



North Carolina

ANGUS NEWS



Spring 2020

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Britt Family Farms

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EW 3114 of 128 Weigh Up

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From Sharon's Desk...

Spring is here! Our cows are enjoying some much needed green grass and we are "enjoying" being home with them.

Normally this is where I tell you all about the upcoming 37th Annual NC Angus Spring Fever Sale to be held May 2nd in Reidsville, NC at the Upper Piedmont Research Station but not this year. Unfortunately due to the challenges, cancellations and other issues associated with Covid 19 the NCAA has decided to cancel the sale for 2020. It was a tough decision for the executive team and the sale committee but in this uncertain time they felt it was the safest and best decision they could make given the circumstances. The association is exploring options of hosting a sale in the fall...so stay tuned we are going to make some lemonade out of these lemons we have been given!

On a more positive note our winter was full of Angus event. The NCAA Annual Meeting was held in February in Winston-Salem, NC. This year the NCAA celebrated its 75th Anniversary with the unveiling of the newly revised NCAA History book. You can find the new book online at ncangus.org. Thank you to Suzanne Brewer and the history committee for making this happen. The meeting received great support from members and vendors this year. A special thank you to our Allied Industry Partners: ABS Global, Cargill Feed & Nutrition, Farm Credit Associations of NC, Merck Animal Health, Premier Select Sires, Sink Farm Equipment, Sunset Feeds and Zoetis for their continued support of the association throughout the year. Also thank you to the Annual Meeting sponsors: Bartlett Milling Co., Genex, LTD Farm & Garden, Mt. Airy Equipment Co., Mt. Airy Southern States, NC Cattlemen's Association, ST Genetics and Winston Tractor Co. for making the day possible. Annual Meeting Chairman, Dwayne Livengood, took on the responsibilities of planning the meeting for the first time and he and his committee did a great job. A new board of directors and officers were elected at the meeting so read the Annual Meeting Article to learn about your new leadership team.

The NC Angus Association office has a new phone number, 336-583-9630, starting immediately be sure to update your contact information in your phone.

I will do my best to keep our website, ncangus.org, calendar of events up to date so you will know the status of upcoming sales. Everyone stay safe and I hope to see you soon.

Sharon Rogers
NCAA Executive Secretary

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North Carolina Angus News Advertising Rates

Ad & Copy Deadline & Rate • Issue I - Spring - March 1 • Issue II - Fall - September 1

Size	Cost/ad/publication	Size	Cost/ad/publication	Size	Cost/ad/publication
Full page (b/w)	\$275	1/2 page (b/w)	\$125	1/4 page (b/w)	\$75
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Contact the North Carolina Angus Association for more details on article submission and advertising.
NCAA • Sharon Rogers • 336-583-9630 - email: ncaa.sec@gmail.com

President's Message

As I look out the window of my home office at a group of Angus cows with large calves by their side resting comfortably on green grass it appears spring has finally arrived. This is my favorite time of the year as the grass starts growing, the leaves return on the trees, and the days get warmer and longer.

Normally we would be preparing for the Spring Fever Sale this time of year, but unfortunately with the threat of the COVID-19 virus the association had to make the hard decision to cancel the sale. The sale committee explored various options but ultimately cancellation proved to be the best option.

The board of directors and the sale committee will be meeting soon and will be exploring the possibility of holding the sale this fall. The Spring Fever Sale is a long-standing tradition in North Carolina and I am confident it will return in Spring 2021.

The demand for Angus cattle remains strong and I foresee a bright future for Angus breeders. I hope everyone can take a moment to look out their window and enjoy seeing their cattle out on green pastures.

*Sincerely yours,
Eugene Shuffler
704-876-9895
resdvm@yadtel.net*



2020 Schedule of Events

April 11	Knoll Crest Total Performance Bull & Comm. Heifer Sale, Red House, VA
April 19	NC Angus Assoc. Board of Directors Meeting Asheboro, NC
May 2	(postponed till fall) NC Angus Spring Fever Sale Reidsville, NC
May 9	Springfield Angus Production Sale, Louisburg, NC
May 21-25	Atlantic National Angus Show, Timonium, MD
May 30 – June 1	NC Junior Beef Round Up, Raleigh, NC
June 25-28	Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show, Lebanon, TN
July 5-11	National Junior Angus Show, Harrisburg, PA
August 22	Performance Legends Fall Kick Off Sale, Union Grove, NC

ATTENTION

New phone number for
The North Carolina Angus Association

336-583-9630



North Carolina Angus Association Membership Form

North Carolina Angus Association Inc.

\$50 Regular Membership (All Paying Members -
Purebred and/or Commercial)

Name _____

Farm Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone Mobile _____

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Return form along with \$50 membership dues to:
NC Angus Association
Sharon Rogers, 945 Woodsdale Rd, Roxboro, NC 27574

WHAT'S AN EPD WITHOUT GENOMICS?

By Holly Martin | American Angus Association

Jared Decker's grandfather was a cattleman. He taught Jared the right way to build fence. He taught him to value good cattle. And he taught him to respect the tradition of the cattle industry.

Decker is now assistant professor of beef genetics at the University of Missouri. While Decker continues to respect that tradition, he also recognizes the tools and technology of the modern-day beef industry.

The legacy of a strong and vibrant beef industry is dependent on recognizing new opportunities, Decker said, and in particular — technology adoption.

One technology that is commonly used today by cattlemen, is expected progeny differences (EPDs). Today, most beef producers don't give a second thought to the validity that EPDs bring to their breeding decisions. Decker reminded breeders not to lose sight of what "expected" means.

