

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality



Upcoming events:

- June 28-July 1—Beef Improvement Federation annual meeting, Columbia, MO
- June 30—Mississippi Homeplace Producers Feeder Calf Board Sale nomination deadline
- August 2—Mississippi Homeplace Producers Feeder Calf Board Sale, Hattiesburg, MS
- August 12-13—Deep South Stocker Conference, Moultrie, GA
- September 1—Mississippi BCIA Fall Bull Sale nomination deadline
- November 4-6—MSU Artificial Insemination School, Mississippi State, MS
- November 11—Mississippi BCIA Fall Bull Sale, Raymond, MS, 12:00 noon

Inside this issue:

- BIF 2010 Convention 2
- MBCIA Membership Application 4
- Feet and Leg Conformation 4

Cattlemen's Exchange Feeder Calf Board Sale Results

The second annual "Cattlemen's Exchange Producer Sale" was held on April 6, 2010 in Winona, MS. Beef cattle producers from across the state marketed farm-fresh and assembled stocker cattle in 18 truck-load lots.

In this type of auction the cattle are not present at the sale facility. Short video clips of the cattle are posted on the Internet at msucare.com/livestock/beef/feeder_calf.html, along with detailed descriptions of cattle type, weight, and management for perspective buyers to view prior to the sale. The same videos are presented during the auction. Arrangements for delivery from the farm of origin to the buyer's location are made after the sale.

This type of marketing option is extremely efficient for all the parties involved. For example, in this specific sale, more than 1,200 head of cattle were sold in less than an hour. In the 2009 "Cattlemen's Exchange Producer Sale" more than 2,000 head were marketed, also in less than one hour. Together, the receipts from these sales exceeded \$2 million and averaged well above market value for the week of the sale. More importantly, the price premiums for recent MS board sales were even larger when compared to the MS average market when the cattle were loaded out.

Board sale was held on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 in Winona, MS. 18 pot-loads of cattle sold, all prices quoted \$ per cwt. All sales sold with a 2 percent shrink (except 1 pot-load with a 1 percent shrink) and a \$4-5 per cwt slide. Mixed loads quote steer weight first, followed by the heifer weight. Steer price quoted on the mixed loads, heifers \$6 per cwt back.

Feeder Steers: Bulk Medium and Large 1 and 2: 4 pot-loads 800 lbs 107.60; 1 pot-load 835 lbs 103.20.

Feeder Heifers: Bulk Medium and Large 1 and 2: 3 pot-loads 640 lbs 108.50; 1 pot-load 675 lbs 106.20; 4 pot-loads 700 lbs 105.40-106.00; 2 pot-loads 720 lbs 103.40.

Mixed Feeder Steers and Heifers: Bulk Medium and Large 1 and 2: 1 pot-load 625 lbs/600 lbs 109.20; 1 pot-load 670 lbs/625 lbs 105.25; 1 pot-load 725 lbs/700 lbs 108.75.

Here are those data (not including split loads) in comparison to the weekly prices at 10 other MS markets on April 5-6, 2010:

	Wt. Range	Range (\$ / CWT)	
		Exchange Sale	MS Average
Steers	600-700	105.25-109.20	90.00-112.00
	700-800	107.60-108.25	101.00-109.00
Heifers	600-700	99.25-108.50	82.00-103.00
	700-800	102.75-106.00	85.00-95.00

All cattle are Medium and Large 1-2.

These sales have been successful in bringing together cattle producers and livestock marketers to improve the profitability of both sectors of the beef production chain. Furthermore, the money from these transactions are kept in the pocket of Mississippians rather than letting it flow outside of the state. With this volume of trade, in addition to the anticipated increase, that revenue means a great deal to the local economies it affects.

The "Mississippi Homeplace Producers' Sale" will be held on August 2, 2010 and consignments are due by June 30, 2010. As always, those interested in taking advantage of this marketing opportunity should contact an local office of the Mississippi State University Extension Service.

