

ANGUS JOURNAL 2024

THE BEEF BREED | DIE VLEISRAS



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THE BEEF BREED | DIE VLEISRAS



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Bloemfontein

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Ons kan hulle met vrymoedigheid aanbeveel vir enige ontwerp- en drukdiens.

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Woord deur die Voorsitter



Rudi Claassen

2024

Daar sal na beraming sowat 26 veilings onder die Genootskap se beskerming aangebied word in 2024 en sowat 3 000 beeste sal te koop aangebied word op hierdie veilings.

Die 2024 - veilingsseisoen skop af op 30 Mei met die laaste beplande veiling op 7 November. Beste wense en alle voorspoed aan ons telers met hul komende veilings!

In die Bloemfontein-omgewing is daar sowat 890 vleisras-bulle deur een veilingshuis in 2023 verkoop. Dit dui op 'n uiters kompiterende mark. Om suksesvol te wees in diervandie mark, moet daar by voorgeskrewe rasstandaarde gehou word en net die beste bulle moet te koop aangebied word.

Vyf skoue word in 2024 aangebied - waaronder die Nasional skou in Bloemfontein op 1 en 2 Mei. Neem deel aan hierdie geleentheid, dit is die vertoonkas van die Angusras.

Hartlik welkom aan ons nuwe lede. Julle het nie 'n fout gemaak om met ons wen-ras te boer en by ons genootskap aan te sluit nie. Ons het die vriendelikste mense wat altyd bereid is om te help. Ek weet dit, want ek het dit persoonlik ervaar.

Baie dankie ook aan Danie en Linette vir julle voortgesette harde werk en opofferings vir die Angusras en Genootskap.

Mag 2024 vir almal 'n voorspoedige jaar wees en ek hoop om julle op 3 Oktober in die Wes-Kaap te sien vir die AJV.

Groete
Rudi Claassen

Van sit en staan kom niks gedaan....dieselfde kan gesê word van wag en kyk wat ander doen.

Om jou doelwitte te bereik, beteken om jou moue op te rol en self in te spring!

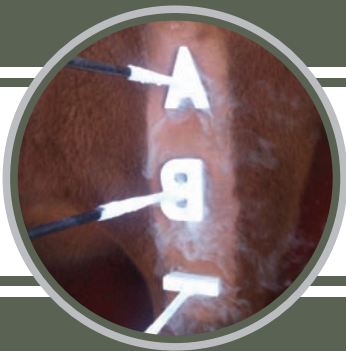
Dubbelbespierung is tans op almal se lippe. Moenie wag vir ander om leiding te neem nie. Toets, maak seker wat in jou kudde aan die gang is!

Daar is tans vyf aktiewe Angus Klubs landswyd. Sluit aan, word deel van die Angus-familie. By die klubs is waar die aksie is. Neem inisiatief en raak betrokke!

Mari Delport is verkies as die eerste vroulike klubvoorsitter. Baie geluk Mari, ek weet dat jy dinge laat gebeur. Die bewyse is reeds daar!

Noord-Wes Klub begin die jaar deur 'n junior beoordelaars-kursus aan te beid. Die Vrystaat Klub volg met 'n touleiers-kursus. Alle voorspoed aan die ander Angus Klubs vir hul jaarlikse bedrywighede.

Tans word die Genootskap opgemaak deur 137 lede en ongeveer 20 000 Angus-beeste, waarvan 14 000 vroulik is.



MALUTI ANGUS

2de Produksieveiling: Saterdag 8 Junie 2024
25 bulle en 30 vroulike diere op
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- 2022/23 = 357 days
- 2021/22 = 357 days
- 2020/21 = 355 days
- 2019/20 = 355 days
- 2018/19 = 358 days
- 2017/18 = 363 days
- 2016/17 = 371 days
- 2015/16 = 368 days



André Breytenbach: 082 774 6804
E: andre@maluti-angus.co.za | Bethlehem

Note by the Editor

What is a breeders' society?

A breeders' society can be loosely defined as a group of people that promotes the breeding, the recording or registration and the genetic improvement of a specific animal breed, in our case the Angus cattle breed. The forementioned also determine and applies breed standards. The role of the Society is set out in its constitution, which in turn, is formulated by the members of the society.

Responsibilities:

The responsibilities of the Angus Society include the formulation of policies focusing on the purity and identity of the breed, recording- and breeding practices, membership, breed improvement, breed promotion and the management of the Society.

It is our aim to implement these policies in such a way that the Angus breed not only retains its identity, but that progress is made and breeders realize the maximum advantages from involvement and associating with the Angus breed.

Data submitted by the breeders must meet the requirements of the Angus Society's constitution and by-laws. The Society and SA Stud book (as registering authority) are responsible for the necessary systems and procedures to be in place enabling breeders to record their data according to these set requirements and standards.

Our Goals:

- Our goal is to establish and maintain breed identity and uniqueness. Also, to identify the purpose of the breed and to determine the role of the breed in the broad agricultural and economic community.
- We aim to improve the Angus breed while retaining its unique traits.
- To formulate breed standards and to ensure its disciplined implementation.
- To establish a breeding policy based on the knowledgeable marketing and the needs of the industry.
- We aim to promote our breed.
- Included in our goals is cost effective management – to manage the finances of the Society responsibly, to form a council that represent the members and to handle office administration.



Linette Cloete

What services do we provide?

Some of the main services is to focus on the optimization of an ongoing user-friendly delivery of services to all breeders, stud and commercial.

Services include inspections, performance measurements, sharing of best practices and promoting awareness of the Angus breed.

The SA Angus Society is responsible for the conservation and development of the Angus breed and the people involved with our breed through their common interest and enthusiasm.



10 000 registered calves later we are still at it.
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Our Breed Advisor

It's truly uplifting to hear about the positive strides and resilience within the Angus breeding community, especially in the face of challenges at the end of 2022 and the slow start in 2023. The collaborative efforts among breeders to promote the Angus breed and utilize various marketing platforms are key to ensuring continued success, and it's wise to carry this momentum into 2024. Strengthening the marketing network is undoubtedly a valuable strategy that can yield more positive results.

Despite weaner prices being under pressure in 2023, the ability to achieve above-average prices for Bulls and Females at sales held under the auspices of the Angus Society is a testament to the quality and reputation of the Angus breed. Setting new South African Record Prices for both black and red bulls further underscore the breed's significance in the market.

The recognition that Angus is one of the biggest breeds globally speaks to the breed's global appeal and success. The positive turn in weather conditions, marked by good rains at the end of 2023 and the beginning of 2024, is excellent news for the cattle industry and sets the stage for significant growth in the Agricultural sector this year.

Your commitment to attracting the youth to the Angus breed is crucial for ensuring the breed's future success. Engaging and involving the younger generation ensures continuity and innovation within the Angus community.

Providing better support and service to the Commercial market is a wise strategy. Recognizing the importance of



Danie Dames

Commercial farmers as the backbone of the cattle industry and aiming to grow market share among them is a positive step towards fostering a strong and sustainable future for the Angus breed.

Wishing you and the entire Angus breeding community continued success in 2024, and may your efforts in attracting the youth and supporting the Commercial market contribute to the ongoing prosperity of the Angus breed in South Africa.



Photo supplied by Wilru Campher



Guldenvrug Angus Stud Farm and deboning plant is located in the picturesque area of Bashewa outside Pretoria and is a Steyn family business.

We strive to seek and breed the best bloodlines available and have cultivated a herd of prized Angus cattle known for their superior genetics and outstanding meat quality.



Our Angus herd is our focus - receiving individualized attention, ensuring optimal health, growth, and overall well-being.

Our dedication to excellence and a legacy of superior Angus genetics forms the foundation of our future, leveraging the wonderful Angus brand that has international brand recognition. The GV team's commitment to quality extends beyond breeding but also to the processing of our Angus beef products.

Guldenvrug Produce, our deboning and Dry Aging plant, specializes in premium dry aged Angus meat products - which enhances flavour and tenderness.

Our premium beef is sought after by discerning connoisseurs and chefs around the country.

Whether you're a passionate beef enthusiast, a farmer seeking top-notch breeding stock, or simply someone who appreciates fine dining, Guldenvrug Angus Stud Farm is a destination worth exploring.

Nico and Natasha Steyn

Making sense out of foreign BLUP breeding values

Japie van der Westhuizen, Helena Theron & Bobbie van der Westhuizen.



Basic principles that must be understood first.

As the name implies, a “breeding value” refers to an animal's value as a parent of the next generation. At best, all breeding values are predictions, irrespective of the methodology used, including visual assessment (nearly as old as the mountains) where the physical appearance of the animal serves as a prediction of what is expected of the performance of its progeny. Phenotypic measurements, especially body weight was the next step. Simple recordings, as in the case of other subjective assessments (eg. weaning weight, calving interval, etc.) without context, serve some purpose but go very poor in predicting genetic merit between possible selection candidates. The main reasons for these major shortcomings are that no real base of comparison are being used to distinguish between environmental influences on the performance (or any other non-genetic effect) differences among animals. Many a time, some livestock breeders will use absolute or corrected performance values to select, sell and even brag about the genetic merit of potential breeding animals. To this day some sellers will publish actual weaning and other live weights (mostly corrected for age and cow age) and values such as calving interval and others, although much more accurate genetic merit predictions are available. By comparing animals within better defined contemporary groups (also known as “indices”), merit predictions become somewhat more accurate. These values, however, still do not take the very important aspects of family inheritance (relationships), proportional transmitting of superior performance (heritability) to the progeny of selection candidates and the co-inheritance of different traits (genetic correlation) included (and not even considered) in selection into account. Since these “indices” are not subjected to any changes over time, the poor performance of progeny in the same, and especially other herd and production years, a false sense of genetic merit exists. This “stability” is, to this day, one of the biggest stumbling blocks in accepting BLUP breeding values, where the relative performance of progeny (and especially grand progeny from daughters of bulls) exposes poor breeders.

BLUP (Best Linear Unbiased Prediction of) breeding values address many of the shortcomings of the other methods of prediction genetic merit as it takes between and within family genetic differences among animals into account (due to the

inclusion of pedigree information and differences of performance within contemporary groups), what proportion of recorded differences among competing animals is caused by transferable genetic differences (heritability) and what the correlated responses (genetic correlations) for other traits are. As differences within and among families are considered, BLUP breeding values forms a constant system of re-evaluation where related animals and animals compared with other contemporaries refresh the predictions of all the other animals in the population (breed), living and dead. This is a very important property as progeny performance of breeding animals constantly refresh the true genetic merit of their parents (and others in their pedigree).

There is, however a very important condition for accurate BLUP breeding values, namely connectedness among contemporary groups (that is the common environmental effects where animals must compete to be able to measure possible genetic differences in performance). Practically this means related animals must be compared over farms, years, and season groups. Before the advent of the inclusion of additional genomic information, the methodology of choice has been multiple trait animal model BLUP. Without going into the detail of the progression of using genomic information in increasing the accuracy of BLUP breeding values, the latest methodology, namely the “Single Step” gBLUP genetic merit predictions make use of the true genetic relationships among all the animals where genomic information is available for inclusion in the predictions. Not only is the randomness in the separation and recombination of parts of chromosomes with the related genes being addressed, but also the actual, or true, relatedness among the genotyped animals, those with proven genetic merit, and young selection candidates.

Foreign and local breeding values – different bases of comparisons.

The principles of prediction of genetic merit have been explained. This should be the basis for all arguments related to all animals' genetic merit for all traits considered to be selected and therefore included in selection objectives and breeding goals.

Consider the following scenario's related to two different cattle populations in the following table:

Scenario	Explanation	Example	Consequence
1. Two different populations without any genetic relationships between them	Each has an own recording and genetic merit prediction system, separate from the other	Two different distinct breeds	Genetic merit is valid in own breed only
2. As above but genetic merit of each of the populations are done separately and not compared or adjusted for the genetic merit or levels of the other.	Each has an own recording and genetic merit prediction system, separate from the other	Same breed but in different countries, breeders from the second country buys semen of bulls from the first.	Although there are genetic ties between the countries, genetic merit is valid in own country only
3. As above but where there is collaboration resulting in either joint genetic merit predictions or adjustments are used to account for genetic merit differences in the two populations	Each has an own recording and genetic merit prediction system, separate from the other, but the importing country can compare the genetic merit of the animals bred in the first country with those locally bred	International systems, such as Interbull (using MACE) and Interbeef (global animal model BLUP)	Foreign animals can be selected with lower risk as their breeding values can be locally compared

From these different examples, the following should be clear:

- Even where common pedigrees exist, the genetic merit of an animal from a different breed or country cannot be compared with local animals' genetic merit), due to differences in genetic levels, methodologies and, importantly the local expression of genes between the two populations.
- The genetic merit of an animal that is, for example, bred and evaluated in the USA can therefore not directly be compared to an animal from the same breed in South Africa, unless additional methodologies are used to make it possible.

The most common mistakes made are where the genetic base year, or the percentile genetic level of individual animals are not considered when local animals' genetic merits are compared to foreign animals. Similarly, the foreign selection index (selection value) is definitely not a reflection of the local breeding objectives, due to differences in cost and payment structures and production systems.

Current options for solutions

In the absence of joint evaluations (where the pedigree as well as recorded measurements are pooled in one joint BLUP run), alternatives must be considered to compare the genetic merit of foreign selection candidates with that of local cattle. The different methods considered (and applied by genetic evaluation units) by scientists are:

- Using each country's local BLUP breeding values, and the genetic correlations between the different traits of all the participating countries to develop equations to predict genetic merit for each trait and country combination. This is mainly applied for dairy cattle by Interbull, based on the methodology developed by University of Guelph, and is called MACE (Multiple Across Country Genetic Evaluations). This is a good second price where countries are reluctant to share primary data but submit breeding values to determine the genetic correlation and develop comparison equations among countries. There is no such system for beef cattle or any livestock available, except for dairy cattle. SA Stud Book participates in MACE for three dairy breeds.
- The development of a specific regression equation for each trait based on the comparison of jointly used sires' progeny genetic merit in the different countries. These equations are then used to predict the genetic merit for

animals considered for selection candidates by the importing country. The development of these equations is however dependant on many commonly used sires, and preferably only those with many progenies in both countries. This method was tried for Angus by Stud Book, with the assistance of Professor Dorian Garrick, but failed as not enough suitable sires and progeny were available to develop reliable equations.

- Using the genetic merit (BLUP or gBLUP EBV/EPD) for each trait relative to the rest of the population where predictions took place and adapt these values to the levels of the country considering imports. The obvious way is to use both countries' percentile tables. Once semen (or embryos or live animals) is imported those parents retain their adapted breeding values until their prediction in the importing country reaches a pre-determined accuracy, whereafter it gradually gets blended into the local (importing country) genetic merit (BLUP) predictions. Where mid parent values play a role in genetic merit predictions, the adapted (or blended) breeding value predictions are used. The gradual increase in the prediction accuracy is due to progeny being born, recorded, and included in the local genetic merit predictions.

This method is currently employed for SA Angus by SA Stud Book. In practice this means that the percentile value of each sire in its country of origin is looked up, for every trait, and used to place it in a similar position (ranking) locally. These values initially contribute towards the mid-parent values for newly born progeny until they compete within their own contemporary groups, whereafter values are gradually blended.

This adaptation for birth direct, wean direct, wean maternal, yearling weight, eye muscle area, subcutaneous fat, and marbling for bulls of imported semen and their progeny are as follows:

- For the imported sire (semen) = use the country of origin's percentile and fix it on the South African equivalent value.
- Where five or more progenies are measured (recorded), blending takes place proportionally using the South African calculated breeding value and the percentile adapted value, based on the country of origin. The relative contribution is based on the accuracy of the South African breeding value.
- Once an accuracy of 70% for the South African breeding value is achieved, no more blending takes place, and the local breeding value is official.
- The breeding values of the progeny of imported bulls are also adjusted by adjusting the parent average (half the bull's adjusted breeding value and half the breeding value of the dam) while the accuracy is less than 50%. Hereafter the parent average is blended up to an accuracy of 65%, whereafter the South African breeding value is official.

This method is obviously still flawed and is not a totally satisfactory solution but is currently the only viable option for imported Angus genetics. The only satisfactory solution will be the inclusion of foreign genomic profiles together with

local genomic profiles in the SA Angus BLUP evaluation, therefore the use of GEBVs instead of EBVs.

The ultimate solution is obvious but needs investment.

With the initial developments to use genomic information, based on the bead SNP chip, accounting for some chosen markers on the whole genome, the focus was on finding the relationships between SNP markers and fractional contributions towards additive genetic differences for economically important traits. From the onset the intention was to combine these DGVs (Direct Genomic Values) with mid parent (BLUP) values for reliable genetic merit prediction (called GEBVs). Although many AI companies and others market animals on DGVs from the countries' of origin, it still has the major flaw, namely not accounting for genetic differences between the exporting and importing populations.

The solution is the use of the latest genomic technology, namely the, so called, "Single Step" where genomic information is directly included in BLUP evaluations. Practically this means the adding of the genomic information of the foreign animals in the local genomic BLUP evaluations. This much more accurate solution links the genome of imported semen with local animals' BLUP breeding values through common parts of their genomes. This is especially of value where local herd sires (and influential cows) are included in the local genomic reference population. Practically this means that when the genotype of any foreign sire considered in semen imports is included in the local gBLUP evaluation he will receive local breeding values. This methodology is already in use by other beef and dairy breeds in South Africa taking part in gBLUP.

The importance of establishing a proper reference population prior to the development of genomic breeding values for a breed is well documented. Using this solution necessitates the urgency for action by South African Angus breeders.



Photo credit: Anton Vermaak

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Roechama Elevation RCM 1988 is gedurende 2023 as interrasswenner aangewys van Herzogville Skou, Vryburg Skou, Bloemskou, Nampo en die Royal Show.

Roechama Honey Comb RCM 20153 is die algehele wenner van die 2023 Vleissentraal – SA Stamboek Elite Bulgroeitoetsklas wat plaasgevind het op 1 Mei 2023 te Bloemskou.

Veels geluk Roechama!



RC en Gert Malherbe van Roechama, Hertzogville.

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MOLATEK

Diere en dekgewasse

Johan Mouton (Johan.Mouton@RCLFOODS.com, 083 278 7746, Molatek)

Dekgewasse neem toe in gewildheid en die benutting daarvan met vee kom meer algemeen voor. Noodwendig kom die vraag welke aanvulling vir vee onder hierdie toestande gegee moet word na vore. Die antwoord oor die tipe aanvulling begin by die HOEKOM vraag. Hoekom is die dekgewas in die eerste plek geplant, hoekom sit ek vee daarop. Wil die weiding net benut word omdat dit daar is weens kontantgewas redes? Is dit deel van die voervloei of maak dit deel uit van 'n waarde toevoegings aksie?

Daar is dus heelwat veranderlikes met die kompliserende faktor of dit 'n somer / winter dekgewas is. Ten einde 'n paar beginsels neer te sit binne die konteks van die artikel word 2 scenario's uit 'n voedingsoogpunt beskryf. Eerstens aanvulling op hoë kwaliteit weiding wat tipies die groenvoer / sorghum tipe mengsels is wat gedurende die somer of laat herfs benut word of tweedens dekgewasse wat doodgespuit is en as winter ruvoer benut word. Hoewel daar 'n verskeidenheid gewasse gebruik word wat elk unieke eienskappe het is daar bestuursmaatreëls wat deurgaans geld.

Interaksie tussen weidruk & diereprestasie

Die beginsel van hoë weidruk vir hoë kwaliteit weiding is dat individuele diereprestasie laer is maar meer kilogram vleis per hektaar produseer word – 'n goeie praktyk waar die waarde toegevoeg word bv. “Backgrounding”. 'n Swak praktyk met lakterende reprodukerende diere vir verskeie redes maar die netto ekonomie som is swakker as meer konserwatiewe ladings met minder hantering van diere. Terug na die HOEKOM vraag, moet al die materiaal verwyder word of moet daar 'n gedeelte gelaat word vir agnomiese redes.

Die gebruik van 'n verskuifbare elektriese heining is 'n handige gereedskapstuk om die doelwit te bereik. Ideale benutting word verkry deur 2 heinings, een voor en een agter die kudde om onnodige vertrapping te vermy en altyd vars kos beskikbaar te stel. Die aansny van vars kos elke 3-4 dae is voldoende uit 'n praktiese oogpunt. Sny ook nuwe kos aan as die huidige ongeveer 50 – 60% benut is om 'n konstant geleidelike dieet daar te stel.

Wat moet aangevul word?

Jong weidings het die gevaar dat die voginhoud so hoog is (>80%) dat die totale droë materiaal inname van die diere laag is ten spyte daarvan dat hulle vol vreet. Die praktyk om weidings bietjie meer volwasse te benut met gepaardgaande hooi spreek die probleem grootliks aan.

Die kwaliteit van die tipe weidings is gewoonlik goed. Indien na die waarde toevoegings opsies gekyk word is die aanvulling 'n Energie / Proteïen kombinasie met die klem om 'n energiewaarde van meer as 10 MJ metaboliseerbare energie per kilogram (> 65%TVV @ 12% vog). Aangesien die weidings normaal hoog in proteïen is kan laer proteïenwaardes aangevul word (<20%) maar moet hoofsaaklik van natuurlike proteïen afkomstig wees weens die feit dat die weidings hoog in vry stikstof is.