"Not only is it talking about a prediction of the future, but it's also meaning an average of a large group," he said. "It's a prediction about how the average of a calf crop is going to perform."

Recently, cattlemen have a new tool — genomics — that helps add to the accuracy of those EPDs, but there remains a question of whether they are having too much influence on the resulting EPDs.

The question comes up when an animal's EPDs change significantly after they are genomically tested. But Decker said EPDs without genomics are the average. Adding genomics ties specific genes to specific performance data measuring genetic similarity and increasing the accuracy of an EPD.

And yet, biology is still random. For the same reason that brothers in the human population are different, Decker said, so too are full-sibling bulls. One brother may be tall, lanky and fair-haired; and the other brother will be shorter, broader and have dark hair. The two are the result of the same mating, but the genetics they received are different.

"Consistency is one of those things that producers really crave," Decker said. "They want to make sure they have that very predictable, very uniform calf crop, and biology just continues to smack us in the face and not give us that consistency."

Genetic variation is always going to be there. The typical bell curve, regardless of selection will show consistently. While the shape of that curve stays the same, producers can slide that right or left based on the breeding decisions they make.

"For a long time in the beef industry, we would hear people market a set of flush-mate brothers," Decker said. "There was kind of the implication there that these full brothers were carrying identical genetics, and in reality, that couldn't be further from the truth."

Genomic testing actually allows us to identify those genetic differences between full siblings and allows us a much more accurate and a much more reliable estimate of those genetic merits, he said. That happens by using pedigree information to measure genetic similarity.

"So now the performance data that we collect and the contemporary groups that we report, the pedigree information and genomics — they're all working together, pulling in the same direction, trying to make sure that we get as accurate predictions as possible," Decker said.

We know adding genomics to the mix adds to the accuracy of an EPD and gets us there faster, said Stephen Miller, Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) director of genetic research. A recent study conducted by AGI determined how well performance and genomics predict an animal's underlying breeding value, since that represents his true genetic merit.

The study compared 178 genotyped Angus sires, born in 2015 and 2016, that have progeny performance records for Birth Weight (BW), Weaning Weight (WW), Yearling Weight (YW) and ultrasound IMF (IMF). Those records were used to calculate a classic progeny-based EPD without genomics as an indication of the sire's true breeding value. AGI compared these classic progeny-based EPDs on those bulls with EPDs calculated with different sources of information including parent information and adding their own performance, genotypes alone and genotype and performance together.

"In all the scenarios, an EPD generated with just a genotype is better at predicting the future of a young bull's progeny performance than an EPD that includes his performance data, but no genotype," Miller said.

The results tell us that a relatively inexpensive genomic test can improve the accuracy of EPDs significantly, allowing breeders to more accurately market their cattle to their customers.

So should producers spend their resources collecting phenotypic data (or performance data) or spend that time and money on genotyping? Decker said the research shows you should do both.

"At the end of the day, if we stop collecting trait records, our genetic evaluations fall completely apart," Decker said. "So, it's so important that we get complete, accurate records turned in because that's really what drives the bus."

The American Angus Association Board of Directors met Jan. 14 in Denver. Board directors and Association members had the opportunity to hear from Justin Sexten, Performance Livestock Analytics; Mike Thoren, Five Rivers Cattle Feeding; Jared Decker, University of Missouri extension; cattle industry sectors; and Stephen Miller, Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) director of genetic research during the Listening Session.

Member Spotlight Britt Family Farms

By: Sharon Rogers



James pictured with a few of his registered Angus cows and calves

The Britt name is synonymous with agriculture in Duplin and the surrounding counties in eastern North Carolina. Until recently the Britt family and farming were identified by their swine, poultry and row crop enterprises but over the last few years beef cattle have taken a more prominent position on the farming enterprise list thanks to the newest generation to farm the land.

James Ralph Britt, III is the most current family member to return to the farm to work alongside his father Ralph Britt, Jr. I had the pleasure of spending a day with James to learn more about the farm and his emerging interest in the purebred Angus business. For as long as he can remember he has been active on the farm. After high school, James began his college career at Lenoir Community College on a baseball scholarship. He knew he wanted to return to the farm so the next step in his education was to attend North Carolina State University where he graduated in 2017 from the Ag Institute with his Ag Business Management degree. I could tell this degree is serving him well because much of our conversation included discussions on the financial and marketing side of his Angus business. I asked James why he was interested in having cattle and in particular a herd of purebred cattle. He told me he has always had a strong interest in cattle and it was cultivated more during his time at NC State. To make cattle fit into the farming system and give James a deeper investment in the operation his father suggested having purebred cattle. This way he would be more involved due to the higher level of management needed for the registered herd. James has taken this very seriously and knows his costs, pedigrees and so much more about his operation. Being part of the younger generation, he has also embraced new technologies to help him with the management. For example, we were discussing some of the cattle and he quickly pulled up the AAA Angus mobile app from his smart phone to give me more details on his herd.

James may have only had registered Angus cattle for three years but he has totally immersed himself into everything Angus. The purebred Angus herd was started with the purchase of high quality females from select breeders across the southeast. James initially purchased a group of open heifers from Yon Family Farms and they have served as his foundation females. He similarly found other cattle in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia to add to his herd. He has also had success utilizing bulls from the Yon program as well. He purchased his herd sire, Yon High Cotton D885, in the 2017 fall sale and is very impressed with the calves and how they perform in the eastern NC environment. I had the opportunity to see High Cotton during my visit to the farm and was very impressed with his tremendous length, thickness, slick hair, good feet and great disposition. High Cotton also has the genetics to back up his good looks, being in the top 10-15% of the breed for all the Angus \$Value Indexes. This bull was a true investment in the future of the Britt herd and he is used to breed all the reg-

Member Spotlight Britt Family Farms Continued



Yon High Cotton D885 bull



Temporary fencing used to sub-divide pasture for rotational grazing.