Beef Improvement Federation 2010 Meeting Registration Open



Tours of Missouri cattle operations will be included in the BIF meeting

Registration is now open for the 2010 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) annual meeting and research symposium. This year's BIF convention will be held in Columbia, Missouri from June 28 through July 1, 2010. Detailed convention information is available online at www.bif2010.com. This includes registration, lodging, and travel information

Discover how the latest in beef genetics and production provide a unique gateway to profitability at the 2010 Gateway to Profit, hosted by the BIF. This annual conference is an international gathering of progressive commercial and seedstock beef cattle producers, veterinarians, academics and allied industry persons who want to hear, share, learn and apply the science of genetics to beef production.

International and U.S. industry leaders, representatives and innovators will showcase and discuss leading-edge genetic advancements, while offering attendees practical solutions to adapt these technologies into any operation. Tours of local cattle operations, educational destinations, and social events also provide additional opportunities for learning and networking.

Schedule of Events

Monday, June 28, 2010

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Pre-Conference Tour

Noon – 5:00 PM
Registration

5:30 – 7:00 PM
Opening Reception
Venue: Christopher S. Bond Life Sciences Center, University of Missouri Campus

7:00 – 8:30 PM
Animal Breeding Then to Now: A Tribute to Dick Quaas

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

6:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Registration

General Session I: Genetic Selection To Achieve Your Profit Objective: Using Today's Tools

8:00 – 8:30 AM
Welcome

8:35 – 9:25 AM
Genetics: Part of a Larger System

9:30 – 10:30 AM
Production (And) Or Profit? Focusing Our Breeding Objectives By Selecting For Profitable Genetics, Not Necessarily High Production Genetics

10:30 - 10:50 AM
Break

10:50 – 11:30 AM
Making Selection Tools Work For Us: Producer Panel Discussion
Adding Value to a Weaned Calf Marketing System
Adding Value to a Retained Ownership/End Product Marketing System

11:30 AM – Noon
How to Evaluate Investment In New Technologies

Noon – 2:30 PM
Beef Improvement Federation Awards Luncheon
Commercial Producer of the Year
Baker Scholarship Award
Roy Wallace Award
Ambassador Awards
BIF Continuing Service Awards
Graduate Fellowship Recipient Recognition

Concurrent Technical Keynote Sessions

2:30 – 5:30 PM
Joint Session: Advancements In Cowherd Efficiency And Live Animal, Carcass and Endpoint

2:30 – 5:30 PM
Advancements In Producer Applications

6:00 – 9:30 PM
Evening Dinner And Social Event

“...The first full day of the conference will focus on genetic selection to achieve profit objectives.”

BIF 2010 (Cont.)

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

6:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Registration

General Session II: The Future Of Beef Cattle Selection in the U.S.

8:00 – 8:55 AM

Raising Beef In A First World Country: Science, Media And Politics

9:00 – 9:30 AM

How The Next Generation Of Genetic Technologies Will Impact Beef Cattle Selection

9:35 – 10:00 AM

The Case And The Place For Genomic Tools In Beef Cattle Selection: How Beef's Implementation Model Will Be Different From The Dairy Industry's

10:00 – 10:30 AM

Break

10:30 – 11:00 AM

Implementation And Deployment of Genomically Enhanced EPDs: Challenges and Opportunities

11:00 – 11:15 AM

BIF's Role In Charting Our Future: Charge and Session Wrap-Up

11:15 AM – Noon

Annual meeting, Regional Caucuses, Election of Directors

Noon – 2:30 PM

Beef Improvement Federation Awards Luncheon

Seedstock Producer of the Year Award
Pioneer Award

President's Address

Afternoon Program Review

BIF Continuing Service Awards

2011 BIF Conference Invitation

International Guest Recognition

Concurrent Technical Keynote Sessions

2:30 – 5:30 PM

Advancements In Genetic Prediction

2:30 – 5:30 PM

Advancements In Emerging Technologies

2:30 – 5:30 PM

Advancements In Selection Decisions

5:30 PM

Evening on your own, or departure

Thursday, July 1, 2010

7:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Post-Conference Tour

Live Conference Coverage

Angus Production Inc. (API) will provide online coverage of the 2010 Gateway to Profit Conference. Visit www.bifconference.com during the conference for live happenings from the convention. The Web site will also feature post-event activities including symposium papers, photos and BIF award recipients.

