build versus what our commercial customers do for their calves or cows? I think there are opportunities for us to think broadly about data capture,” said Dr. Bob Weaber, Kansas State University professor and head of Eastern Kansas Research and Extension Centers.

Weaber gave his presentation, “Using Beef on Dairy Data to Increase the Accuracy of Selection Decisions for Carcass Traits,” during the Beef Improvement Federation Symposium June 24, 2021, in Des Moines, Iowa.

Weaber shared how the beef on dairy phenomenon is a disrupter in the usual dairy and beef business and discussed research findings from a beef on dairy carcass trait collaborative project.

In the dairy business, sexed dairy semen is generally used for the best cows that will build high-merit replacement females. Beef semen is used on dairy cows that are older, have genetics that the producer doesn’t want to propagate, and is used on cows that are hard to settle with dairy semen. According to Weaber, this phenomenon helps to maximize the value of calves produced through targeted replacements and value-added terminal calves.

“The supply of dairy calves into the beef value chain results in a substantial number of animals that have a significant opportunity to increase their value and marketability. Ultimately, a dairy operation is driven to add value to their calf stream and make them more profitable through the beef chain,” Weaber explained.

A collaborative project to evaluate the feasibility and impact of inclusion of beef on dairy carcass records in carcass evaluation was established with participants from Wulf Cattle, Riverview LLP, North American Limousin Foundation, International Genetic Solutions (IGS), and Kansas State University. The project began with 40,000 carcass records from the Wulf–Riverview program, and after edits about 27,000 records were used, resulting in a nearly threefold increase in the Limousin-influenced data in the IGS carcass evaluation.

Weaber explained that previously the IGS carcass evaluation required weaning weight records on animals with carcass records to account for culling bias that occurs in seedstock herds. Often the cull bulls and heifers are fed out to capture feedlot and carcass information. The calves used in this project did not have weaning weights as they go from the dam to a calf hutch system, are moved to a calf ranch and group housing, and eventually to a feed yard, which resulted in some modifications to the data analysis structure of these records.

The beef on dairy calves performed quite well through feeding. When analyzing the effect of age of slaughter, each additional day of age produced approximately 3.7 lbs. of additional hot carcass weight.

“We added about 14,000 progeny out of RUNL Stetson 850S and about 8,200 progeny out of MAGS Alfredo. Those two bulls were represented in 680 and 567 contemporary groups. If you think about a beef weaning weight or yearling weight evaluation there will be bulls that get hundreds of contemporary groups evaluated but this is a massive amount of information,” Weaber said.

Cattle on Feed Hit Record March Level

Cattle on feed for the US slaughter market on March 1 totaled 12.2 million head, in line with analyst expectations of a 1% increase year-on-year and the highest March 1 inventory since the series began in 1996. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.85 million head, 9% above 2021. Net placements were 1.79 million head.

As noted by Steiner Consulting analysts in the Daily Livestock Report, ice storms in the Southern Plains limited placements for days last year. This year, drought in the region helped accelerate feedlot placements, as producers faced short grass supplies.

“The estimated placements for March are higher not just compared to last year but also on the high end of the range for the month of February for the last 20 years,” they said. In the Southern Plains estimates are for placements to be up by double digits compared to a year ago.

In February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 360,000 head; 600–699 pounds were 325,000 head; 700–799 pounds were 505,000 head; 800–899 pounds were 468,000 head; 900–999 pounds were 135,000 head; and 1,000 pounds and heavier were 55,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.83 million head, 5% higher than 2021.

Beef Cow Herd Declines

The inventory of beef cows declined 719,000 head during 2021, with a total of 30,125 million head — the lowest level since 2015. Overall, higher input costs, drought and the lack of profitability over the past several years has driven the liquidation phase. That’s the report from USDA’s annual Cattle Inventory report. Two areas, the Pacific Northwest and the Upper Midwest, did show an increase. However, prices show no significant increase in those two areas.

Thus far, during 2022, American cattle ranchers are still actively culling females at a high rate. Through the first six weeks of the year, for instance, beef cow slaughter has averaged 12.6% higher than the rate in 2021. Based on replacement prices at various regional auctions it appears that any herd rebuilding is starting very slowly. So far this year, replacement female activity has centered on bred heifers and bred cows in their second trimester. The Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC), which tracks 16 replacement markets, reported: “Price data is difficult to compare because those categories were not sold last year in the same time frames, but the volume of replacements moving is significantly higher.”

LMIC’s report summarized: “It would appear stronger replacement prices are not universal at this point in time. Replacement prices across various regions will be a key indicator this summer to assist in determination of where carry capacity exists. We may be more than a year away from seeing any substantial increases in breed stock. The extreme drought in some regions will likely create a scenario where everyone will add cows at once when the drought breaks, which would lead to a steep escalation in breeding stock prices. Watching more than one regional market will be advantageous to confirm any casual reports of herd expansion from the entire country.”

Consider Causes of Hair Loss and Itching in Cattle

by Elizabeth Cronin, Bovine Veterinarian

Perhaps the long and cold winter in North Dakota is coming to an end, but not soon enough for those cows exhibiting itching behavior with missing patches of hair.

A number of causes and contributing factors can result in hair loss and itching, according to North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension veterinarian, Gerald Stokka.

“In some cases, just dry skin and winter hair causes itching behavior and hair loss, but this year is somewhat unique in that many of our harvested forages may be low in vitamin A,” says Stokka.

The precursors of vitamin A are plentiful in green forages. However, due to very dry conditions last summer, green harvested forages are limited in supply and have been replaced by other forages that may be deficient in vitamin A.

Vitamin A is critical to maintain skin integrity and good hair coats. When deficient, hair coats and skin may appear dull and dry. In addition, the skin may be more susceptible to infections, such as fungal infections called ringworm. Ringworm in cattle and other species is communicable to humans.

“It is critical during this winter-feeding period to provide supplemental vitamin A to cattle,” says Karl Hoppe, livestock systems specialist at the NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center. “Most loose mineral supplements provide 300,000 IU/pound of free choice mineral. Cows consuming two ounces per head per day of the mineral will be consuming 37,500 IU/day. The daily requirement for an adult beef cow will be in a range of 25,000–45,000 IU/day.”

Along with possible vitamin A deficiency, lice infestations can cause itching and result in hair loss, even in herds that have been previously treated. Some groups have been treated more than once and still are seeing the effects of itching and hair loss in their livestock.

“Lice populations seem to be more difficult to control than previously,” says Stokka. “We cannot be sure as to the reason for reduced lice control, but the possibility of resistance to current control products is certainly on the minds of our veterinary practitioners.”

Five species of lice are commonly found in the US, with certain regions of the country seeing variation in the species present. The common species are categorized as sucking (pierce skin and suck blood) or biting (feed on skin debris).

Sucking lice include the short-nosed cattle louse, long-nosed cattle louse, and little blue louse. The most common biting louse is the red louse, also known as the cattle-chewing louse. Lice infestations increase during cold weather and subside during warm weather in response to the increased surface temperature of their host. Although most cattle become louse-free in the summer months, carrier animals (about 1% to 2%) remain infected and serve as a source of infestation during fall and winter months.

Lice essentially spend their entire life on the animal and cannot survive off the host for more than a few days, according to Stokka. The life cycle of lice on cattle varies from three to six weeks.

Transmission generally requires animal-to-animal contact. However, lice have been shown to grasp the legs of horn flies or houseflies and take a trip to another animal.

Determining a lice infestation in cattle can be a frustrating diagnosis for veterinarians and ranchers. Most often they look for symptoms of a lice problem such as itchy skin. Another sign is characteristic hair loss patterns in the neck, across the shoulders and withers, and in the udder area. Some hair loss may be significant enough to result in frostbite to hairless areas, especially in extended cold winter weather.

However, light infestations are easy to overlook when examining animals individually, unless the veterinarian or rancher does a careful inspection. A detailed exam starts with looking for nits, then exploring for lice by carefully parting the hair.

“A systematic and defined approach to the examination of cattle for the presence of lice will enable the examiner to have a higher level of confidence in obtaining accurate results,” says Stokka. “A pair of magnifying goggles and an external light source will greatly assist the diagnosis.”

The pioneer avermectin (macrocyclic lactone) products, such as Ivermectin and Dectomax, have been used extensively to control lice because of their effectiveness. With the development of the systemic “pour on” products, along with generic products, the use increased, and in some cases these products have been used multiple times per year.

These products are absorbed through the hair follicles, so dirt and other foreign material on the backs of cattle will limit absorption. Other control products are strictly topical with no absorption.

“So, whether we are dealing with resistance in lice or less efficacy at the appropriate dose, the result is the same: a lack of adequate control,” Stokka says.

Here are a few options to help curb lice outbreaks:

- Leave the lice alone. At this time of the year, the best solution may be to let the cattle itch for a while. Lice populations will begin to decrease in activity rapidly as the weather warms.
- Treat only those animals showing clinical signs of itching and hair loss. Some animals may be more sensitive to the effects of lice infestations, while others can handle some lice with natural resistance. If the entire herd is showing hair loss consistent with a lice infestation, then herd treatment is necessary.
- Determine the type of lice causing the infestation and use the correct control methods for that type. For example, sucking lice feed on blood and serum from the animal. These lice are controlled more effectively with a systemic injectable product. In contrast, biting lice feed on the dander and scurf on the skin. They are controlled more effectively with a topical treatment.
- Use an injectable and topical treatment to control both types of lice. However, no licensed products are labeled to be used concurrently.

“When looking at topical treatments to treat biting lice, it may be in your best interest to look for name-brand products and to use one with a higher volume dosage,” Stokka says. “Biting lice will be controlled more effectively by the parasiticide if they come in contact with it. Thus, the higher-dosage products will give you more coverage on the animal and more area for the lice to come in contact with the product.” ■

Fall Focus 2022

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Registration Information

There is no registration fee; however, pre-registration is required to plan for bus availability, meals, and refreshments. Register at

www.fallfocus.org

**Questions
about Fall Focus?**

Contact Nancy Chesterfield at 406-587-2778.

Register and book your hotel rooms
at fallfocus.org

New this Year

Bus tours of local farms, seedstock operations, and Virginia Tech.

On **Friday, August 26**, we'll board buses at the Hotel Roanoke and embark on tours of local farms, seedstock operations, and Virginia Tech. Seats are limited, so pre-registration is required. The final event of the tour will be dinner, hosted by the Virginia Simmental Association, at Virginia Tech's Kentland Farm, with music provided by the bluegrass band New Standard (newstandardbluegrass.com).



Tour Stops

Hillwinds Farm, Dublin

Hillwinds Farm is owned by Tim and Kathy Sutphin. Hillwinds is a first-generation farm and runs 900 commercial cows and 400 stockers on approximately 1,500 acres of owned and 1,500 acres of rented land. Retained ownership has been utilized for 34 years. They have used whole-herd AI for 31 years. The cow herd is Angus and Simmental cross, and AI sires are Angus, SimAngus™, and Simmental.



McDonald Farms, Blacksburg

McDonald Farms is an eighth-generation family farm diversified livestock operation established in 1763. Over the centuries the McDonalds have maintained a variety of enterprises to keep the farm and family viable. These include raising cattle, sheep, hogs, goats, horses and mules, crops of flax, oats, wheat, sorghum, corn, and an orchard. Currently, seedstock cattle consisting of Simmental, SimAngus™, and Angus are produced. Australian Kelpies are raised to work the cattle and puppies have been sold from coast to coast.



Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), Blacksburg

Virginia Tech is a land grant university that was established in 1872 in Blacksburg and is home to the Virginia/Maryland School of Veterinary Medicine. Virginia Tech has a Corps of Cadets and is one of only three senior military colleges with both cadets and civilian students. The university, through the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, maintains eleven Agricultural Research and Extension Centers across the state. The Future Farmers of Virginia began at Virginia Tech in 1925 and, in 1928, those founding members were instrumental in its conversion to the National FFA.



Virginia Tech's Kentland Farm, Blacksburg

Kentland Farm is the main research and production farm at the University. Kentland Farm has beef and dairy operations along with agronomic crops and research. In addition, there is vegetable production, which supplies the student dining halls on campus.



Educational Session and Celebration Dinner

On **Saturday, August 27**, join us at the Hotel Roanoke for a packed educational session featuring talks from both regional and nationally recognized speakers. (A detailed speaker agenda will follow on fallfocus.org and in the July/August issue of *the Register*.) In the evening, we'll share dinner and a celebration of Golden Book recipients, Lifetime Promoter awardees, and former trustees.