Indien weiding van goeie kwaliteit is sal aanvullingspeile van 0.5% van liggaamsmassa voldoende wees en kan toeneem tot 1%. Aanvulling van meer as 1% op goeie kwaliteit weiding se ekonomiese voordeel word sterk bevraagteken met uitgroei van die. Vir afronding kan hoër peile gebruik word.

Hierdie tipe aanvullings is normaalweg smaaklik en moet nie met soutinname beperk word nie. Voorsien genoeg vreetspasie en voer daagliks die regte hoeveelheid op dieselfde tyd. Diere kan skoonvreet en gaan wei.

Vir droë diere wat bloot die kos moet benut sal fosfaataanvulling voldoende wees. Die opsie waar die droë materiaal van dekgewasse wat doodgespuit is benut word sal meer na 'n proteïen tipe onderhoudslek neig. Indien waarde toegevoeg wil word sal 'n energie komponent bygebring moet word. Eerste prys op die doodgespuite wydings is onderhoud van droë diere met proteïenaanvulling. Hier kan meer tradisionele aanvullingspraktyke gevolg word waar inname beheer word en bakke volgehou word.

Wat is die uitdagings wat kan voorkom

- Skuim opblaas kan voorkom weens die inherente aard van die weiding. Daar is voerbyvoegsels wat dit kan beperk maar soos die geval met meeste ander voedingsteurnisse is voorkoming beter as genesing (in die geval van opblaas meestal vrektes). Pas diere geleidelik aan oor 'n sewe dae periode deur die eerste dag net 30 minute soggens en saans op die weiding te plaas, verleng elke dag tot ad lib wei op dag 7. Moet nooit honger diere op die weiding plaas nie. Diere moet altyd toegang hê tot goeie kwaliteit ruvoer wat ad lib beskikbaar is.
- Blousuur vergiftiging is 'n wesenlike uitdaging. Die primêre drywer is plante wat onder stres verkeer bv. beperkende vog (verlep) of koue (ryp). Groot verskille kom voor tussen spesies t.o.v. blousuur sowel as 'n kombinasie van omgewingsfaktore wat dit kan beïnvloed. Swael in die lek kan van hulp wees maar enigste werklike

raad is voorkoming en moenie weiding benut waar die probleem vermoed word nie. Daar is ook medikamente wat in die water geplaas kan word om blousuur te help beheer. Dit moet streng volgens voorskrif toegedien word.

- Maagwerk kan voorkom veral gedurende die aanpassingsperiode. Plaas swak kwaliteit ruvoer bv. mieliereste uit. Inname sal laag (en moet) wees maar sal die maagwerk onderdruk. Die maagwerk moet nie verwar word met mis wat in elk geval los en groenkleurig van aard is op die tipe weiding nie. Voerkalk by die aanvulling sal geen effek op die maagwerk hê nie.
- Gepaardgaande met die maagwerk kan Vitamien B tekorte voorkom weens die feit dat onvolledige sintese plaasvind as gevolg van die vinnige rumen deurvloeitempo. Dit word gekenmerk deur tipiese senuwee simptome. Vitamien B kan aangevul word (inspuitbaar) en swak kwaliteit ruvoer voorsien word om die rumen deurvloeitempo te beperk.
- Magnesium tekorte is 'n waarskynlikheid wat kan opduik weens die inherente eienskappe van die weiding en aanvullings wat 'n geïnduseerde tekort laat ontstaan. Simptome is soortgelyk aan diere met melkkoors gekenmerk deur lamheid. Magnesium oplossings kan binnebaars toegedien word maar moet betyds gedoen word aangesien diere sal vrek indien verby 'n kritiese

omslagpunt beweeg word. Die beste behandeling is voorkoming en indien probleme verwag word kan 1% magnesiumsulfaat (Engelse sout) of magnesiumoksied by die lek gevoeg word.

- In baie nat seisoene kan vrotpootjie 'n probleem wees weens hoewe wat sag bly. 'n Invoeging van 1 % sinksulfaat/oksied in die lek kan die probleem help voorkom. Gepaard hiermee is die voorkomende ent vir longverwante siektes noodsaaklik. Parasietbeheer spreek vanself.
- Indien graad 2 & 3 mielies gebruik word in aanvulling moet mikotoksiene vergiftiging nie uit die oog gelaat word nie. Dit word gekenmerk deur tipiese senuwee simptome. Voorkomend kan toksien binders ingemeng word in die aanvulling.

Die aard van dekgewasse in die algemeen is dat dit hoë kwaliteit weidings is wat relatief eenvoudige aanvulling vereis wat op 'n daaglikse basis bestuur moet word. Hoewel 'n paar potensiele uitdagings genoem is, is die weidings oor die algemeen veilig en kan suksesvol met goeie bestuur benut word.

Krediet: Landbou Vee, Uitgawe 10 2023



Foto verskaf deur Bodeel Boerdery

We herd sheep, we drive cattle, we lead people.
Lead me, follow me, or get out of my way.

- George S. Patton -



Photo credit: Andrew Masterson

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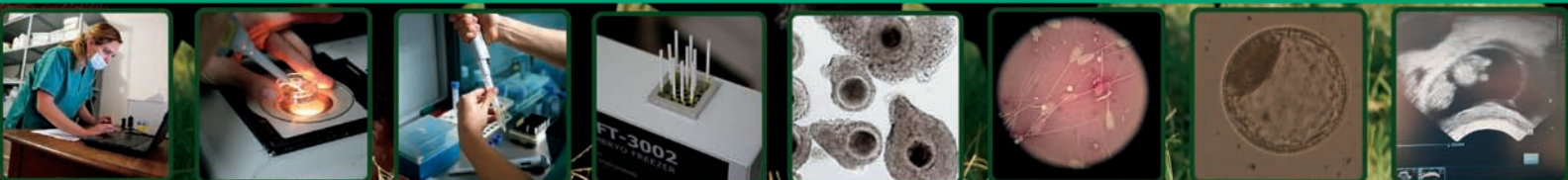
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To Use or Not to Use a Carrier?

By Lindsay Upperman, Ph.D., Director of Breed Improvement - Red Angus (Red Angus Magazine May/June 2023)

Genetic defects have become an important factor in buying and mating decisions within the beef industry. With various defects within and across breeds of cattle, there may be multiple defects to consider. For a producer, this may make breeding season more complicated, and that's without the traditional decisions to make based on EPDs, indexes and ultimately your operation's marketing goal. Let's see if these decisions can be broken down into an easier process!

The first thing to know about genetic defects is that they occur within all species, even humans. So why have producers only really started factoring them into their breeding decisions within the last 10 years or so? Well, most genetic defects are known as simple recessives. Essentially, this means that the animal needs to inherit both recessive copies from their parents in order to cause the defect. Also, this tends to mean that the defect will stay hidden for multiple generations until a mating with inbreeding happens.

Another way of thinking is relevant to how this breed was founded. The black/red color gene has a recessive component as well: the red allele. Remember, an allele is one of two versions of DNA at a given location. An animal inherits one allele from each parent. Thus, in order to have "Red" Angus, the cattle have two copies of the red color allele to be visually red.

In the figure, there is a mating depicted between a black-carrier sire and a black carrier dam, which shows the probability of their offspring having a particular genotype. Each box represents 25% of the offspring or one out of four boxes. Remember, a carrier is an animal that "carries" one copy of the recessive allele and one copy of the dominant allele. In this case, the dominant allele is the black color and the recessive is the red color.

In this figure, 25% of the time their offspring have both copies of the black allele (BB), 50% of the time their offspring will have one copy of the black allele and one copy of the red allele (Bb), also known as a carrier, and finally, 25% of the time their offspring will have both copies of the red allele (bb). If a producer were to visually see these genotype possibilities, 75% of the time the offspring would visually be black animals (BB, Bb and Bb) and 25% of the time the offspring would be visually red (bb).

Essentially, this is the same inheritance pattern as recessive genetic defects. Ultimately, if two carriers of the same genetic defect are mated, there is a 25% chance the offspring will have

the disorder and a 50% chance the offspring is a carrier of the genetic defect. Thus, the best way to proceed with potential matings in your herd is to have the knowledge of which animals are free or carriers of the genetic defect.

Currently there are 13 genetic defects that occur within Red Angus cattle, with the main defects being: Arthrogryposis Multiplex (AM), Contractural Arachnodactyly (CA), Developmental Duplication (DD), Alpha-Mammosidosis (MA), Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH) and Osteopetrosis (OS). These defects can all be tested.

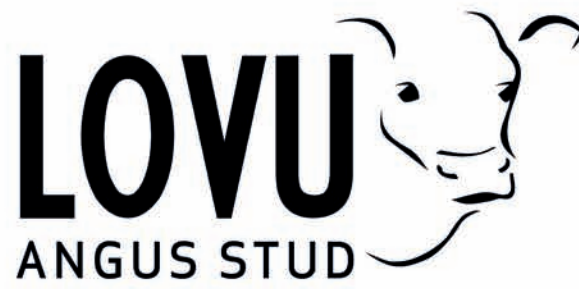
Can I Use a Carrier Bull or Female?

So far, what a genetic defect is and how they are inherited has been discussed, but is it acceptable to use carriers within your mating decisions? There are a few questions to consider, for instance is the carrier animal being mated to another carrier animal? Try to avoid mating two carriers together, as this is the only mating that will result in the 25% chance of a calf exhibiting the genetic defect.

However, if the cow herd is free of the genetic defect, but the bull is a carrier, then there will be 0% of any offspring exhibiting the genetic defect. Yet, this mating will lead to around 50% of offspring being carriers, which may result in more complicated decisions down the road. In the end, if using carriers in a breeding program, making sure to test those animals are potential carriers is the safest bet and allows for the best mating decisions to be made.

		Black Sire	
		B	b
Black Dam	B	BB	Bb
	b	Bb	bb

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ROECHAMA Honey Comb (RCM20-153) 'n rooi Angusbul van RC Malherbe en Vennote van Hertzogville is aangewys as die algehele wenner.

Om in aanmerking te kom om aan hierdie prestige bulgroeitoetsklas deel te neem, word stoetbulle aan 'n Fase C-groeitoets of 'n Fase D-groeitoets onderwerp. Met die afhandeling van die groeitoets word bulle geïdentifiseer wat kwalifiseer vir deelname aan hierdie interras groeitoetsklas.

Behalwe vir uitstekende syfers, moet bulle ook fenotopies, volgens die betrokke ras se standaarde, korrek wees. Menere

Martin Seyfferdt, Christopher Havenga en Marius Barkhuizen was die interras beoedelaars op die dag.

ROECHAMA Honey Comb het die rooi Angusras verteenwoordig, terwyl JOYCE'S Napoleon van Seymour Currie van Melkbosstrand die swart Angusras in 2023 verteenwoordig het.

In 2019 was die rooi Angusbul ZEC17-010 van Dr Enslin Coetzee van ZEC Angus op Bothaville as wenner aangewys.



ROECHAMA Honey Comb, Kobus Thlakudi, Gert Malherbe, Martin Seyfferdt, Surè Malherbe, RC Malherbe, Gerhardt Malherbe en Lesley Malherbe.

ROECHAMA Honey Comb –
algehele wenner van die 2023
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waarom hy met die loue weggestap het!



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Die Angus-verteenwoordiging: RC Malherbe van ROECHAMA
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The importance of Contemporary Groups in Breeding Value Estimation

Dr Helena Theron,



If a group of comparable animals were exposed to the same environment, differences between them are caused by genetics.

The principle of contemporary groups is used in breeding value estimation to indicate whether differences in performance can be attributed to environmental or genetic effects. The contemporary group is a group of similar or comparable animals that were exposed to the same environment, and the correct composition thereof is one of the cornerstones of BLUP breeding value estimation. Should animals exposed to different environments be evaluated in the same contemporary group, the animals in the better environment will tend to have a better performance and therefore higher breeding values, as environmental effects will be attributed to genetics. It is therefore important to identify animals that were exposed to the same environment, or alternatively, place animals in a different group if their performance were differently affected by the environment than their group mates. This is however not as complicated as it sounds, especially if the breeder keeps the following principles in mind:

1. Place animals that were at the same time, place and treatment in the same group

A contemporary group is a comparable group of animals measured at the same time in the same environment, for example a group of weaner calves of the same age (born between 100 days of each other), weighed on the same date on the same farm. It is therefore a comparable group of animals that were together on the same farm or camp in the same year and season. If there are some animals in the group that were treated differently, they should be given a separate treatment code because their performance is influenced by other environmental influences than the rest of the group. Examples of possible different treatments are when some animals received supplements or creep feed, sale or show

animals, embryo donors, sick or foster calves or even cows and calves purchased from another farm. Corrections for sex, age of calf and age of dam are automatically made during breeding value estimation, as this information is available from performance recording, and therefore need not be taken into account by the breeder.

2. Animals should be the progeny of at least two sires, of which one is a link sire

The progeny of different sires needs to be compared in the same group in order to determine the sires' genetic merit relative to each other. At least one sire should be a link sire with progeny in another herd. Genetic links between herds are used to determine the ranking of sires in the breed and therefore AI sires are good link sires. Smaller herds that only use one bull could artificially inseminate some cows or allow some cows to be covered by another herd's bull, to improve linkages to other herds.

3. Larger groups stabilise Breeding Values

Larger groups result in more accurate and stable breeding values, as the mean and distribution of the group can be more accurately determined and are thus more representative. Weigh all the animals in the same group on the same day, as corrections for age differences are made during genetic evaluation. The use of breeding seasons rather than through the year calving will also increase contemporary group size, simply because more calves are born closer together.

One of the important cornerstones of breeding value estimation is performance relative to contemporary group average. Groups with only one or two animals are therefore

not included in breeding value estimation, as one animal in a group will always be average, and with two animals, one will be above and the other below average. These small groups do not make a contribution and are therefore not included. Although contemporary groups should preferably have at least 5 animals and be the progeny of more than one sire, larger groups are better. Larger groups are more resilient for accidental mistakes.

4. Measure all animals in the contemporary group

It is also important to weigh all animals in the contemporary group, especially the genetically poor performers that are culled. Weighing poorly performing animals before they are culled, will penalize their parents for their poor breeding ability and will be a more accurate reflection of real genetic

ability. It will also accurately indicate the higher-than-average performance of the rest of the group. Genetic merit of all animals in the group and their parents are then accurately reflected in their breeding values.

Conclusion

Placing animals in contemporary groups should not be a complicated process. Place animals differently affected by the environment for some reason in another group. It is an essential tool to level the playing field so that environmental effects are not confused with genetic effects.

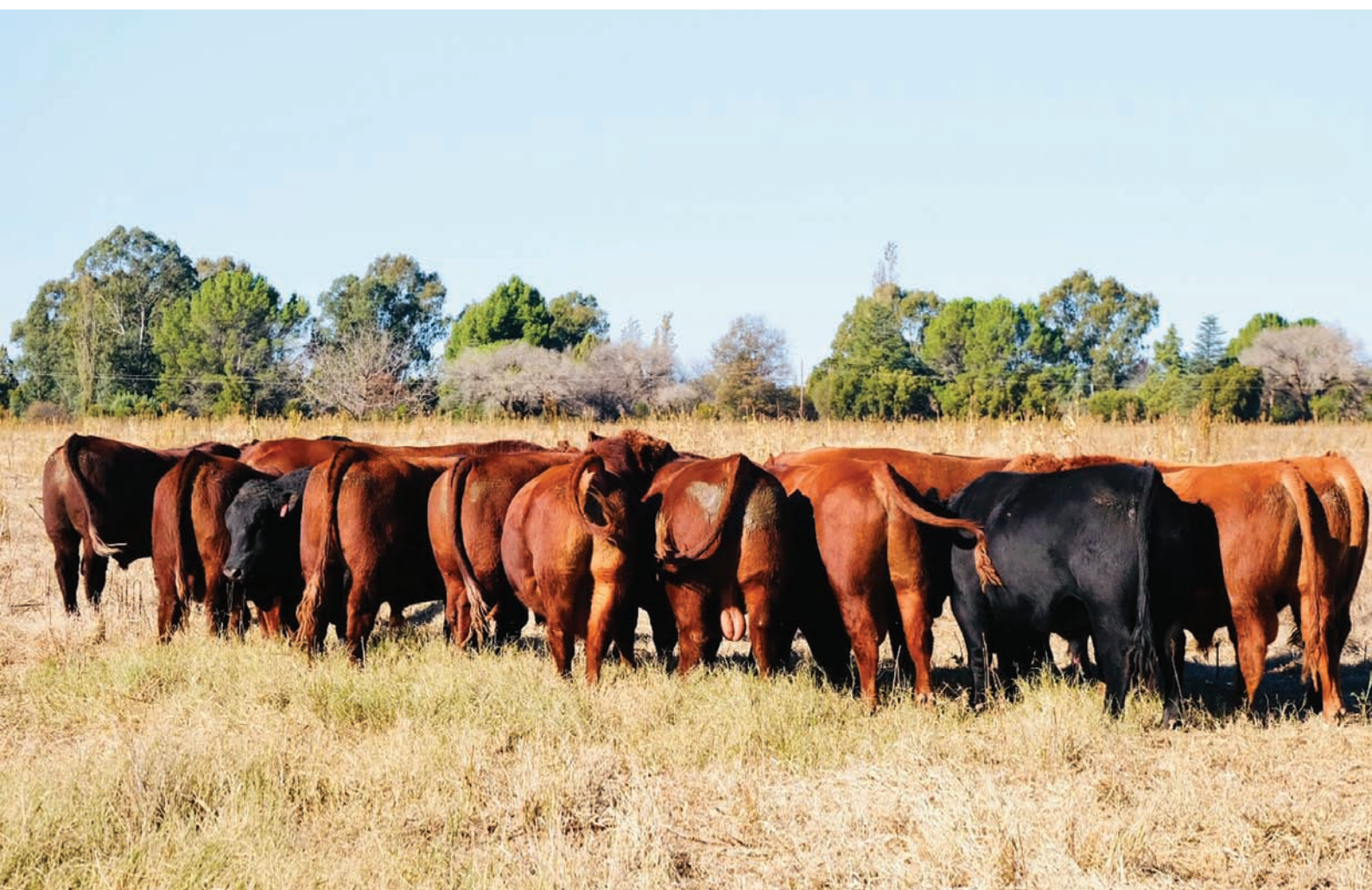


Photo credit: Bodeel Boerdery

The Replacements



By Tom Field, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Creating a job description to describe the replacement heifers we seek for our ranch would include expectations such as demonstrating productivity for a decade or more; coming to work with a cooperative attitude; having needs aligned with the resource and environment of our enterprise; a strong commitment to nurturing and growing offspring; and a respect for infrastructure, cowboys and fences.

We have high expectations and willingly invest resources in the selection and development process of replacement heifers because of the remarkable effects on the success of our cow herd.

Given the long bovine biological cycle, the heifers selection process carries the inherent requirement for patience, as the results of our efforts won't be realized in the short term. Considering when the initial sort is made at weaning, very little is known about the effectiveness of our choices until a year has passed and the full extent of selection decisions is played out over an even longer time period. If increase longevity is a goal, the results play out over a decade or longer – hardly a game for those seeking instant gratification.

Identifying and developing the next generation of talent for the cow herd is critical. If our purpose is successful, each subsequent new crop is at least as good as or better than the mature cows they replace. We rightly pour time and attention into finding the replacements for the cow herd. Still, what about the process of finding and developing the next generation of human talent?

Identifying the next leader

As managers and owners, how much effort do we put into the process of replacing ourselves? My perception is most ranchers are a lot more comfortable with developing a strong succession plan for the cow herd than they are in addressing the process of selecting and preparing the next generation of humans who will lead their organization.

In a recent workshop with board chairman of local cooperatives, we generated a list of questions existing leadership should be asking about the future. At the top of the list – “Are we effectively identifying and developing the next generation of leaders at all levels of our organization?” In the resulting discussion, it became clear that this was a subject

with recognized importance but not supported by intentional and sustained actions in most cases.

Leadership development is the most future-focused activity we can undertake. Regardless of the size and scope of an organization, the deliberate growth of current leaders as well as the development of their eventual replacements will determine success. An actionable model (Fig. 1) to develop into a higher-performing leader include four focal points – continues learning, accepting coaching, developing relationships and nurturing the next generation of leaders.

Figure 1:
Leadership Growth and Development



Developing into an exceptional leader requires an intentional commitment to ongoing learning. This helps to develop skills for what the business needs today, but also to prepare for the future needs of the organization. The growth mindset leaders also seek coaching and has the courage and humility to gain a deeper understanding of what they do well and what areas need improvement and change. Leaders cannot function effectively with a silo mindset. Thus, it is essential to develop a network that connects us to the community beyond our specific enterprise as a means to find talent, perspective and alternative solutions.

Finally, the greatest legacy we create is not the business we build, but rather the people we mentor into authentic leaders poised to take our enterprises to new heights. The next generation of replacement heifers will affect the cow herd for a decade; the next generation of leadership will affect our enterprises for a lifetime. Are your replacements ready?