Cows and fall calves grazing annuals

istered females after A.I. James is currently making plans to collect semen from High Cotton later this year. In addition the farm has a nice group of Yon Final Answer W494 sons, half-brothers to High Cotton, which they use in the commercial cow herd. In 2019 James had his first set of calves from heifers he developed on the farm. The calves are still only babies but he is pleased with the performance of the heifers and their calves so far. He really enjoys learning all the pedigrees and determining which ones work best.

My visit to the farm was in late November and James was getting ready to begin the estrous synchronization protocol for his registered females. He utilizes the 7-day CO-Synch+CIDR program with timed A.I. breeding. Dr. Harrison Dudley is his herd veterinarian and assist James with the A.I. process and his overall herd health program. James has eighty registered females to A.I. bred this year for fall calves. The A.I. bulls he plans to use include: Sitz Stellar 726D, ACC Ascension 7014, and Byergo Boomer 6351.

In addition to the cattle, James has developed a keen interest in the grazing plan for his herd. He told me they are a bit unique in the area because they are currently grazing cattle year round and only feeding a very limited amount of hay or baleage. Of course his predominant grass is Bermuda but he also has crabgrass and plants winter and summer annuals for grazing. The Britt's find the cattle to be complimentary to their row crop enterprises because they plant cover crop/annuals on their crop lands anyway. So it is a great fit to have the cattle use them for grazing. James said his cows are in better body condition in the winter than in the summer because of the annuals. These forages also help him to wean heavier calves without needing creep feed. He has found the most success with rye, rye grass and oats for winter along with millet and sorghum sudan grass for summer. They own no hay equipment so any hay they feed is purchased. They do have a tube balelage wrapper for baling their excess annuals, which they have custom harvested. I was very impressed by all the lush forage and temporary fences I saw during my visit. He rotational grazes the cattle across the annuals so by the time he has grazed the whole field he can return the cattle to the first paddock to start the process all over again. James was recently interviewed and featured on a NC Forage and Grasslands Council video discussing his gazing system. You can find the video on YouTube, My Favorite Forage: A Tale of Forage Diversity.

James markets his steer calves and non-replacement female calves directly off the farm to an individual buyer. He has been retaining the best heifers for his herd. Until this year when consigned a few females to special sales hosted by the NC Angus Association and other breeders. James began marketing a few bulls through the NC BCIP Bull Test Stations in 2018 and this year he had the high average daily gain Angus bull on test at Butner. During the tour I saw a group of bulls he is marketing directly from the farm. They were very functional,

Member Spotlight Britt Family Farms Continued

well developed yearling bull that could work in any herd. James realizes establishing a reputation for himself and his cattle will take time but he is willing to put in the time needed. His most interesting quote of the interview was, "the two "F's" are the most important". He was referring to fertility and good feet being the best foundation for any herd. James is continuing to grow his cattle herd with both registered and commercial females. Both sets of cattle will be used to grow his inventory and to help maintain the forages needed for their other livestock enterprises.

James is also very active in his community and within the cattle industry. He currently serves as a board member for the NC Angus Association which is helping him acquire more awareness on the business of the association, expand his breed knowledge and it gives him a network of other breeders to engage. You can reach James Britt to learn more about Britt Family Farms and his Angus herd by calling 919-738-6331.

A nice group of yearling bulls James has for sale at the farm



37th Annual SPRING FEVER SALE

Sale Postponed Until Fall 2020

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Holly Martin, director of communications
816-383-5143
hmartin@angus.org

RESEARCH HAIR SHEDDING EPD LAUNCHED BY ANGUS GENETICS INC.

Genetic tool will be used to predict heat tolerance and tolerance to fescue toxicosis.

The American Angus Association® launches a research expected progeny difference (EPD) for hair shedding Feb. 5, 2020. The research EPD has been in development since 2011 and is now brought to fruition through the collaboration of the American Angus Association®, Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI), Mississippi State University, North Carolina State University and the University of Missouri (MU).

Early summer shedding is an indicator for both heat tolerance and tolerance to fescue toxicosis, and it lends discussion to a genetic correlation between a dam's shedding score and the weaning weights of a calf.

"For producers in heat-stressed areas and producers grazing endophyte-infected (hot) fescue, hair shedding is an evaluation of environmental adaptability and cow performance," said Harly Durbin, past AGI intern and current MU Ph.D. student. "Cattle that shed their winter coat earlier in the season are less stressed and therefore can put the energy that might have gone to thermoregulation toward growth and taking care of a calf."

Hair shedding is evaluated on a 1-5 visual appraisal scale, where 5 is a full winter coat, and 1 is completely slick. While there is some variability in shedding patterns between individuals, cattle tend to shed from front to back and top to bottom. Using Angus data, hair shedding has been found to have a moderate heritability of 0.42, falling between that of weaning weight and marbling.

Through the two different projects, 14,465 scores from 8,642 individual cattle have been collected, and more data is encouraged to be submitted to increase the accuracy of predictability of the EPD.