Interactive Town Hall Meeting

Beginning **Sunday, August 28**, at the Hotel Roanoke, join the ASA Board of Trustees to discuss critical issues in each of the five standing committees and to hear staff presentations in various areas. Board meeting continues on Monday and Tuesday.

Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

The conference headquarters are located at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center with a block of rooms available for August 26–29. The special room rate (use the block code "American Simmental") will be available until August 1, or until the group block is sold out, whichever comes first. Book your reservations at the Hotel Roanoke by following the hotel link at fallfocus.org.



Travel Information

Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport is conveniently located about ten minutes from the conference headquarters, and the hotel offers shuttles to and from the airport.

For further information about Roanoke and the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains area, spend some time at visitroanokeva.com. You'll find attractions from art to history, beer tours, restaurants, spas, shopping, and a great deal more.



O. Winston Link Museum



Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center



View of downtown Roanoke



Roanoke Star Overlook

Complete program details will be available in the July/August issue of *the Register*.

Perdue AgriBusiness Plans \$59.1 Million Expansion

Virginia governor Glenn Youngkin today announced that Perdue AgriBusiness will invest \$59.1 million to expand its operation in the city of Chesapeake.

The company will modernize facilities and increase production of its high-protein soybean meal, soybean oil, and hulls, positioning the company to expand its soybean crushing capability to include other high-oil content products, Perdue said in a press release.

Perdue AgriBusiness is an independent operating company of Perdue Farms Inc., and ranks among the largest US grain companies, with 75 elevator locations.

The Chesapeake facility supplies crude degummed soybean oil to Perdue's Salisbury, Maryland, oil refinery for further processing and sales to the food industry as well as supplying the biodiesel industry globally.

In total, Perdue AgriBusiness locations span more than 75 million bushels of storage, deep-water port, transload facilities, oilseed crushing operations, edible oil refinery, and protein blend mills. Perdue exports 72 million tons of soybeans per year through the Port of Virginia and purchases 80% of Virginia's soybeans.

Youngkin approved a \$500,000 Virginia Investment Performance Grant and a \$450,000 grant from the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund to assist the city of Chesapeake with the Perdue expansion project. The company is also eligible to apply for the Railroad Industrial Access Program. Virginia competed with Maryland, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania for the Perdue AgriBusiness project.

Plant-Based Food Sales Growth Cools in 2021

New retail sales data from SPINS, released by the Good Food Institute and Plant Based Foods Association, shows that the US retail plant-based food industry grew 6% in 2021 to \$7.4 billion, a slower pace than the year before. In 2020, total US retail plant-based food sales grew 27%, to \$7 billion.

Plant-based meat sales remained steady in 2021, with \$1.4 billion in sales. That compares to a growth rate of 45% in 2020. Plant-based eggs were the fastest-growing plant-based category in 2021, with 42% dollar sales growth. Plant-based milk dollar sales grew by 4% to reach \$2.6 billion.

Former Pilgrim's Pride Executive Seeks Acquittal

Former Pilgrim's Pride CEO Jayson Penn has filed a motion for acquittal in his second trial over federal Department of Justice allegations of price-fixing in the poultry market, according to court documents.

Penn and three other executives from various companies were initially charged in June 2020; six others were subsequently added to the case, including Bill Lovette, also a former Pilgrim's Pride CEO. The first case ended in a mistrial last December, and the retrial, in US District Court in Colorado, began in February.

Penn filed a motion for acquittal, saying that testimony in the first trial demonstrated that Penn was not party to any conspiracy; that the government's evidence does not show conspiracy; that the purported evidence against him is no more than everyday business communications; and that, therefore, the government's case cannot sustain a conviction.

Maple Leaf Foods Investing Less in Plant-Based, More in "Sustainable" Meat

In his 2022 letter to shareholders, Maple Leaf Foods CEO Michael H. McCain offered more details on the company's re-evaluation of its investment in plant-based meat substitutes, while heralding the conventional meat side of the company's "record" year and touching on plans to invest further in claims-based meat (such as antibiotic-free).

"Our meat business, representing 96% of our revenue, delivered impressive topline results in 2021 ... a record year — again!" McCain wrote, noting that meat sales were up 8% from 2020 (even while absenteeism reached 30% at some of Maple Leaf's facilities). "Our trajectory for continued growth and even further enhanced performance is also apparent," he added.

McCain also stated, though, that the "financial results from our plant-protein business were less stellar," with sales down 4.6%. "While we are confident that growth in this category will continue to exceed conventional grocery, we have modified our expectations."

The company's re-evaluation of the plant-based market, which McCain described as "an exhaustive analytical assessment," has determined that "high growth rates were driven by media-induced trial rates," during which "[consumers'] expectations were not fully met — from how the product tastes, to the level of processing, value, or appeal to the whole family."

Still, McCain wrote, "There is a base of consumers that is growing with modest increases in their buy-rate. We now believe the future will provide steady and attractive category growth rates between 10–15%," and "we will revise our investment levels" accordingly.

As for the company's conventional meat business, McCain wrote, "Being the most sustainable protein company on earth is our vision and what increasingly differentiates us in the marketplace. As a meat company, we must face the reality that we — along with the entire agri-food industry — have left an unacceptable mark on the planet. We are taking a leadership role in creating a path that remediates our impact."

McCain detailed that 16% of its meat is sustainable and claims-based, and that Maple Leaf plans to "accelerate our market position in raising animals without antibiotics, find ways to extend our animal welfare leadership across the industry, and accelerate our leadership of the real food movement."

In 2021, McCain noted, 100% of its company-owned barns were converted to Advanced Open Sow Housing, and Maple Leaf has a goal of using sustainable packaging for all operations by 2025.

Livestock Services

Consumer Group Alleges Beef Price Fixing in Canada

A nonprofit association in Canada intends to sue four major beef producers for allegedly colluding to fix the prices of beef in the country since 2015, according to Canadian news reports.

The Option Consommateurs organization in Montreal asked the Superior Court of Quebec to accept a class-action lawsuit accusing Cargill Inc., JBS USA, National Beef Packing Co., and Tyson Foods Inc. of conspiring to “fix, maintain, increase or control the price” of beef sold in Canada.


The processors represent 85% of the nation’s beef market and 80% of the US beef market, according to the filing by an attorney for the nonprofit. The filing also claims that the companies added to the inflation that is affecting consumers who already were struggling financially, according to a report in The Bobr Times. So far, only Cargill has responded to the filing, saying in a statement that the claims “lack merit.”

The class action is expected to seek a judgment ordering the four companies to pay consumers a financial amount equivalent to profits resulting from the “artificial inflation” that occurred due to their alleged efforts over the last seven years. ■

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Consumers Embracing Foodservice and Discount Grocers

Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, US consumers are returning to foodservice outlets and adjusting their shopping habits to cope with inflation, according to a new report from Rabobank.

Foodservice demand is demonstrating “excellent resilience” in the “living with COVID” world, according to the report, which used data from Earnest Research. Restaurant foot traffic climbed 0.3% in January 2022, compared with January 2020, an impressive advance considering that inflation was 12.5% higher this year than two years ago, and the omicron variant was spiking, Rabobank said.

Although casual and fast-casual dining visits suffered in the latest period, dine-in patrons are expected to become less fearful as COVID-19 cases wax and wane, the report found.

Consumers also are returning to grocery stores and in-person shopping opportunities, with foot traffic slipping just 0.2% and 0.6% in December 2021 and January 2022, respectively, compared with results two years ago. A consistent surge in foot traffic at discount grocery stores over the last few months contrasts with a decline in customer visits to premium and natural stores, where the most expensive average shopping basket cost 25% more than in January 2019 as a result of steep inflation.

Online grocery shopping remains slightly above pre-pandemic levels at 2.8 orders per month among active clients, but below the levels posted in the months of widespread hoarding in 2020, Rabobank said.

US Processing Capacity Push Adds Technical Help and More Grants

USDA today announced the launch of a technical assistance program and additional grants for small and mid-sized meat and poultry processors looking to expand.

Processors and applicants involved with the Meat and Poultry Inspection Readiness Grant (MPIRG) program and the Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program (MPPEP) can access the technical assistance through the new Meat and Poultry Processing Capacity Technical Assistance Program (MPPTA).

USDA also announced it is now accepting applications for \$23.6 million in competitive grant funding available through the MPIRG program.

Under the MPPTA, USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has established cooperative agreements with three nonprofits. The organizations will create a national network of support for meat and poultry grant seekers to navigate the application process, and to assist recipients throughout their projects.

MPPTA efforts will focus on federal grant application management, business development and financial planning, meat and poultry processing technical and operational support, and supply chain development.

“We are pleased to partner with these initial organizations, given their deep technical expertise and demonstrated

service to underserved communities, as part of our support for fairer, more competitive, and resilient meat and poultry supply chains,” Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack said in a statement.

Taking the lead role, the Flower Hill Institute, a native-owned nonprofit based out of the Jemez Pueblo in New Mexico, will serve as the MPPTA Technical Assistance Coordinator for the multi-year program. They are joined by Oregon State University’s Niche Meat Processors Assistance Network and the Intertribal Agricultural Council.

USDA is also pursuing agreements with the American Association of Meat Processors, the American Meat Science Association, and the Agricultural Utilization Research Institute to expand assistance.

AMS is accepting applications through May 24 for a second round of MPIRG program funding totaling \$23.6 million. The first MPIRG round provided \$32 million for small and mid-sized meat and poultry processors and producers to build capacity.

Grants are intended to cover the costs for necessary improvements to achieve a Federal Grant of Inspection under the Federal Meat Inspection Act or the Poultry Products Inspection Act, or to operate under a state’s Cooperative Interstate Shipment program.

USDA is also extending to May 11 the application deadline for the MPPEP, which also provides funding to expand meat and poultry processing capacity.

Study Aims to Improve Salmonella Surveillance

Researchers at the University of Georgia have found a potential alternative method for salmonella culturing that could reduce the time required for isolation of the bacteria, according to the USPOULTRY Foundation, which funded the study.

Accurate and rapid surveillance for salmonella is needed to evaluate whether mitigation strategies are effective in poultry flocks. The gold standard for salmonella detection on broiler carcasses is a culture-based protocol that takes several days to complete.

Principal investigator Nikki Shariat and colleagues profiled salmonella serotypes through broiler processing to address limitations in conventional culture detection methods. They found a way to recover salmonella 24 hours earlier than is the current standard using selective enrichments. The approach yielded similar salmonella prevalence compared to the traditional two-step culture approach. The research was made possible in part by an endowing foundation gift from Fieldale Farms.

Mobile Meat Processing

A group of innovative California livestock producers have banded together to establish their own slaughterhouse: a \$1.2 million mobile processing plant that is run by the 39-member Bay Area Ranchers Co-op. The 36-foot-long trailer opened for

business in mid-February. “It is a big game-changer in our food system,” said Duskie Estes, who co-owns Black Pig Meat Company and is a co-op member.

The Petaluma-based co-op exists solely for the benefit of the ranchers themselves, who now have a guaranteed place to process their animals. Farmers/ranchers who produce beef, pork, goat, or sheep for meat will no longer have to share their revenue with a commercial slaughterhouse. Some ranchers in the area had stopped raising livestock for meat rather than have to transport their animals to processing plants up to 250–300 miles away. The members of the co-op include an area from Santa Cruz to Mendocino County and raise their animals primarily on open pastures.

USDA Adds Montana to Interstate Shipping Program

The USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and the State of Montana have finalized a Cooperative Interstate Shipment (CIS) agreement, which provides an opportunity for selected state-inspected meat and poultry processors to ship products across state lines, the agency said in a news release. Under the CIS agreement, the State of Montana may inspect

meat products produced in selected establishments for shipment throughout the United States. The CIS program was launched in 2012 under Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack after being authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill. With the addition of Montana, ten states now participate in the program: Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

Under CIS, selected state-inspected establishments that comply with federal inspection requirements are permitted to ship their product in interstate commerce.

“This announcement is part of USDA’s commitment to build more and better markets, a more resilient supply chain and better food system, and to increase competition,” said Sandra Eskin, USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety. “USDA is working with states to ensure they have the tools and resources necessary to expand existing capacity and thrive for many decades to come.”

