



Regional Beef Notes Spring 2017

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Culling Cows: Making A Strategy Jessica Morgan, Agriculture Agent, Anson County

As we start to sell calves this spring/summer, it is a great time to assess a culling strategy for our cowherds. Yes, an actual strategy, not just cows that come up open or have obvious age or injury problems, although that's a good start. Obviously most producers in the area do a good job of immediately culling for hurt/lame cows and getting them to market while they still can move on their own feet. Open cows sometimes get a free ride for a year or two, or three and are living the high life, not having to work for their supper. Cows that are not docile, stir up the herd, charge when your tagging her calf, etc, should be on the short list as well. Once we get past those basics, what should you look for in culling cows? Follow the checklist points below to get an idea.

Reproduction:

- Is she pregnant or open?
- Does she breed back in an appropriate time frame?
- Larger Frame size and pelvic area reduce risk of calving difficulty
- History of prolapse is negative
- Adequate milk production
- Desirable maternal instincts (licks calf off, lets nurse, etc)

Structural Soundness

- Feet and legs- correct and holding up
- Desirable slope to shoulders
- Hips level from hooks to pins
- Healthy eyes
- Udder- 4 evenly spaced teats
- Teeth longevity

Function

- Easy keeper
- Breed composition suited to environment
- Disposition
- Frame size appropriate for feed and forage condition

Marketability of Calves & Performance

- Does she have potential to produce calves that fit the market? Frame size, muscling, conformation, breed, coat color, hair, disposition?
- Potential for calf growth
- Potential for carcass traits
- Past records indicate desirable performance of calves (continued pg 3)

Stanly Co Feeder Cattle Sale Program



May 18th– Feeder Calf Sale

June 8th– Value-Added, Vaccinated, Non-Weaned

July 13th– Feeder Calf Sale

July 20th– Value-Added BQA Sale

August 17th– Feeder Calf Sale

September 7th– Value-Added BQA Sale

September 14th– Feeder Calf Sale

NEW FOR 2017: If you are participating in the June 8th, July 20th, or September 7th, BQA sales, a vaccination record keeping form **MUST** be turned in to the office before or on sale date. A copy is included inserted into this newsletter, or you can find it online at anson.ces.ncsu.edu– Animal Agriculture

Requirements:

Feeder Cattle Sale: Calves weighing over 300 lbs, properly castrated, dehorned and healed, and one dose of Blackleg vaccination. **March Pre-Conditioned Sale:** Calves weighing over 400 lbs, properly castrated, dehorned and healed. Two doses of modified live respiratory and two doses of blackleg. Weaned 45 days.

June Pre-Conditioned Sale: NEW: Follow specific health protocol Merck or Zoetis, see insert. Cows/calves on good mineral program. Nonweaned, minimum weight 300 lbs. Consignors must be BQA Certified in the state of North Carolina and must produce vaccination records to the Norwood Stockyard office. Calves majority Angus genetics, tagged on farm.

Value-Added BQA Protocol: Follows specific health protocol Merck or Zoetis, see insert. 2 doses modified live respiratory, 2 doses blackleg, weaned 45 days, minimum weight 400 lbs, properly castrated, dehorned and healed. Consignors must be BQA Certified in the state of North Carolina and must produce vaccination records to the Norwood Stockyard office. Calves tagged on farm.

If you have any questions about the sales, please feel free to contact:

Marcus Harward 704.322.0840 – Stanly Co. Livestock Market

Brooke Harward 704.322.9770- Stanly Co. Livestock Market

Bruce Shankle 704.694.8686

Neil Bowman 919.270.7094 – NC Department of Agriculture

Jessica Morgan 724.984.5191- NC Cooperative Extension- Anson Co.

Consignments for ALL sales should be made to Jessica at 704.694.2415 or Brooke Harward.