"The selection tool has the ability to help Angus breeders, who are concerned with heat stress, develop registered Angus bulls better suited to work in their commercial customers' environments," said Kelli Retallick, AGI genetic service director. "The entire concept of creating tools to select for increases in genetic potential for adaptability in a specific environment is exciting, and as an organization, we will continue to engage in these opportunities as they arise."

Hair shedding scores should be collected between mid-April and mid-June. Since regional climates exist, it is important to take those measurements when the amount of hair shed varies the most. It is important to note, age has a significant effect on hair shedding. For that reason, cattle must be at least a year of age before hair shedding scores are collected.

Visit Angus.org for more information about the new research EPD.

– Written by Karen Hiltbrand, Angus Communications

ATTENTION

New phone number for The North Carolina Angus Association
336-583-9630

ATTENTION NC JUNIOR ANGUS MEMBERS

2020 WILLIAM M. SANDERS SCHOLARSHIP applications are due to NCAA by May 1, 2020

The William Sanders Scholarship and the North Carolina Angus Association are pleased to support youth and education. A \$1,890.00 Scholarship will be awarded to a qualified applicant for 2020. To be a qualified applicant you must be a member in good standing with the NC Junior Angus Association, a graduating high school senior or a past William M. Sanders Scholarship recipient. Application can be found on ncangus.org/juniors or contact the NCAA office 336-583-9630.

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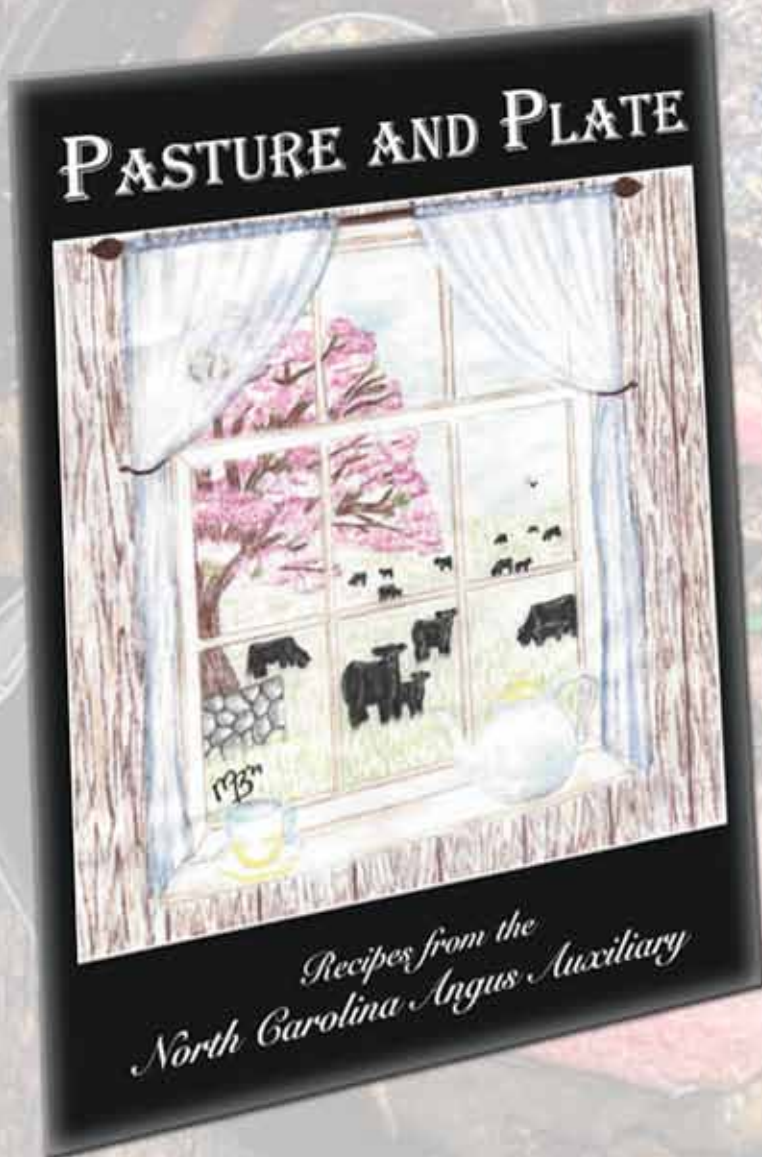
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For more information visit www.ncangus.org/auxiliary.html

NORTH CAROLINA ANGUS ASSOCIATION HOLDS 75TH ANNUAL MEETING

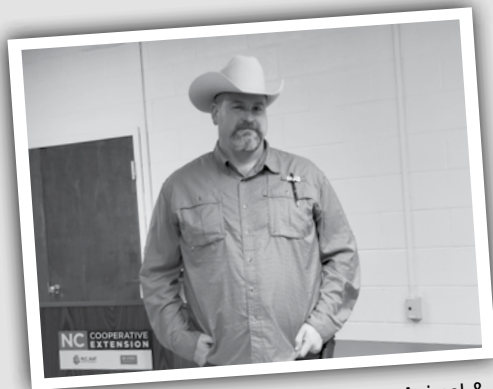
By: Sharon Rogers, NCAA Executive Secretary



AAA Regional Manager, Reece Tuckwiller, discusses current issues at American Angus



Thank you to the NC Angus Auxiliary for the outstanding 75th Anniversary decorations



Dr. Nathan Long, Associate Professor Animal & Veterinary Sciences Department with Clemson University presented the educational program on "You Are What Your Mother Eats, Does This Apply to Your Cows?" focused on fetal programming

The 2020 North Carolina Angus Association Annual Meeting was held February 8, 2020 at the Forsyth County Agriculture Building in Winston-Salem, NC. The NCAA celebrated the huge accomplishment of reaching its 75th Anniversary at this meeting. It was a great day to learn about new innovations in the Angus and cattle industry, conduct association business, rekindle old friendships and make new ones.