The CIS program is limited to states that have established a Meat and Poultry Inspection (MPI) program for products to be shipped solely within the state. To be eligible to participate in the CIS program, state MPI programs must meet a number of criteria to demonstrate that the inspection that it provides to state-inspected plants will be the “same as” the inspection that FSIS provides to official federal establishments. ■

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Rebecca Price
rprice@simmgene.com

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Deadline July 22

US Announces Deal with Japan to Expand Beef Market Access

The United States and Japan have reached a pact to increase the beef safeguard trigger level under the US–Japan Trade Agreement, it was announced in late March.

The new three-trigger mechanism will increase US exporters' ability to meet Japan's growing demand for beef and means it is less likely that Japan will impose higher tariffs in the future, the US Trade Representative's office said in a press release.

"The playing field has not been entirely level due to this safeguard. The changes announced today reduce the potential impact of the safeguard and make it less disruptive for US exporters and their customers in Japan," US Meat Export Federation CEO Dan Halstrom said in a statement.

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack said, "This is a positive development for America's farmers and ranchers. It allows for greater market-based growth in US beef exports to Japan."

All three triggers must be hit for Japan to implement the safeguard and impose a higher tariff. The three triggers are:

1. Imports from the United States must exceed the original beef safeguard trigger level under the US–Japan Trade Agreement;
2. The aggregate volume of beef imports from the United States and the original signatories of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) must exceed the CPTPP beef safeguard; and
3. Imports from the United States must exceed the total amount of beef imports from the United States during the previous year.

The North American Meat Institute also welcomed the new agreement, saying it will help the US beef industry earn greater market access to Japan, which was the United States' largest beef volume market at 320,738 metric tons and second-largest value destination at more than \$2.3 billion in 2021.

JBS's Net Profit Rises More than Four Times in 2021

Brazil's JBS S.A. announced in late March that its net profit increased by more than four times in 2021, compared to 2020, to BRL20.5 billion (\$5.1 billion), pushed by revenue growth in all of its business units.

The company posted a record net revenue of BRL350.7 billion (\$71 billion) in 2021, up 29.8% year-on-year. Adjusted EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) was also a record, up 54.5% to BRL45.7 billion (\$9.3 billion). The Brazilian poultry, pork, and processed foods business unit Seara had a 36.6% rise in net profit last year, at BRL36.5 billion (\$7.4 billion), driven by growth in the prepared foods category in the domestic market and higher export volumes and prices.

JBS Brazil, which includes the Brazilian beef business, had a 29% rise in net revenue to BRL53.8 billion (\$10.9 billion), despite increased production costs and a temporary suspension of exports to China.

JBS USA Beef had BRL146.6 billion in net revenue last year, up 30.7% year-on-year. In US Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), net revenue was \$27.2 billion, up 25.3%. The company said that beef demand that exceeded supply in both domestic and international markets supported results.

JBS USA Pork posted a 27.7% increase in annual net revenue to BRL41.1 billion. In US GAAP, net revenue reached \$7.6 billion, up 22.5%. Strong demand helped boost prices, sustaining stable

margins amid higher labor, packaging, and transportation costs. Pilgrim's Pride Corp. (PPC) had net revenue of BRL79.7 billion, up 28% year-on-year. In US GAAP, net revenue rose 22.2% to \$14.8 billion. Strong demand and prices in the US and the expansion of some food brands in Mexico's retail and foodservice sectors contributed to the result.

JBS announced seven strategic acquisitions in 2021 that total \$1.9 billion in incremental annual revenue.

China's Effort "Inadequate"

Implementation of agricultural commitments by China in the Phase One trade agreement with the United States has been labeled "inadequate" by the US Trade Representative's (USTR) office in its 2021 report to Congress. That agreement was designed to expand market access for a large variety of agricultural products, including meat and poultry. Among the most significant concerns noted by USTR was a "lack of meaningful action" in China's approach in agricultural biotechnology and a required risk assessment for the use of ractopamine in the production of beef and pork. In the Phase One Agreement, signed by the two sides in January of 2020, China agreed to set a transparent and science-based system for the review of agricultural biotechnology, but according to USTR, this remains among the most significant of China's shortcomings in the pact. And, while US red meat exports have benefited from a deal with China that addresses non-tariff trade barriers, there remains work to expand market access further in that country.

For US beef, the Phase One Agreement committed China to expand the scope of allowable US beef products, eliminating US cattle age restrictions and recognizing US beef's traceability system. The sticking point, however, remains maximum residue levels for three synthetic hormones legally used for decades in the US and consistent with accepted standards. China confirmed that it has adopted such standards, but has not published them. "This lack of publication contributes to regulatory ambiguity for US beef producers and traders, who remain uncertain regarding which products will be exported into China," USTR officials wrote. "China's failure to publish the maximum residue levels is another example of China's inadequate implementation of the Phase One Agreement."

Canada Lifts Ban on Brazilian Beef and Pork

The Canadian government has approved the importation of Brazilian beef and pork, lifting a ban related to animal disease concerns.

Brazil's Agriculture Minister, Tereza Cristina Dias, announced the news in a Twitter post: "We are in Ottawa and have just left the Canadian Ministry of Agriculture with [...] great news: the opening up of the country's pork and beef market."

Reuters confirmed Dias' statement with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, which said the agency has "approved the import of raw and cooked poultry meat, pork, and pH-matured beef from Brazil."

For pork, Canada's approval applies only to the Brazilian state of Santa Catarina, home to 50% of Brazil's pork exports, because that state was the only one deemed free of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) without vaccination when the request was first made. The two nations still are negotiating over other areas in Brazil that the World Organization for Animal Health has recognized as free of FMD, Reuters reported. ■

Relieving Stress around the Branding Pen

by Ryan Benjamin and Hannah Greenwell, University of Nebraska Extension

Spring calving brings the promise of working calves, and in some areas of the state, branding season. Gathering enough help at the right times to ensure proper vaccination, castration, and the other complements to herd health programs can be challenging. People's safety and minimization of cattle stress are priorities.

Research has shown that stress related to branding calves is correlated more with the amount of time separated from the dam than the actual method used to work calves. At branding time it may be best to work cows first and return them to the calves as quickly as possible. Calves will start calming down even if they are not with their own mothers, reducing bawling.

Each operation is set up differently with varying resources to work calves, and potentially cows, at the same time. With technological advances there are options to evaluate how these opportunities match with resources. This could be as simple as using devices to help wrestle calves, such as Nordforks, a hydraulic calf tub, alley, and table.

A Nordfork is a device that was invented to hold a calf in combination with a roper on the heels of the animal; the Nord-Fork is a steel loop that goes behind the ears of the calf to catch it and hold it while the animal is vaccinated and branded. The loop has a handle on one end to assist with removal. This option decreases the number of ground crew required; one person can operate two or three Nordforks simultaneously,

replacing up to six people. Nordforks also make dealing with larger calves easier for the ground crew as they do not have to solely depend on two wrestlers to restrain the calf. Having skilled ropers reduces calf stress in any rope-and-brand setting, since frequent misses can cause excessive movement.

If the convergence of resources allows for an investment in equipment or development of a working facility designed specifically for calves, there is the possibility of decreasing the amount of labor needed at specific times for working a group of cattle. This also potentially increases flexibility of when calves can be worked and improve timeliness of vaccination and cattle movements. Those with smaller operations that have trouble getting adequate help or skill for a rope-and-brand may find a calf table to be a good alternative. The primary disadvantage of this system is the amount of capital investment if seeking to purchase materials or a portable facility.

Additional ways to relieve stress are analyzing vaccine programs regularly, being familiar with administration of each product, and how to handle those products to ensure safety and efficacy of vaccination. The primary resource here is maintaining a healthy veterinarian-client relationship and having a constant conversation about expected results of animal health programs. Recent developments have included syringes that will hold entire bottles of vaccines, which can improve vaccine handling and administration. ■



Opportunity Knocks

70% Reduction in Foundation Animal Registration Fees for Fiscal Year 2022

Starting in July 2021, the ASA will reduce the female-based foundation registration rate of \$17.00 to \$5.00 for the 2022 fiscal year (July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022). The promotional rate applies to any female cow that is registered with another recognized breed association.

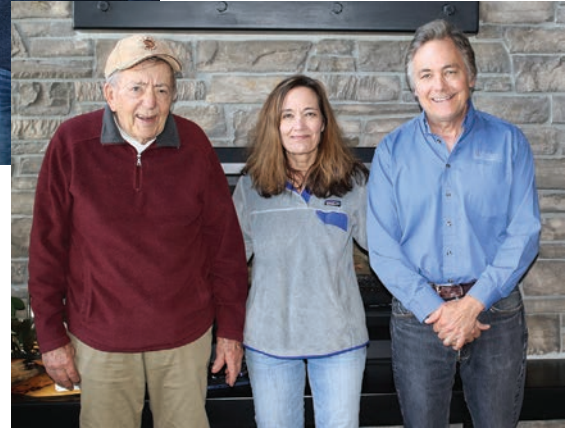
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Gary and Diane Wacker of Roundup, Montana, recently visited the ASA headquarters. Gary and Diane are the grandparents of Jenna Wacker, customer service specialist for ASA. Also pictured is Dr. Wade Shafer.



Keegan and Ken Kehrl of Quasqueton, Iowa, visited the ASA headquarters.



Dr. Wade Shafer welcomed his father Gordon Shafer, from Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, and his sister, Brenda Shafer, from Moorhead, Minnesota, to the ASA headquarters. ■

Sponsorship Packages ASA Fall Focus 2022

August 26 - 30
Roanoke, VA

Contributions
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to the Fall Focus.

For more information about
sponsoring Fall Focus,
please contact Bill McDonald
at 540.230.6225 or by email at
mcdonaldfarms.bulls@gmail.com

Become a sponsor of ASA's Fall Focus 2022
and enjoy the following:

Bronze (Under \$500):

- Name listed in Fall Focus program (*must commit by June 10*).
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- Name on fallfocus.org.
- Group photo at the event.

Silver (\$500-\$999):

In addition to the above perks, donors will also receive the following:

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- Your business brochure included in the registration packets (*Design and printing fees will apply*).
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- Tabletop space by registration desk for business promotion.
- Slide show promotion during breaks.

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Platinum (\$3,500 and above):

In addition to the above perks, donors will also receive:

- Ten minutes to address attendees.

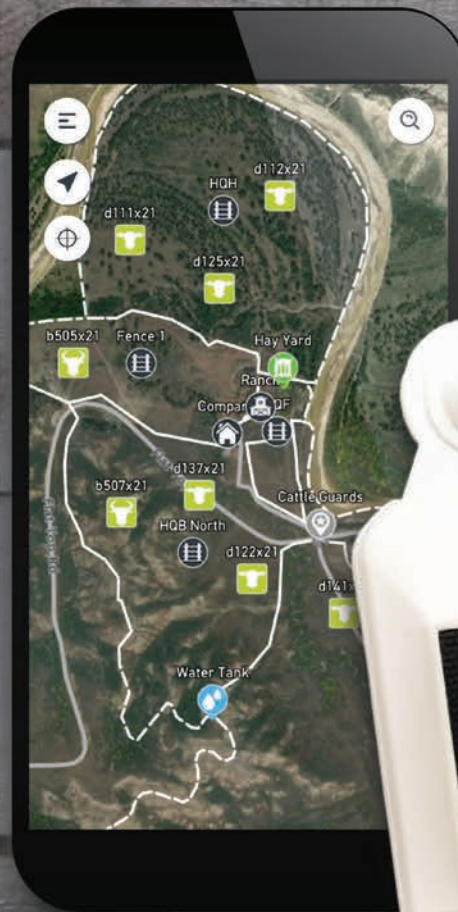
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River Creek Farms' 32nd Annual Bull Sale

February 9, 2022 • Manhattan, KS

No.	Category	Average
77	Age-Advantaged Fall Bulls	\$9,214
42	Yearling Bulls	7,042
119	Total Lots	\$8,447

Auctioneer: Jered Shipman, TX

Sale Representatives: Jeremie Ruble, Ruble Cattle Services; Stephen Russell, *KS Stockman*; Guy Peverley, *The Stock Exchange*; and Andrew Sylvester, Manhattan Commission Co.

Representing ASA: Michael Dikeman

High-Selling Lots:

- \$30,000** – ¾ SimAngus, s. by Hook's Eagle, sold to High Ridge Farms, Albemarle, NC.
- \$14,500** – ¾ SimAngus, s. by Hook's Eagle, sold to Rod Seehafer, Hunter.
- \$13,000** – ¾ SimAngus, s. by Hook's Eagle, sold to Downey Ranch, Wamego.
- \$13,000** – ¾ SimAngus, s. by Hook's Eagle, sold to Mark Steele, Morrill.
- \$13,000** – ¾ SimAngus, s. by Hook's Eagle, sold to Kriegel Cattle, Hartwick, IA.
- \$12,500** – ½ SimAngus, s. by Sydgen Enhance, sold to Ray Hendrix, Wray, CO.
- \$12,500** – PB SM, s. by GIBBS Broad Range, sold to Paul and Wayne Schweir, Belvue.
- \$12,500** – PB SM, s. by GIBBS Broad Range, sold to Larry Fleming, Saint Francis.