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Kuddevrugbaargheid

Johan Mouton. Molatek Tegnies

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Die bewering is dat beeste al 10 000 jaar terug domestikeer is met miljoene oor die wêreld versprei. Met hierdie syfers ingedagte sal dit nie onredelik wees om te verwag dat die mens dit al vervolmaak het om alles reg te doen nie. Nieteenstaande kom die vraag na verhoogde vrugbaarheid altyd na vore en met goeie reg aangesien dit 'n direkte ekonomiese impak het. Werklik verstommende tegnologie bestaan vandag rondom veeproduksie, teling ens. Met die gebruikmaak van die tegnologie gebeur dit soms dat van die basiese beginsels van goeie kuddebestuur effens vervaag met die klem wat val op die tegnologie. Vervolgens 'n paar eenvoudige beginsels wat kuddevrugbaarheid beïnvloed.

Hulpbron

Die belang van goeie hulpbronbeplanning en bestuur is die eerste stap na suksesvolle reproduksies prestasie. Die kuddevloei en voervloei moet mekaar komplimenteer. Die kudde moet kalwers grootmaak as die hulpbron kwaliteit en kwantiteit voeding aanbied. Soms word die stelling gemaak dat aanvullingskoste die grootste bepalende faktor in winsgewendheid is. Dit kan baie maklik gebeur as die voervloei nie reg uitgewerk is nie en die kudde se basiese produksie afhanklik raak van die vlak van aanvulling. In so 'n geval is diereprestasie gewoonlik goed maar die ekonomie van die onderneming onder druk omdat voeding wat deur die hulpbron voorsien moes word kunsmatig aangevul word.

Versbestuur

Die langtermyn sukses van 'n kudde se totale prestasie word grootliks bepaal deur die verse wat teruggaan in die kudde in. Die seleksieproses moet geskied in ooreenstemming met die hulpbron waarbinne die koei vir die res van haar reproduktiewe lewe gaan deurbring. Die klem moet val op die verse vermoë om 'n lewenskragtige speenkalf te speen nadat vir merkbare prulfoute selekteer is. Dit spreek vanself dat 'n swak speenkalfpersentasie nie die geleentheid bied

omgeneties te vorder nie aangesien alle vroulike diere teruggehou moet ten einde getalle instand te hou.

Oorparing

'n Prakties werkbare tegniek is om verse te oorpaar. Daar word meer verse teruggehou as wat verlang word vir normale kuddevervanging. Die beplanning hier moet reg gedoen word aangesien dit kudde- en uitendelik voervloei beïnvloed. Verse word normaal uitgegroe met die bestaande praktyke van die onderneming en vir 'n verkorte tydperk gedek – 45 dae. Verse word vir dragtigheid getoets, diere wat nie dragtig is nie, behaal goeie slaggraderings op hierdie tydstip. Tydens dragtigheids ondersoek moet gepoog word om te onderskei tussen diere wat in die eerste en tweede siklus beset geraak het. Klem moet geplaas word op diere wat in hul eerste siklus beset geraak het om as vervangingsdiere in die kudde opgeneem te word. Vanselfsprekend word hulle apart bestuur van die res van die kudde tot na hul kalwers gespeen is. Navorsing toon dat verse wat tussen ou koeie kalf se kalwers 'n drie maal hoër kans het om van 'n siekte toestand te vrek. Die verhoogde voeding- en kuddebestuur dien ook as goeie motiveerder vir apart hou van verse.

Verse en Energie

Daar bestaan altyd vrese dat verse op te hoë energie voeding distokia sal ontwikkel. Hierdie vrees is gegrond vir diere wat totaal oorvet is. Tabel 1 toon die onderskeid wat getref moet word tussen goeie kondisie en oorvet. In hierdie studie het diere wat in kondisiepunt 4 – 6 (uit 9) varieer het geen verhoogde distokia getoon nie maar 'n 40 % beter herbesetting vir diere wat 'n 6 kondisiepunt getoon het teenoor 'n 4 telling. Tydens kalf moet verse in 'n goeie kondisie wees en matige energie aanvulling vir diere wat nie in kondisie is nie sal nie probleme gee nie, sowel as herkonsepsie bevoordeel.

Tabel 1. Kondisietelling versus herkonsepsie

	Kondisietelling (0 - 9)		
	4	5	6
Geboortemassa (kg)	338	375	424
Kalf geboortemassa (kg)	29	30	32
Distokia telling	1.2	1.2	1.2
Herbesetting na 60 dae in opvolg dekseisoen	56%	80%	96%



Ons stel bekend ...



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Vergelyking tussen
volvoerstelsel versus
kafeteriastelsel in 'n beesvoerkraal

Ons
In die boek is 'n gids vir die landbouer om die belangrikheid van die volvoerstelsel te verstaan en hulle toe te pas. Hier is 'n gids vir die landbouer om die volvoerstelsel te verstaan en hulle toe te pas.

Voer van kalfers met
hul eie melk
gebreekte melk en hulle eie melk

Vroegpaar

Die vroegpaar van verse is 'n praktyk wat van tyd tot tyd na vore tree. Dit is 'n eenvoudige ekonomiese beginsel deur dat jy kry waarvoor jy betaal. Besluitneming rondom die praktyk moet begin by die hulpbron. Indien te veel eksterne voer(gekoop) ingebring word om diere betyds op dekgewig en gereed vir herkonsepsie te hê flikker die rooi ligte. Verse moet ten minste 60% van hulle volwasse massa wees tydens dekking en 80% tydens kalf (fetus uitgesluit). Hierdie is 'n minimum drempelwaarde en moet verkieslik hoër wees. Om diere op die regte gewig te kry is nie so moeilik nie maar die tydsverloop van die natuur speel ook 'n rol want 'n dier kan op 8 maande 400 kilogram weeg maar het nog nie puberteit bereik nie. Daar is ook 'n verkil tussen puberteit en geslagsgereed om te reproduseer. Min Suid Afrikaanse natuurlike toestande laat hom toe aan die praktyk van vroegparing sonder betekenisvolle aanvulling.

Bulle

Die manlike diere wat die grootste enkel faktor is wat die kudde beïnvloed is dikwels die mees verwaarlooste aspek van die kudde.

Voeding

Bulle word gewoonlik op veilings gekoop waar hulle opgevoer is vir die veiling. Hierdie bul sal probleme ondervind indien net op die veld gelaat word en verg nog steeds goeie sorg. Plaas die bul op 'n goeie rantsoen met hoë energie indien hy op die plaas aankom. Verlaag die graankomponent met 10 % per week en vervang met goeie kwaliteit ruvoer terwyl die bul blootgestel word aan goeie oefening. Bulle moet nog steeds in 'n goeie kondisie

wees as hulle na die koeie gaan aangesien 'n goeie werkende bul tussen 50 – 100 kilogram in massa kan verloor weens sy aktiwiteit en verlaagde voerinname.

Net soos die geval met verse betaan die vrees ook dat te hoë energie voeding bulle se vrugbaarheid benadeel en lei tot ongewenste vetaanpakking in die testis. Weereens is dit 'n geval wat uiterste ekstremes maar bulle wat uitgegroeï is met matige energie aanvulling toon beter testis omvang en saadkwaliteit. Die kondiesietelling van 6 uit 'n totaal van 9 is die ideaal wat nagesteeft moet word.

Vrugbaarheid

Verskille tussen rasse en vroeër- versus laatryp kom voor maar in beginsel moet 'n bul eerder te laat as te vroeg begin geboek word. In 'n studie wat vrugbaarheid i.t.v. saadkwaliteit, beweeglikheid, afwykings ens. uitgedruk het, het 35% van bulle wat goed gevoer was op 12 maande vrugbaarheid getoon teenoor 95 % wat op 18 maande goeie saad getoon het. Goeie oefening en tyd speel 'n rol saam voeding. Bulle op 'n goeie dieet wat genoegsame ruvoer (> 20%), energiewaardes van 73 % TVV en 14 % proteïen toon verbeterde skrotum omvang ontwikkeling en saadkwaliteit as bulle op 'n laer ruvoer hoë energie dieet (82% TVV). Bulle met goeie skrotum omvang (min 35 cm op 18 maande) toon beter konsepsie prestasie as bulle met klein testis omvang. Vroulike diere gebore van bulle met goeie skrotum omvang is geneig om vroeër op hitte te kom. Hierdie bulle se saad neig om meer gesond te wees met verhoogde konsepsie. Dit is die natuur se manier om te toon dat die hormonale werking korrek is.

Suksesvolle enkel bulparings kom voor tot met soveel as 60 vroulike diere per bul. Die meer ideale getal wat goed werk in die bedryf is rondom 30 vroulike diere per bul afhangend van tropgrootte, terrein ouderdom ens. Jonger bulle wat onervare is kan blootgestel word aan 'n kleiner getal ouer koeie sonder die insluiting van 'n ou bul wat dominansie kan veroorsaak en konsepsie verlaag. Die omgekeerde is ook van toepassing op ervare bulle en verse met nog steeds kleiner dekgroepe. Die praktyk van 'n oneweredige getal bulle by meerbulparings kan tesame hiermee gevolg word. 'n Bul kan goeie kwaliteit saad toon maar swak dekbeheersigheid aan die dag lê wat wel getoes kan word met sekere tekortkominge. Een van die beste vrugbaarheids bestuurspraktyke is om daaglik tydens in die kudde te spandeer en te observeer. Bulle se gedragspatrone en vermoë om te dek sal baie vinnig opgetel word.

Nadat al die klem gelê is op testisomvang, voeding ens. moet die bul die vermoë hê om te kan sien, ruik en stap – moet dus nie algemene kuddegesondheid in die steek laat nie.

Geslagsiektes

By die oordra van geslagsiektes speel die bul 'n sentrale rol. Toets bulle met ruim tyd voor die dekseisoen vir geslagsiektes. Van die siektes se toets kan negatief wees en die tweede keer

positief toets. Tradisioneel is 6 weke as voldoende geag ten einde genoeg tyd vir behandeling te gee indien probleme ondervind is. Die toetsing kan eerder nog vroeër gedoen word aangesien 6 weke min tyd laat indien daar bv. ander bulle gekoop moet word wat nog moet aanpas op die plaas. Hoogs suksesvolle kuddes volg die praktyk om bulle weer te toets na die dekseisoen ten einde as vroeë waarskuwing te dien. Probleme word vroeëtydig identifiseer en nie eers tydens dragtigheids ondersoek opgetel nie.

Ekonomie

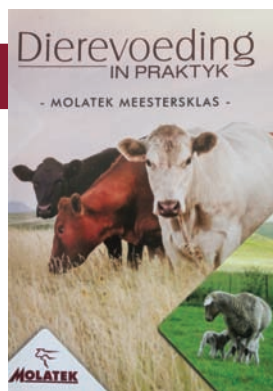
Op ekonomiese gebied is verskillende skaakeurings van grys beskikbaar aangesien daar 'n interaksie tussen produksie en ekonomie bestaan. Dit is wel so dat speenpersentasie of dan verkoopbare produk ekonomie positief beïnvloed maar dat maksimum produksie gelykstaande aan maksimum ekonomie is, is 'n vals opvatting. Die populêre maatstawwe van speenpersentasie, speenmassa ens. gee aanleiding dat produksie “gekoop” word. Elke hulpbron het 'n unieke beste reproduksiesyfer. 'n Honderd persent speenpersentasie sou waarskynlik teoreties haalbaar wees maar verseker nie die beste ekonomie realiseer nie. Die drywer vir beste ekonomie is gesetel in hoeveelheid verkoopbare produk, hetsy die kalf of die droë koei maar 'n item moet vir die vaste koste van die koei vir die jaar betaal. 'n Koei wat wat nie 'n kalf produseer het nie het dus 'n probleem.

Opsom

Suksesvolle reproduksie begin by hulpbronbeplanning. Plaas streng seleksiedruk op verse met oorparingpraktyke sowel as beter voedingtoestande as die res van die kudde. Skot die diere uit wat nie presteer onder die onderneming se bestuurstoestande nie. Gee addisionele sorg aan bulle en moet hulle nie afskeep nie, veral nie bulle wat van 'n veiling af kom nie. Monitor die kudde gereeld vir geslagsiektes en hou 'n vinger op die rekords ten einde die ekonomiese prestasie van insette te kan evalueer.

Verwysings

<http://www.mwbeefcattle.com/herdHealthFertility.aspx>
<http://www.thebeefsite.com/articles/1491/reproductive-fertility-in-herd-bulls>



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BULL BUYING

A Guide by the SA Angus Society

Selecting the right bull for your herd is a critical decision that can have a long-lasting impact on the overall performance and genetic makeup of your cattle. Here are some key considerations to keep in mind when choosing a bull:

Defining your breeding objectives:

Determine the specific goals you want to achieve with your herd. This could include traits like growth rate, milk production, calving ease, temperament, disease resistance, or specific genetic markers.

Understanding your farming style:

Consider the type of farming practice you have - whether it's intensive or extensive. Different styles may require bulls with different traits. For example, pasture-based breeding may require bulls with traits like grazing efficiency and adaptability to local forage conditions.

Evaluating environmental factors:

Take into account your local environment, climate and terrain. Bulls that thrive in certain conditions may not perform as well in others. Consider factors such as temperature extremes, altitude and the availability of forage.

Genetic traits:

Look at the genetic background of potential bulls. Consider their ancestry, performance records and any available genetic testing information. This can provide insights into the bull's potential to pass on desirable traits to the next generation.

Health and conformation:

Ensure that the bull is healthy and free from hereditary diseases. Look at its conformation (body structure) to ensure it aligns with your breeding objectives. A bull with good conformation is more likely to produce offspring with similar traits.



Extensive farming practices require specific traits like the ability to walk and to adapt to extreme temperatures.



Temperament:

A bull with a calm and manageable temperament is essential for the safety of both the animal and the handlers. Consider the disposition of the bull, especially if you or your staff will be working closely with the cattle.

Considering the bull's pedigree:

A bull's pedigree can provide information about its genetic background, including the performance of its ancestors. This information can be valuable in predicting the potential performance of the bull's offspring.

Reproductive soundness:

A thorough reproductive examination by a veterinarian is crucial. Ensure that the bull has good semen quality and the ability to effectively cover females. Fertility is a key factor in the success of your breeding program.

Source of the bull:

Consider purchasing bulls from reputable breeders who focus on breeding practices that align with your objectives. Quality breeders provide detailed information about the bulls they sell.

Long-term vision:

Keep in mind the long-term impact of the bull in your herd. Bulls typically influence the genetics of a herd for several years, so it's important to choose one that aligns with your vision for the future.

Remember, a well-thought-out decision in selecting a bull can contribute significantly to the success and sustainability of your cattle breeding program.

Can You Afford To Make The Wrong Cow?



South Africa

Profit From Genetic Progress



ADVANTAGES OF (A.I.) ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

01

Unassisted calves from first calf heifers

02

Faster, more efficient growth rates

03

High value carcasses

04

Shorter calving seasons

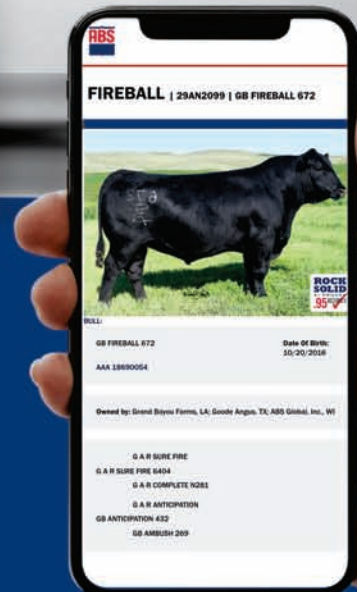
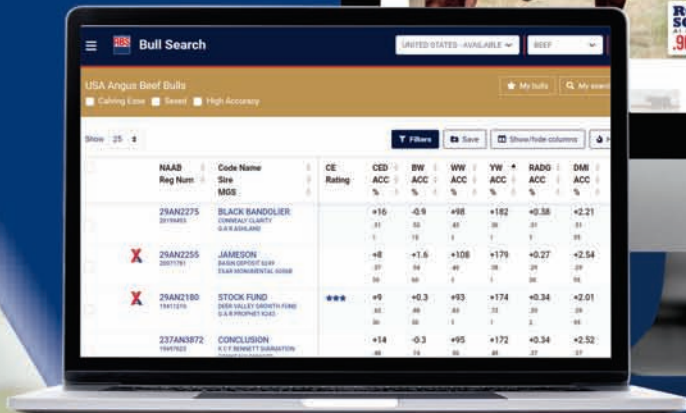
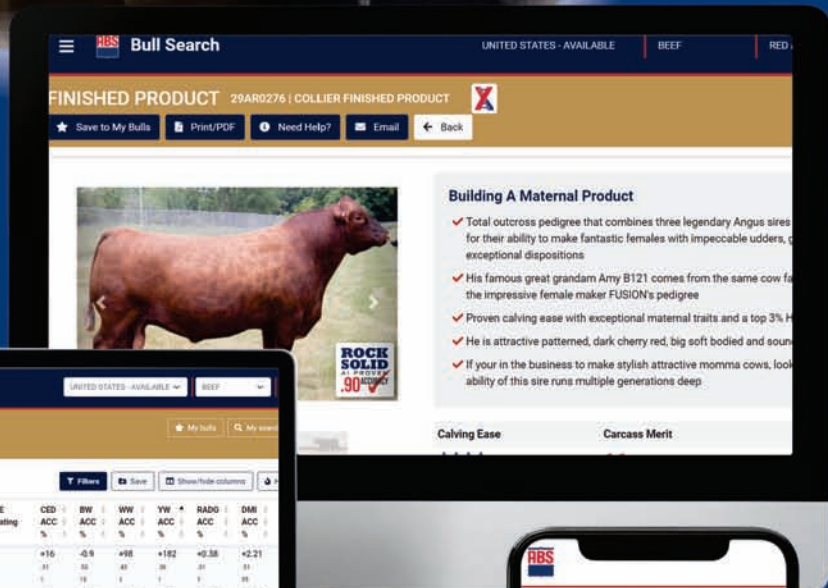
05

Heavier, more uniform calves

06

Creating the right replacement females





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WATER

During hot weather, adult bulls, feedlot cattle and lactating cows can require 20 or more gallons (76 liter or more) water per day. Both well-water and surface-water sources must provide sufficient amounts and should be accessible to all cattle. While unlimited access to ponds and streams offers space for many cattle to drink at once, this type of access cause damage which leads to soil erosion and development of mud holes. Most experts recommend ponds to be fenced off and serve as a reservoir for a float-controlled automatic water source with a concrete slab or rock base.

Adequate flow rate and trough size are important to ensure a proper water supply. Cattle with access to water throughout the day require less trough size compared to cattle in pasture situations. Because range cattle usually all drink within a short period of time, the watering system (pump, pipe, diameter, reservoir, etc.) should be able to supply the entire day's supply within four hours.

In addition to providing adequate water, ensure good water quality for cattle. The factors most commonly considered when determining suitability are levels of nitrate, sulfate, total dissolved solids and the risk of toxins such as blue-green algae.

The total dietary intake of nitrate (water + diet) is more important than the water level alone. Water sources with adequately acceptable nitrite/nitrate levels can be high enough to combine with marginally high levels in the feed to cause health problems.

While water from deep wells with intact castings are usually free of nitrates, water from ponds or shallow wells fed by runoff from heavily fertilized or manure-treated fields can have dangerously high levels.

Sulfate levels in water affect cattle's consumption, weight gain, and feed efficiency. With higher levels of sulfur (usually in combination with high-sulfur feed), cattle can have a nervous system disease called polio encephalomalacia (also called polio, PEM, or brainer).

Total dissolved solids is a measure of the total amount of dissolved materials in the water such as magnesium, calcium and sulfate.

Total dissolved solids in water in excess of 3,000 milligrams (mg) per liter, or 0.3% may result in diarrhea and water refusal in cattle. Almost all (97.7%) water samples collected for a

Water is vital to livestock, especially during the summer months.

By Bob Larson, Kansas State University. Angus Journal – July 2023

USDA survey contained total dissolved solids of less than 3,000 mg per liter.

Another important water-quality consideration is blue-green algae blooms (Angus Journal, July 2021). Blue-green algae are a type of bacteria that can multiply rapidly (bloom) in stagnant ponds when nitrogen and phosphorous levels are elevated due to fertilizer runoff, abundant sunlight and temperature greater than 70° F (21°C). These blooms have been described as having the appearance of grass clippings, scum, floating mats or spilled paint.

Making sure cattle have access to plenty of good-quality water is one of the most important aspects of animal husbandry. Insufficient space for animals to drink, low flow rates, low storage capacity, and high mineral or toxin content can all discourage water consumption to the point that feed intake is reduced or can directly cause severe problems.





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Reproduction:

Current breeding tips and useful selection technologies

Japie van der Westhuizen



Female reproduction is the main driver for red meat production efficiency and also has an influence on many other aspects of profitability. Maybe not known to some, it even has a direct influence on breeding goal achievement through genetic selection. Many studies proved female reproduction rate's direct effect on profitability, especially in the light that a birth (and survival of offspring) is needed for each unit of marketable product. Products are in the form of a weaner, long weaner, or ultimately a carcass or cut of meat. Even when defining biological efficiency (energy or any other nutrient needed per unit of product), early (as soon as possible after puberty) and regular breeding (calving or lambing interval) will determine the level of total efficiency of production. Next in line to contribute towards efficiency will be the efficiency of the dam in raising her offspring. This is usually expressed in terms of her own maintenance requirements. Next in line, as a factor influencing production efficiency, is the growth rate, but especially efficiency of feed utilisation of individual offspring. Much more can be said about the relative contribution of each of these contributing factors or building blocks to ensure efficient production of red meat, and ultimately sustainable profit for the primary producer.