The day began with attendees visiting our many trade-show vendors to learn more about new industry trends and applications. A special thank you to our Allied Industry Partners: ABS Global, Cargill Feed & Nutrition, Farm Credit Associations of NC, Merck Animal Health, Premier Select Sires, Sink Farm Equipment, Sunset Feeds and Zoetis for their continued support of the association throughout the year. Also thank you to the Annual Meeting sponsors: Bartlett Milling Co., Genex, LTD Farm & Garden, Mt. Airy Equipment Co., Mt. Airy Southern States, NC Cattlemen's Association, ST Genetics and Winston Tractor Co. for making the day possible. Other highlights of the event included an educational session, updates on association, auxiliary and junior business and the annual award presentations to members for their outstanding work throughout the year.

The afternoon seminar was presented by Dr. Nathan Long, Associate Professor Animal & Veterinary Sciences Department with Clemson University. His presentation "You Are What Your Mother Eats, Does This Apply to Your Cows?" focused on fetal programming during gestation and how poor management can lead to negative fetal programming. Negative fetal programming can then lead to poor performance throughout the life of the animal in both maternal and terminal animals. Dr. Long's presentation generated many questions from the membership on how to prevent these challenges within their own herds. At the conclusion of the educational program, our event sponsors held their "meet and greet" session giving them an opportunity to discuss their products and services with the members.

Next on the agenda was the Annual Business Meeting of the NC Angus Association. Each association committee shared their annual report of activities for 2019 with the membership. The retiring NCAA board members were recognized and thanked for their three years of service to the association: Howard Gentry, Derek Goddard, Tim Gofforth, Richard Kirkman and Roy Swisher. New board members were nominated and elected to serve the association

NORTH CAROLINA ANGUS ASSOCIATION HOLDS 75TH ANNUAL MEETING

By: Sharon Rogers, NCAA Executive Secretary

for the next three years. New boards members are: John Brewer, Derek Goddard, Brooke Harward, Zach Moffitt and Jeff Wood. Following the membership meeting the board of directors meet to elect officer. The 2020 NCAA officers are Eugene Shuffler – President, Mike Moss - Vice President and Kim Starnes - Treasurer.

The evening banquet brought out even more members to enjoy dinner and fellowship. The association celebrated reaching the milestone of 75 years at the banquet. President Shuffler introduced the newly updated NC Angus history book to members and thanked Suzanne Brewer and her committee for all their hard work in compiling the recent history. Also the NC Angus Auxiliary provided lovely decorations and an anniversary cake to help with the celebration. Thank you to the Auxiliary for helping to make the evening extra special. This year the annual auction was the first event of the evening. Thanks to Stanley Smith and all of the dedicated NCAA members who participated in the auction. The preferred spots on the NCAA Website, the ad spaces for association sales and the select pages in the NC Angus News magazine were sold. The juniors auctioned homemade cakes and the Auxiliary auctioned a weekend getaway at the Lane Angus Farm guest house. A special thank you to everyone who bid and purchased all the items to benefit the associations.

Several awards were presented to members during the banquet. Shuffler Farms of Union Grove received the Ira Gentry Memorial trophy for consigning the high selling lot in the 2019 Spring Fever Sale. In addition, several farms were recognized as the "judge's choice" for having the top consignments in the 2019 Spring Fever Sale. Judge's choice winners included Shuffler Farms for the cow/calf pair, Scarlett Farms for the open heifer and Second Creek Angus for the top bred heifer.

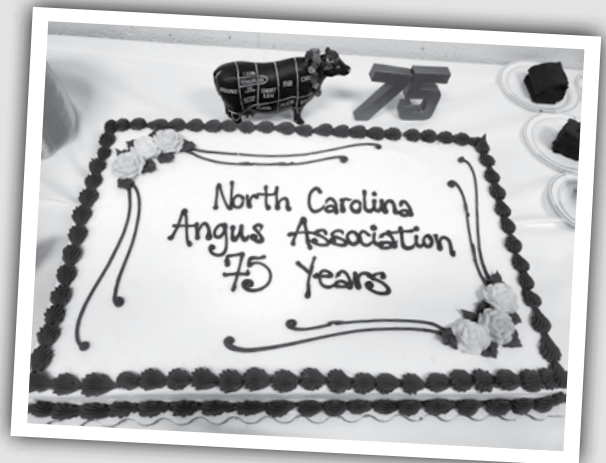
The 2019 NC Angus Hall of Fame Award was presented to Ray & Suzanne Brewer of Brewer Farms in Lexington, NC. Ray & Suzanne are very deserving recipients of the award. Both have devoted countless hours to the success of the NC Angus Association over the years. Suzanne during her tenure as secretary for the NCAA and Ray supporting her. Ray was also instrumental in many committees and could always be depended on to support the NC Junior Angus Association in any way they needed. Longtime friend Roy Swisher presented the award and spoke of the Brewer's beginnings in the cattle business and their time with the association.

Many NC Junior Angus members were recognized for their outstanding achievements as well. The DeEtta Wood Leadership Award was present to Lynae Bowman for her participation in various Angus activities during 2019. The NC Angus Auxiliary also presented their Merit Awards to several NC Junior.