Health Protocol additional details on back



DATE

SERIAL #
of Vaccine

Projected Sale Date	Projected Sale Date		
Cattle Weaned (Minimum of 45 days for July/Sept sales)	Cattle Weaned (Minimum of 45 days for July/Sept sales)		
1st dose- Vista Once SQ Pre-Wean OR -VISTA 5 SQ	1st dose- Bovi-Shield Gold 5 OR Bovi Shield Gold One Shot		
1st dose- Vision 7 Somnus	1st dose- Ultrabac7/Somubac		
Parasite Control- Safe-Guard OR Panacur (Pre or Post Weaning)	Parasite Control- Dectomax OR Valbazen (Pre or Post Weaning)		
Booster- Vista Once SQ OR Vista 5	Booster- Bovi-Shield Gold 5 OR Bovi-Shield One Shot		
Booster- Vision 7	Booster- Ultrabac7		
Administer "Value- Added BQA Tags"	Administer "Value- Added BQA Tags"		
Heifers Guaranteed Open	Heifers Guaranteed Open		
Implant (Optional) Ralgro	Implant (Optional) Synovex		

Norwood Area Value Added BQA Sale

Record Keeping Form

This document meets animal health record keeping requirements for (BQA) Beef Quality Assurance standards

Producer Name _____

Farm/Operation Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone # _____

Email Address _____

***1st dose calves at least 4 months of age**
*** Booster Vaccinations (2nd doses) must be administered within 4 months of the sale date. But also a minimum of 21 days before the sale date.**

Sale Date	June 8 th	July 20 th	September 7 th
Booster Dose	Feb 8 th - May 18 th	March 20 th - June 29	May 7 th - August 17 th

Subcutaneous (SC)

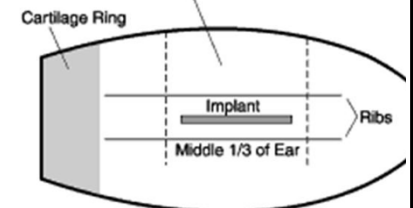
Intramuscular (IM)

Do Not Inject



**Approved Location for
Implant Administration**

If the middle of the ear has been damaged,
place implant on the top of the ear.



If the tip of the ear has been damaged,
place implant in the outer 1/2 of the remaining

Form must be returned to Stanly Co. Livestock Market Office before or on the day of the sale. Fax to 704.474.9047 or email bnharward@gmail.com



- * Need to alternate Vista 5 and Vista Once Respiratory Vaccinations
- * It is not recommended to give vaccines with pasturella and somnus at the same time.

Examples of vaccination schedules:

1st Dose: Vista Once **AND** Vision 7
2nd Dose: Vista 5 **AND** Vision 7 with Somnus

OR

1st Dose: Vista 5 **AND** Vision 7 with Somnus
2nd Dose: Vista Once **AND** Vision 7

MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE DOSE OF BLACKLEG WITH
SOMNUS AND ONE DOSE OF RESPIRATORY WITH
PASTURELLA

- * Need to alternate Bovi-Shield Gold and Bovi-Shield Gold One Shot Respiratory Vaccinations
- * It is not recommended to give vaccines with pasturella and somnus at the same time.

Examples of vaccination schedules:

1st Dose: Bovi-Shield Gold 5 **AND** Ultrabac 7 with Somnus
2nd Dose: Bovi-Shield Gold One Shot **AND** Ultrabac 7

OR

1st Dose: Bovi-Shield Gold One Shot **AND** Ultrabac 7
2nd Dose: Bovi-Shield Gold 5 **AND** Ultrabac 7 Somnus

MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE DOSE OF BLACKLEG WITH
SOMNUS AND ONE DOSE OF RESPIRATORY WITH
PASTURELLA

For more information on the vaccination protocols, feeder calf sales or consignments, please contact Marcus Harward 704.322.0840, Bruce Shankle 704.694.8686, Jessica Morgan at 724.984.5191, Brooke Harward at 704.322.9770

Tips for Vaccine Handling

- Vaccine should be transported in a sealed, refrigerated container that includes a cool pack
- Keep refrigerated and keep light out during storage. Do not freeze.
- Always keep vaccine refrigerated or cooled when handling cattle. Do not leave exposed to direct sunlight on top of working tables.
- All unused and unmixed product should remain refrigerated and only be mixed immediately prior to use.
- **Mix only enough vaccine to be used in a 30-minute period.**
- Syringes should never be cleaned with any disinfectant, only with water. Use syringes dedicated to vaccines only. Do not mix needles/syringes with antibiotics.