In essence, production efficiency relies, in the case of beef cattle, on replacement heifers that will immediately become pregnant and therefore calf early in their first calving season and repeating this for every mating and subsequent calving season. These females will calve easily and also produce calves capable of utilising their adequate milk production and therefore weaning at a weight close to 50% of their dams' weights. It is obvious that the weaner calf should also be a saleable product for the next stage of the red meat production chain.

Although the ultimate aim, in terms of female reproduction, is to maximise the number of saleable offspring (mostly weaners in the local South African context) per female mated, selecting the right replacements, for female fertility relies on identifying those excelling in the building blocks for overall fertility. In practical terms, a commercial beef producer should therefore apply strict selection on the following criteria:

- Over mate heifers (15% to 25% more mated than needed as replacements) and only allow a very limited time with the bull, ideally only two cycles (total 42 days) given that they are in condition to be mated. Older heifers from the same peer group (born in the same year and season), best adapted or suitable for the environmental and production system constraints are more likely to become pregnant on their first heat cycle. It is also usually good practice to mate heifers one and a half months earlier than the main mating season for the cows.
- Dependent on the reproduction rate in the herd, or rather weaning percentage (number of calves weaned as a percentage of number of cows mated), the mating season should also be limited for cows. Ideally this can be as short as two to two and a half months (where the weaning percentage exceeds 85%), but hopefully limited to three months. Ideally all cows not pregnant after the breeding season should be culled and favouring those that calved earlier (took on the first heat cycle) and that weaned heavier calves.



The influence of weaning percentage on the selection policy, and ultimately selection and culling practices for reproductive females should however be noted. Especially if the decision is to cull all non-pregnant cows, irrespective of parity. The following examples of varying weaning percentages can be used (examples of herd with 100 reproductive cows and over mating of replacement heifers):

Weaning %	95	85	75	70	65	55
Replacement rate	5%	15%	25%	30%	35%	45%
Cows not pregnant/ calves not weaned	5	15	25	30	35	45
Replacement heifers available	48	43	38	35	33	28
Heifers to be mated to replace cull cows	6	17	28	33	39	50
Surplus/shortage of heifers/replacements	42	26	10	2	-6	-22

As can be seen from the table a weaning percentage among reproductive cows, in excess of 65% is needed to apply a policy of culling all cows that did not fall pregnant or did not wean a calf.

Effectively, only at a Weaning percentage of 75% (with a surplus of 10% heifers) or higher can positive selection pressure applied among reproductive females for other traits, such as maternal ability or effective growth. At a weaning rate of 65%, some reproductive females will have to be kept, irrespective of their pregnancy status or their (bad) mothering ability.

Bull selection

Positive selection pressure for female fertility is effectively possible through bull selection. In the absence of modern genetic merit prediction tools, such as BLUP breeding values, and ultimately a combination of BLUP and genomic information, breeders (and buyers of bulls) had to rely on the phenotypical recordings (actual reproductive performance) of the female relations of the bulls considered for selection. This approach is flawed, as these traits are sex limited (can only be measured on females), observations are mainly influenced by non-transferrable differences among the recorded animals (or differently put, of low heritability) and might not be usable at the time when bull selection must take place.

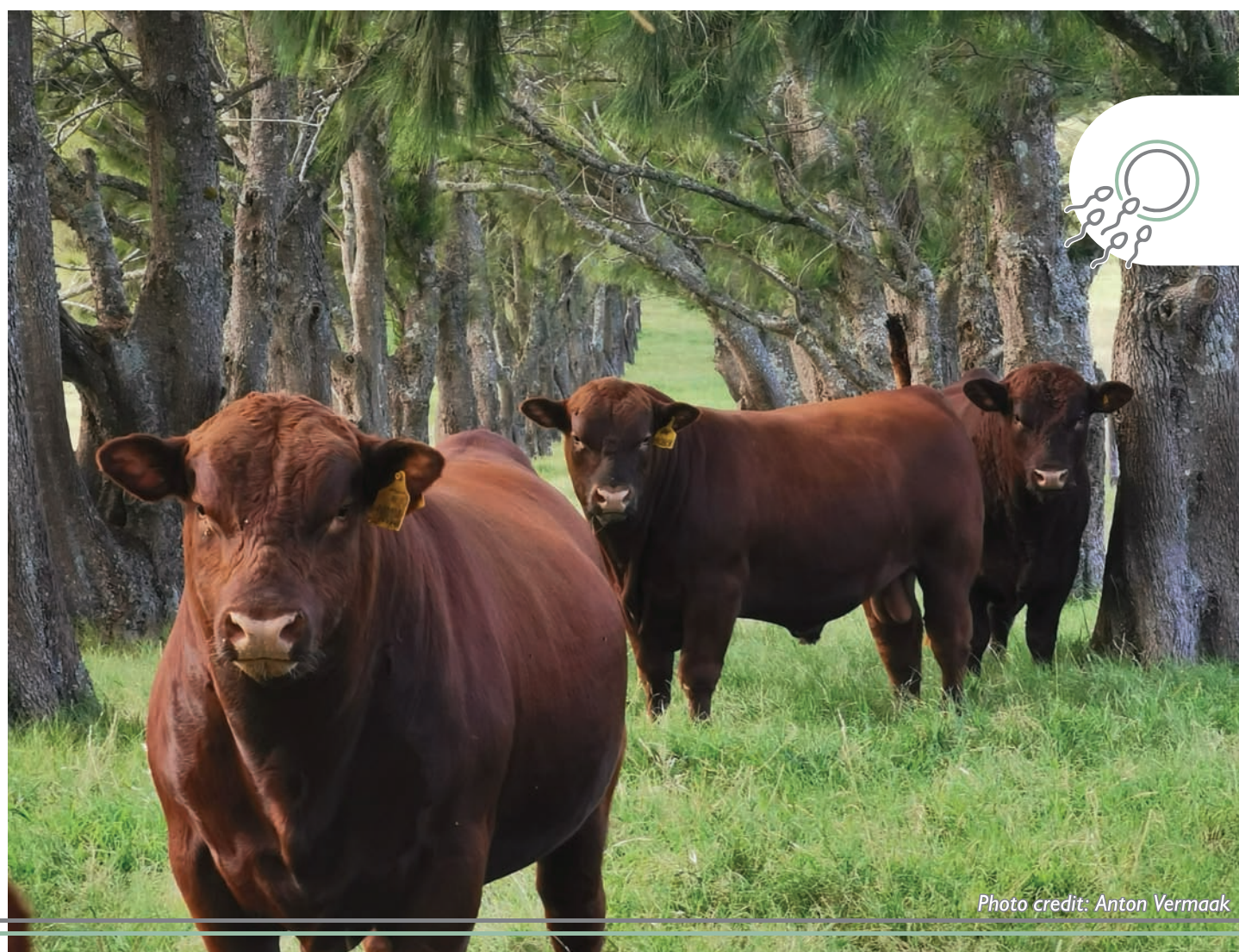
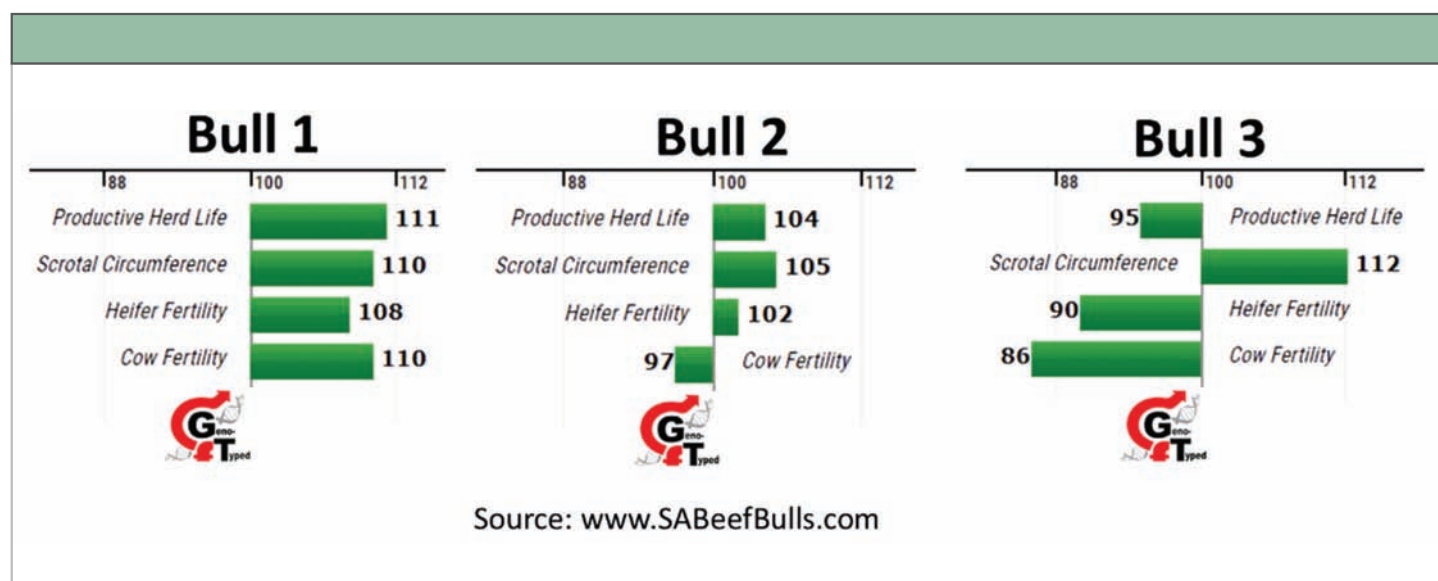


Photo credit: Anton Vermaak

Modern tools allow a much more accurate assessment of the genetic merit (what the difference in the observed reproductive performance the progeny of a selection candidate achieve in comparison with the progeny of other potential selection candidates). Given that all selection candidates' female relatives (in the whole breed) were given a fair chance with their contemporaries, it is known the BLUP breeding values for each reproduction trait will reflect their genetic merit (as all relationships among all animals are considered, as well as each animal's reproduction performance relative to its contemporaries and how much of its relative reproductive performance can be transferred to its progeny). Lately the inclusion of the genomic information of these animals enhances the prediction accuracy, especially for traits, such as female fertility. The prediction accuracy for heifer fertility, cow fertility and functional herd life ("retention of progeny") can therefore be predicted with much more certainty on young bulls considered as selection candidates, both for stud and commercial herds.



The following examples depict the genetic merit for female reproduction of three bulls considered as selection candidates. The genetic merit for the traits is expressed as an index deviation from the mean of the available (active population) of animals in the breeds for selection. About two thirds of the animals has a genetic merit between 88 and 112 for each of the traits. All three bulls were genomically tested and that information was used to enhance the accuracy of their genetic merit predictions for these female reproductive traits.



It is obvious that Bull 1 will be the candidate of choice as he will, on average, breed daughters that will, as heifers be superior in becoming pregnant and will thereafter also continue calving regularly and early in the calving season. His daughter progeny will also, on average remain longer in breeding herds.

Although the daughters of Bull 2 will also be superior as heifers and will show good retention, they will perform close to average for calving interval run a bigger risk to not become pregnant when rebred.

Irrespective of a very good genetic merit for scrotum circumference (usually linked to semen volume), Bull 3's daughters will most probably be inferior, both in terms of their ability to become pregnant as heifers and, especially rebreeding as cows.

Both commercial beef producers and stud breeders can effectively apply strict selection for female fertility and pick the right bulls to breed fertile female progeny. The suitable tools are available to be successful.

Reproduction

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ANGUS x BORAN

CROSS-BREEDING YIELDS RESULTS

Author: Quentin de Bruyn, Vastrap Angus



My wife Marisa and I run a mixed farming operation on our 4th generation family farm, Vastrap, near Ladybrand in the Eastern Free State. My passion lies with our cattle farming operation. We breed both stud Angus and Boran cattle and use the bulls from both breeds to advance the performance of our commercial herds through cross breeding. All our cattle are raised in extensive farming conditions and are carefully selected on performance.

The importance of measurement

I have always had a very scientific and data-based approach to cattle farming and apply the “*To measure is to Know*” principal to all the cattle on the farm. Measurement is critical to the improvement of any cattle herd as it helps to identify the best and worst animals each year. Vastrap monitors and measures its commercial herds in the same way as its stud herds. Animals are kept in same-age groups, all cattle are tagged, birth records are kept, all calves and cows are weighed at weaning. This enables one to make informed decisions about which cattle to cull and even more importantly, which heifers to keep as replacement stock based on their own wean indexes, their wean weight as a percentage of their mother's weight and the mother's ICP and historical weaning data.

It is this data that first made me switch to Angus from the Sussex/Afrikaner herd, that was on the farm when I first arrived. The wean ratio of the herd was well below 45%, so in order to address this I bought my first Angus bull in 2002 from Philip Barnard of Mequatling Angus.

In 2010, I bought my first Boran bull to bring back a little more hardiness and to lower input costs in my commercial herd. This decision has rewarded me handsomely over the last decade. The Boran x Angus cross has worked very well and I

am very satisfied with the results.

Importance of Cross-breeding in commercial herds

The advantages of cross-breeding are well documented and can have a big impact on your net return. Heterosis (hybrid vigor) and using breeds that are complementary (have different strengths) can have many advantages. Data released by the USDA demonstrates the benefits of cross-breeding across a range of indicators: 6% higher calving; 4% higher calf survival, 8% increase in efficiency; 38% increase in longevity; and 23% increase in lifetime productivity (USDA Cattle Inventory Report, January 2012).

The Boran and the Angus breeds complement each other very well. The Boran has some amazing traits such as hardiness, ability to fatten off the veld, ability to maintain body condition in harsh environments, resistance to diseases, longevity and higher stocking levels, while the Angus is well known for its meat quality, fertility, ease of calving, weaning weight, growth rate and is highly sought after by feedlots.

At Vastrap we follow a simple ongoing two-way cross breeding strategy. In the first stage a Boran bull is put on Angus cows. The F1 heifers (50/50) from this combination are put back to Angus bulls to produce a (75/25) Angus/Boran offspring. The retained females from this combination are bred back to Boran bulls, which in turn yields (62.5/37.5) Boran/Angus to be bred back to Angus bulls and so forth.

In this way, I produce weaners that are sought after by feedlots, while also achieving enough hardiness in my herd to lower input costs and reduce mortalities from diseases and other issues such as eye problems.

**Commercial cross-bred weaner:
F1 Boran x Angus bred back to Angus bull**



Impressive weaning results

The table below shows the average wean ratios for male and female calves from the Vastrap F1 Boran/Angus cows cross bred back to Angus bulls in 2019. These were the best ever wean results in any Vastrap herd in 20 years of record keeping!

Historically, in the extensive farming conditions at Vastrap, females weaning at more than 45% of the mother's body

Cross-bred heifers: 75% Angus & 25% Boran.

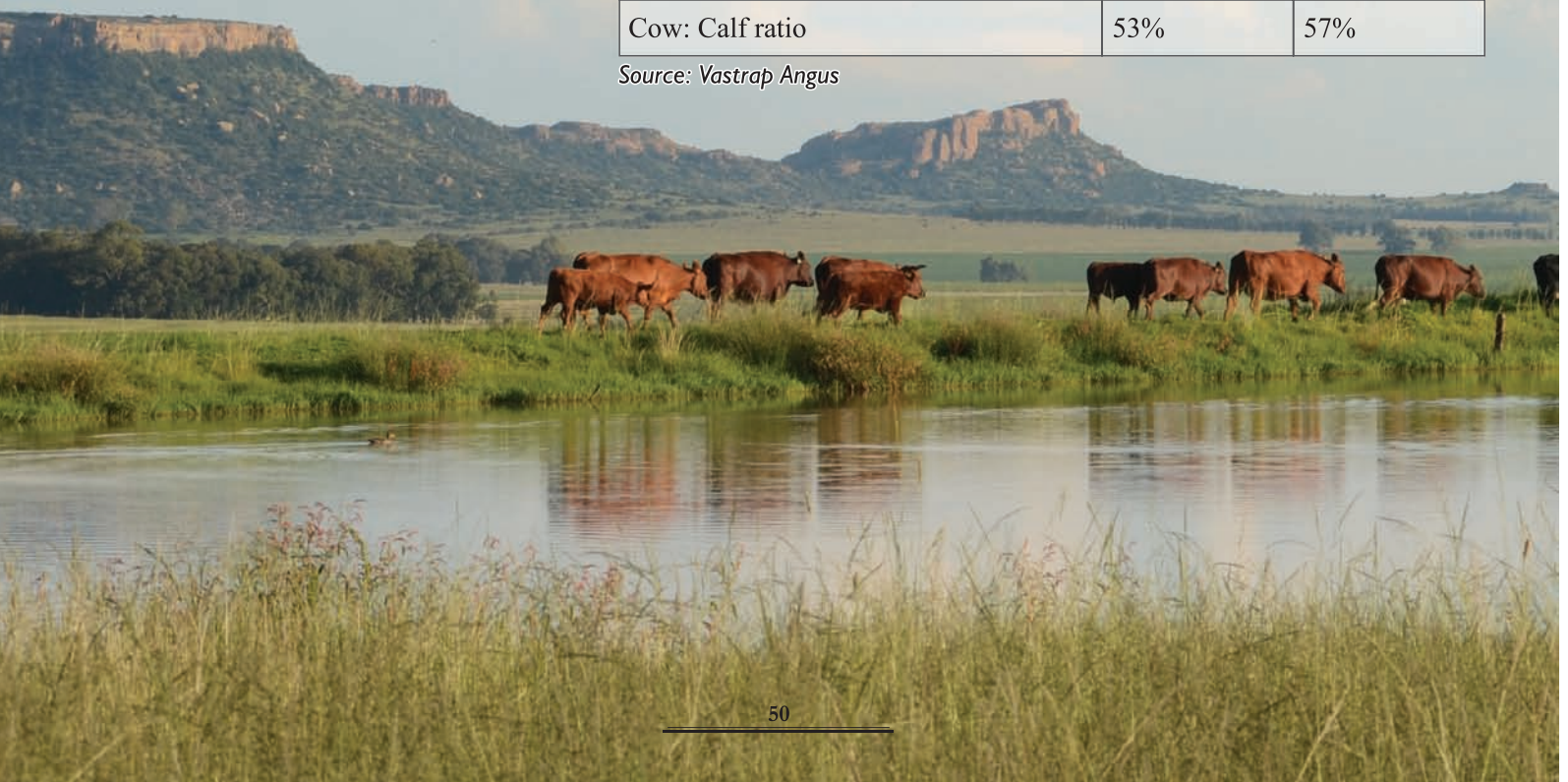


weight and males at more than 48% have been considered excellent. Cows that produce these results are marked as A-grade for that breeding season. This group of Boran/Angus cross-bred animals far outperformed this benchmark with an average cow:calf ratio of 53% for females (with every single female calf exceeding 48%!) and 57% for the male calves with only one calf below the 48% level.

2019 Weaning Averages: F1 (50/50) cow with calf by Angus bull (75/25)

	Female	Male
Weaning Age	216.5 days	211.9 days
Live Weight	252.5kg	279.1kg
Adjusted weight (210 days)	246.8kg	278.1kg
Cow: Calf ratio	53%	57%

Source: Vastrap Angus



Female Weaning Data: F1 (50/50) cow with calf by Angus bull (75/25)

#	DAM weight	Calf weight	RATIO	INDEX	ADJ WEIGHT	DAYS OLD
	01-May-19					
1	437	192	48%	84%	211	184
2	474	263	49%	93%	232	247
3	465	235	50%	93%	233	212
4	410	265	58%	96%	239	240
5	428	252	56%	96%	241	223
6	450	284	54%	98%	245	254
7	520	220	48%	100%	250	177
8	523	246	48%	100%	251	205
9	420	270	60%	100%	251	231
10	463	271	55%	102%	254	228
11	400	264	64%	102%	257	218
12	575	240	46%	106%	265	184
13	562	281	50%	111%	279	212
	471,3	252,5	53%	99%	246,8	216,5

Source: Vastrap Angus

Male Weaning Data: F1 (50/50) cow with calf by Angus bull (75/25)

#	DAM weight	Calf weight	RATIO	INDEX	ADJ WEIGHT	DAYS OLD
	01-May-19					
1	475	252	47%	81%	223	247
2	414	240	56%	85%	233	218
3	408	304	66%	97%	268	247
4	510	255	54%	100%	276	189
5	497	244	56%	101%	278	177
6	532	255	55%	105%	291	177
7	527	313	56%	108%	297	224
8	574	275	52%	108%	298	189
9	482	307	62%	108%	297	219
10	450	346	71%	116%	319	232
	486,9	279,1	57%	101%	278,1	211,9

Source: Vastrap Angus

Conclusion

Vastrap's cross-breeding strategy is based on well-known, tried and tested theory of hybrid vigor. There is nothing new or radical in our approach, but we believe it is useful to reiterate the benefits of combining a hardy African breed like the Boran with consistently high-performing Angus cattle. In our experience, combining these two breeds delivers the best of both worlds for our extensive farming conditions.