Volume Buyers: R&R Cattle and Equipment LLC, Lincoln; Adam Hahn, Randolph, WI; James Broussard, Beaumont, TX; Ivan John Kawacak, Springtown, TX; Gregg and Jon Jager, Hazard, NE; Brent Cashier, Anthony; Alan Phipps, Matfield Green; Adam Brown, Beebe, AR; Kriegel Cattle, Hartwick, IA; Ray Hendrix, Wray, CO; Tim Woodruff, Wamego; Sam and Way Drouhard, Harper; and Danny Miller, Petersburg, WV.

Comments: Cattle sold into 12 states.



Sale host, Joe Mertz and auctioneer, Jered Shipman.



Looking over the offering.



Joe Mertz welcoming the crowd.



Good sized crowd on hand.

Benda Ranch Simmentals' Annual Production Sale

February 14, 2022 • Kimball, SD

No.	Category	Average
53	Yearling Bulls	\$5,080
24	Registered Bred Heifers	2,737
77	Total Lots	\$4,350

Auctioneer: Justin Tupper, St. Onge, SD

High-Selling Lots:

- \$10,000** – PB SM Bull, "JBS Mr Earl 752J," s. by 3BS Earl 90G, sold to Todd Leiferman, Kimball.
- \$9,000** – PB SM Bull, "JBS Mr Night Watch 907J," s. by W/C Night Watch 84E, sold to Nick Strand, Platte.
- \$8,000** – PB SM Bull, "JBS Mr Profit 751J," s. by KRj F8148, sold to Tom Gorzalka, Clearmont, WY.
- \$7,500** – PB SM Bull, "JBS Mr Earl 525J," s. by 3BS Earl 90G, sold to William Randall, Chamberlain.
- \$7,250** – PB SM Bull, "JBS Mr Proclamation 308J," s. by WS Proclamation E202, sold to Todd Leiferman, Kimball.
- \$7,000** – SimAngus Bull, "JBS Mr Blackhawk 902J," s. by Hook's Black Hawk 50B, sold to Jim Ketelhut, Pukwana.
- \$7,000** – PB SM Bull, "JBS Mr Frontline 415J," s. by Hook's Frontline 40F, sold to Tom Geppert, Kimball.
- \$7,000** – PB SM Bull, "JBS Mr All Time 430J," s. by Oval F All Time A322, sold to Jonathan Gorzalka, Sheridan, WY.

Sandy Acres Simmental Bull Sale

February 18, 2022 • Creighton, NE

No.	Category	Average
43	Yearling Bulls	\$3,930

Auctioneer: Tracy Harl, Wellington, CO

Marketing Representative: Joel Kumm, Creighton Livestock Market
Representing ASA: Bill Zimmerman

High-Selling Lots:

- \$7,000** – ½ SM ½ AN, Sandy Acres 14J," s. by JK Romeo 749.
- \$7,000** – ¾ SM ¾ SM, "Sandy Acres 12J," s. by Hook's Eagle 6E.
- \$5,500** – ½ SM ½ AN, "Sandy Acres 27J," s. by SLA GAF Rito 7075 8028.
- \$5,500** – PB SM, "Sandy Acres 33J," s. by SAS Deep Rock 12U.
- \$5,250** – PB SM, "Sandy Acres 30J," s. by Sande Acres 27E.
- \$5,000** – PB SM, "Sandy Acres 35K," s. by Sandy Acres 27E.
- \$5,000** – ¾ SM ¾ SM, "Sandy Acres 39J," s. by JK Romeo 749.

Volume Buyer: Brian Knust, Fremont.



SimSpecialist, Bill Zimmerman with Don Kilchenmann, Stanton, who bought two bulls.



The Leonard Miller Family marks 50 years of breeding Simmentals.



Leonard Miller with buyer, Keith Mohr.



Melanie Miller with customer Greg Wells Jr.

Mid-America Simmental Sale

February 25, 2022 • Springfield, IL

No.	Category	Average
21	Total Lots	\$3,255

Auctioneer: Cody Lowderman, IL

Sale Manager: DP Sales Management, LLC, KY

Sale Staff: Shane Ryan and John Kulper

High-Selling Lots:

- \$18,000** – Embryos out of, “Bramlets/DBLG Emmy,” s. by JSUL Something about Mary, Rocking P Private Stock and RF Caliber; cons. by Canadian Donors, sold to Clear Water Simmentals, IN.
- \$7,200** – Embryos out of, “Diamonds Destiny 500H,” cons. by Guyer and Tom Loudermilk, sold to Canadian Donors.
- \$6,000** – Bred Female, “NXT Perfect Visions H011,” s. by Mr CCF 20-20, bred to HTP/SVF In Dew Time, cons. by Next Generation Farms, sold to Woodlawn Farms, GA.
- \$4,000** – Open Female, “DI Miss Shameless J4,” s. by R/F Shameless D201, cons. by DI Simmentals, sold to Recce Witwistle, IL.
- \$3,900** – Bred Female, “B3C Ruby,” s. by B3C In A Uproar D529, bred to WHF/JS/CCS Double Up, cons. by Blue Chip Cattle Company, sold to Josh Tol, IL.
- \$3,750** – Bull, “CNS/HFS/PCCC Clarified J267,” s. by Mr. CCF Clarified, cons. by Schick Haefner Cattle Co., sold to Ashorn Simmentals, IL.
- \$3,500** – Open Female, “Rayann CK 49J,” s. by LLW CARD True North G71, cons. by Kinsella Farms, sold to Randall Hartsirn, IL.
- \$3,400** – Bred Female, “B3C Miss USA H95,” s. by W/C Relentless 32C, bred to WHF/JS/CCS Double Up, cons. by Blue Chip Cattle Company, sold to Dustin Tiffany, WI.
- \$3,100** – Open Female, “RS Jayden 7110J,” s. by 6/R Two Eyed Jack D44B, cons. by Rincker Simmentals, sold to Ryan Roskamp, IL.



The Walker family consigned a fancy open heifer.



It was a cold morning but breeders from across the state gathered.



Chris Schick was in attendance.



The Drach family brought several nice lots to the sale.

Keller Broken Heart Ranch's Annual Production Sale

March 3, 2022 • Mandan, ND

No.	Category	Average
112	Yearling Bulls	\$7,183
71	Yearling Heifers	4,220
183	Total Lots	\$6,033

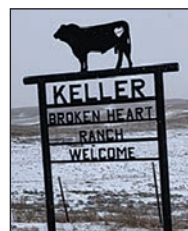
Auctioneer: Tracy Harl, Wellington, CO

Marketing Representatives: Dennis Ginkens, *Tri-State Livestock News*; Kris Peterson, Special Assignment; Scott Ressler, *ND Stockman*; Logan Hoffmann, *DVAuction*; Marty Ropp, Allied Genetic Resources; and Jeremie Ruble, Ruble Cattle Services.

Representing ASA: Russ Danielson

High-Selling Lots:

- \$90,000** – PB Bull, “KBHR J138,” s. by WS Proclamation E202, sold to Rydeen Farms, Clearbrook, MN; All Beef LLC, Normal, IL; and Woonaltee Simmentals, AUS.
- \$50,000** – Choice Lot, SimAngus Open Heifers, “KBHR J181 and KBHR J186,” s. by KBHR Quiqley C154, sold to Nickeson Simmentals, Astoria, SD.
- \$35,000** – PB Open Heifer, “KBHR J085,” s. by MR SR Red October G1761, sold to Warner Simmentals, Grantsville, UT.
- \$32,000** – PB Bull, “KBHR J130,” s. by MR SR Red October G1761, sold to Thorstenson Lazy TV Ranch, Shelby, SD.
- \$31,000** – PB Open Heifer, “KBHR J110,” s. by LBRS Genesis G69, sold to Ronnie Smith, Denton, TX.
- \$30,000** – SimAngus Bull, “KBHR J071,” s. by G A R Home Town, sold to River Creek Farms, Manhattan, KS.
- \$18,000** – PB Bull, “KBHR J154,” s. by LBRS Genesis G69, sold to Tim Seedorf and Nichols Farms, Sygnet, OH.
- \$15,500** – PB Bull, “KBHR J105,” s. by Hook’s Beacon 56B, sold to White Farm Simmental, Cherokee, OK.



Welcome to Keller Broken Heart Ranch. Looking over the offering.



The Keller crew and Tracy Harl.



Numerous active buyers on site and online.

(Continued on page 52)

(Continued from page 51)

Eichacker Simmentals and JK Angus Annual Production Sale

March 4, 2022 • Salem, SD

No.	Category	Average
90	SM and SimInfluenced Bulls	\$6,417
32	SM and SimInfluenced Bred Heifers	6,148
122	Total SM and SimInfluenced Lots	\$6,346

Auctioneer: Tracy Harl, CO

Sale Manager: Eberspacher Enterprises (EE) Inc., MN

Marketing Representatives: Val Eberspacher (EE); Jim Scheel, *Cattle Business Weekly*, SD; Randy Rasby, *Livestock Plus*, NE; Jeff Kapperman, *Tri-State Neighbor*, SD; Kent Snowden, *Tri-State Neighbor*, NE; Dustin Carter, SD; Chris Effling, SD; Marty Ropp, Allied Genetic Resources, IL; Justin Dikoff, DVAuction, SD.

Representing ASA: Luke Bowman

High-Selling SimInfluenced Lots:

\$37,500 – PB SM Bull, “ES JG157,” s. by TJ Gold 274G, sold to Hart Simmentals, Frederick; and Rincker Brothers, IL.

\$15,000 – PB SM Bull, “ES JA110-2,” s. by Welshs Dew IT Right 067T, sold to Tim Seedorf, OH; and Nichols Farms, OH.

\$15,000 – PB SM Bull, “ES JA110-7,” s. by LCDR Progressive 106G, sold to William Donald and Greg Drebes, Monroe, City, MO.

\$13,500 – PB SM Bull, “ES JA110-4,” s. by LCDR Progressive 106G, sold to TNT Simmentals, Almont, ND.

\$13,000 – ¾ SM ¼ RA Cow/Calf Pair, “ES H57,” s. by ES EX75-1, Heifer Calf s. by THSF Lover Boy B33, sold to Eric Thesing, Carlos, MN

\$12,500 – PB SM Cow/Calf Pair, “ES H122,” s. by CCR Cowboy Cut 5048Z, Heifer Calf s. by CCR Boulder 1339A, sold to Matt Micheel, Cavour.

\$11,000 – ½ SM 7/16 RA 1/16 AN, Cow Calf Pair, “ES H67,” s. by Leachman Cadillac L025A, Heifer Calf s. by HSF Cardinal 133G, sold to Lawrence Franzen, Leigh, NE.

Comments: Also selling was a Foundation Legacy Lot of three A110 embryos with proceeds going to the American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation, which sold to David Ericson, Jefferson; and Brett Tostenon, Highmore. As well as 31 Angus Bulls at an average of \$5,105; nine Red Angus Bulls at an average of \$3,417; and four Red Angus Bred Heifers at an average of \$4,438.



Ruth Simmentals, NE, were buyers at the sale.



Large crowd on hand.



Roman Schooley and Tom Hook.



SDSU marketing team visiting with ASA representative Luke Bowman.

Cason's Pride and Joy Simmentals' 7th Annual Performance Bull Sale

March 5, 2022 • Russell, IA

No.	Category	Average
8	Fall Bulls	\$6,281
54	Yearling Bulls	4,835
62	Total Bulls	\$5,022

Auctioneer: Dustin Carter, SD

Sale Manager: Eberspacher Enterprises (EE) Inc., MN

Marketing Representatives: Val Eberspacher (EE); Austin Brandt, *Midwest Marketer*, IA; Joel Edge, IA; Mike Sorenson, *Livestock Plus*, IA; Curt Peterson, IA; Tony Ballenger, IA; Dr. Dewy Nibe, IA; Seth Houston, IA; Chris Larkin, IA; and Mariah Miller, LiveAuctions.TV, IA.

