



North Carolina Angus Association Elite Angus Heifer Program

Submitted by Callie Birdsell, Marketing Committee Chairman

The NCAA Marketing Committee is pleased to announce the launch of the NC Elite Angus Heifer program in 2011! Our first heifer offering was at the 2011 Spring Fever Sale with seven heifers averaging \$2,478.00, with heifers offered from Quail Valley, Scarlett Farms, Wood Angus and the Wall Family!!

The NC Elite Angus Heifer program is designed to allow Angus producers and members of the NCAA to group like heifers together to increase the animals' value and provide buyers with the highest quality Angus heifers available in the state. In order to qualify for the NC Elite Heifer Program, heifers must meet specific criteria, including but not limited to:

- ◆ Physical assessment (frame score, body condition score, muscling grade, free of scars)
- ◆ Health protocol (vaccination regimen and parasite control)
- ◆ Genetic abnormality free
- ◆ Pedigree (sired by an AI sire and if bred, bred to an AI sire)
- ◆ Data (must have AHIR data on file with the American Angus Association)
- ◆ Pregnancy check (pelvic and repro-tract score)

NC Elite Angus Heifers will be available for sale/purchase at all NCAA sanctioned sales. For more information on how to qualify your heifers for the NC Elite program, or the full requirements for eligibility, please contact NCAA Marketing Committee Chair, Callie Birdsell, callie.birdsell@gmail.com, 336/260-3950; John Smith @ 252/526-1929; Roy Outlaw @ 919/222-9788; Roy Swisher @ 336/909-2131; Bryan Redfern @ 704/242-0680; Henry Vines @ 336/227-1761; Richard Kirkman @ 919/742-5500 or Emily Tennant @ 336/908-3728.

PLEASE FIND THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

Program Eligibility

Any person wishing to qualify Angus heifers in the NC Angus Association Heifer Programs must be a member in good standing of the NC Angus Association and American Angus Association.

Ownership

Heifers must be registered with the American Angus Association and tattooed with the number listed on the registration paper. Heifers must be owned by a NC Angus Association member in order to sell in a sanctioned NC Angus Association sale.

Prebreeding evaluation

A prebreeding reproductive evaluation is required for all heifers. Individual animal identification, pelvic area and reproductive tract score is required. All forms and fees for prebreeding must be submitted and paid prior to pregnancy exam. It is strongly encouraged that prebreeding exams be performed 6 weeks prior to breeding. Heifers with a pelvic area less than 150 cm² at prebreeding may be re-measured at the initial pregnancy exam within 90 days from the start of the breeding season and must have a minimum pelvic area of 180 cm² at this examination. (see Sale Eligibility Requirements, Section 4)

Minimum Vaccination Requirements

Weaning: Heifers must be vaccinated and boosted for IBR, BVD, PI 3, BRSV, leptospirosis (5-way), vibriosis and 7-way clostridia. Heifers must be 5 months of age or older at time of vaccinations. Follow label directions for all products used.

Prebreeding: To maximize protection against reproductive loss, vaccinations against Leptospirosis (5-way) and Vibriosis must be given between 60 and 30 days prior to breeding. A booster vaccination against IBR and BVD is required between 60 and 30 days prior to breeding. Modified live viral vaccines for IBR and BVD are recommended. If killed viral vaccine products are used, 2 boosters are strongly recommended. Follow label directions for all products used.

Pregnancy Check: A booster vaccination against Leptospirosis (5-way) is required at pregnancy examination.

Pregnancy Examination

An initial pregnancy examination must be performed within 90 days from the start of the breeding season. Individual animal identification, pregnancy status and fetal age (in days) are required. Herds utilizing artificial insemination must report breeding dates. Any heifer that fails to become pregnant during, or loses a pregnancy following the original breeding season is no longer eligible for the program. All cattle who will be sold as pregnant should have the pregnancy exam conducted by a qualified veterinarian with approximate months pregnant written on the health paper.

Sale Eligibility Requirements

Age – heifers can be no less than 6 months of age and no more than 24 months of age on sale date.

AHIR data – eligible heifers are required to have AHIR data submitted to the American Angus Association including: birth, weaning and yearling weights.

Genetic abnormalities – all heifers must be negative for all genetic defects recognized by AAA (AM, NH and CA)

Pelvic measurements – Pelvic rechecks are to be done at pregnancy check, and cannot be done more than twice in the heifer's life to qualify for sale.

Parasite Control – All heifers must be treated for internal and external parasites within 30 days of the sale. Products for internal parasite control must have a label claim for immature stages of the parasite life cycle.

Blemishes – Heifers with active Pinkeye or Pinkeye scars are not eligible for sale. Heifers with active ringworm or warts are also ineligible for sale. Heifers with excessive white on their belly that does not comply with the requirements of the American Angus Association are ineligible for sale.

Weight and body condition – Bred heifers (on the day of the sale) must weigh a minimum of 800 pounds and receive a body condition score within a range of 5 through 8 on a 9 point scale.

Inspection of heifers – Heifers will be evaluated prior to sale by a certified grader for frame, muscle and body condition. All heifers must meet a minimum project frame score of "Medium" (5), and a muscling score of average.

Pregnancy—A confirmatory pregnancy examination must be performed within 30 days prior to sale. The consignor guarantees bred heifers to be safe in calf at the time of sale. If a heifer is proven by veterinary exam within 30 days after sale not to have been pregnant, the consignor will replace the heifer or make a financial settlement with the buyer. Spring calving heifers must be bred to calve prior to May 1 and fall calving heifers must be bred to calve prior to December 1. Heifers in individual sale lots are grouped to calve within approximately 45 days of each other based on expected calving dates.

Sire requirements – Eligible sires must be registered with the American Angus Association.

Certification

Only heifers that meet the requirements listed on this sheet will be eligible to receive certification.

Misrepresentation, false advertisement or use of the NC Elite Heifer or NC Select Heifer trademarks and logos for heifers that do not meet the aforementioned requirements is subject to penalty.

NC Elite Angus Heifers

To qualify as an "NC Elite Angus Heifer," the animal must meet all program and sale eligibility requirements and must be:

Sired by an AI sire

Bred to an AI Sire, if a bred heifer