ROECHAMA



Veilings: **ANGUS ALLIANCE:** 9 Augustus 2024, Kroon Boma
MALHERBE & ROBERTS: 25 September 2024, Hertzogville



RCM 1988 Elevation

Wenner van elke Interras
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Bloemfontein, Nampo en
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Nasionale Interras kampioen
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Verkoop aan Nico Pienaar vir
nuwe SA rekord prys van
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RCM 20153 Honey Comb

Wenner van die
Vleissentraal
Bulgroeitoets
Kampioenskap
tydens Bloemskou



RCM 21159 Maverick

Semen verkoop aan Nico Steyn en James Kelly



RCM 20203

Piet en Hendrik Delport



RCM 20190

Anton Pelser



RCM 20237

Hendrik Botha



RCM 20192

Danie Dames



RCM 2085 Lennox

Thomas Uys

Why choose a



Angus Bull?

Choosing a registered Angus bull offers several advantages for cattle breeders, depending on the specific goals and requirements of their breeding program.



Photo credit Wilru Campher.

Genetic Purity and Predictability:

Registered Angus bulls come from a lineage of purebred Angus cattle. This genetic purity ensures a high level of predictability in terms of traits such as size, colour and performance. Producers can have confidence in the consistency of these traits when using registered Angus genetics.

Performance Records and Pedigree Information:

Registered Angus bulls come with detailed performance records and pedigree information. This data provides insights into the bull's ancestry, including information about growth rates, carcass quality and other economically important traits. This information can be valuable in making informed breeding decisions.

Angus Society Standards:

Registered Angus bulls are typically bred according to standards set by the South African Angus Society. These standards ensure a certain level of quality and adherence to breed characteristics.

Market Recognition:

Angus cattle are widely recognized in the market. The breed is associated with high-quality beef. Using registered angus

genetics can enhance the marketability of the resulting calves. Some markets may offer premiums for Angus cattle.

Carcass Quality:

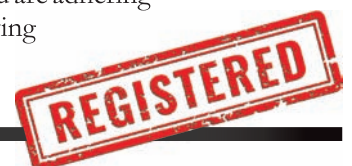
Angus cattle are known for their superior carcass quality, including well-marbled and tender meat. If your breeding objectives include producing high-quality beef, choosing a registered Angus bull can contribute towards achieving your goal. That was one of the main reasons Angus was brought to South Africa more than a century ago. Too improve the carcass quality of indigenous breeds.

Adaptability:

Angus cattle are known for their adaptability to a variety of environments in South Africa. This adaptability can be advantageous in different production systems, including pasture-based and feedlot operations.

Genetic traits:

If you are specifically aiming to maintain the distinct characteristics of the Angus breed, using registered Angus bulls will ensure that you are adhering to breed standards and preserving its unique traits.





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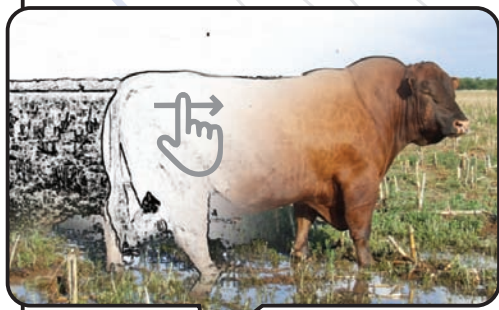
Handy Tips to Market your Bulls

Anna Emmerson, Angus New Zealand 2023 Autumn.

1. Know your audience



It costs more to target a wide audience than a narrow one. Start by defining your audience. They are more than just sheep and beef farmers. What region are they from? What type of farm do they have? What is their age range? What interests do they hold? Use this information to consider the best way to reach this smaller audience and to start growing a database of current and potential clients.



2. The 80/20 Rule

The Pareto Principle states that 80% of your business will come from 20% of your clientele. This tends to apply to many sectors, farming included. Like any relationship, communication needs to be two-way for maximum effect. This means not just sending them a catalogue each year in the post, but also considering:

- Touching base or visiting them during the year to see how their bulls are performing or discuss their breeding plan
- Keeping them informed via a social channel, or with digital newsletters.
- Having an on-farm Open Day, or getting involved in a local farm discussion group or field day.

3. Catalogue

A catalogue is a vital tool to assist your clients with their bull selection as well as an opportunity to market your stud.

It needs to inform the reader about what makes your stud unique, what is your focus as a breeder and what genetic advantage your bulls offer. Keep your information short and to the point, and your data easy to understand.

Include a section explaining EBVs and Indexes.

While words play an important part so do images. When photographing your bulls, either for the cover, lots or an online auction, high quality images are vital. You can either hire a professional or take your own on a high-resolution device. Don't photograph the bull too close up, or on a really bright day. A little bit of cloud cover helps reduce the contrast and ensure the subtle shades of black can be more easily seen. Keep the background simple, preferable in a paddock rather than in the yard and show the bull moving if shooting video.



4. Traditional vs Digital Advertising

When you run a print or radio advertisement it goes out to a large audience for good brand recognition but it can be difficult to track performance. Alternatively, digital enables you to more closely target your audience, define your spend and track the result.



5. Digital Marketing

Digital can seem daunting. If you are starting out you need to consider:

- Facebook posts – done through your own social media page at least once a fortnight through the year and weekly two months prior to your sale. You can 'boost' specific posts to a relatively targeted audience for a once-off cost. This can be perfect for maximizing your current followers.
- Facebook adverts – needs to be done through a Facebook business account (Meta Business) and enables you to advertise to a more refined audience in a specific location, age bracket and interest group. I recommend adverts to be run for at least 2-3 weeks prior to your event. This is the best strategy for reaching a wider audience and new audiences.
- Google Search – these are the ads you see in Google that come at the top or side of a search result – i.e., if someone is searching for Angus bulls. The aim is to push people to your website. You set your monthly budget and search terms.
- Display ads – offering through a number of channels. The cost depends on the channel and also the length of time. This can offer good exposure depending on the channel selected. You would need to book space with specific channels in advance.

The key points to remember are:

- Start with what you know best – producing quality stock with good genetics supported with well-respected data.
- Tell your story to a specific audience that needs to hear it, in a way that is simple to understand and focused on their needs, not yours.
- Invest in good imagery to showcase your stock.
- Be realistic with your marketing budget – consider at least a spend of 2-5% of past sale turnover.
- Be prepared and don't leave it to the last minute.

Good marketing is the key to selling your bulls. The ideal first port of call is a marketing and design firm that has experience in the rural sector. Not only will this ensure they understand the audience you are wanting to target but also the difference between an Angus and a Hereford!

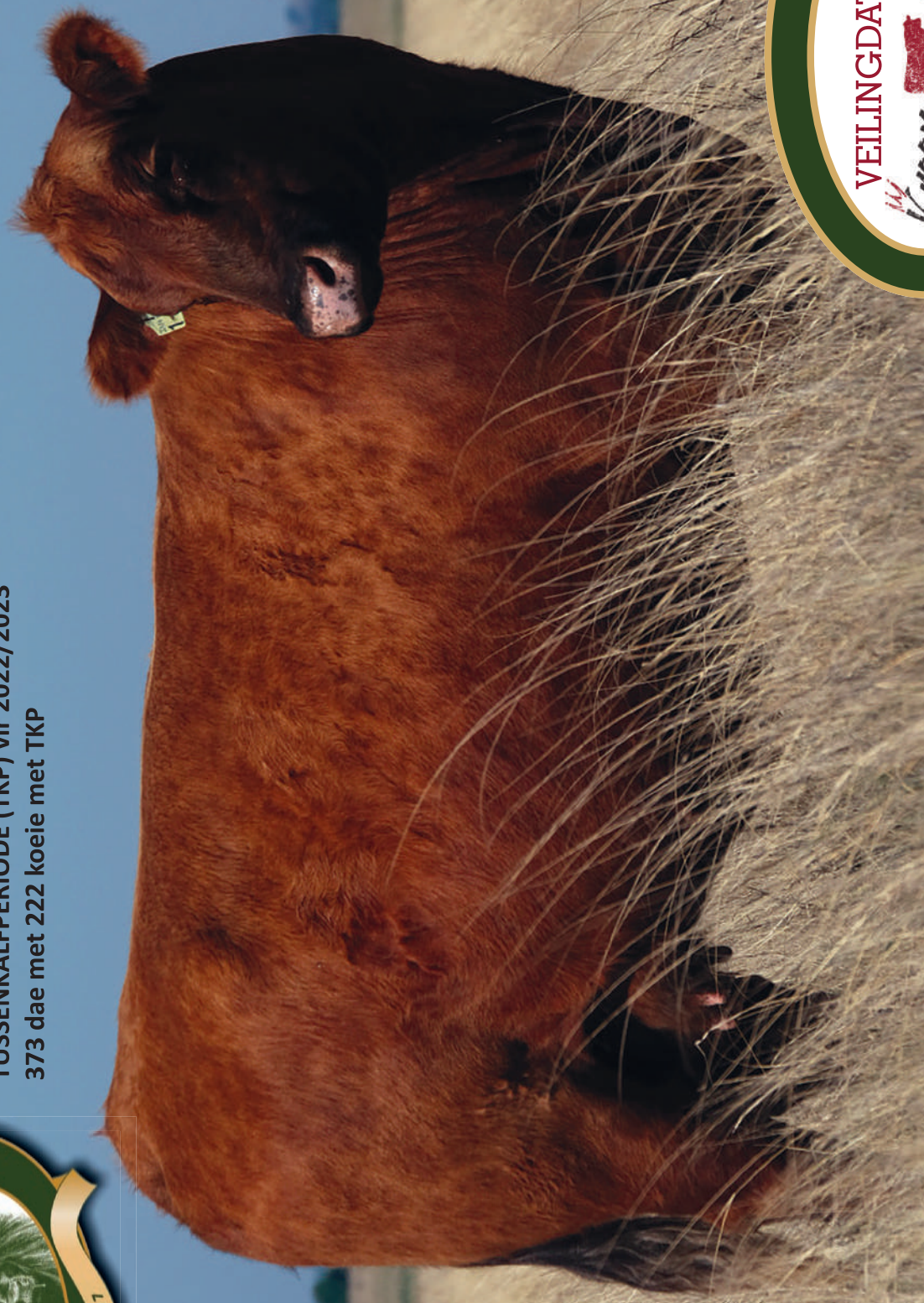


Photo credit Wilru Campher



HOME IS WHERE THE HERD IS

Bodeel ontvang vanjaar 'n PAT MOSSOP GOUE-meriete toekenning vir die Angus stoet met die 6de kortste TUSSENKALFPERIODE (TKP) vir 2022/2023
373 dae met 222 koeie met TKP



Johannes Botha 083 272 6338 | Marijke Botha 083 289 5913
Bodeel.botha@outlook.com | Viljoenskroon

Understanding Embryo and Fetal Losses in Beef Heifers and Cows

Knowledge can help producers ensure healthy calves hit the ground each year

By Cliff Lamb, Texas A&M University – Angus Journal September 2023

Beef heifers and cows are crucial to the sustainability and productivity of the industry. Cattlemen aim to ensure females produce a viable calf once a year, however, at times, they may experience embryo and fetal losses during their pregnancies. This can occur due to various reasons, including nutritional deficiencies, genetics, health issues or stress. Lamb shares the common reasons for these losses and identify at what stages of pregnancy they occur. Additionally, opportunities exist to introduce preventative measures to ensure healthier pregnancies and minimize the risk of losses.

Prior to the development of ultrasound for pregnancy diagnosis in cattle, technicians were unable to determine the viability or number of embryos or fetuses accurately. Because the heartbeat of a fetus can be detected at approximately 22 days of age, one can now accurately assess whether or not a pregnancy is viable. Ultrasound technology has vastly enhanced our opportunity to understanding embryonic losses.

Reasons for embryo and fetal losses

Nutritional deficiencies:

Proper nutrition is essential for the healthy development of the embryo and fetus. If beef heifers and cows do not receive adequate nutrients, there can be reduced fertility and an increased likelihood of embryo loss. Nutritional deficiencies are often evident during early pregnancy when the demands on the cow's body increase significantly in early lactation. Ensuring females receive a balanced and nutritious diet is crucial to prevent losses. Proper nutrition prior to calving and approaching the breeding season should be provided to enhance embryonic/fetal survival.

Genetics:

Genetics play a crucial role in the reproductive performance of beef cattle. Some embryos or fetuses may inherit traits that make them more prone to pregnancy failures. These genetic factors can influence embryo development and increase the risk of early losses. Breeding programs should focus on

selecting cattle known to have excellent fertility and longevity traits. This involves selecting bulls from known genetic lines to attain puberty at a younger age and other beneficial reproductive traits.

Health Issues:

Inadequate herd health management can disrupt the delicate balance required for a successful pregnancy. Diseases, infections, a failure to have a solid vaccination regimen, and reproductive disorders can adversely affect the development of embryos and fetuses, leading to losses at various stages of pregnancy. Regular veterinary consultation to ensure herd health is monitored and addressing health issues immediately will reduce the incidence of embryonic /fetal loss.

In addition, ensuring you have a vaccination program and protocols for parasite control and disease prevention in place will ensure embryo/fetal survival.

Stress:

Stress is another significant factor that can contribute to embryo and fetal losses in beef heifers and cows. Stress can be caused by various factors, such as changes in environment, handling, transportation or social disruption. High stress levels may negatively affect the female, making it difficult for embryos to implant or survive in the uterus. Efforts should be made to reduce stress. This can include maintaining a calm and consistent environment, and gentle animal handling techniques for the herd.

Stages of pregnancy when losses occur

Early pregnancy:

The first few weeks of pregnancy are crucial for embryo development. During this time, embryos undergo vital processes such as attachment to the uterus (implantation) and the formation of essential structures.

Nutritional deficiencies and genetic factors often play a role in early pregnancy losses. This is also the stage at which a majority of losses occur.

Mid-pregnancy: Mid-pregnancy is a relatively stable phase for the developing fetus, but it is not without risks. Health issues or severe stress during this period can still result in fetal losses, albeit less frequently than during the early stages.

Late pregnancy: As cows approach the end of their gestation period, the fetus undergoes rapid growth. Late pregnancy losses can occur due to health problems, inadequate nutrition or stressful events during this critical phase.

The incidence of embryonic loss by study in beef are summarized in Table 1. The fertilization rate after insemination either through natural service or artificial insemination (AI) usually exceeds 90%, whereas embryonic survival rate is 93% of pregnancies by Day 8 and only 56% by Day 12 after AI. The incidence of embryonic loss in beef cattle appears to be significantly less than in dairy cows, with about a 605% incidence of embryonic loss in beef cows from days 25 to 45 of gestation and about 1.5% from days 45 to 60.

Similarly, we have noted a 4.2% incidence of embryonic loss in beef heifers initially undergoing ultrasound at Day 30 of

gestation and subsequently palpated for pregnancy between days 60 and 90 after insemination.

In suckled beef cows, we evaluated three herds examined via ultrasonography on days 29 to 33 followed by an ultrasound on days 54 to 61 to determine embryo survival. Overall, about 11% of the embryos first detected by ultrasonography on days 29 to 33 did not survive days 57 to 61 when the second diagnosis of pregnancy was measured.

Successful pregnancies

Embryo and fetal losses in beef heifers and cows can occur due to a combination of factors such as nutritional deficiencies, health issues and stress. Understanding these reasons and the stages of pregnancy when losses are more likely to occur can help producers take appropriate preventing measures.

By focusing on proper nutrition, genetic selection, regular health checks and the minimization of stress, we can increase the likelihood of successful pregnancies, leading to healthier and more productive herds in the beef industry.

Table 1: Incidence of embryonic/fetal loss in beef cows after an initial diagnosis of pregnancy by ultrasound, followed by a second diagnosis prior to or at calving (Adapted from Lamb et al. 2003).

Experiment	No. of Pregnancies (d of gestation)		No. of embryos lost	Embryonic mortality
Beal et al., (1992) Cows	138	129	9	6.5
	(25 days)	(45 days)		
	129	127	2	1.5
	(45 days)	(65 days)		
	138	127	11	8.0
	(25 days)	(65 days)		
Experiment	No. of Pregnancies (d of gestation)		No. of embryos lost	Embryonic mortality
Lamb et al., (1997) Heifers	149	143	6	4.0
	(30 days)	(60 days)		
	271	260	11	4.1
	(35 days)	(75 days)		
	105	100	5	4.8
	(30 days)	(90 days)		



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Puik, geregistreerde bulle jaarliks in September beskikbaar by Kroon Angus-veiling, Viljoenskroon.

Die opstel van 'n bosluisbeheerplan

Elizna Terblans

Departement van Dierkunde en
Entomologie, Universiteit van die
Vrystaat, Bloemfontein, Suid Afrika
Epos: terblans.elizna@gmail.com

Bosluis is bloedsuiende, ekto-parasiete wat op alle diere, van honde tot beeste, voorkom. Hoë bosluisbesmetting, in die veebedryf, veroorsaak direkte skade (bloedverlies, 'n verminderde tempo van lewendige gewigstoename, en 'n agteruitgang van velkwaliteit) en indirekte skade (bosluisoordraagbare siektes soos rooiwater, hartwater, anaplasmose en sweetsiekte). Om die verlies wat bosluis veroorsaak te verminder, het boere verskeie metodes tot hul beskikking. Dit is dus belangrik om 'n doeltreffende bosluisbeheer-metode te hê.

Chemiese beheer metodes

Om 'n volledige eksterne parasietbeheerstrategie te beplan, moet boere al die inligting van bosluis in ag neem wat die volgende insluit:

- i. Die parasiet.
- ii. Seisoenale voorkoms.
- iii. Bosluisbeheerplan.

Die parasiet

In Suid-Afrika is 85 Ixodidae (harde) bosluisspesies en 21 Argasidae (sagte) bosluisspesies geïdentifiseer, soos beskryf in Angus 2023 artikel (Figure 1). Die mees belangrikste bosluis vir veeboere sluit in:

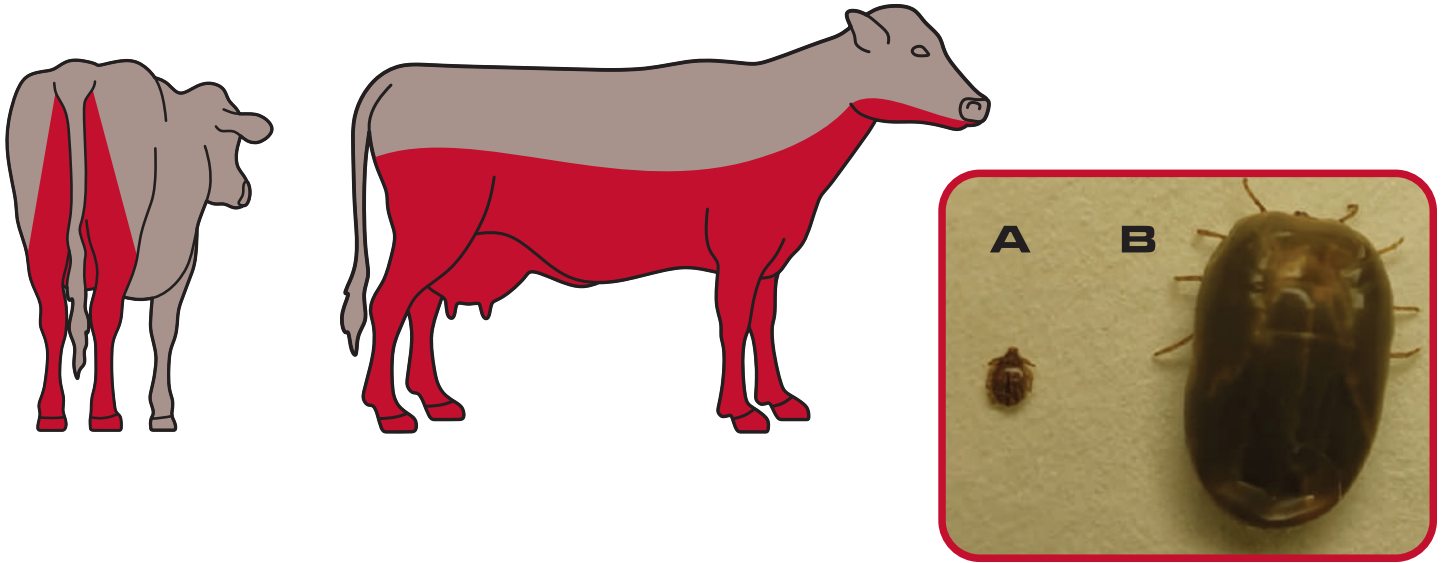
- Bloubosluis
- Rooipootbosluis
- Bontpootbosluis
- Bruinoorbosluis
- Bontbosluis



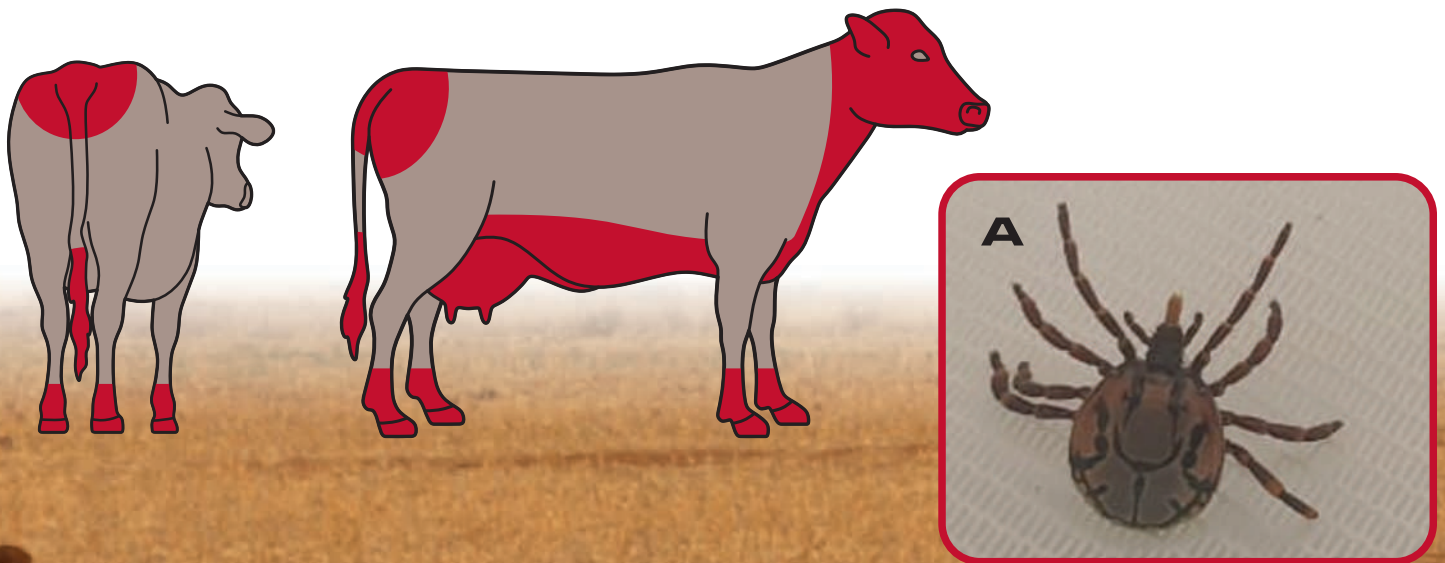
Foto verskaf deur Wilru Campher

Figuur 1: Opsomming van belangrike bosluise en die aanhegtingsplekke op die beeste (Soos beskryf in Angus 2023).