Representing ASA: Bert Moore

High-Selling Lots:

\$13,000 – “Cason’s Mr Blackford J427G,” s. by Hook’s Eagle 6E, sold to Indian Wells Cattle Company, Lebanon, MO.

\$9,000 – “Cason’s Mr Eagle J99A,” s. by Hook’s Eagle 6E, sold to Darrell Koehler, Udell.

\$8,000 – “Cason’s Mr Mastercraft J351,” s. by WS Proclamation E202, sold to Adam Hecht, Sullivan, MO.

\$7,750 – “Cason’s Mr Declaration J29R,” s. by GLS Declaration D611, sold to Cody Hindman, Albia.

\$7,500 – “Cason’s Mr Hastings H99,” s. by Cason’s Mr Triple Crown, sold to Gary Bates, Keswick.

\$7,000 – “Cason’s Mr Declaration H28B,” s. by GLS Declaration D611, sold to Ralph Pollitt Trust, Russell.

\$7,000 – “Cason’s Mr Gold Standard H78F,” s. by GCC Gold Standard X615, sold to Gary Bates, Keswick.

\$7,000 – “Cason’s Mr Titan J78Z,” s. by WS Proclamation E202, sold to Tony Sinclair, Melrose.

Comments: Mark your calendar for our Maternally Inspired Female Sale, Saturday, November 5, 2022.



Denny Cason welcomes the crowd with his partner/son in the background.



Bob Curl, Indian Creek Cattle Co., is a repeat buyer.



Janet Cason is an important part of the Cason program.



The Cason program is building on the future.

Kentucky Beef Expo Simmental Sale

March 5, 2022 • Louisville, KY

No.	Category	Average
45	Total Lots	\$3,097

Auctioneer: Bruce Miller, TX

Sale Manager: DP Sales Management, LLC, KY

Sale Staff: Tommy Carper, Jacob Schwab, and Gene Steiner

High-Selling Lots:

\$17,000 – Open Female, “WHF Sierra 244J,” s. by Mr. HOC Broker, cons. by Wayward Hill Farm, sold to CW Cattle, NE.

\$8,400 – Open Female, “Welshs Jewels Joy 319J,” s. by W/C Fort Knox 609F, cons. by Welsh Simmentals, sold to Adam Pendleton, VA.

\$4,950 – Open Female, “S B C Miss Macy 107J,” s. by Mr. HOC Broker, cons. by Stephens Beef Cattle, sold to Ford Cattle Company, IA.

\$4,800 – Open Female, “Welshs Playmate 325J,” s. by SSC Shell Shocked 44B, cons. by Welsh Simmentals, sold to Lillian Wilkins, SC.

\$4,500 – Bred Female, “3TRS Passion 79H,” s. by Three Trees Farm, bred to THSF Lover Boy B33, cons. by Three Trees Farm, sold to Michael Redmon, KY.

\$4,500 – Bred Female, “LIN Flotus,” s. by Colburn Primo 5153, bred to JSUL Something About Mary, cons. by Katie Linhart, sold to Alex Portwood, KY.

\$4,200 – Bull, “5BJ Bet the Bank,” s. by W/C Bankroll 811D, cons. by Wyatt Jeffiers, sold to Levi Clubb, KY.

\$3,600 – Open Female, “H6S Addie J42A,” s. by LLSF Vantage Point, cons. by Happy 6 Simmentals, sold to John Crouch, KY.



Katie Linhart exhibits one of her sale consignments.



Wayward Hill Farm consigned the champion PB heifer and high-selling lot.



Breeders from across the east were in attendance



There was a high number of junior exhibitors on hand to select a show heifer.

Gonsior Simmentals' In The Heartland Sale

March 12, 2022 • Fullerton, NE

No.	Category	Average
42	Bulls	\$4,578
19	Pairs	4,110
5	Bred Females	3,410
25	Open heifers	3,630
1	Donor Lot	5,000
95	Live Lots	\$4,110

Auctioneer: Tracy, Harl, CO

Sale Manager: Eberspacher Enterprises (EE) Inc., MN

Marketing Representatives: Val Eberspacher (EE); Derek Vogt (EE) NE; Joel Edge, Edge Marketing, IA; Drew Feller, *Livestock Plus*, NE; Rick Buehler, NE; Myron Benes, NE; Tim Burke, NE; and Amanda Hilbrands, LiveAuction.TV, MN.

High-Selling Lots:

\$7,750 – Open Female, “Gonsior The Beaconing J13,” s. by Hook’s Beacon 56B, sold to Ruby Gittings, Stronghurst, IL.

\$7,750 – Cow/Calf Pair, “Gonsior Hilda H15,” s. by Shiefelbein Effective 61, Bull Calf s. by W/C Night Watch 84E, sold to Rincker Brothers, Strasburg, IL.

\$7,500 – Bull, “Gonsior The General H393,” s. by Hook’s Beacon 56B, sold to Lehrman Family Simmentals, Spencer, SD.

\$7,000 – Bull, “Gonsior Unified H391,” s. by W/C United 956Y, sold to Fouts Simmentals, Hildreth.

\$6,750 – Bull, “Gonsior/BS Red Dawn J88,” s. by WS All Aboard B80, sold to Oehlerking Farm, Elmwood.

\$6,250 – Bull, “Gonsior Sunset Valley J90,” s. by W/C Executive Order 8543B, sold to Camden Wilke, Columbus.

\$6,000 – Bull, “Gonsior Danger Zone J95,” s. by W/C Executive Order 8543B, sold to Fouts Simmentals, Hildreth.

\$6,000 – Bull, “Gonsior Code Blue J80,” s. by Kappes Mile High B11, sold to Lynn Wiegert, Grand Island.

\$5,250 – Half-interest in Open Female, “Gonsior What A Time H301,” s. by Mr CCF 20-20, sold to Fouts Simmentals, Hildreth.

\$5,000 – Half-interest in Open Female, “Gonsior Journee J7,” s. by Jass On The Mark 69D, sold to Sloup Simmentals, Staplehurst.

Comments: The American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation Legacy Lot raised \$3,200 to go toward scholarships in memory of Ronald G. Miller, longtime advocate of the Simmental breed and 2019 ASA Promoter of the Year award recipient. Be sure to mark your calendars for our 23rd Annual Sale, March 11, 2023.



Amanda Hilbrands was the representative for internet bidding on LiveAuction.tv



The Gonsior Simmentals Sale was an all-video sale.



Craig Raatz, Raatz Farms, selected genetics to add to his program.



Tim Burke purchased a lot for the Memorial of Ronald G Miller with the American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation.

(Continued on page 56)

State Marketplace

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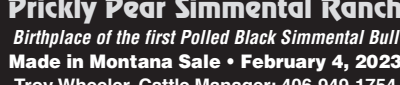
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(Continued on page 58)

(Continued from page 53)

3C Christensen Ranch/ NLC Simmental Ranch's 51st Annual Production Sale

March 18, 2022 • Wessington, SD

No.	Category	Average
137	SM and SimAngus Bulls	\$4,452
14	SM and SimAngus Yearling Heifers	2,857
151	Total Lots	\$4,502

Auctioneer: Dustin Carter, Vermillion

Marketing Representatives: Scott Dirk, *Tri-State Livestock News*; Jim Scheel, *Cattle Business Weekly*, Jeff Kapperman, *Tri-State Neighbor*; and Justin Dikoff, DVAAuction.

Representing ASA: Russ Danielson

High-Selling Lots:

- \$21,000** – SimAngus Yearling Bull, “1663J,” s. by LBRS Genesis G69, sold to Jay Meyring, Alliance, NE.
- \$15,000** – SimAngus Yearling Bull, “115J,” s. by AFGR Groot 920G B, sold to Sys Simmental, Minot, ND.
- \$13,500** – SimAngus Yearling Bull, “1108J,” s. by 3C Gentl 93866, sold to Brian Thompson, Upham, ND.
- \$9,000** – SimAngus Yearling Bull, “1249J,” s. by 3C Fine 8587F B, sold to Manor Elkwood, Remington, VA.
- \$9,000** – SimAngus Yearling Bull, “155J,” s. by OMF Epic E27, sold to Ryan Griffiths, Wallace, NE.
- \$6,000** – SimAngus Yearling Heifer, “1283J,” s. by 3C Lava L375 BZ, sold to Chris Heim, Wessington Springs.
- \$4,400** – SimAngus Yearling Heifer, “122J,” s. by AFGR Groot 920G B, sold to Sys Simmental, Minot, ND.



warm welcome to repeat and new buyers from the sale block.



John Christensen double checks the sale offering.

Black Summit Cattle Company Bull Sale

March 18, 2022 • Powell, WY

No.	Category	Average
50	Bulls	\$4,910

Auctioneer: Ty Thompson, MT

Sale Manager: Marty Ropp, Allied Genetics Resources, IL

Representing ASA: John Paterson

High-Selling Lot:

\$10,250 – Sold to Larry Drake, IA.



Looking over the offering.



Auctioneer, Ty Thompson, and sale host, Quin LaFollette.

Eastern Spring Simmental Classic Sale

March 19, 2022 • Columbus, OH

No.	Category	Average
96	Total Lots	\$3,658

Auctioneer: Ron Kreis, OH

Sale Manager: DP Sales Management, LLC, KY

Sale Staff: Darby Walton, Ryan LePage, and Mark Murphy

High-Selling Lots:

- \$12,500** – Cow/Calf Pair, “DBJR Miss Bankroll,” s. by W/C Bankroll 811D, cons. by Erv-N-Del Farm, sold to Shelby Shaw, MT (\$7,250); Heifer Calf s. by SVJ Wild Fires Dream, sold to Schwantz Farms, Beef, IL (\$4,800).
- \$10,000** – Bull, “WCCO Knockin Boots 305J,” s. by W/C Bankroll 811D, cons. by Woddard Cattle, Co., sold to Kevin Stager, OH.
- \$10,000** – Cow/Calf Pair, “PPCC Gemma 2020,” s. by CCF 20-20, Heifer Calf s. by THSF Lover Boy, cons. by Ferguson Show Cattle, sold to John Collins, OH.
- \$8,000** – Cow/Calf Pair, “FSCI Ms Hannah H579,” s. by CDI Innovator, Bull Calf s. by Ruby SWC Battle Cry, cons. by Ferguson Show Cattle, sold to Sheryl Boring, OH.
- \$7,500** – Bred Female, “Wise-Tito,” s. by WLE Uno Mas X549, bred to WS A Step Up, cons. by Wise Show Cattle LLC, sold to Woodlawn Farm, GA.
- \$6,500** – Open Female, “KNSC Jewel 307J,” s. by TJSC King of Diamonds, cons. by Kyle Nickles Show Cattle and Willowdale Land and Cattle, sold to Steven Hitchens, OH.
- \$6,500** – Cow/Calf Pair, “E&D 2020 Babe,” s. by Mr CCF 20-20, Bull Calf s. by THSF Lover Boy, cons. by Erv-N-Del Farm, sold to John Collins, OH.
- \$6,400** – Open Female, “Maplecrest Vallee 144J,” s. by GEFF County O, cons. by Maplecrest Farms, sold to Barbara Howser, OH.

Rockin H Simmental's 8th Annual Production Sale

March 19, 2022 • Canby, MN

No.	Category	Average
35	SM and SimInfluenced Bulls	\$6,329
15	SM and SimInfluenced Pairs and Bred Females	3,073
8	SM and SimInfluenced Open Heifers	3,013
58	Live Lots	\$5,029
1	Embryo Lot	\$3,300 (\$1,110/egg)

Auctioneer: Dustin Carter, SD

Sale Manager: Eberspacher Enterprises (EE) Inc., MN

Marketing Representatives: Val Eberspacher (EE); Kelly Schmidt, *Cattle Business Weekly*, MN; Andrew Swanson, MN; Chance Ujzadowski, WI; Kipp Julson, SD; and Amanda Hilbrands, LiveAuctions.TV, MN.

Representing ASA: Steve Eichacker

High-Selling Lots:

\$95,000 – Bull, “Rockin H Captivate J75,” s. by THSF Lover Boy B33, sold to lazy C Diamond Ranch and Bichler Simmentals, ND.

\$7,750 – Bull, “Rockin H Mr Loverboy J37,” s. by THSF Lover Boy B33, sold to Kenneth Will, Windom.

\$7,750 – Bull, “Rockin H Mr Rainfall J18,” s. by S A V Rainfall 6846, sold to Randy Gronke, Waubay, SD.