About the BIF

More than 68 years ago, the true pioneers of the performance beef cattle movement began the research which led to the use of objective measurements for evaluating beef cattle. Selection based on objective measures has withstood the test of time and continues to undergo scrutiny by researchers, organizations and the ultimate judge, beef cattle producers.

As a means to standardize programs and methodology and to create greater awareness, acceptance and usage of beef cattle performance concepts, the Beef Improvement Federation was formed. The organization's three leaf clover logo would come to represent Industry, Extension and Research and to early pioneers of BIF, represented then, in the twilight of the 20th century.

For more information on the Beef Improvement Federation, visit www.beefimprovement.org.

"...Producers unable to attend the BIF conference can view many of the presentations online at www.bifconference.com."



The Beef Improvement Federation was formed in 1968 to create greater awareness, acceptance, and usage of beef cattle performance concepts.

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Assn.
Box 9815
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Phone: 662-325-7466
Fax: 662-325-8873
Email: jparish@ads.msstate.edu



Send questions or comments to Jane Parish,
Extension Beef Cattle Specialist,
Mississippi State University Extension Service

Jane Parish

Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or group affiliation, age, disability, or veteran status.



Visit MBCIA online at
<http://msucares.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/>

MBCIA Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(Check one) Seedstock: Commercial:

Cattle breed(s): _____

Completed applications and \$5 annual dues or \$100 life-time dues payable to Mississippi BCIA should be mailed to:

*Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association
Jane Parish, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762*

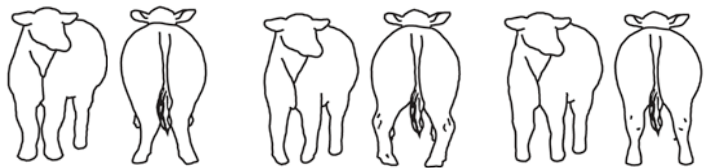
Feet and Leg Conformation

Visual appraisal of beef cattle is extremely important in maximizing longevity and functionality of the cowherd. Without correct structure, especially feet and legs, productivity and lifespan can be significantly decreased.

Evaluate feet and leg structure initially at selection. Correct conformation of feet and legs and how they blend into the shoulder and hip structure directly impacts how well cattle can forage and walk to water. When watching cattle walk, their back feet should step into the footprints from the front feet. From behind, the same distance between the hocks should be observed at the pasterns. Any decrease in the ability to forage will have a direct impact on body condition score and production.

Both the front and rear feet should be facing forward with no evidence of toes pointing in (pigeon-toed) or toes pointing out (splayfooted). Also, cattle should have a correct set or angle of the front and rear legs into the shoulders or hips. Evaluate cattle for being sickle-hocked (too much angle from pastern to hock to hip) or post-legged (too little angle from pastern to hock to hip), and watch for cattle that are straight in the front shoulders.

Make sure each toe is the same width and length. If toes are of uneven width, weight will not be distributed evenly. This is especially important for bulls as it will affect weight distribution on legs and hips during breeding. Look for signs of screwclaw. One toe will be thinner and will grow over the other toe. This will eventually lead to lameness and loss of production. This condition is heritable and should not be allowed to stay in the cowherd.



Splayfooted

Pigeon-toed

Normal



Buck-kneed

Calf-kneed

Normal



Sickle-hocked

Post-legged

Normal

Source: ANR-1323. Alabama Cooperative Extension System.