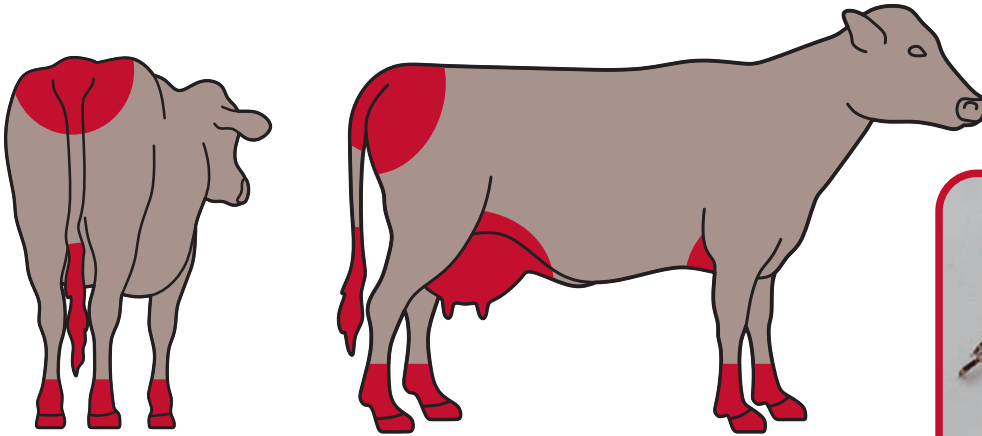
Bloubosluike



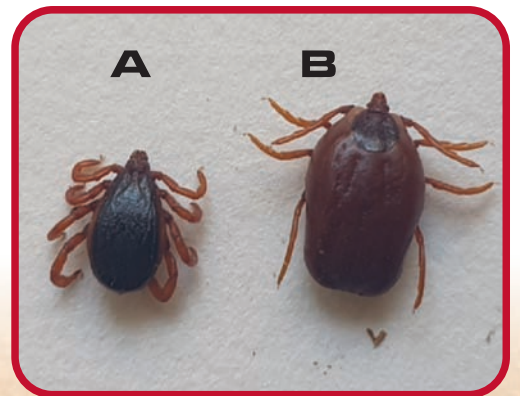
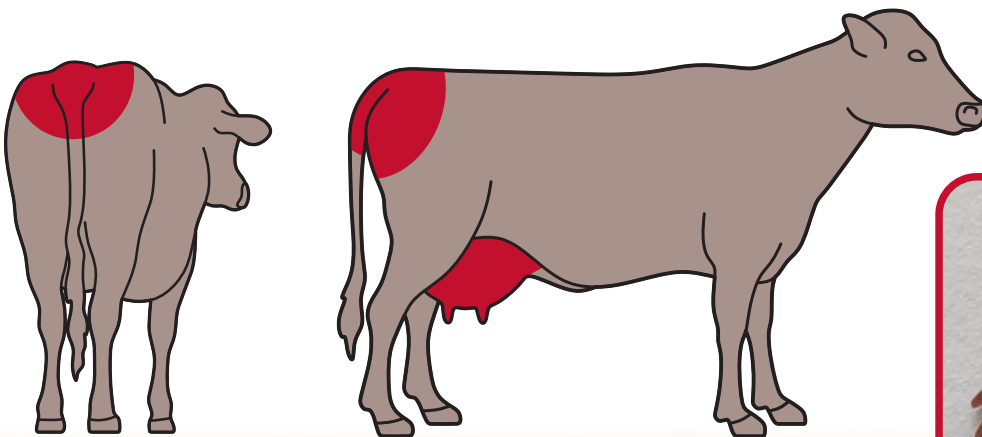
Bontbosluike



Bontpootbosluise



Rooipootbosluise



Bruinoorbosluise



Seisoenale voorkoms

Kennis oor die seisoenale voorkoms van 'n bosluisspesie, wat op die plaas geïdentifiseer word, is 'n belangrike faktor vir die suksesvolle beheer van uitwendige parasiete deur die bosluise se getalle te verminder, byvoorbeeld:

Eengasheerbosluise (soos bloubosluise): Alhoewel bosluisgetalle tussen Oktober en Desember steeds laag kan wees, moet boere gedurende hierdie maande 'n strategiese dipprogram implementeer om die hoë bosluisbevolkings wat van Februarie tot Mei sal voorkom, te verminder. Om dit in perspektief te plaas; elke bloubosluiswyfie lê tussen 2500 en 3500 eiers. As slegs 200 bosluise oorleef en eiers lê, sal meer as 400 000 bosluislarwes in die volgende 30 tot 60 dae uitbroei. Deur die vroeë-somerpiek te verminder (die aantal wyfies wat eiers kan lê te verminder), verminder ons die laatsomer piek.

Multigasheerbosluise (soos rooipoot-, bontpoot- en bruinoorbosluise): Om die skade wat deur veelgasheerbosluise veroorsaak word te verminder, moet boere gedurende Julie/Augustus 'n strategiese winterdipprogram implementeer om die getal te verminder van larwes op die diere. Opvolgbehandelings sal gedurende die piek-somermaande van November/Desember nodig wees.

Bosluisbeheerplan

'n Aantal produkte is beskikbaar en kan toegedien word in die vorm van 'n opgietmiddel, 'n dipmiddel (spuitresies/duikdip) of 'n inspuibare middel. Die produk en metode van toediening sal afhang van die tipe bosluise wat op jou plaas voorkom en die aantal diere wat gedip of behandel moet word:

- Opgiet is maklik om aan te wend, maar oor die algemeen duurder. Dit is kostedoeltreffend wanneer diere net drie tot vier keer per jaar behandel word en ook vir winterbehandelings gebruik word.
- Spuitresies is baie effektief, veral wanneer bosluisgetalle hoog is. Met hierdie metode kan die aktiewe bestanddele gereeld verander word om weerstand te voorkom in gebiede waar diere gereeld gedip word.
- Dompeldip is die doeltreffendste en mees kostedoeltreffende dipmetode wanneer jy groot kuddes het wat gereeld gedip moet word. Die duikdip moet behoorlik bestuur word om effektiewe dip te verseker.
- Insputbare middels en insekgroeireguleerders moet deel wees van die bosluisbeheerstrategie in gebiede met volop bosluise as 'n manier om aktiewe bestanddele te verander en met bosluisbestuur te help.

Wat doen ek as my bosluisbeheer metode nie weer werk nie?

Bosluis, veral eengasheerbosluise (soos bloubosluise), kan weerstand opbou teen aktiewe bestanddele. Dus sal die aktiewe middel nie meer effektief genoeg te wees nie. Deur bosluisgetalle te verminder, sal verlies ook verminder word. Om te verseker dat jou bosluisbeheerplan voldoende is, moet die bosluisspesie geïdentifiseer word asook 'n bosluisweerstand-profiel gedoen word.

Indien chemiese middels nie meer doeltreffende beheer teen bosluise bied nie, is dit 'n moontlikheid dat die bosluise weerstand ontwikkel het. Die bosluisnavorsingsgroep by die Universiteit van die Vrystaat doen bosluisweerstand-toetse om te bepaal of middels steeds effektief is in bosluisbeheer. Ons kan ook help om bosluise te identifiseer. Kontak ons gerus by 076 147 9723 of stuur 'n e-pos na terblans.elizna@gmail.com vir enige navrae oor bosluise of bosluisweerstand.



Foto verskaf deur Wilru Campher

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AUCTION
25 July 2024



Good From the Start

Selecting heifers that are likely to become ideal cows.

By Bob Larson, Kansas State University. Angus Journal - June 2023.

Selecting replacement heifers that are likely to develop into cows that become pregnant early each breeding season and wean a healthy calf is an important management decision. The best heifers are those that reach puberty before the start of their first breeding season, are fertile, can become pregnant early in the breeding season, are resistant to abortion-causing diseases, can give birth with little difficulty and can care for the calf without assistance.

There are several characteristics determining at weaning that can be used to differentiate between heifers that are either likely or unlikely to grow into a great cow. First, heifers born early in the calving season will be old enough to reach puberty prior to their first breeding season. They are also the daughters of cows that became pregnant early in the previous breeding season, therefore, Larson places a lot of value on heifers born in the first 30 days of calving. Larson also looks closely at the dams of potential replacement heifers and exclude daughters from cows that he does not want to replicate due to being difficult to handle, requiring more supplemental feed to maintain body condition than other cows in the herd; and having feet, leg or udder problems that could have a genetic component.

The sires' expected progeny differences (EPDs) of potential replacement heifers should also be evaluated. Emphasis should be placed on characteristics such as adequate maternal calving ease, heifer pregnancy and cow energy value.

Examination of yearling heifers before breeding can provide

information about the current pubertal status of both individuals and the group, and allows better predictions regarding success of the upcoming breeding season. Data used in the evaluation of breeding soundness of replacement heifers include body weight, days of age, reproductive tract maturity and potentially pelvic area. The optimum timing of a reproductive soundness examination relative to the start of breeding will depend on the nutrition, breeding and marketing plans for specific herds.

Because heifers are more susceptible to some abortion-causing diseases than older cows, it is particularly important replacement heifers are well-vaccinated. You should work closely with your veterinarian to plan the most effective vaccination strategy for replacement heifers to control the risk of pregnancy loss in your herd.

The final test of whether a potential replacement should be selected to enter the herd is if the heifer becomes pregnant early in the breeding season. Some producers only retain heifers that become pregnant in the first 21 to 30 days of breeding. By doing so, they are placing strong selection pressure on traits such as age at puberty and fertility, which positively affects not only those replacements, but any future daughters from the that heifer.

Fertile cows that consistently raise calves that produce a desirable carcass are the foundation for beef herds. Selection, nutrition, health management and good animal husbandry are all needed to create a herd full of ideal cows.



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Anton Pelser

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PRODUKSIEVEILING: 20 Augustus 2024

Bulle en vroulike diere te koop



Jason Carroll word aangewys as nasionale beesboer van die jaar.

Boschendal bedryf 'n kommersiële swart Angus-beesboerdery in die Wes-Kaap.

Inligting en onderhoud verskaf deur Landbouweekblad.



Jason Carroll, bestuurder van lewende hawe op die Boschendal- landgoed buite Franschhoek in die Wes-Kaap, is vanjaar vereer as Voermol se Beesboer van die Jaar vir sy sukses met die landgoed se swart Angus-beesboerdery. 'n Volgehoue strewe na grondverbetering dra by tot sy sukses.

Wat beteken dit vir jou om deur Voermol vereer te word?

Jason: Ek kan aan verskeie boere dink wat hierdie eerbewys verdien, dus voel ek baie trots om raakgesien te word vir wat ons op die plaas doen. Dit gaan nie net daaroor om 'n trofee te kry nie, dit kom met 'n verantwoordelikheid om ook aan ander boere oor te dra waarom ons doen wat ons doen.

Wat is 'n hoofbydraer tot jou sukses?

Jason: Grond, mense, waardetoevoeging en meting. Ons klem is op die bou van grondgesondheid, wat ons weer toelaat om meer diere aan te hou. Die behoud van die hele waardeketting het ons ook in staat gestel om ons eie prys te maak. (Die waardeketting op Boschendal bestaan onder meer uit die landgoed se eie restaurant, slaghuis en aanlyn winkel.) moed verloor nie.

Wie was jou mentor en wat is die beste raad wat jy gekry het?

Jason: Ek het soveel mense in my lewe wat bygedra het om my karakter te bou dat dit onregverdig sou wees om een persoon uit te sonder, maar ek het oor getalle en boerdery op groot skaal by David Osborne (Number 2 Piggeries) geleer. Rob Lundie (uitvoerende hoof van Boschendal) het my geleer om nuwe dinge te probeer en foute te maak, en Charles Edmonds (hoofbestuurder van die landgoed) het my geleer oor beplanning, begrotings en om verantwoordelikheid te aanvaar vir m onderneming.

Het klimaatsverandering die manier waarop jy boer verander?

Jason: Dit is die hele rede waarom ons boer soos ons boer. Ons moet iets beters nalaat vir die volgende geslag. In ons stelsel het ons daarin geslaag om die grond se waterhouvermoë met ongeveer 30% te verhoog.

Op watter tegnologie maak jy die meeste staat in jou boerderypraktieke?

Jason: Sonkrag, en elektroniese stelsels vir ons vee. Ons gebruik BenguFarm, Logix, RFID en Datamars om ons diere te meet en data aan te teken en te hou. Ons neem ook grondmonsters om die stikstofinhoud, organiesemateriaalinhoud en koolstofinhoud te bepaal.



Foto: Swart Angusbeeste van Boschendal.



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SAFETY FIRST

How to identify and put a stop to hackers and scammers.

By Magan Silveira, assistant editor. Angus Journal, July 2023

The internet has opened the door to many new business opportunities. Websites allow breeders to showcase their operations to wider audiences, and social apps like Facebook and Instagram allow for direct marketing to new customers. Along with the benefits comes a greater burden to keep yourself safe online.

“Since so many have shifted from using social media just for entertainment or connection with friends to doing business on these platforms, the stakes are higher now” says Miranda Reiman, director of digital content and strategy for Angus Media. “There’s a potential to disrupt commerce.” Reiman and her team understand the threat all too well. In January, the Angus Media Facebook account was hacked, resulting in the eventual loss of 20,000 followers. The hackers deleted key account information and historical benchmarks. They removed many of the administrative users (or “admins”) from the page within hours of the initial attack, making it even more difficult for Angus employees to address the problem.

“It was all hands-on deck that first weekend, and through some key proactive steps, we were able to protect all Angus Media banking account information, protect others we did business with and warn others about the treat,” Reiman says.

Though the digital team at Angus Media recently launched a fresh Facebook page to continue to provide key data and advertising opportunities to breeders, the threat a hacker poses never truly goes away. Business pages are a common target, and hackers have a variety of strategies to encourage a response from the business owner.

“Hackers have really gotten more sophisticated in recent years, so that it used to be almost laughable to think you’d fall for a scam, they’re much more believable today,” Reiman says. “It can happen to anybody.”

Thomas Medsker, director of information systems for the American Angus Association, encourage producers to be skeptical when they receive new and unfamiliar messages.

“The best advice I can give is to question everything,” he says. “If you aren’t sure about something, or it seems wrong, don’t proceed.”

Safety starts from the moment you open a laptop. Medsker says he recommend producers **DO NOT KEEP**

PASSWORDS IN A SAVED LIST. While he admits trying to remember every password can be a challenge, it provides an extra level of protection.

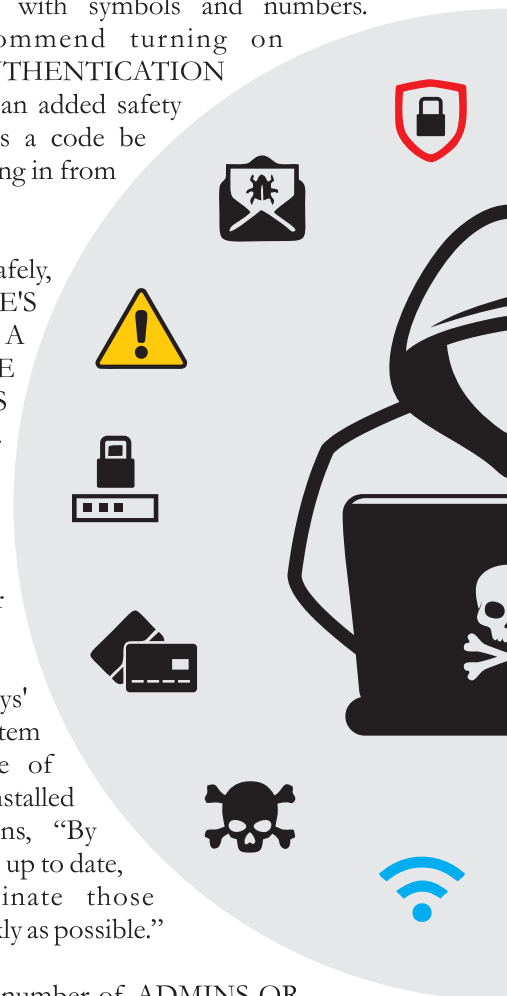
“A funny but valid way of thinking about passwords is to treat them like underwear,” he explains. “Change them often, don’t leave them laying around and don’t share them with anyone.”

When creatin login credentials, **MAKE PASSWORDS AS STRONG AS POSSIBLE.** This means combining upper-and lowercase characters with symbols and numbers. Reiman also recommend turning on **MULTIFACTOR AUTHENTICATION** when applicable. It’s an added safety measure that requires a code be submitted when logging in from a new device.

Beyond logging on safely, Medsker says **THERE’S VALUE IN USING A REPUTABLE ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE.** Whether loyalties lie with Windows or Mac, every operating system should be updated on a regular basis.

“One way the ‘bad guys’ get access to your system is to take advantage of vulnerability within installed software” he explains, “By keeping your software up to date, you help to eliminate those vulnerabilities as quickly as possible.”

Reiman also says the number of **ADMINS OR INDIVIDUALS WITH LOGIN CREDENTIALS SHOULD BE LIMITED.** The more admins a page has, the more susceptible it is to threats. She encourages producers to play around with different ways to allow people access to a business’s social media pages without granting everyone an admin level.



Malicious accounts with page names like “Verify Business Account Restricted” have resorted to tagging pages in posts. These pages claim violations have been detected and ask users to click a link to prevent their accounts from being deactivated.

Users are also receiving emails of a similar manner, where individuals posting as these social media platforms try to convince them that their posts and information will be deleted if accounts don't verify themselves immediately.

When unfamiliar emails or messages do come through online, Medsker says to be suspicious and TO CHECK THE SUBJECT LINES AND BODY CONTEXT CAREFULLY. Misspelling and bad grammar are typically a red flag. Though these messages can be alarming, Reiman urges producers not to panic or click any links. “Usually if it sounds doomsday or uses words meant to cause alarm, such as 'immediately deactivate' that is a huge red flag,” she warns.

Companies like Apple, Google or Facebook will not reach out with an email or message asking users to login to verify your account. If there is concern, open a new browser window and navigate to the site personally before logging in and checking on the status of an account. If an unexpected email claims to be from a familiar person or business, Medsker suggests reaching out personally over the phone or to another trusted email. Only once the confirmation is received should links or attachments be opened.

If a link is included in a suspicious email, there are tools like GOOGLE SAFE BROWSING TO HELP VERIFY WE ADRESSES. A URL can be copied and pasted to check the status of the site. Once a post or email is identified as illegitimate, report it or mark it as spam. Be sure to delete any lingering messages or notifications, so no one else accidentally interacts with the false information.

If unusual activity related to a social media page raises suspicion, Reiman suggests changing your password immediately and selecting the option to “sign out all devices” when prompted. Report activity to the Help Centre.

It happens more that you think



Meredith Terrell comes from a business and investment background, so she considers herself to be pretty cautious when it comes to helping her father, Tim, Navigate “virtual” sales with Terrell Investments, Inc.

The North Carolina farm started selling register Angus cattle in 2021, after COVID restrictions gave Tim enough time to return to his roots in the livestock industry. When they received one of their first text messages about a party interested in purchasing a bull, the duo was eager to close the deal. The asking price was \$2,000, and the individual interested - “James Wright” - said he was only a few hours away from the Triad area where the farm was located.

Offers to visit the operations and see the bull in person were refused, and Wright even turned down free delivery for the bull. He insisted he was ready to complete the transaction and had a trucking service all lined up. The strangest thing of it all? Meredith says he refused to communicate any other way than through text messages. “It dragged on for a while,” she explains. “They would never talk on the phone, so I was getting suspicious.”