Once again thank you to Dwayne Livengood, Annual Meeting Committee Chairman, Eddie Leagans, Roy & Teresa Swisher, Howard Gentry, Don Hill, Linda Hicks, April Bowman and all the other great members who helped make the day such a success.



Congratulation to Suzanne & Ray Brewer for being inducted into the NC Angus Hall of Fame. Also pictured Roy Swisher, award presenter.



75th Anniversary cake

NORTH CAROLINA ANGUS ASSOCIATION HOLDS 75TH ANNUAL MEETING

By: Sharon Rogers, NCAA Executive Secretary



NCAA President Eugene Shuffler introduces the 75th Anniversary History book.



2020 NCAA Officers and Directors.
First row: Mike Moss-VP, Eugene Shuffler-President, Kim Starnes-Treasurer.
Second row: Steve Grady, Brooke Harward, Linda Hicks, Derek Goddard, John Smith & Henry Vines.
Third row: James Britt, Dwayne Livengood, Mark Wilburn, John Bridges & Zach Moffitt



2019 NC Angus Spring Fever Sale Ira Gentry Memorial Award winner presented to Shuffler Farms. Pictured Brent Scarlett and Eugene Shuffler



NC Junior Angus Association members and 2019 Boosters



NC Angus Auxiliary Merit Awards presented for outstanding achievements to NC Junior Angus members



2019 DeEtta Wood Achievement and Leadership Award winner Lynae Bowman. Also pictured Cortney Holshouser, Wood Committee chairperson and Ava Wood.

NCBCIP Bull Tests – A Benefit? You Bet They Are!!

Linda P. Hicks, NC Angus Association

If you're a beef cattle producer in North Carolina, you've probably heard people talk about bull test stations, but did you ever wonder exactly what these test stations do? If you're a purebred producer, have you ever thought about sending a bull for testing, but don't know exactly how to get started? This article will provide you with some answers to both questions.

Sixty years ago, artificial insemination was not being widely used. Most producers were using herd bulls to breed their cows. The North Carolina Beef Cattle Improvement Program (NCBCIP) was working with producers to weigh calves and gather performance data on both male and female animals. They were tracking weaning weights. County livestock agents were helping weigh animals and were sending the information to North Carolina State University where the information was recorded. NCSU had a computer program and would send back adjusted 205 day weights.

In the mid to late 1960's a group of producers got together and decided it would be good to have a test where they could compare genetics. The first test was conducted on a research farm near Rocky Mount, NC in 1969. The purpose was to improve genetics and share those with other producers. Consignors could opt to sell the bulls that were tested to other producers, mostly purebred, or take their animals home to use in their own herds.

The first sale was held in Rocky Mount, NC in 1970. It was a multi-breed sale consisting of 21 Angus, 31 Hereford, three Charolais, and five Shorthorn. From those early days, the tests and sales evolved. The first sale of bulls from the Waynesville test station was held in 1980 followed by the first sale from the Butner test station in 1984.

Breed preferences have changed since the 1960's. There is more demand for Angus and Angus influenced animals. Today's NCBCIP tests are predominantly Angus with some Hereford, Charolais, Simmental, and Sim-Angus.

Today's NCBCIP committee plays a critical role regarding the current test stations. The committee meets two times per year – once at the North Carolina Cattlemen's Conference and again in the spring of the year. The committee consists of representative(s) from each of the state or regional recognized breed organizations, the NC Department of Agriculture, North Carolina State University, and the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association. They set the rules and guidelines for the test stations, including but not limited to, check-in dates, fees, sale dates, and sale order.

Currently bull tests are conducted at the NC Department of Agriculture Mountain Research Station in Waynesville and the Butner Beef Cattle Field Laboratory in Bahama, NC. Waynesville has capacity for 60 bulls, and Butner has capacity for 99. If more than the capacity are consigned, the number accepted is reduced strictly based on the number each consignor has nominated.

The consignor(s) with the largest number of consignments will be asked to withdraw animals first. The consignor decides which animal(s) he wishes to withdraw.

Consignors must be members of the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association and have their herds enrolled in a performance testing program. Specific birth date requirements for each test station are included in the NCBCIP guidelines each year. At this time the dates are early to mid-August to mid-November of the prior year, and delivery to the respective test station is late June or mid-July depending on the test site.

The bulls are given at least a week to adjust to their new surroundings prior to the start of the test. During this time, one of the most important things the staff observes is disposition. An animal that demonstrates traits that are considered dangerous to either the staff or the other animals will be sent home. The bulls are on test for 112 days. There's usually five weeks plus or minus between the end of the test and the bull sales.

The animals are weighed two days in a row and the average weight is taken both at the beginning of the test and at the end. The reason for getting the weights in this manner is because there can be a large difference in weight from one day to the next. An animal may have just taken a big drink of water or grabbed a mouthful of food before stepping on the scale, or he may have just urinated or had a bowel movement. He might be first on the scale on day one and last on the scale on day two, so the average gives a more accurate weight. Hip heights are measured at the beginning of the test and at the end in the same manner as the weights – over a two-day period and then averaged.

Bulls are grouped according to age and breed unless there is a breed with a small number, in which case that breed is commingled with another breed. At the Butner station, there are eight paddocks of about one-half acre each. There are five paddocks at Waynesville. The maximum number of animals in each paddock is limited to the bunk space in each paddock. Weights are taken again at 56 and 84 days to monitor progress. These weights are used as a benchmark to see if feed needs to be adjusted.