\$7,000 – Bull, “Rockin H Mr Highplains J23,” s. by TJ High Plains 986E, sold to Triple F Trucking, Watertown, SD.

\$6,200 – Bull, “Rockin H Mr Roughcountry J16,” s. by TJ Rough Country 219G, sold to TNT Simmentals, Lehr, ND.

\$5,500 – Bull, “Rockin H Mr Highplains J54,” s. by TJ High Plains 986E, sold to Phil Schoenrock, LeMars, IA.

\$5,250 – Bull, “Rockin H Mr Shellshocked H97,” s. by SSC Shell Shocked 44B, sold to Kyle Olson, Parkers Prairie.

\$5,000 – Bull, “Rockin H Mr Frosty J04,” s. by TJ Frosty 318E, sold to Cooper Schmidt, Marietta.



Matt Hoffman, Rockin H Simmentals, welcomes the large crowd for their 8th Annual Production Sale.



Steve Eichacker attended, representing ASA.



Phil Schoenrock added a Rockin H bull to his bull battery.



Gabby Nemitz and Holly Hoffman.

Altenburg Super Baldy Ranch's 30th Annual Production Sale

March 20, 2022 • Fort Collins, CO

No.	Category	Average
124	SM and SimAngus Bulls	\$4,851

Auctioneer: Tom Frey, CO

Marketing Representatives: Cattle USA Online; Ryan Large, DVAuction; John Clatworthy, Colorado Angus Association; and Case Gabel, *Wyoming Livestock Round Up*.

Representing ASA: Susan Russell

High-Selling Lots:

\$18,000 – ½ SM ½ AN, “ASR Super Baldy H0225,” s. by SAV Rainfall, sold to McConkie Ranch, Altamont, UT.

\$11,100 – PB SM, “ASR Pass The Torch J149,” s. by LCDR Progressive, sold to McConkie Ranch, Altamont, UT.

\$10,600 – PB SM, “ASR Progressive J133,” s. by LCDR Progressive, sold to Scott Miller, Manti, UT.

\$10,250 – PB SM, “ASR Broad Range H0245,” s. by GIBBS Broad Range, sold to McConkie Ranch, Altamont, UT.

\$9,500 – PB SM, “ASR Progressive J1100,” s. by LCDR Progressive, sold to McConkie Ranch, Altamont, UT.

\$9,400 – PB SM, “ASR Progressive J1117,” s. by LCDR Progressive, sold to McConkie Ranch, Altamont, UT.

\$9,000 – PB SM, “ASR Highlife J156,” s. by SR Highlife, sold to Scott Miller, Manti, UT.

Volume Buyers: McConkie Ranch, TRK Ranches, Moncrief Ranch, and Wagner Ranch.

Comments: Prior to the sale, Willie Altenburg who is retiring from ranching introduced Darby Line, Triangle J Ranch, as the future of the ASR program including next year's bull sale. Bulls sold into five states including: CO, KS, NE, UT, and WY.



Darby Line and Willie Altenburg visit prior to the sale.



A big crowd was on hand for Altenburg's 30th Annual Sale.



Bob Willich, Stonham, is a longtime Altenburg Super Baldy Ranch customer.




Tobey Kimzey, pictured with his sons and grandson, purchased Altenburg bulls for their CO and WY ranches.

(Continued on page 60)

State Marketplace

(Continued from page 55)

Nebraska cont.

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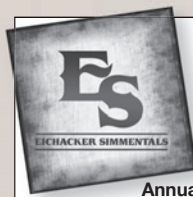
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(Continued on page 63)

(Continued from page 57)

All Terrain Bull Sale

March 21, 2022 • Walsh, CO

No.	Category	Average
69	SM and SimAngus Yearling Bulls	\$6,326
12	SimGenetic Open Heifers	6,354
5	Commercial SimGenetic Open Heifers	\$2,160

Auctioneer: Tracy Harl, NE

Sale Manager: Allied Genetic Resources (AGR), IL

Marketing Representatives: Marty Ropp (AGR); Corey Wilkins (AGR); and Becky Rennert, DVAuction.

Ringmen: Ryan Brewer and Cody Johnson

Representing ASA: Susan Russell

High-Selling SimInfluenced Lots:

\$24,000 – SimAngus Bull, “FOCR Mr J111,” s. by Hook’s Eagle, sold to T-Heart Ranch, Del Norte.

\$14,000 – PB SM Bull, “Bridle Bit Mr J1110,” s. by LBRS Genesis, sold to Sunflower Genetics, Maple Hill, KS.

\$13,000 – Half-interest in PB SM Open Female, “Bridle Bit Miss J129,” s. by KBHR Cimarron, sold to Eichacker Simmentals, Salem, SD.

\$11,000 – SimAngus Bull, “Bridle Bit Mr J189,” s. by Hook’s Galileo, sold to Klein Ranch, Atwood, KS.

\$11,000 – SimAngus Bull, “Bridle Mr J160,” s. by Hook’s Eagle, sold to Gary Erbele, Lehr, ND.

\$11,000 – SimAngus Bull, “Bridle Bit Mr J124,” s. by Hook’s Eagle, sold to Sexing Technologies, Navasota, TX.

\$11,000 – SimAngus Open Female, “Bridle Bit Miss J1101,” s. by LBRS Genesis, sold to Klein Ranch, Atwood, KS.

\$10,000 – SimAngus Bull, “Bridle Bit Mr J194,” s. by Hook’s Eagle, sold to Todd Finke, Berthold, ND.

\$9,000 – PB Open Female, “Bridle Bit Miss J143,” s. by Hook’s Galileo, sold to Aaron Davis, Grantsville, UT.

Comments: Consignors to the sale included: Bridle Bit Simmentals, Far Out Cattle Ranch, and Jones Red Angus. Also selling were six Red Angus Bulls at an average of \$4,125.



Successful buyer Heath Klein (r), visited with Corey Wilkins, Allied Genetic Resources.



Dayton Cook, age 6, bids on his favorite bull.



Chad Cook, Bridle Bit Simmentals, welcomed the crowd and discussed the benefit of their newly installed C-Lock feed intake measuring system.



Jerrid Brisendine (r), Far Out Cattle Ranch, answered questions prior to the sale.

T-Heart Ranch High-Altitude Bull Sale

March 26, 2022 • La Garita, CO

No.	Category	Average
150	SM and SimAngus Yearling Bulls	\$5,008

Auctioneer: Charlie Cummings, Yates Center, KS

Sale Manager: Allied Genetic Resources (AGR), Normal, IL

Marketing Representatives: Marty Ropp (AGR); Corey Wilkins (AGR); and Justin Warren, Superior Livestock.

Representing ASA: Susan Russell

High-Selling Lots:

\$14,000 – PB SM, “THR 1052J,” s. by Hook’s Eagle.

\$10,000 – ¾ SM ¼ RA, “THR 123J,” s. by JJ Eagle Rock.

\$10,000 – ⅝ SM ⅜ AN, “THR 1466J,” s. by THR Mountain Time.

\$9,500 – ⅝ SM ⅜ AN, “THR 1496J,” s. by THR Mountain Time.



The T-Heart sale bulls were moved by horseback into view pens.



Prospective high-altitude bull buyers looked over the low-PAP offering.



Host, Shane Temple welcomed the crowd.



Volume and repeat buyers were on hand.

The Gathering at Shoal Creek Land & Cattle

April 2, 2022 • Excelsior Springs, MO

No.	Category	Average
11	Bulls	\$4,345
19	SM and SimInfluenced Bred Females	\$3,134
17	SM and SimInfluenced Cow/Calf Pairs	\$4,003
5	SM and SimInfluenced Open Fall Heifers	\$5,020
5	SM and SimInfluenced Open Spring Heifers	\$4,043

Auctioneer: Jered Shipman, TX

Sale Manager: Eberspacher Enterprises, (EE) Inc., MN

Marketing Representatives: Val Eberspacher (EE); Austin Brandt, Lee Agri-Media, IA; Mike Sorensen, Livestock Plus, IA; Buddy Robertson, OK; Jeremie Ruble, IA; Tom Rooney, IA; and Amanda Hilbrands, LiveAuctions.TV, MN.

Representing ASA: Michael Dikeman

High-Selling Lots:

\$7,750 – Open Heifer, “SC Robins Kiss J6,” s. by W/C Fort Knox 609F, cons. by Shoal Creek Land and Cattle, sold to Rockin H Simmentals, Canby, MN.

- \$7,000** – Cow/Calf Pair, “RS&T Night Lady H130,” s. by W/C Night Watch 84E, Bull Calf s. by LCDR Progressive 106G, cons. by RS&T Simmentals, sold to Chisholm Trail Cattle, Wellington, KS.
- \$6,500** – Open Heifer, “SC Daisy Duke J126,” s. by JSUL Something About Mary 8421, cons. by Shoal Creek Land and Cattle, sold to Rockin H Simmentals, Canby, MN.
- \$6,000** – Cow/Calf Pair, “SC Robins Kiss H33,” s. by HPF/PCCC Duracell 524E, Heifer Calf s. by SC Innovator H22, cons. by Shoal Creek Land and Cattle, sold to Kanoy Simmentals, Concordia.
- \$6,000** – Bred Female, “SC Versace H129,” s. by W/C Fort Knox 609F, cons. by Shoal Creek Land and Cattle, sold to Mast Simmentals, Lynchburg, TN.
- \$5,500** – Bull, “SC Innovator J17,” s. by CDI Innovator 325D, cons. by Shoal Creek Land and Cattle, sold to Richburg Cattle Co. Groom, TX.
- \$5,000** – Cow/Calf Pair, “HILB Miss H44E,” s. by HILB/SHER Data Breach, Bull Calf s. by SC Innovator H22, cons. by Shoal Creek Land and Cattle, sold to Kanoy Simmentals, Concordia.
- \$5,000** – Bull, “SC Exclusive H5,” s. by KCC1 Exclusive 116E, cons. by Shoal Creek Land and Cattle, sold to Ross Land and Cattle, Minden, IA.
- \$4,750** – Bull, “SC Innovator 235J,” s. by CDI Innovator 325D, cons. by Shoal Creek Land and Cattle, sold to Jonathan Durham, Marshall, MO.

Comments: Also selling was one embryo lot for \$2,700. Guest consignors included: RS&T Simmentals, Vestlane Farms and VAB Farms. Five thousand dollars was raised for the American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation in memory of Ronald G. Miller, longtime advocate of the Simmental breed and 2019 ASA Promoter of the Year award recipient. Be sure to mark your calendars for our 12th Annual Sale, April 1, 2023.



Ed and Kathi Rule always roll out the red carpet.



Huge accolades to the Sysco Food crew for the excellent steaks prior to the sale.



Michael Dikeman represented ASA.



John Cowger, senior member of guest consignor RS&T Simmentals LLC.

5th Annual Passion for Perfection Sale

April 9, 2022 • Clara City, MN

No.	Category	Average
6	SM and SimInfluenced Bulls	\$3,183
36	SM and SimInfluenced Cow/Calf Pairs	\$7,751
7	SM and SimInfluenced Fall Open Heifers	\$5,364
1	SM Donor Lot	\$5,750
50	Live SM and SimInfluenced Lots	\$6,830
15	Embryo Lots	\$1,996
60	“W/C Executive Order 8534B,” Semen Lots	\$537

Auctioneer: Jered Shipman, TX

Sale Manager: Eberspacher Enterprises (EE) Inc., MN

Marketing Representatives: Val Eberspacher (EE); Austin Brandt, IA; Dustin Carter, SD; Andrew Swanson, MN; Jeremie Ruble, IA; and Amanda Hilbrands, LiveAuctions.TV, MN.