When the check came in the mail, things really started feeling strange to the family. Though they asked for a certified check for the amount of purchase, it arrived instead with \$4,200 written as the total. Wright texted again, saying he had accidentally combined the price of the bull and the trucking fees. He asked the Terrells to cash the check, keep their original \$2,000 and give the remaining \$2,200 back to the trucker when he arrived to pick up the bull.

At this point, there was no doubt in Meredith's mind this was a scam. She and Tim, however, agreed to see the interaction through to see what would happen. Continuing to text with Wright, Meredith offers to destroy the check so he could send one with the proper amount. His responses then became “aggressive,” as he accused the operation of trying to back out of the deal.

Doing some of her own research, Meredith looked up the address Wright had provided for his operation. The location was tied to an actual cattle ranch, but when she called the business, the manager she spoke to told her no one by the name of James Wright had ever been employed there. Interestingly enough, however, the operation had fallen prey to an eerily similar scam just a few months prior.

Next, Meredith called the Kansa bank where Wright's check was sent from. The check was confirmed as a fake, but it was tied to the account of a real cable company.

After destroying the fake check, Meredith confronted Wright, telling him over text that she knew he was trying to scam her family. Despite her request to be left alone, Wright sent a few more aggressive messages, heckling Meredith in an attempt to convince her to finish the transaction.

"It can happen to anybody."

Though the ordeal happened nearly two years ago, it's still prevalent in Meredith's and Tim's minds as they continue to grow their business. The farm has advertisements online and in a few print publications, so a lot of business does happen virtually, but the pair has a few practices to help ensure the leads they're pursuing are legit. "Some of it is intuitive knowing," she says, encouraging cattlemen to trust their gut when things don't feel right.



PAY ATTENTION TO THE INFORMATION A POTENTIAL CUSTOMER SHARES. Fairly early in the interaction, the individual should offer their full name, potentially an operation name and the location of their farm or ranch. Meredith says it's important to **DO SOME RESEARCH** to help confirm the legitimacy of the interest.

A CUSTOMER'S EXPERIENCE IN THE LIVESTOCK WORLD is also a good sign. Though experience isn't a deal breaker, the Terrells says the individual should at least be asking some relevant questions – details about expected progeny differences (EPDs), pedigree or Association membership.

PARTIES LOOKING TO PURCHASE AN ANIMAL SHOULD ALSO POSSESS LAND. Whether it's leased or owned, Meredith says anyone looking to bring cattle home should have a place to house them.

THE PROCESS OF SELLING ANIMALS SHOULD NOT BE COMPLICATED. If customers work on tight deadlines or insist on strange timelines, Meredith says cattlemen should take a step back. Wild or aggressive demands of when, where or how a purchase should be completed is never a positive sign.

When a contract is local, Meredith and Tim say it's always a good idea to **INVITE THE CUSTOMER TO THE RANCH OR FARM**. If there's a chance of sharing contacts, Meredith even suggests **REACHING OUT TO OTHERS TO CONFIRM THE CUSTOMER'S IDENTITY AND INTEREST**.

The biggest lesson – in combating both hackers and scammers – is to stay alert. "Just be careful," Meredith says. "And remember...it's ok to report it."

With social media rising in popularity, the possibility of being hacked or targeted by a scammer is more prominent than ever before. Reach out and share your story, the more visibility scams have, the fewer people that may get caught in them, Rieman says.

Social media and online commerce have changed the cattle business, with some extra effort it can be all for the positive.

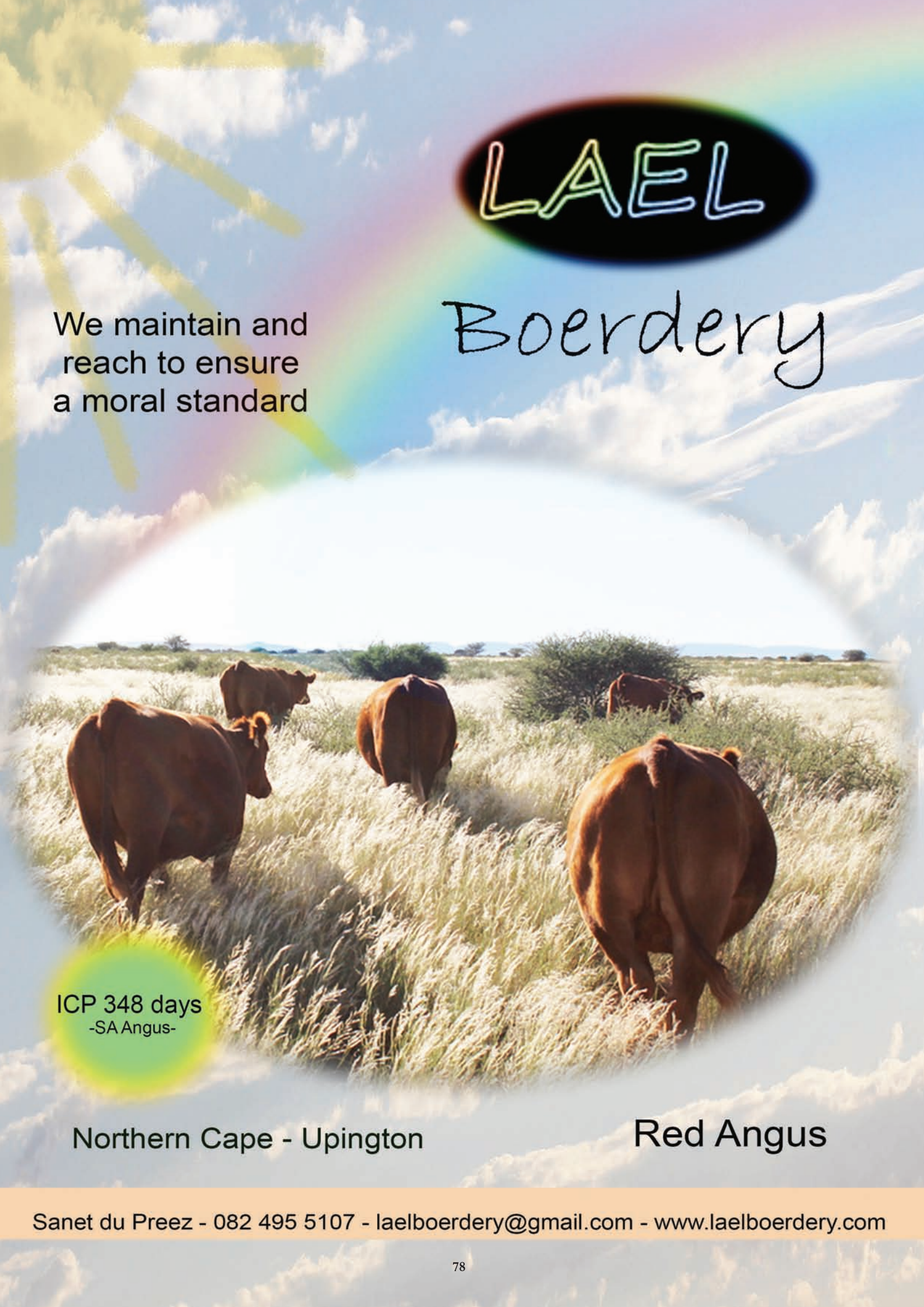


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Selecting for Fertility in Heifers

By Cliff Lamb, Texas A&M University



Animal breeding/genetics and reproduction are closely related when enhancing productivity of beef-cattle operations. The development and introduction of artificial insemination (AI) provided the opportunity to increase the influence of sires with superior genetics to improve production traits.

The addition of genetic technologies to this paradigm allows for improved methods of selecting sires and dams carrying the best genes for production and yield of edible products and resistance to disease and parasites. However, decreasing the number of influential parents within a population also increases the risk of propagating a recessive gene that could negatively affect the species.

Therefore, the antagonistic genotypic relationship between production traits and fertility suggests care must be taken to ensure increasing the frequency of genes with a positive influence on production does not negatively affect the fertility of the replacement females entering the herd.

The use of genetic technologies to improve reproduction has been slow in beef cattle, mostly due to the relatively low heritability of these traits. Among reproductive traits, those with the greatest heritability are associated with sexual maturity, probably because these traits depend on the animal attaining a certain age, body mass or body composition. The relationship between growth and development genes and reproductive success suggests genetic technologies must be used with care to improve production efficiency without



Photo credit: RC Malherbe

negatively affecting fertility and with a desire for genetic markers of fertility to develop selection indexes not focused solely on production traits.

There are multiple strategies (Table 1) that can be used to enhance fertility, such as which replacement heifers are selected, elimination of repeat breeder cows, measuring antral follicle count or selecting for age at first calving.

The natural tendency of producers is to choose the oldest and largest heifers to ensure a high proportion have initiated reproductive cycles at the start of their first breeding season. While selecting the heifers that are heaviest at weaning will increase the percentage that are pubertal at a year of age, not all of the heaviest heifers will have initiated reproductive cycles. These heifers also usually have larger birth weights and produce heavier calves, so one can inadvertently increase cow size in the herd.

Conversely, care should be taken when selecting for young, light-weight heifers that have reached puberty, because decreasing the age at puberty too greatly can increase the risk of a very young heifer attaining puberty and being mated by a co-pastured bull.

Having a veterinarian perform a reproductive tract score four to six weeks before the start of the breeding season can aid selecting replacement heifers that are pubertal and of moderately age and size.

Cows that have failed to conceive in one or more breeding seasons can be considered to have an inherent fertility problem, because they should have between three and six opportunities to conceive. An intensive characterization of the reproductive tracts of repeat breeder cows demonstrated

they had fewer follicles on their ovaries compared to age-matched cows that had never failed to produce a calf.

Antral follicle count can be used as an indicator of fertility and reproductive age in cattle. Using transrectal ultrasonography, a veterinarian can visualize the ovaries and count the number of fluid-filled follicles present.

In one experiment, crossbred beef heifers with fewer than 15 (low) follicles detected by ultrasonography had lower pregnancy rates at the end of a 60-day breeding season than heifers with more than 25 (high) follicles detectable by ultrasonography. This same classification also resulted in a difference in pregnancy rate and in the numbers of inseminations per pregnancy in dairy cows.

Therefore, antral follicle count seems to be an indicator of fertility and may even be an early indicator of how these cows will perform later in life.

Few producers know the pubertal status of their heifers before the start of the breeding season, because observing behavioral estrus is labor-intensive. Palpating the reproductive tract to estimate development or using ultrasonography to determine antral follicle number is limited by the age and size of the heifer, as well as the number of heifers that can be processed in a day. In addition, an ideal time to sort replacement heifers would be at weaning when they are too small to be palpated.

On the other hand, most cow-calf producers know the birth date of the calves and can calculate an age at first calving for the heifers. Thus, age at first calving may be an indicator of heifer fertility that can be utilized by beef producers.

Table 1: Heritability of traits associated with sexual maturity in beef cattle (adapted from Cushman and Perry, 2012)

Trait	Heritability	Reference
Age at puberty	0.14 0.24	(Snelling et al, 2012) (Morris et al, 2000)
Reproductive trait score	0.3	(Martin et al, 1992)
Yealing uterine horn diameter	0.44	(Snelling et al, 2012)
Age at first calving	0.28	(Minick Bornmann and Wilson, 2010)
Calving day	0.07	(Minick Bornmann and Wilson, 2010)
Follicle diameter	0.16	(MacNeil et al, 2006)
Heifer pregnancy rate	0.11 0.21 0.28	(Snelling et al, 2012) (Doyle et al, 2000) (Thallman et al, 1999)
Pregnancy rate	0.07	(MacNeil et al, 2006)
Stayability	0.15	(Doyle et al, 2000)



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SIX Habits of Highly Effective Breeders.

Mark McCully (CEO, American Angus Association. Angus Journal June 2023) has identified six habits for the improvement of effectiveness which is based on the 1989 self-help book by Stephen Covey, 'The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People'. The book went on to sell more than 40 million copies worldwide and become Covey's most famous work. According to Mark McCully the habits are easy to identify, but hard to do.

McCully classification of "highly effective" is not well defined and not determined by herd size, years in the business, sale average, show winnings or the number of bulls placed in artificial insemination (AI) studs. It is more subjective and comes down to an individual's definition of success.

1 Defining breeding objectives and goals. McCully is always impressed when he talks to breeders who are crystal clear about the type of Angus cattle they are breeding. They have clarity on traits important to them; the approach to improve or maintain those traits, the environment and market their genetics needs to thrive in and the overall design and purpose of their breeding program.

2 Discipline. Establishing objectives and goals is not that difficult. Consistently striving for them and not getting distracted by fads, trends or the success of other programs, however, is hard. Believing in the vision they have for their program, thinking in decades not years, and avoiding the temptation to chase something new every breeding season are impressive habits.

3 An established brand. Brands do not develop overnight. They are built over time and established largely on the two habits above. A brand is a promise, and that promise is clear and consistent with highly effective breeders.

4 Networking. It is apparent that highly effective breeders have a substantial network. They talk and interact with a lot of different people, with varying perspectives and expertise. They lean and share. McCully believes this habit contributes to success.

5

Always marketing. Highly effective breeders understand that it is not enough to just produce a great product. Marketing does not just occur in the weeks leading up to their sales. It's a constant focus. McCully observes them spending significant time on outreach to new and existing customers, industry engagement, and brand promotion through traditional and new media.

6

Forward-thinking. The final common thread McCully found across highly effective breeders is they continually look down the road. They anticipate change and stay open-minded and objective to new technologies and production methods. They don't rest on their laurels and continually challenge themselves to stay relevant.

Similar to Covey's book, identifying the habits of highly effective breeders is not that difficult. Putting them into action is. According to McCully the Angus breed is full of cattlemen and women up to the challenge, building programs to support their families and advance the beef industry, all with a focused eye on the future. Hopefully we can learn from them and some of their good habits will rub off on us!

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A comparison between Phase C and Phase D Growth Tests

Melville Ferreira & Freek Botes
ARC-Animal Production, Armoedsvlakte
ferreiram@arc.agric.za

Background

Why should I do performance testing? The answer to this question is simply that you need to measure to know if you are making progress or going backwards. If you do not measure, you cannot know how your animals are performing in terms of their efficiency. Your bull has by far **the greatest impact on the genetic progress of your herd** - at any one time your breeding bull makes up to 50% of the genetics of your herd. By doing Phase C or D tests, you will be able to determine if you are achieving your breeding objectives, in particular when it comes to how feed efficient your animals are and also their growth traits in terms of daily gain.

Due to a continuous rise in the population that is associated with an increased demand for protein, sustainable beef production is also becoming more important to ensure the demand is met over the long term. Together with the rise in the population, the natural resources are also under pressure and beef producers need to produce the proverbial “more from less”. In South Africa, livestock production contributes substantially to food security. The livestock sector is also a major role player in the conservation of biodiversity through a variety of well-adapted indigenous and non-indigenous breeds, as well as rare game species. The South African beef industry is challenged by globalisation, increasing volumes and competition, strong industrialization of the value chain, shortage of skilled staff and pressures to meet changing

customer needs. All this stresses the importance of having data and information pertaining to how efficient we are and the level of the genetics of our national herd.

Feed is one of the major cost drivers of beef production, and due to its high cost, it is important to have a positive feed margin. A positive feed margin can be influenced by the feed price and feed efficiency (gain/kg feed consumed). This can be achieved by improving the Average Daily Gain (ADG) and reducing the feed costs by breeding animals that utilize feed more efficiently.

The National Beef Cattle Recording and Improvement Scheme (NBRIS) was established in accordance with Section 20 of the Animal Improvement Act, 1998 (Act 62 of 1998), whereby the performance of animals is recorded and progeny summaries are calculated.

The NBRIS of the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) has 7 phases namely.

- Reproduction phase (Phase A1)
- Suckling phase (Phase A2)
- Post weaning phases:
 - On-farm recordings (Phase B)
 - Central performance tests (Phase C)
 - On-farm performance tests (Phase D)
 - Feedlot recordings (Phase E1)
- Slaughter phase (Phase E2)



Photo credit Wilru Campher

In table 1 below, follows a comparison between Phase C and D.

	Phase C	Phase D
Age	151 to 250 days	Maximum age 425 days (variation within group not more than 100 day)
Adaption	28	21 – 90
Feed	Bulls receive standardised ration across all ARC testing stations.	Each breeder decides what ration he wants to use.
Weight limits at start of test	Depending on breed	Only when more than 1 breeder form part of the test.
Regularity for weighing of bulls	Weekly	Bi-weekly
Reports	Breeder receives interim reports bi-weekly	Breeder to submit weights bi-weekly to ARC
Test length	84	84 – 270
Minimum bulls per test	1	10
Traits measured · ADG · FCR · Kleiber · Body measurements · RTU	Yes Yes No Yes Yes	Yes No Yes Yes Yes
Individual feed intake measured	Yes	No
Merit award	Yes	No
Performance compared to	An individual bull's performance is compared to the 10-year rolling average per breed per station.	Bulls are compared within the group.

ADG – Average Daily Gain, FCR – Feed Conversion Ratio, RTU – Real Time Ultra sound scan

Summary

Both phases C and D have advantages as indicated in table 1. Phase C is the only test where individual feed intake can be measured. Bulls are fed individually and weighed weekly and feed intake is also measured weekly. On a bi-weekly basis when interim reports are issued, the ADG and Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR) are calculated. FCR is a ratio of the amount of feed consumed by the bull and the weight gained over the test period. Currently the average FCR in SA is 4.5 – 7.5 across all breeds. In Phase D tests individual feed intake cannot be measured, there is however a Kleiber ratio value calculated. The Kleiber ratio is a useful indicator of growth efficiency and an indirect selection criterion for feed conversion. Phase C tests are more expensive than Phase D tests because a Phase C test is an intensive test (lasting 84 days) with individual feed intake calculated.

The global trend is however to focus more on RFI (Residual Feed Intake) since it is phenotypically independent of growth and body weight. The trait is also moderately

heritable (18-49%) which enable us to improve feed efficiency by selecting for efficient animals. RFI is the difference between actual and predicted feed intake and in line with an animal's maintenance requirements in relation to its body weight and growth. It is suggested that it may be more desirable to select for a trait such as RFI, since, by selecting for high ADG and low FCR, may result in bigger animals with higher maintenance requirements.

Feed costs amounts to 55% – 70% of the total production cost, and a 10% improvement in feed efficiency of animals may result in a feed cost saving of several hundred million rand per annum for the industry as a whole. Measuring efficiency will assist in decisions that increase productivity without increasing costs of production and will result in greater profit margins. Feedlot studies in the USA demonstrated that a 10% improvement in ADG as a result of a 7% increase in intake improved profitability by 18%, whereas, a 10% improvement in feed efficiency returned a 43% increase in profits. By improving feed efficiency, it will thus significantly contribute to a more sustainable and profitable production system.

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6. Ability to read, understand and memorize.
7. Ability to walk away.
8. Ability to manage time effectively.
9. Ability to stay positive and optimistic.
10. Ability to make decisions based on facts not based on emotions.
11. Ability to speak in front of a large audience.
12. Ability to keep trying even after failure.
13. Ability to invest money on your own.
14. Ability to do things irrespective of the situation you are in.
15. Ability to self-analysis.
16. Ability to learn how to learn.
17. Ability to understand what others feel.
18. Ability to remain consistent.
19. Ability to master your thoughts.
20. Ability to write words to persuade and influence others.
21. Ability to ask for help.

(borrowed from social media)

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Nutritional Considerations for Heifer Development

By Brian Fieser, originally published in *Progressive Cattle* –
Red Angus Genetic Advancement Special Edition. Vol 1, Number 1

Proper nutritional planning for raising productive heifers starts well before the animals are of breeding age. Producers need to consider what a heifer on their operation needs to succeed at every stage of life.

Regardless of the class of cattle you are feeding, the first step is to determine the goals of the feeding program. This includes knowing your on-farm labor, forage and ingredient-handling restrictions and opportunities, as well as the size and look of the animals you want to have at the end of the program. The nuances of feeding breeding stock take on greater dimension compared to feeder cattle because of the long-term consideration required of breeding stock. In a broad sense, the goal with replacement heifers is to give them the nutritional foundation for success that will hopefully allow them to produce eight to 10 big, healthy calves in their productive lifetime.

One of the most common questions posed in heifer development is if a high-input or low-input feeding program is the way to go. The answer, as in so many complex situations, is: "It depends." The fact is: There isn't any right program that fits everyone. Every producer should do what fits their operation and their resources best. This could mean growing heifers in big grass pastures with some supplemental feed or,

on the other end of the spectrum, it may include confining heifers in smaller pens and feeding a hay or silage-based TMR. My first (and best) piece of advice when developing heifers is the same advice when feeding any other class of cattle: Don't let the check you write limit the size of the check you receive. In other words, don't waste any money on a feeding program by overfeeding or throwing every bell and whistle on the market at them. But we can do a good job of monitoring our input costs while making the most desirable product possible to buyers (or for our own replacement heifers).

The best place to start is always the beginning, and in this case, it may be much earlier than is typically considered in developing heifers. As our understanding in so many areas, such as genomics and nutrition it is important to know the indirect responses we can influence. When I say the beginning, I mean all the way back to conception. With our knowledge of generational nutrition (the effect nutrition can have on subsequent generations), we know that when cows have their nutritional needs met, they produce offspring that are more productive than offspring born from nutritionally restricted cows. In essence, our heifer development program really starts with how we feed the cow producing the heifers we are developing.



