



Association Highlights

► compiled by *Shauna Rose Hermel*, editor

Look for delegate petitions in the mail

Preparations are being made for the 2015 Annual Convention of Delegates this November in Overland Park, Kan. Forms to nominate delegates to the Annual Meeting will be mailed to every active life and regular

Association member during the last week of March.

The nomination period is April 1-June 30. Each member is allowed to nominate one eligible active life or regular member who resides in the same state or district, including



himself or herself. The candidate should be highly involved in the Angus business, willing to attend the meeting and able to represent Angus breeders.

Signed nomination forms must be received in the Association office no later than June 30, at which time every qualified nominee will be included on a state ballot. State ballots will be mailed to the membership in July to vote for the final slate of state delegates. When you receive the petition, please return it promptly.

Sire Evaluation Report released

The printed version of the *Spring 2015 Sire Evaluation Report* is now available. Active members who returned their blue request cards to receive a printed copy of the report will receive it automatically. Other members and commercial producers who want a printed report should request it via email or by calling the Association. All requests should be submitted to Brenda Weigart at bweigart@angus.org or 816-383-5144.

AGI seeking intern candidates

Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) is seeking a summer intern to assist with day-to-day activities of the department from mid-May through mid-August. The intern's primary responsibility will be growing the MaternalPlus® program, including development of promotional and educational materials.

Applicants should be college juniors or seniors studying animal science, ag communications or a related field with an interest in genetics applied to beef cattle production and/or animal breeding. Graduate students will also be considered. Candidates should be detail-oriented, have strong communications skills and be able to work well with all types of personnel.

Submit applications — including cover letter, résumé and references — to Tonya Amen, Genetic Service Director, Angus Genetics Inc., 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506 tamen@angus.org by March 31. For more information, contact AGI staff at 816-383-5100.

ASSOCIATION FEES

CURRENT ASSOCIATION FEES

Following are the correct fees for various American Angus Association services. Be sure to send the correct amount of money with the work being requested, as incorrect payments are the main cause of delays.

REGISTRATIONS

Applications for animals less than 4 months of age	\$7
Applications for animals 4-10 months of age	\$9
Applications for animals 10-12 months of age	\$14
Applications for animals more than 12 months of age	\$27

TRANSFERS

Applications received less than 30 days from sale date	\$5
Applications received 30-60 days from sale date	\$7
Applications received more than 60 days from sale date	\$12

MISCELLANEOUS

Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) fee (per weaning weight)	\$3
Artificial insemination (AI) service certificate	\$10
Regular annual membership	\$80
Regular annual membership with <i>Angus Journal</i> subscription	\$130
Lifetime membership (optional to pay in three \$500/year installments)	\$1,500
Junior annual membership (less than 21 years of age)	\$20
Embryo-transfer (ET) calf	regular registration fee plus \$10
Cell-clone transplant calf	regular registration fee plus \$50

Rules of the American Angus Association are included in the *Breeder's Reference Guide*. Free copies are available from the Association. An online version is available through the "Rules and Forms" link at www.angus.org.

BREEDER'S REFERENCE

Symbols are used with a registration number to denote important information about an animal.

Symbol	Meaning
#	Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire
+	Embryo transfer calf
^	Cell clone
%	Split-ET
@	Clone-ET

The American Angus Association currently recognizes the following genetic conditions:

Code	Meaning
AM	Arthrogyposis multiplex
CA	Contractural arachnodactyly
D2	PRKG2 gene mutation for dwarfism
DD	Developmental duplication
DM	Double muscling
DW	Dwarfism
HG	Horn gene
HI	Heterochromia irides
M1	nt821 mutation for double muscling
NH	Neuropathic hydrocephalus
OS	Osteopetrosis
RD	Red gene
SN	Syndactyly
WT	Wild type color gene

The following single-letter descriptors appearing after a genetic condition code shall have the following meaning:

- P – refers to a "potential" carrier based on an ancestor known to carry that specific mutation.
- F – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be "free" of that specific mutation.
- C – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a "carrier" of that specific mutation.
- A – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a carrier of two copies of that specific mutation. It may or may not exhibit the phenotype associated with that genetic condition.

The following letter designations describe cases in which there is more than one genetic condition present:

- XF – Free of more than one genetic condition.
- XC – Carrier of more than one genetic condition.
- XA – Affected of more than one genetic condition.
- RTF – Recessive trait free (produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a genetic defect).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

Report new association, auxiliary officers

State and regional Angus associations should submit their officer listings to the Association by May 1 to ensure correct listings on www.angus.org. Listings will include association name, current officers, contact information and website, if applicable. If you haven't received a form to update your association's officer listing, contact Amber Wahlgren or LeAnn Maudlin at 816-383-5100 or prphotos@angus.org.

State auxiliary information is requested in the same mailing. Please be sure to complete both forms and return them in a timely manner.

Western National

Mark your calendars for April 15-19 for the 63rd Western National Angus Futurity (WNAF) and 42nd Western Regional Junior Angus Show. Events will be at the Reno Livestock Events Center. The Grand Sierra Resort and Casino will serve as the headquarters hotel.

Cattle must be checked in by noon Friday, April 17. Randy Daniel of Colbert, Ga., will judge the junior regional Saturday. Jack Ward of Cameron, Mo., will evaluate the WNAF open classes Sunday. Other activities include the Western States queen competition, junior showmanship contest, educational program, junior social, WNAF Committee meeting, and both board and general membership meetings of the Western States Angus Association.