Representing ASA: Russ Danielson

High-Selling Lots:

- \$35,000** – Cow/Calf Pair, “HILB Haute Couture H146F,” s. by W/C Executive Order 8543B, Bull Calf s. by Bar CK Red Empire 9153G, sold to J-D Farms, Wymore, NE.
- \$20,000** – Half-interest in Cow/Calf Pair, “HILB Miss Hensley H104A,” s. by W/C Executive Order 8543B, Heifer Calf s. by HILB/SHER Data Breach, sold to Fenton Farms, Laurel, MS.
- \$15,750** – Half-interest in Cow/Calf Pair, “HILB Miss Maryse H429F,” s. by HILB Oracle C033F, Heifer Calf s. by W/C Fort Knox 609F, sold to Hinrichs Simmentals, Sunberg.
- \$14,000** – Cow/Calf Pair, “HILB Emerald Elegance H859,” s. by HILB Oracle C033R, Bull Calf s. by W/C Fort Knox 609F, sold to Kunzler Livestock, Benson, UT.
- \$14,000** – Cow/Calf Pair, “HILB/JASS Order Of Love 49H,” s. by W/C Executive Order 8543B, Heifer Calf s. by OMF Epic E27, sold to Kaitlyn Porter, Geneva, IA.
- \$11,500** – Cow/Calf Pair, “HILB/JASS Unshakable Love G120W,” s. by HILB/SHER Data Breach, Heifer Calf s. by W/C Need 4 Speed 1016H, sold to K&B Cattle Co., Kankakee, IL.
- \$10,000** – Cow/Calf Pair, “HILB/JRA Heavenly Beauty 010H,” s. by HPF Quantum Leap Z952, Heifer Calf s. by CLRS Guardian 317G, sold to Brady Rasmussen, Bingham Lake.
- \$9,750** – Cow/Calf Pair, “HILB Blessed With Riches H176B,” s. by W/C Fort Knox 609F, Heifer Calf s. by W/C Night Watch 84E, sold to Top Line Simmentals, Mt. Ayr, IA.

Comments: Cattle sold into 18 states. Mark your calendars for December 3 for our annual Jewels of the Northland Sale.



Mark Hilbrands welcomes the crowd to the Passion Sale with an opening prayer.



Karen Christensen, White Wing Simmental, is a repeat buyer.



Russ Danielson represented the American Simmental Association.



Rachel and Brandon Orsten are long-time supporters of the Hilbrands program. ■

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Listed below are ten questions designed to test your knowledge of the beef industry.

Elite: 9-10 correct
Superior: 7-8 correct
Excellent: 5-6 correct
Fair: 3-4 correct
Poor: 1-2 correct

1. Plant-eating animals are known by what scientific classification?
2. What is the process by which plants convert energy to sunlight?
3. What fluid is used in the storage of semen?
4. What is the monetary value of the Gold Merit Award?
5. What is the primary reason for systematically locating salt away from watering areas?
6. What is the common name given to the expelled placenta following a calf's birth?
7. What is the process of providing supplemental feeding to suckling calves called?
8. By what process are feeds broken down for use in the body?
9. Which is dominant, the horned gene or the polled gene?
10. Early American colonists prized cattle primarily for what reason?

Answers:
1. Herbivorous;
2. Photosynthesis;
3. Liquid nitrogen; 4. \$1,500;
5. To assist in the even distribution of cattle on their range;
6. Afterbirth; 7. Creep feeding;
8. Digestion; 9. Polled;
10. Draft animals.

State Marketplace

(Continued from page 59)

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 **CMP** CARCASS ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

The CMP collects birth-to-harvest data, genomics, and mature cow information.
carcdata@simmgene.com

DNA Services (Contact ASA For Testing Kits)

Genomic Tests:

*GGP-100K	\$50
GGP-uLD	\$33

**Add-on tests available*

	Stand Alone ↓	Add-on ↓
SNP Parental Verification	\$18	Free
STR Parental Verification	\$33	\$15
Coat Color	\$22	\$9
Red Charlie	\$26	\$16
Horned/Polled	\$33	\$22
PMel (Diluter)	\$22	\$2
Oculocutaneous Hypopigmentation (OH) ..	\$25	\$16
BVD PI	\$5	

Genetic Conditions Panel \$25

(Must run with GGP-100K)

Arthrogryposis Multiplex (AM)
Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH)
Developmental Duplication (DD)
Tibial Hemimelia (TH)
Pulmonary Hypoplasia with Anasarca (PHA)
Osteopetrosis (OS)
Contractural Arachnodactyly (CA)

(Individual defect tests can be ordered for \$25.)

***Research Fee charged at \$1.00/min – Includes but is not limited to: DNA re-checks to more than 2 additional parents, multi-sire pastures, excess time spent to confirm parentage, mis-identified samples, and samples arriving at lab without proper ASA paperwork.*

****Prices are subject to change*

DNA Collector Fees: Allflex TSU - \$20.00 (box of 10) • Allflex Applicator - \$40.00 • Blood Cards - \$1.00 ea. (processing fee)
Hair Cards - \$5.00 ea. (processing fee) • Sample Pull Fee – \$2.00 ea.

THE Enrollment

Spring 2022 THE Enrollment – (dams calve January 1-June 30) –
Early enrollment open October 15 through **December 15, 2021**.
Late enrollment available until February 15, 2022.

Fall 2022 THE Enrollment – (dams calve July 1-December 31) –
Early enrollment open April 15 through **June 15, 2022**.
Late enrollment available until August 15, 2022.

	Option A (TR)	Option B (SR)	Option C	Option D (CM)
Early Enrollment	\$15.00	FREE	\$7.50	\$500/herd
*Late Enrollment	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$8.50	\$500/herd
*Late enrollment fees				

A re-enrollment fee of \$35.00 applies to any dam that is removed from inventory and re-enters the herd at a later date.

A member who has dropped out of THE and wishes to return, may do so for the next enrollment season. Re-enrollment fee is \$35 per animal (maximum of \$350) plus enrollment fees. Non-THE registration fees will apply to the calendar year when a member did not participate in THE.

American Simmental Association Fees

First Time Membership Fee:

Adult First Time Membership Fee* \$160
(Includes: \$50 set-up fee and \$110 ASF)

Junior First Time Membership Fee* \$40

Prefix Registration \$10

**After January 1: \$105 for Adults and \$40 for Juniors*

Annual Service Fee (ASF)*:

Adult Membership \$110

Junior Membership \$40

Fiscal year runs from July 1 – June 30

Registration Fees:

Registration Fees enrolled in THE

Enrolled in **Option A** No Charge

Enrolled in **Opt B or C** <10 months \$30

Enrolled in **Opt B or C** 10 months <15 months ... \$40

Enrolled in **Opt B or C** 15 months \$50

Transfer Fees:

First Transfer No Charge

Subsequent Transfers

Within 60 calendar days of sale \$10

Over 60 calendar days after sale \$30

Additional Transactions:

Priority Processing

(not including shipping or mailing) \$50

Corrections \$5

Registration Foreign/Foundation Fees:

Register Foundation Cow \$5

Register Foundation Bull \$25

Registration Fees not enrolled in THE:

Non-THE <10 months \$42

Non-THE 10 months <15 months \$52

Non-THE 15 months \$62

Need Registrations or Transfers in a Hurry?

Use Our Online Herdbook

Herdbook Services offers hands-on registration capabilities.

You enter the data, work through any errors, pay the fees; registration will be completed in minutes. No priority handling fee, no hold-ups (unless there are errors or payment is needed), and can be completed any time of the day or night.

Interesting fact:

90.8% of the animal data is already submitted electronically through Herdbook Services!

Why the encouragement to go online and register the animal yourself?

1. Avoid priority registration fee charges (\$50.00 per animal) by logging in online and completing the registration or transfer yourself. **Priority is within two-business days.*
2. Special mailing by FedEx or UPS needed? Send an email to mailout@simmgene.com with the job/invoice number, physical address, and desired mailing method.

Note: *there is a handling fee of \$50.00 plus FedEx or UPS shipping charges. Remember to supply a physical address. Plan ahead and avoid these charges.*

Need more encouragement to register online?

1. Data Registration/Processing Services: Applications submitted to ASA for processing/registration may take 3-7 business days (error-free and payment received) depending on the time of year. Any holiday season will extend the turnaround time.
2. Mailing services: Data and registration certificates will be mailed (US Post) normally within 5-7 business after processing has completed.

The Customer Service Specialists are just a phone call away to assist you.

1. There are peak times and days when there are large volumes of calls, especially close to deadlines. Don't get caught waiting until the last minute; submit early.
2. If you are unable to get through, please leave a voicemail. Our goal is to return calls as soon as possible, normally within 3-4 hours.
3. If your question can be answered by email, send an email to:

simmental@simmgene.com

*for general questions
or priority handling*

dna@simmgene.com

for DNA questions or kit requests

the@simmgene.com

for Total Herd Enrollment (THE)

members@simmgene.com

*to apply for membership or,
account changes, or annual service
fee questions*

carcdata@simmgene.com

*for Carcass Merit Program (CMP)
and Carcass Expansion project.*

ultrasound@simmgene.com

for ultrasound and barn sheets

To help you plan, here are some items that may hold up registration for a length of time:

1. DNA / Genetic Abnormalities / Parental Validation / AI Sire / ET Requirements: DNA Testing is a standard process without any options to expedite this service.

- a. Normal DNA Testing: 5-9 weeks for results. Sample failure and misidentified samples doubles this time.
- b. DNA kit paperwork requests: 48-hour turnaround.

2. Non-Compliance:

Total Herd Enrollment breeders: there is a deadline each year that the previous year's calf data must be submitted. You'll be notified of the dams in your herd that need calf data or a reason the cow didn't calve when you go online to submit new registrations. Until this information is completed, no new data will be accepted.

3. Foundation Registration:

Sires registered with other breed associations MUST be registered with ASA prior to registering progeny. Other breed dams may be registered with ASA as a Foundation, but it is optional, not mandatory. Normal processing is 10-12 business days (error-free, payment received, DNA requirements completed).

4. Breeder Signature:

If the owner of the dam at the time of conception is different than the person applying for registration, ASA requires the breeder to sign off on the calf you are registering. Make sure the breeder signs the calf's registration application, or breeding information is supplied on the transfer of the dam. If the dam was sold with the calf at side, make sure the seller has registered and transferred the calf to you.

5. Non-payment:

Payment is required to complete registrations.



FASTER

◀ GET IT NOW ▶

Priority Handling Processing Service:

ASA offers priority handling services if you are unable to complete your registration online. If the data is error-free and payment is received, normal turn-

around time for registration is within two business days. There is a priority handling processing fee \$50 per animal. Regular US Mail service is at no charge; however, other mailing services (i.e., FedEx, UPS, or Express Mail) will incur additional charges.



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MAY

- 5 Nelson Ranch Production Auction, Glasgow, MT
- 5 Powerline Genetics/Seward Cattle Co. High Altitude Bull Sale – Lone Tree, WY
- 7 Stars and Stripes Sale – Hummesltown, PA
- 9 The Southern Blend Online Sale – www.dponlinesales.com
- 14 Banners & Beyond Sale, Clarkesville, GA
- 14 Mississippi/Alabama Simmental Sale – Cullman, AL
- 16 Red Hill "Maternal Monday" Online Sale – www.dponlinesales.com
- 21 3rd Annual Back To Grass Sale – Henderson, TX
- 28 Plank Simmental and Red Angus Farm's Complete Dispersal – Crystal, MI (pg. 24)

JUNE

- 8-11 AJSA Eastern Regional Classic – Lebanon, IN
- 24-30 AJSA National Classic – Madison, WI

JULY

- 23 Simmental Breeders' Sweepstakes Sale – Springfield, MO

SEPTEMBER

- 3 North Carolina Fall Harvest – Union Grove, NC
- 10 Kentucky Simmental Fall Sale – Lexington, KY
- 17 Family Matters Sale – Auburn, KY
- 18 Illini Elite Simmental Sale – Shelbyville, IL
- 21 Gonsalves Ranch's Bulls Eye Breeders Angus and SimAngus Bull Sale – Modesto, CA
- 22 Circle Ranch Beef Solutions Bull Sale – Ione, CA

OCTOBER

- 1 Buckeye's Finest – Zanesville, OH (pg. 59)
- 1 Generation After Generation Sale – Blountville, TN
- 8 Ponderosa Farms and Guest 3rd Annual Bull and Commercial Female Sale – Taylorsville, MS
- 8 The New Direction Sale – Seward, NE (pg. 55)
- 15 Fred Smith Company's Extra Effort Sale – Clayton, NC
- 16 WSA Midwest Fall Round Up Sale – Fennimore, WI
- 22 Clear Choice Female Sale – Milan, IN (pg. 54)
- 22 MN Beef Expo - White Satin Onn Ice and All Breeds Sale – Minneapolis, MN
- 29 Bred For Success Sale – Marion, MI
- 29 Cattlemen's Preferred All Breed Bull and Commercial Female Sale – Harrison, AR
- 29 H2Os Farm's Laser Focused Production Sale – Walkerton, IN
- 29 Red Hill Farms' Bulls and Females of Fall VIII – Lafayette, TN
- 29 Yon Family Farms Sale – Ridge Spring, SC
- 30 Cattlemen's Preferred All Breeds Bull and Commercial Female Sale – Harrison, AR

