

PURPOSE

The primary purpose of this program is to serve as an educational aid for the improvement and promotion of beef cattle and forage production systems. This purpose can be divided into three categories. First, it is to promote the use of forages in the production of beef cattle. Second, it is to provide standardized environmental conditions for evaluating the post-weaning performance of beef bulls on forages. Third, it is to identify those bulls which are genetically superior in utilizing forages for growth. The records generated from such a test can aid beef cattle producers in selecting bulls that will sire calves that will perform on forages and in developing forage systems that will work on their farms.

MANAGEMENT

Management of this test is a joint effort by: John Smith, Dexter and Nicholas Edwards, the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, the Sampson County Cattlemen's Corporation, the North Carolina Beef Cattle Improvement Program and the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association.

John Smith, Dexter and Nicholas Edwards will furnish the physical facilities, the day-to-day management and the feeding and care for the bulls. NC BCIP will be responsible for consignments. The sale at the conclusion of the test will be managed by the NC Cattlemen's Association. This test will operate under the sanction of the NC BCIP committee.

Complete performance records will be provided on the bulls each 28 days beginning with the 56-day report. Consignors will receive a copy of the reports.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. Consignors must be a member of the NCCA.
2. Consignors must be participating in their respective breed association's performance records program or a comparable, recognized program.
3. Breed-Percentage blood bulls that are recorded (or will become eligible during the test for recording) with a recognized breed association may be tested. Breed percentage will be listed on reports. Both the sire and dam of F1 bulls must be registered with their respective breed associations.
4. Bulls must have been born between the following dates:
Senior bulls - October 1, 2002-December 31, 2002
Junior bulls - January 1, 2003-March 31, 2003
5. Bulls must have nursed their own dam, except in the case of embryo transfer calves. Breed of recipient cow will be listed for embryo transfer calves.
6. Adjusted birth weight and ratio are required.
7. Bulls must have a minimum weight per day of age (WDA) of 2.5 lbs. when weaned.

8. Bulls must have a minimum 205-day weaning weight ratio of 90 within their contemporary group (Same sex-management-weaning group).
9. Bulls must be accompanied upon delivery by either:
 - 1) an official health certificate signed by an accredited veterinarian or an approved State or Federal Veterinarian showing negative tests for TB (Tuberculosis) and Bangs (Brucellosis) within 45 days prior to delivery or 2) papers showing that they are from a certified Brucellosis-free herd and an accredited TB herd and listing the date last tested. All out of state bulls must have papers showing negative test for TB and BANGS within 30 days prior to delivery.

THIS RULE IS STRICTLY ENFORCED.

10. Two to five weeks prior to delivery, the bulls must be dewormed, treated for grub and lice control and vaccinated for IBR, PI-3, BVD, BRSV, 5-way Leptospirosis and 7-way Clostridial.
11. A signed immunization and health record on forms provided by NC BCIP must be delivered with the bulls.
12. All horned bulls must have been dehorned and must be healed upon delivery.
13. A committee will evaluate the bulls on delivery. And bulls with bad eyes, ringworm, warts, colds or otherwise unhealthy or unsuitable will be rejected. Tattoos/brands or incorrectly tattooed/branded will be rejected.

SALE REQUIREMENTS

1. Bulls must have negative tests for Tuberculosis and Brucellosis within 30 days of the sale.
2. Bulls are required to have EPD information on them, if it is available. That information must be submitted to NC BCIP by the end of the test. Where the information is not available on percentage bulls, they will be sold at the end of the sale order.
3. Minimum criteria for sale are as follows:
 - a. ADG Ratio - 85
 - b. WDA Ratio - 93
 - c. If there are fewer than five bulls in a breed group, ratios will be computed with the average of bullssimilar genetic size.
 - d. Bulls not meeting these criteria will be culled and disposed of at the owner's discretion at the conclusion of the test. The consignor will be responsible to pay a deposit to cover the costs incurred before the bull(s) may be picked up.
4. Minimum adjusted 550-Day yearling Hip Height is 52.3".
5. Following the conclusion of the test, bulls must pass a complete breeding soundness exam consisting of minimum scrotal circumference, freedom from any physical reproductive tract problems and semen evaluation.
6. Sale eligible bulls must pass a screening committee's evaluation for structural soundness, disposition, muscling and sheath attachment.

7. All bulls will sell under their respective breed association guarantees.
8. Sale order within breed will be based on an index, which gives one-third weighting to average daily gain ratio and two-thirds weighting adjusted yearling weight ratio.

COSTS

1. To be paid when nominated: \$15.00 non-refundable nomination fee. The check should be payable to: **NC BCIP.**
2. A deposit of \$250 toward costs of feed and management must be paid when bulls are delivered (*Payable to NC BCIP*). The remainder of the test cost will be due at the completion of the test and sale.
3. Insurance will be provided at a cost of \$56.00 per bull. This coverage is required.
4. All bulls will have ultrasound measurements taken at completion of test at owners expense.
5. Veterinary costs will be pro-rated on a per head basis, except for cases of bulls needing specific individual treatments. Routine vet care is included in management fee.
6. If a bull is removed from test for any reason, the owner is responsible for all costs incurred up until removal. Management and feed costs for bulls leaving early: Less than 90 days - no refund on \$250 deposit. Greater than 90-days- management fee will be pro-rated.
7. Consignors of bulls that do not qualify for the sale are responsible for all costs except sale costs.
8. Sale costs will be pro-rated on a per head basis. In addition, the sale manager receives 2% of the gross sale of each bull.

GENERAL RULES

1. A schedule of deadlines, delivery dates and weigh dates is attached. The hours for receiving the bulls at the site will be 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.
2. The joint sponsors of this test do not assume any responsibility either jointly or individually for the the loss of animals, personal injury or property damage. Each bull is the property of the consignor until sold or removed from the test.
3. Wild or unmanageable bulls will be removed from the test.
4. All bulls must remain on the test for the duration unless removal for health reasons is authorized by the NC BCIP supervisors.
5. Consignors will be notified if a bull becomes seriously ill.
6. Consignors are responsible for completing, signing and sending an application for the transfer of registration to the sale manager for each bull they sell. The sale manager will withhold payment for a bull until he receives such application.

FORAGE TEST SCHEDULE 2003 - 2004

Activity	Date
Forage Sr. Forage Jr.	10/ 01/ 02 thru 12/31/ 02 01/ 01/ 03 thru 03/31/ 03
NOMINATIONS DUE	NOV 11, 2003
DELIVERY DATE	DEC 10, 2003
STARTING WEIGHTS	DEC 23, 2003
WEIGH (56-DAY)	FEB 17, 2004
WEIGH (84-DAY)	MAR 16, 2004
WEIGH (112-DAY)	APR 13, 2004
WEIGH (140-DAY)	MAY 16, 2004
WEIGH (168-DAY)	JUNE 8, 2004
DEADLINE FOR ALL REGISTRATION PAPERS TO BE IN BCIP OFFICE	JUNE 30, 2004
FINAL WEIGHTS	July 6, 2004
SALE DATE	NOV 7, 2004

North Carolina Beef Cattle Improvement Program

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http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/an_sci/extension/animal/bcip/Ahbcip.html

Rules & Regulations North Carolina BCIP Forage Bull Test



2003 - 2004

NC BCIP

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

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