What is the end goal?

Different development programs need to be aligned with the desired end goal: Are the heifers being developed for retention in your herd or for sale to others? If you are developing your own heifers, you probably won't want to have them on a super-aggressive plane of nutrition. However, if you are developing heifers for sale, in most instances bigger, stouter, more mature-appearing heifers will sell better than the younger, greener ones. The most important thing is that the heifers are healthy and cycling when it's time to breed them.

Especially when developing heifers for sale, it is important to know what kind of animal you are working with. If you have higher genetic or phenotypic merit-type heifers that have more potential value, it may be worth a bit more inputs to make sure these heifers look the part come sale time. If you are a fan of house-flipping reality TV shows, you see this same concept when you have a property with higher sale potential. When dealing with a valuable property, you include the extra investments to ensure you get all the value you can out of the property.

Take a longer view

When it comes down to nutrient details of a heifer developing program, here are a few guidelines: Under no circumstances should heifers be shortened on protein. Due to the long-term development expectations, vitamin and mineral inputs on heifers fit into this category as well. Energy is the place where we can potentially pinch pennies by strategically targeting the needed average daily gain. Protein is essential because of its role in muscle maintenance and development and proper rumen function. These are critical to the animal's short-term and long-term functionality; therefore, if we don't meet these needs, we will see compromised results. Vitamin and mineral nutrition are critical for skeletal and tissue health, as well as

immune function, and it is essential for getting a heifer pregnant, maintaining that pregnancy, and proper recuperation and lactation following birth.

Energy levels allow us more flexibility because it will largely determine the rate of growth and body condition. In low-input situations, I would recommend a targeted ADG of 0.68 kg to 0.9 kg per head. In higher-input settings it might be worth targeting an ADG up to 1.13 kg per head. The upper limit on feeding energy is to make sure the heifers are not overly conditioned to the extent where buyers are turned off or their ability to breed is impaired. For heifers being retained in the herd, gaining weight beyond what will allow them to breed up at the sired time can be considered wasted input. With the genetic advancements we have seen in just the past decade, the kind of cattle we are producing now have more muscle and potential for growth than cattle we raised in the past. For this reason, it is imperative to make sure we have our nutrition programs in tune with the animals we are developing today.

In summary, make sure your heifer development programs are designed to meet the output goals you have set, and be conscious that the superior cattle we are producing have more potential than those produced on previous generations. There is an adage in cattle feeding. "It costs the same to feed a bad one as a good one," meaning you might as well feed a good one. If we can tailor our nutrition programs to the advantaged genetics, we have access to, we might be able to turn that old adage on its ear.

Superior genetics that are provided superior nutrition might be far more efficient than outdated, inferior cattle. A well-designed nutritional investment during development should pay dividends for years to come in heifers that become cows that calve, re-breed and wean big, healthy calves.



Red Angus heifers (Photo supplied by the SA Angus Society)

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Vansia Popeye



Angus Alliance Veiling,
Kroon Boma, 9 Augustus 2024

Piloting the Plane of Nutrition During Turbulent Drought Conditions

----- Macey Mueller for the Red Angus Genetic Advancement Edition (Red Angus Vol 1, Number 1) -----

A cow's prenatal nutrition influences everything from colostrum quality and milk yield to her calf's immune system and her ability to breed back on time. Providing adequate nutrition is critically important during the third trimester and through the breeding season, and years of research shows negative energy balance (weight loss) prior to calving and during early lactation can result in reduced cow and calf performance.

This is perhaps most evident in spring-calving herds, where low-quality winter forage and tough weather conditions coincide with increasing nutritional demands – energy requirements increase by about 20% between the second and third trimester and then surge an additional 40% during the early stages of lactation.

Nutritional needs are further compounded when you factor in the current widespread drought conditions. Many cows grazed dehydrated summer forages that were likely in early dormancy and lacking in adequate vitamins and minerals. Furthermore, many winter diets this year include late-harvested hay, crop residue or failed crops. With little hay carryover from 2021 and drought conditions throughout much of 2022, producers had to be creative to find enough roughage to winter their cows.

David Lalman, Ph.D., Oklahoma State University extension beef cattle specialist, said current forage conditions across much of the country are concerning and require special attention to maintain spring cow condition through a demanding nutritional season.

Research shows mature cows calving in body condition score 5 or greater produce enough colostrum with adequate concentrations of immunoglobulins, which are important in creating a calf's initial passive immunity. She should maintain that condition through early lactation to optimize her potential to breed back early.

“When cows calve in thin condition, postpartum interval (the time from calving to the first estrous cycle) is extended, and further below BCS 5 those cows are at calving time, the longer the postpartum interval will be. The result is fewer cows cycling and breeding early when the bulls are turned out”, Lalman said. “Avoiding negative energy balance can be difficult and expensive in years like this with limited forage,

especially in herds calving early. After calving, the goal should be to maintain cow body condition or at least minimize her weight loss.”

Determining Supplementation Needs

Forage testing is fundamental to beef cattle nutrition and essential to best determine supplementation needs. Test results can be combined with other pertinent information in determining gaps or excesses in a nutritional plan and to evaluate various forage and supplement options.

“With a forage test and a little time working with a ration evaluation program, you should be able to determine whether that forage is adequate for protein, energy and mineral,” Lalman said. “In most cases, there will be deficiencies or excesses, and you can use the program to determine how well different supplement options fill those gaps left by the forage base and how much of the supplement you should feed.”

Taking the time to calculate available nutrients can also be financially beneficial. When you consider that nutrition expenses – pasture, purchased and harvested hay, and concentrate feeds – make up between 40% and 50% of the annual cost to maintain a cow, it is easy to see how efficient supplements can affect your bottom line. For example, with a hay test, some producers are going to discover their hay contains inadequate protein to maintain a cow during gestation – about 8% of diet dry matter. However, some will discover their hay contains 9% protein or more. In those cases, especially during gestation, supplementation may not be required – which could lead to daily savings.

“Minimizing the cost of production is the key to being profitable in a commercial cow-calf operation,” he said. “A 2021 Kansas State University study shows that differences in production costs account for about two-thirds of the difference between the most profitable and the least profitable cow-calf operations. In comparison, differences in revenue due to production (i.e., weaning weight and price) accounted for one-third of the difference between the most and least profitable operations.

“Reconciling nutritional needs with a hay test and a ration evaluation program is the first step in evaluating opportunities to cut back on winter nutrition costs.”

Avoid Vitamin A Deficiencies

In addition to reduced energy and protein levels in forage, drought years can also lead to vitamin A deficiencies, which can affect both cow and calf. Cattle have the ability to convert the carotene in the green pigment of plants into the active form of vitamin A, and during a grazing season with average moisture levels, cows can usually consume enough vitamin A to last two to three months.

Unfortunately, Lalman said a lot of the forage grazed and harvested this past year in the US, had lost most of its green and subsequently, its carotene concentration.

“Regardless of the year, vitamin A generally declines rapidly in forage as it becomes more mature through the fall, and the carotene concentration of that forage drops down close to zero,” he explained. “As we saw this past year, that process can happen a lot earlier during a drought.”

While it is nearly impossible to see symptoms of vitamin A deficiencies in cows, Lalman said it can reduce a newborn calf ability to establish a strong immune system and cause late-term abortions, stillborn calves and retained placentas.

Fortunately, vitamin A supplementation is both relatively easy and inexpensive, and during the grazing season is typically achieved through a free-choice mineral program.

Lalman said a gestating cow requires about 30 000 international units of vitamin A per day, and that number increases to nearly 55 000 IU per day for a lactating cow.

Nutritional Consistency Matters

Lalman said it is becoming apparent that radical changes in a cow's diet or nutritional plane around the time of breeding can cause detrimental early embryonic loss, with some data indicating a 10% decline in timed AI conception rates.

“A common scenario might be to maintain cows in a dry lot or sacrifice pasture where hay and supplement is fed, then once timed AI is completed or bulls are turned in, the cows are turned out on lush green pasture,” he said.

“That presents a sudden change in their diet and plane of nutrition, and Dr. George Perry's work has shown that those radical changes can result in lower early breeding success.”

“Instead, just prior to and during the breeding season, diet changes should be gradual if possible. This may require adjustments in the timing of breeding (calving season) as well as the nutritional program.”



Photo credit: SA Angus Society

Rheeboksplaat Angusstoet

*"Ons teel mediumraambeeste met lae geboortemassa
en selekteer vir gehardheid."*



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Ceres
GIELIE GELDENHUYS

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 SAV NET WORTH 4200
DAM SAV MADAME PRIDE 9477
 SAV MADAME PRIDE 0075

Registration: 19860277
 Tattoo: 0969
 Born: 02/01/2020
 Birth Weight (BW): 78
 Weaning Weight (WW): 952
 Yearling Weight (YW): 1578
 Yearling Scrotal (SC): 39
 From: Schaff Angus Valley, Rust Angus and Carlson Angus, ND

EPDs as of 7/27/23														Production										Maternal								Carcass								\$Value							
	CED	BW	WW	YW	RADG	DMI	YH	SC	DOC	Claw	Angle	PAP	HS	HP	CEM	Milk	Hd/Dt	MW	MH	\$EN	CW	Marb	RE	Fat	\$AxH	\$AxJ	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$G	\$B	\$C															
EPD	10	-.1	61	104	.2	1.05	.1	1.11	18	.23	.38	-1.32	.42	9.2	9	31	-	43	-.1	-9	43	.61	.3	.087	47	1	74	68	78	40	118	227															
Acc	.44	.68	.6	.48	.35	.35	.47	.55	.55	.33	.32	.27	.29	.25	.33	.34	-	.39	.41	-	.45	.4	.4	.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-															
% Rnk	25	25	55	60	85	55	85	35	50	1	10	5	30	80	45	20	-	70	85	40	60	45	85	95	75	80	20	25	70	60	70	60															



SARGENT

7AR103 STRA SARGENT

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He ranks in the top 1% for WW and top 2% for YW while also ranking at the top of the breed for milk and CEM.

SARGENT'S dam is a high performance Spartacus daughter with tremendous feet and a good udder.

PIE ONE OF A KIND 352
SIRE STRA GENERAL 882
 BIEBER PRIMROSE 107W
 BIEBER SPARTACUS A193
DAM STRA TINA 662
 STRA TINA 457

Registration: 4657003
 Tattoo: 2019
 Born: 19/02/2022
 From: Tweed Red Angus, ND

EPDs as of 7/27/23																			
	ProS	HB	GM	CED	BW	WW	YW	ADG	DMI	Milk	ME	HPG	CEM	STAY	Marb	YG	CW	REA	FAT
EPD	89	59	31	14	-1.6	85	135	.31	2.16	31	10	11	10	15	.47	.14	29	.15	.04
Acc	-	-	-	41	44	43	42	42	12	16	4	0	23	31	38	30	39	35	33
% Rank	55	43	64	38	55	1	2	5	97	9	86	54	8	63	36	88	27	45	92



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Wilru Campher

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Ventersdorp



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AGM 2023

The 106th Annual General Meeting of the Angus Society of South Africa took place on 5th October 2023 at Netherwood Farm - KZN.

The meeting was held at The Bull Ring and was well attended by members from the KZN region. Netherwood Farm proved to be a splendid venue in the beautiful Midlands Meador and members attending from other regions made the most of their visit.

Mr. I.C. Liebenberg was elected for his second term as Chairman of the Angus Society. Mr. Rudi Claassen, who is serving on the Council as the Free State representative was elected as Vice-Chairman.

Mr. James Kelly made his debut to Council by being elected as Representative

of KZN. Mr. Michael Frost was re-elected and will continue to represent the Eastern Cape. Mr. Loutjie Campher was also re-elected as Council member for North West and Northern Cape. Mr. Basie Bezuidenhout was elected as Additional Council member.

We would like to thank our Council members for their time and efforts to serve on the Council for the good of the Angus breed and community.

**“Great Leaders don't set out to be a leader, they set out to make a difference.
Its never about the role, but always about the goal.”**

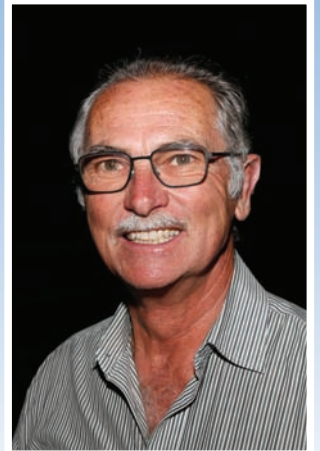


ANGUS

Raad | Council 2023/2024



Rudi Claassen
Chairman and
Free State



Basie Bezuidenhout
Interim Vice-chairman &
Additional Council member



James Kelly
Council member
for KZN



Michael Frost
Council member for
the Eastern Cape



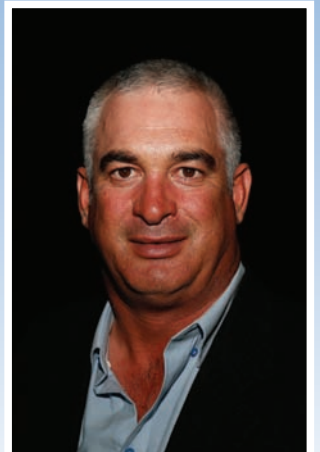
Loutjie Campher
Council member: North
West & Northern Cape



Seymour Currie
Council member for
the Western Cape



Ruben Redelinghuys
Council member for
Mpumalanga, Limpopo & Gauteng



JM Steyn
Additional Council
member

Annual Prize Giving Dinner

The annual prize giving dinner was held on the evening of 5 October 2023 at the tranquil surrounding of the Midlands Meander. The dinner was hosted by the KZN Angus Club at the Fork 'n Cleaver restaurant on Netherwood Farm.

A big thank you to our sponsors for the evening, Woolworths, Molatek, Farmers Livestock Agents and Antonij Rupert Wines.

As per tradition, the PAT MOSSOP Awards were handed out to winners attending the evening.

The Free State Angus Club was awarded the Hennie Langenhoven Trophy for Club of the Year 2023.

The SA Angus Society Trophy for Commercial Producer of the Year went to Rowan Stretton from the Eastern Cape.

Rudi Classen, who was elected as Vice-Chairman earlier during the AGM, was awarded the Ben Oosthuizen Trophy for Personality of the Year 2023.

James Kelly walk away as Best Young Breeder of 2023 and was awarded the NJ Kruger Herdenkingstrofee.

Thank you to all our loyal Angus members for attending the event and making it a successful evening!



Pat Mossop awards



Club of the Year 2023 was awarded to the Free State Angus Club. Issie Liebenberg and Rudi Claassen



Commercial Producer of Year 2023 was won by Rowan Stretton from the Eastern Cape

2023



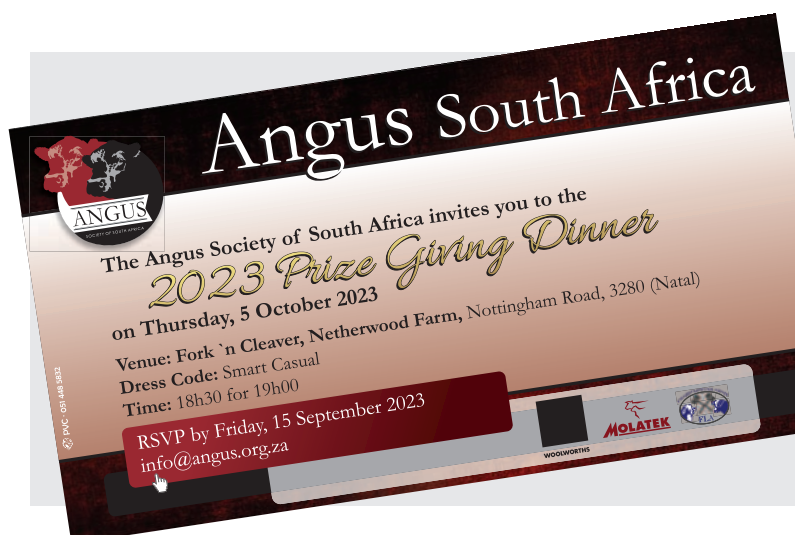
Personality of the Year 2023 was awarded to Rudi Claassen



Young Breeder of the Year 2023 was won by James Kelly



Thank you to our Ex-Officio, Basie Bezuidenhout for his time served on Council



Phox Borrowdale from FLA making some money for the Society!



Beautiful flowers for two beautiful ladies. Anè Liebenberg and Tanya Evans were handed flowers by James Kelly

Annual Prize Giving Dinner

2023



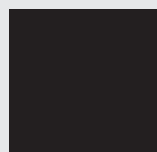
Enjoying the party! Martin and Caitlin Watson, Taylor Knott, Beth and James Kelly.



Schutz Marais from Woolworths

Sponsors: Woolworths, Molatek and Farmers Livestock Agents.

Pat Mossop Awards: Dr Enslin Coetzee, Dr Rob Kleinloog, Taylor Knott, Andrew Masterson, James Kelly, Brian Macaskill, Rob Parker, Seymour Currie, Friedel Keyser, Izelle van Rooyen, Johannes Botha, André Breytenbach, Loutjie Campher, Dr Johan Kahts and JM Steyn.



WOOLWORTHS



Struan Stanford from FLA, Frans Marais from African Angus and Ashley Stanford FLA



Gawie Bester (Molatek), Gerhard van As (Molatek), Angus Williamson and Neale White (Molatek)



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AUCTION NOTICE

Belangrike & **VEILING** Datums



Date	Event	Location	Contact person	Cell:
January 8	Office opens			
February 29	Swellendam Skou		Brady Dabner	071 604 1839
March 1 - 2	Swellendam Skou			
March 15 - 16	Hertzogville Skou		RC Malherbe	084 851 8262
May 1 - 2	Angus National Show	Bloemfontein	JM Steyn	072 408 5699
May 14 - 17	NAMPO	Bothaville		
May 30	Angus Pioniers Veiling	Melkbosstrand	Seymour Currie	083 327 9186
June 6	Wes-en Suid-Kaap Angusklub Veiling	Moorreesburg	Hoffie van Blerk	083 455 1151
July 10	Transgariep Veiling	Trompsburg	Martiens le Roux Ian MacLachlan	082 772 9472 082 895 8188
July 18	East Cape Angus Sale	Alexandria	Anton Vermaak Warwick Evans	082 326 8509 082 571 6088
July 18	Hide-A-Way's Veiling	Migdol	Piet Delpot Hendrik Delpot	082 550 7847 082 222 4269
July 18	Rheeboksplaas Veiling	Ceres	Gielie Geldenhuys	082 460 6327
July 19	Southern Berg Pure Breed Sale	Underberg	David Louwrens Piet Louwrens	083 277 7933 073 664 7111
July 20	Prestige Veiling	Moorreesburg	Philip de Waal	083 651 9266
July 24	Midlands Elite Angus Sale	Nottingham Road	James Kelly	071 304 5592
July 25	Mega Angus Veiling	Marquard	Gerrit van Rooyen	083 287 2092
August 9	Angus Alliance Veiling	Kroon Boma	RC Malherbe JM Steyn Loutjie Campher	084 851 8262 072 408 5699 082 255 3037
August 13	Winterberg Sale	Tarkastad	Scott King Michael Frost	078 925 8265 084 425 0006
August 15	Aucdeen Veiling	Molteno	Hannes Aucamp	082 772 5323
August 20	Astro Angus Veiling	Hendrina	Anton Pelser Jnr.	072 395 0561
August 21	Makojalo & Friends Sale	Potchefstroom	Kobus Delpot Mari Roets	083 627 8131 084 601 0263
August 22	The Best of British Breeds	Vryburg	Dirk Louw Anneri Otto	083 250 0210 082 805 0005
August 27	Benedetto Veiling	Bloemfontein	Rudi Claassen	082 553 8746
August 29	Vrystaat Angusklub Veiling	Bloemfontein	Basie Bezuidenhout	083 333 8903
September 3	Kroon Angus Veiling	Viljoenskroon	Johan Kahts Johannes Botha Issie Liebenberg	082 453 9817 083 272 6338 083 987 7060
September 4 - 7	Swartlandskou	Moorreesburg	Jannie Kotzè	083 651 9266
September 4	Knott Sale	Kei Road	Donald Knott	082 321 0673
September 5	Syferpan Sale	Queenstown	Lawrence Moorcroft	071 402 2028
September 11	VJ Sale	Cathcart	Chris Purdon	082 879 2744
September 12	Swartland Veiling	Moorreesburg	Philip de Waal	082 783 0011
September 17	Dunedin Sale	Dordrecht	Carl Miles	073 330 5579
September 25	Malherbe & Roberts Veiling	Hertzogville	RC Malherbe	084 851 8262
October 3	AGM 2024 AJV			
October 10	Bloemfontein Angus Veiling	Bloemfontein	John Boule	076 604 4900
October 12	Milagro Sale	Humansdorp	Andrew Masterson	082 321 1462
November 7	Molopo Angus Veiling	Vryburg	Basie Blignaut	082 338 8441
December 13	Office closes			



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Miles

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- 12 ROOI DRAGTIGE KOMMERSIËLE VERSE
- 18 SWART DRAGTIGE KOMMERSIËLE VERSE

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