Culling Cows: Making A Strategy

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Culling decisions should be made with the market in mind, as the price to replace cows with heifers or grow heifers can put be cost prohibitive. 10-15% of your cow herd should be culled each year, with thought going into the age of cows and willingness to purchase or grow replacement heifers or cows. If you have any questions or need assistance with culling decisions, please contact your local County Extension Agent.

Bull Management: After the Breeding Season

Jessica Morgan, Extension Agent, Agriculture, Anson County Center

After the breeding season, bulls become a necessary evil or an unwelcome visitor. Many like to forget about their bulls, until it's time for them to work again. While it is true that bulls post-breeding don't require as much management, planning and care can help insure the bull's costs will be in reason and that they will be ready for the next breeding season.

Goals for the period of non-breeding for the bulls should be: keep feed costs at a practical minimum, keep the bulls in moderate condition, minimize chance of injuries, and allow growth of young bulls.

Post-Breeding Inspection

As bulls come out of the breeding season, they should first be appraised to their condition and sort them in one of three ways.

1. Mature bulls in good condition that won't require any special care.
2. Young bulls that are still growing and need higher quality feed or bulls that are extremely thin or need special care for other reasons. or
3. Old or crippled bulls that have completed their productive years and need to go.

All bulls should have access to a quality mineral mix. Phosphorous is an important mineral that is not found in adequate amounts in dry or harvested forage. Vitamin A is also important for reproduction and can be found in green, growing forage or high-quality hay. Mature bulls in good condition can exist well on an essentially all-roughage diet. A good rule of thumb to remember is 2% of their body weight in dry feed per day.

Yearlings

Yearlings are different than mature bulls, and therefore need some extra attention. Yearlings should be left with the cow herd 60 days or less. Beyond that, their condition might drop off dramatically that it could affect future growth. These bulls are still developing rapidly, in addition to replacing the condition they lost in the breeding season. They should be placed on the best available forage. Their supplemental feeding can be equated to a program for bred yearling heifers. Extra care given to bulls after the breeding season will result in a stronger mature bull in years to come.

Bull Pastures

Bull pastures should be somewhat isolated from the cow herd. Bulls kept away from cows will not be as aggressive and will fight less, reducing chance of injury. A pasture with adequate space will help promote exercise and reduce confrontations. As with all pastures, the bull pasture should have protection from weather stressors. Spring snow (especially to bull's not accustomed to the weather) can cause frost bite of the scrotum, affecting the normal function.

Bulls in the off-season do not require extensive management. But, by following some pointers, they can be healthy and ready for many breeding seasons to come.

Selk, Glenn. "Management of Beef Bulls."
Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension
Service. ANSI- 3254.



Upcoming Events

- Stanly County Cattlemen's Association Meeting**..... April 6th
6pm, Jay's Seafood
- Hazardous Waste Pickup Day**..... April 8th
Stanly County Agri-Civic Center
- Anson County Cattlemen's Association Meeting**April 11th
7pm, Anson County Extension Center
- Union County Cattlemen's Association Meeting**April 20th
7pm, Union County Ag Center
- Pesticide Credits Offered—Stanly Co Agri-Civic Center**.....April 25th
9-11am, 2 hrs V. 11:30-1:30, 2 hrs A,B,D,G,H,I,K,L,M,N,O,T,X
- Union Co. Cattlemen's Assoc. Spring Replacement Female Sale**.....April 29th
Union Co. Livestock Market, Monroe
- NC Angus Spring Fever Sale**..... May 6th
Reidsville, Upper Piedmont Research Station
- Feeder Calf Sale** May 18th
Stanly Co. Livestock Market, Calf Drop Off 7am-3pm, Sale at 6pm

Persons with disability or persons with limited English proficiency can request accommodations by contacting Jessica Morgan, Extension Agent, 704.694.2415, Fax 704.694.2248, or e-mail jessica_morgan@ncsu.edu at least five days prior to any event listed in this newsletter.

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