NOVEMBER

- 5 Cason's Pride and Joy Elite Female Sale – Russell, IA
- 5 Dakota Ladies Sale, Worthing, SD
- 5 Irvine Ranch's 18th Annual Production Sale – Manhattan, KS
- 6 Triangle J Ranch's Female Sale – Miller, NE (pg. 55)
- 12 Gibbs Farms' 17th Annual Bull and Replacement Female Sale – Ranburne, AL
- 15 Elliott Livestock and Wild Rose Cattle Company's Bull and Bred Heifer Sale – Clifford, ND
- 20 49th Annual MSA Simmental Sale – Cannon Falls, MN
- 26 The Event, Vol. III at Tucker Cattle Company – Pleasant Dale, NE

DECEMBER

- 3 Jewels of the Northland – Clara City, MN
- 3 Western Choice Simmental Sale – Billings, MT
- 10 NDSA Classic Simmental Sale – Mandan, ND
- 10 North Alabama Bull Evaluation Sale – Cullman, AL
- 11 Trauernicht Simmental's Nebraska Platinum Standard Sale – Beatrice, NE
- 16 Buck Creek Ranch's Grand Event Vol. III – Yale, OK

JANUARY 2023

- 13 Diamond Bar S Bull Sale – Great Falls, MT (pg. 55)
- 27 Double J Farms' 49th Annual Bull and Female – Garretson, SD (pg. 59)
- 27 Ellingson Simmentals' Annual Production Sale – Dahlen, ND (pg. 58)
- 28 J&C Simmentals' Annual Bull Sale – West Point, NE (pg. 55)
- 29 Triangle J Ranch's Annual Bull Sale – Miller, NE (pg. 55)

FEBRUARY

- 1 Begger's Diamond V Ranch's Big Sky Genetic Source Bull Sale – Wibaux, MT (pg. 55)
- 2 Stavick Simmental's Annual Sale – Veblen, SD (pg. 59)
- 3 Cow Camp Ranch's Annual Spring Bull Sale – Lost Springs, KS (pg. 54)
- 4 41st Annual Klain Simmental Production Sale – Ruso, ND
- 4 Prickly Pear Simmentals' "Made In Montana" Sale – Helena, MT (pg. 55)

- 8 River Creek Farms' 33rd Annual "Built To Work" SimAngus Bull Sale – Manhattan, K (pg. 54)
- 10 Bata Brothers/Bell Family Annual Joint Simmental Bull and Female Sale – Rugby, ND (pg. 58)
- 10 Bred For Balance Sale – Starbuck, MN
- 10 TNT Simmentals' 38th Annual Bull Sale – Lehr, ND (pg. 58)
- 11 Kenner Simmentals' 27th Annual Production Sale – Leeds, ND
- 13 Nelson Livestock Company's Production Sale – Wibaux, MT
- 14 Edge of the West Production Sale – Mandan, ND (pg. 58)
- 15 Jackpot Cattle Company's Bull Sale – Wessington, SD
- 17 Dakota Xpress Annual Production Sale – Mandan, ND (pg. 58)
- 17 Mader Ranches' 34th Annual Bull Power Sale – Carstairs, AB
- 17 Sandy Acres' Bull Sale – Neligh, NE (pg. 55)
- 18 Flittie Simmental/Schnabel Ranch Simmentals/Lazy J Bar Ranch's Joint Production Sale – Aberdeen, SD (pg. 59)
- 19 K-LER Cattle's Annual Production Sale – St. Charles, MN (pg. 55)
- 19 Trauernicht Simmentals' Bull Sale – Beatrice, NE
- 20 Bulls of the Big Sky – Billings, MT (pg. 55)
- 21 Quandt Brothers Cattle Company's 11th Annual Production Sale – Oakes, ND (pg. 58)

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- 2 Keller Broken Heart Ranch's Annual Production Sale – Mandan, ND (pg. 58)
- 3 Eichacker Simmentals' Annual Bull Sale – Salem, SD (pg. 59)
- 4 Cason's Pride and Joy Bull Sale – Russell, IA (pg. 54)
- 4 Trinity Farms' Generations of Excellence Sale – Ellensburg, WA (pg. 63)
- 6 Hills Ranch Simmental's Annual Production Sale – Stanford, MT

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the Register is an 8 1/8 x 10 7/8 inch glossy, full-color publication that provides a direct and consistent line of communication to the ASA membership.

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September '22	August 1	August 10	August 17	Sept 6
October '22	Sept 1	Sept 9	Sept 20	Oct 4
November '22	Sept 26	Oct 3	Oct 20	Nov 4
Dec '22/Jan '23	Nov 15	Nov 18	Dec 5	Dec 21
February '23	Dec 27	Jan 4	Jan 18	Feb 7
March '23	Feb 1	Feb 10	Feb 17	March 7
April '23	March 1	March 10	March 17	April 4

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Questions, contact cmp@simmgene.com for more information regarding this program.

The American Simmental Association Carcass Merit Program (CMP) is the beef industry's most demanding and informative young sire test. The program is a hallmark of ASA breed improvement for economically relevant carcass traits. Commercial producers play an integral part in this project.

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- ◆ Free genotyping on terminal progeny
- ◆ Keep any or all replacement females

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**The CMP is a structured young sire progeny test. Participating cooperator herds will random sample their cowherd with CMP semen, and the resulting male (or female) progeny will be harvested with individual carcass data gathered. ASA Staff will work with cooperator herds to provide bulls that fit the general criteria of your management program, however only bulls nominated into the CMP program may be used. Producers are encouraged to be somewhat proficient in Microsoft excel for accurate and consistent record keeping.*

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By CCR Anchor 9071B
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By Pays To Believe
EPD: CE: 5 \$API: 105 \$TI: 74



SSC Shell Shocked 44B

By Remington Secret Weapon 185
EPD: CE: 18 \$API: 134 \$TI: 74



THSF Lover Boy B33

By HTP/SVF Duracell T52
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 157 \$TI: 92



NEW

JC King of the Road 468H

By KBHR High Road E283
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 178 \$TI: 98



NEW

Ruby NFF Up The Ante 9171G

By Ruby's Currency 7134E
EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 120 \$TI: 70



NEW

ACLL Fortune 393D

By MR TR Hammer 308A ET
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 97 \$TI: 71



NEW

W/C Double Down 5014E

By W/C Executive Order 8543B
EPD: CE: 16 \$API: 113 \$TI: 72



Ruby SWC Battle Cry 431B

By MR HOC Broker
EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 98 \$TI: 75



NEW

Mr SR 71 Right Now E1538

By Hook's Bozeman 8B
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 152 \$TI: 90



NEW

GSC GCCO Dew North 102C

By HTP/SVF Duracell T52
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 114 \$TI: 81



PAL/CLAC Meant To Be 823E

By Mr HOC Broker
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 110 \$TI: 70



3/4 NAILE and
NWSS Champ

Reckoning 711F

By W/C Relentless 32C
EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 118 \$TI: 68



NEW

TJSC King of Diamonds 165E

By LLSF Pays To Believe ZU194
EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 112 \$TI: 75



NEW

PBF Red Paint F88

By W/C Executive Order 8543B
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 117 \$TI: 75



NEW

SC Pay the Price C11

By W/C Pays to Dream T759
EPD: CE: 8 \$API: 114 \$TI: 77



NEW

JASS On The Mark 69D

By W/C Loaded Up 1119Y
EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 121 \$TI: 74



W/C Relentless 32C

By Yardley Utah Y361
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 117 \$TI: 75



NEW

3/4 SimAngus™

WLE Copacetic E02

By HPF Quantum Leap Z952
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 113 \$TI: 77



NEW

Holtkamp Clac Change Is Coming 7H

By WLE Copacetic E02
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 106 \$TI: 75



NEW

W/C Cyclone 385H

By W/C Bankroll 811D
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 134 \$TI: 82



NEW

3/4 SimAngus™

LLSF Vantage Point F398

By CCR Anchor 9071B
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 132 \$TI: 85



WS Revival B26

By LLSF Uprising Z925
EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 100 \$TI: 67



LLSF Pays To Believe ZU194

By CNS Pays To Dream T759
EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 120 \$TI: 80



W/C Bankroll 811D

By W/C Loaded Up 1119Y
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 127 \$TI: 80



CLRS Guardian 317G

By Hook's Beacon 56B
EPD: CE: 18 \$API: 211 \$TI: 115



KSU Bald Eagle 53G

By Hook's Eagle 6E
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 178 \$TI: 104



WLE Black Mamba G203

By WLE Copacetic E02
EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 136 \$TI: 82



FELT Perseverance 302F

By W/C Executive Order 8543B
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 111 \$TI: 72



W/C Express Lane 29G

By Rubys Turnpike 771E
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 136 \$TI: 83



MR CCF The Duke G42

By Mr CCF Vision
EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 116 \$TI: 72



Erixon Bitten 203A

By NCB Cobra 47Y
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 150 \$TI: 87



LCDR Favor 149F

By LCDR Witness 541C
EPD: CE: 11 \$API: 150 \$TI: 100



SFG The Judge D633

By CCR Cowboy Cut 5048Z
EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 159 \$TI: 97



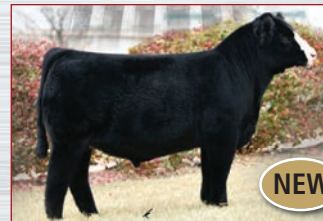
TL Ledger 106D

By Profit
EPD: CE: 10 \$API: 112 \$TI: 69



GPG Focus 135F

By Mr CCF 20-20
EPD: CE: 6 \$API: 115 \$TI: 77



OBCC Kavanaugh F236

By OBCC Unfinished Business
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 144 \$TI: 81



WS Proclamation E202

By CCR Cowboy Cut 5048Z
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 166 \$TI: 104



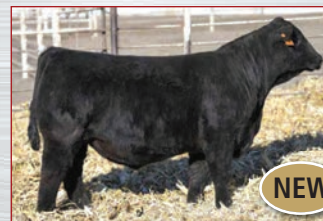
JBSF Logic 5E

By W/C Relentless 32C
EPD: CE: 8 \$API: 116 \$TI: 74



WHF/JS/CCS Double Up G365

By W/C Double Down
EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 116 \$TI: 71



TJ 50K 485H

By TJ Teardrop
EPD: CE: 16 \$API: 172 \$TI: 92



W/C Style 69E

By Style 9303
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 134 \$TI: 67



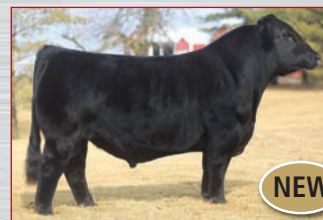
RRF Trading Up E777

By Pays to Believe
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 133 \$TI: 77



HRCC Hondo 035

By W/C Bankroll
EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 117 \$TI: 78



CDI Innovator 325D

By TJ Main Event 503B
EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 134 \$TI: 92

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SHOAL CREEK LAND & CATTLE

THANK YOU

To all the 2022 bidders & buyers at our 11th Anniversary Sale Event!



Dustin Encochs, FL • Rockin H Simmental, MN • RS&T Simmentals, MO • Ross Land & Cattle, IA • Owen Brothers Cattle Co, MO
Callie Curtis, MO • Paradeis Cattle CO, MO • Gorham Farms, MO • VAB Farms, MO • Shoal Creek Land & Cattle, MO
Perry Vandiver, MO • Chisholm Trail Cattle Company, KS • Shipwreck Cattle Co, TX • Braydon Cull, MO • Chris Schaller, MO
Don Feighert, MO • Will & Katlyn Garrett, MO • Heidt Simmentals, MO • Templeton Cattle, MO • C-K W Cattle CO, KS
Kanyo Simmentals, MO • 4-A's LLC, MO • Ryan Bird, TX • K&L Cattle LLC, MO • Wm Kaiser III, KY • Huehfeld Simmental Farm, IL
Thyen Simmentals, SD • Mast Simmentals, TN • Zach Auffet, OK • Richburg Cattle CO, TX • Jonathan Durham, MO

From all of us at Shoal Creek, a huge thank you to all the bidders, buyers, sale staff, and everyone that came together in person, on the phone, and online to make the 11th Annual Gathering at Shoal Creek Sale a success! We are proud to have raised \$8,700 for the Ronald G Miller Memorial at the American Simmental Simbrah Foundation. Thank you to all of our family members, neighbors, friends, and our guest breeders for their help to make the event possible! To our customers, we appreciate your belief in our breeding program! Best of luck to everyone with their purchases!



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