Please note that there are two separate entry processes for the show, one for the junior show and one for the open show:

- ▶ Entries for the junior show should be made through the National Junior Angus Association and may be submitted online at www.angus.org/njaa. Click on the "Shows" link for online entry forms. The absolute deadline for junior show entries is March 2.
- ▶ Entries for the open show (including juniors showing cattle in the open show) must be made through an online system at www.wnaf.org, a website created for the show. The open show deadline is midnight, March 15. Substitutions will not be allowed after March 22. For additional entry information, send inquiries to entryinfo@wnaf.org or call 509-750-2185.

Additional details are available on the website. For more information, contact Rod Wesselman, WNAF show manager, at PO Box 746, Moses Lake, WA 98837; info@wnaf.org; or 509-750-2185.

Download foot-scoring spreadsheet

American Angus Association members can now download a spreadsheet to submit foot scores via their AAA Login account. Details of the Association's new foot-scoring system were outlined in the February *Angus Journal* in the "By the Numbers" column (see page 142) and the article "Solid Footing" (see page 162).

To download the spreadsheets in AAA Login, click the "Spreadsheet Entry" tab. From that menu select the "Foot Score Spreadsheet." Click the "Instructions" link for step-by-step procedures explaining how to select a group of animals, download the Excel spreadsheet, fill it out and return it to the Association for processing. The instructions also provide a description of phenotypes warranting each score, links to the *Angus Journal* stories and links to other pertinent information.

The data will be compiled in a data set that could lay the foundation of a genetic prediction tool for foot structure and soundness. Additional educational tools will be available soon. For more information, contact Dan Moser, AGI president, at dmoser@angus.org or Tonya Amen, AGI genetic service director, at tamen@angus.org.

Watch for DMI information

Association members will soon see a new EPD showing up on their registration papers and various reports provided by the American Angus Association. We've noted how the Association has enhanced its dollar value indexes (\$Values) by including an expected progeny difference (EPD) for feed intake in calculations for feed value (\$F) and beef value (\$B).

The feed intake EPD, reported in pounds of dry matter per day, had been calculated behind the scenes as a component of the residual average daily gain (RADG) EPD. It is supported by both feed intake data and genomic profile information.

Producers requested that a DMI EPD be reported, as well, so they could dig deeper into what factors affect the broader index values. The Association is responding to that request, making the EPD available on performance documents.

For more information, contact Moser or Amen.

Foundation scholarship applications available

The Angus Foundation will award a number of undergraduate and graduate scholarships this year. Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the 2015 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Tulsa, Okla.

The eligibility requirements for these general Angus Foundation scholarships

remain the same. Angus youth who are graduating from high school or in college currently may also be eligible for other Angus-related scholarships that are permanently endowed and managed by the Angus Foundation.

The Foundation will also make available graduate student scholarships to young men and women actively involved in the Angus breed who are pursuing advanced degrees.

Applicants must have, at one time, been a National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) member and must currently be a junior, regular or life member of the Association. Strong preference and priority will be given to applicants pursuing advanced degrees related closely to the beef industry.

The Angus Foundation undergraduate and graduate student scholarship application and guidelines are available at www.angusfoundation.org. The application deadline is May 1.

For more information contact the Angus Foundation at 816-383-5100.

Apply for Auxiliary scholarships now

The American Angus Auxiliary annually awards scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The postmark deadline for the national contest is May 1.

Junior Angus members must first be chosen as a state auxiliary scholarship winner before advancing to the national competition. Applications are available at www.angusauxiliary.com. For more information, contact Lynne Hinrichsen, American Angus Auxiliary president and scholarship chairman, at rlangus@bluevalley.net.

New initiative to engage future cattle producers

To meet the needs of future cattle producers, the American Angus Association in March 2015 will launch a new program called Future Angus Stockmen. The intent is to impact the next generation through learning opportunities, while building a bond with the Angus breed and its member-driven organization.

The program is aimed toward college-age or recent graduates who want to raise high-quality Angus-based cattle. The program will offer educational opportunities that teach participants how to thrive in the cattle industry, social networking to connect them with fellow producers, and leadership development to instill an entrepreneurial spirit and drive to improve their businesses.

Participants will learn how to use proven information such as expected progeny differences (EPDs) and dollar-value indexes (\$Values), while incorporating DNA

ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

technology to make data-driven decisions. Additional program benefits include enrollment in either AngusSource® or AngusSource Genetic, and access to Beef Record Service (BRS) or MaternalPlus® at a reduced cost for submitting data.

Young people who enroll in the program will have the chance to apply for scholarships if they are or will be enrolled in a two- or four-year college majoring in agriculture. Scholarship winners will be announced at the 2015 National Angus Convention & Trade Show Nov. 3-5, 2015, in Overland Park, Kan.

For more information, contact Ginette Kurtz, director of commercial programs at 816-383-5100 or gkurtz@angus.org.

Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship

The Angus Foundation Board of Directors approved funds to provide \$1,000 scholarships to three youth who use Angus genetics in their seedstock or commercial operations. Awards will be given out in July 2015.

Applicants must be enrolled in a junior college, four-year college/university or other accredited institution for the fall of 2015. They can be an entering freshman or a continuing student in any undergraduate program. The applicant or applicant's parents/guardians must have transferred or been transferred a registration paper in the last 36 months (on or after May 1, 2012).

Full details of eligibility can be found at www.angusfoundation.org. Information and an application can be found in the resources section on the home page.

Note these junior deadlines

►March 2:

- Ownership and entry deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show
- Nomination deadline for Advisor of the Year and Honorary Angus Foundation induction

►May 1:

- Gold Award applications
- Outstanding Leadership Award applications
- Ownership and entry for the Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show
- Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) and Angus Foundation scholarship applications
- Ownership and entry deadline for the Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show