The bulls are fed a free choice corn silage ration to which protein and energy supplements have been added to obtain a mixture containing 12% crude protein and 70% TDN. The feed bunks are replenished each morning. If there is food left in the bunk, it is removed to ensure that the bulls are only getting fresh, mold-free feed. If the bunk is completely empty, a slightly larger ration is put in the bunk.

Since all of the bulls have followed a health protocol that is outlined in the health forms that must be completed prior to delivery to the test stations, no further vaccinations or tests are required. The bulls are monitored for any health issues, and a veterinarian is available on an as needed basis. Flies are controlled by spraying as necessary.

NCBCIP Bull Tests – A Benefit? You Bet They Are!!

Linda P. Hicks, NC Angus Association

Ultrasounds are performed when the bulls are weighed at the 84-day interval to allow sufficient time for the data to be processed and included in test results. Breeding soundness evaluations are performed at the end of the test. Adjusted daily gain is calculated at the end of the test, and scrotal circumference measurements are also taken at the end of the test. For a bull to qualify for the sale the adjusted yearling weight ratio must be 93 or better. Bulls with a ratio of less than 85 on average daily gain or scrotal circumference are removed from the sale. Bulls with an adjusted 365-day hip height less than 49 inches (5.0 frame) are also removed from the sale.

It is not cheap for a consignor to have a bull tested. The upfront charges for nomination, insurance (death only), management, and feed deposit at this time are \$250. At the end of the test, there is an additional charge for feed, which is prorated according to average daily gain. The charges for the breeding soundness exam and ultrasound are spread over the entire group. Then there are the sales costs, which include the auctioneer's fee, catalogs, advertising, the \$2 check-off fee, and transportation to the sales site.

What are the advantages for if you're a consignor? It's a way to measure your genetics against your peers; a way to test your genetics to make sure you're on the right track with your breeding program; a way to decide which genetic lines you want to pursue; a way to improve your herd. And it may very well be a way to market some of your other animals that are not on test.

What are the advantages if you're a buyer? At each of the two sales, you get to physically examine bulls from registered herds from all parts of North Carolina all in one location. You know the bulls in each sale meet or exceed a minimum set of standards. You know they are breeders. You get to choose what you want to pay for any animal. You get to reap the benefit of registered breeders using artificial insemination.

The tests and sales are a win-win for both consignors and buyers. Bottom-line, if the information gained from these tests is used properly, both purebred and commercial herds can be improved.

A lot of work goes into these tests and sales, and here in North Carolina we are very fortunate to have the leadership of Gary Gregory, NCSU Agricultural Research Technician, who works with the North Carolina Beef Cattle Improvement Program, Greg Shaeffer, Superintendent at the Butner Beef Cattle Field Laboratory, and Kyle Miller, Waynesville BCIP Bull Test Manager. These gentlemen and their staffs put a lot of effort toward ensuring these tests are successful and beneficial to both consignors and buyers.

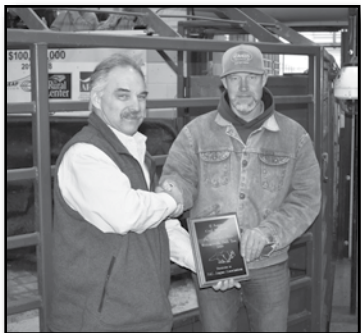
Complete rules and guidelines, nomination forms, and health forms are available on the NCBCIP bull test website: <https://beef.ces.ncsu.edu/beef-bull-test/>

NC BCIP Bull Test Sale High Indexing Angus Bulls 2020

WAYNESVILLE

High Indexing Angus Bull

Lot 7 - 3J-1416 OF TOP HAND 418
(sired by THOMAS TOP HAND 0536)
Consigned by Carl Blanton -
3J ANGUS, SHELBY NC



BUTNER

High Indexing & High Selling Angus Bull

Lot 40 – SCAF Concensus 829
(sired by Connealy Concensus 7229),
consigned by Smith Creek Angus Farm -
Marty & Lynne Rooker – Norlina, NC



NORTH CAROLINA ANGUS AUXILIARY A BRIGHT BEGINNING FOR 2020

By Christy Perdue, NC Angus Publicity Chair

The North Carolina Angus Auxiliary had a wonderful start to 2020. Our Annual Meeting was held in conjunction with the North Carolina Angus Association Annual Meeting, celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the NC Angus Association. We had more than 15 members and guests in attendance. Our meeting was productive and set us on the right course for an active and successful 2020 while also reviewing our busy and successful 2019. After our meeting and lunch, many members put their artistic skills to work and took part in a fun and entertaining Paint Party, hosted by Brittany Lookabill Skeen.

A large part of our successful Annual Meeting was our Silent Auction and cookbook sales, coordinated by Cortney Holshouser, our Ways and Means Chairman. We were fortunate to have participation from our dedicated members as well as support from friends throughout the country, leading to another successful fundraising effort. We are excited to continue with our cookbook sales this year! Please see any NC Angus Auxiliary member to purchase one of our wonderful cookbooks, *Pasture and Plate*.



Members participated in a fun and entertaining Paint Party.



North Carolina Angus Auxiliary Members in attendance for our 2020 Annual Meeting.



Beautiful arrangements provided by the North Carolina Angus Auxiliary, celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the North Carolina Angus Association.

We were also honored to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the North Carolina Angus Association by providing beautiful centerpieces and decorations as well as a delicious cake. We were happy to be a part of the celebration.

As we continued our day at the NC Angus Association Annual Meeting and Banquet, we were fortunate to again present our NC Angus Auxiliary Merit Award to 11 deserving juniors. We were able to award a total of \$800.00.

We will meet again on May 2 at our Spring Meeting, held in conjunction with the Spring Fever Sale. Also, stay tuned for details on a fun Summer Outing in July, as we explore central North Carolina. This is always a great time of fun and fellowship. (Date to be determined.)

Our 2020 proposed slate of officers were approved and installed during our Annual Meeting and include President – Andrea Goforth, President Elect – Brooke Harward, Secretary-Treasurer – Alexandra Brown, and Advisor – Callie Carson. We would love for you to get to know our Executive Team a little better!

NORTH CAROLINA ANGUS AUXILIARY A BRIGHT BEGINNING FOR 2020

Andrea Goforth, North Carolina Angus Auxiliary President

Andrea is from Winston-Salem and now lives with her husband, Tim, and children in East Bend. They have settled in quite nicely to the community and recently completed building a beautiful new house on their farm. The Goforth's have two children Alyssa and Chance. Alyssa is getting her veterinary technician degree from Surry Community College and working almost full time with a local veterinarian. Chance attends Forbush High School, where he is actively involved in the JROTC program. When Andrea and Tim married more than 20 years ago, they decided to have their own herd of commercial cattle. They purchased their first purebred Angus female, an Emblynette daughter, from the 2012 Wood Angus Sale. Since then they have jumped a hundred percent into the purebred Angus business striving to produce top quality genetics in an eye appealing package. Tim and Andrea are also great supporters of the NC Angus Association and its programs. They completed a three year term as advisors for the NC Junior Angus Association. Andrea has worked for LabCorp over 15 years.

Brooke Harward, North Carolina Angus Auxiliary President Elect

Brooke is from Richfield, NC. She graduated from NC State University in December 2013 with a degree in Agricultural Business Management and a minor in Accounting. After graduation, she returned to the family businesses. She currently works in the office at the family stockyards as well as Mid-Atlantic Cattle Sales. She also helps with catalogs, photography, and advertising for a group of purebred bull and heifer sales. Brooke has been very active in the NC Junior Angus Association as President, Vice-President, Reporter, and more as well as the National Junior Angus Association serving as the 2012 Miss American Angus. Brooke and her sisters own and operate the Harward Sisters, a purebred Angus operation located in Stanly County, North Carolina. Brooke is the oldest "Harward Sister." What started as junior show projects for the Harward Sisters

developed into a Registered Angus herd managed by the Harward girls.

Alexandra Brown, North Carolina Angus Auxiliary Secretary/Treasurer

Alexandra Brown is originally from Hamptonville, North Carolina, where she grew up showing lambs. She attended NC State University where she majored in Agricultural Science and eventually met her husband, Daniel Brown. Together, they own and operate Browns Farm Ridge where they raise and sale Angus show heifers to kids around the country through their annual online sale. They also own BFR Beef where they sell grain-finished beef. They feel fortunate to live on Daniel's family farm and to be the fifth generation to farm there.



North Carolina Angus Auxiliary Executive Team:
Callie Carson, Alexandra Brown,
Brooke Harward, and Andrea Goforth.

Callie Carson, North Carolina Angus Auxiliary President Elect

Callie Carson has been an Angus enthusiast since 1998, when she bought her first Angus heifer. With some encouragement and assistance from other NC Angus breeders, Callie and her sister, participated in numerous Angus shows and events as juniors. The highlight of Callie's junior career was receiving the Outstanding Leadership Award at the 2003 NJAS. Callie is an NC State graduate with a BS in Ag Communications and MS in Ag and Extension Education. Callie has worked for NC Farm Bureau Federation since 2011 as a District Field Representative. Her duties there include assisting 9 counties in Northwestern NC with record keeping, education and outreach, leadership development, policy development, and programming. Callie and her husband, John, have a 4-year-old son, Isaac, and an almost 2-year-old son, JR. They own a farm in Laurel Spring, NC where they currently produce forage and have plans for a registered cattle herd. Callie is proud to be a member of the NC Angus Auxiliary, promoting the Angus breed and encouraging young people to develop leadership skills.

development, and programming. Callie and her husband, John, have a 4-year-old son, Isaac, and an almost 2-year-old son, JR. They own a farm in Laurel Spring, NC where they currently produce forage and have plans for a registered cattle herd. Callie is proud to be a member of the NC Angus Auxiliary, promoting the Angus breed and encouraging young people to develop leadership skills.

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Serves 4

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Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 pounds Certified Angus Beef® ground beef, 80% lean
- 8 slices bacon
- 4 large leaves red or green leaf lettuce
- 1-2 tomatoes (to yield 6-8 slices)
- 1 avocado
- 1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon fresh cracked black pepper
- 3-4 tablespoons barbecue sauce
- 4 burger buns

Instructions:

1. Form ground beef in four equal patties (6-ounces each); refrigerate.
2. Prepare toppings: cook bacon, wash lettuce, slice tomato and avocado; Set aside.
3. Preheat 3/4 of grill to medium high and season burgers with salt and pepper. Place burgers over direct heat and grill 2-3 minutes on first side, flip, baste with barbecue sauce and grill 2-3 more minutes. Flip again, baste with sauce and move patties to cool side of grill to finish cooking (should reach an internal temperature of 160°F).
4. Build burgers with bottom bun, lettuce, tomato, burger, bacon, avocado and top bun.



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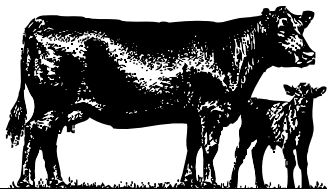
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