

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality



Upcoming events:

- March 2—Hinds Community College Bull Test Sale, Raymond, MS
- March 6—Cattlemen's Exchange meeting (Winona group): Bull Selection, EE Ranches cafeteria, Winona, MS, 6:30 p.m.
- March 7—Master Cattle Producer, Optimum Genetics Selection session, distance education, 6:30 p.m.
- March 14—Master Cattle Producer, Herd Health and Handling session, distance education, 6:30 p.m.
- March 15—BIF 2006 Early Registration Deadline
- March 16-19—Youth Beef Industry Congress national meeting, Mississippi State, MS
- April 3—Cattlemen's Exchange meeting (Simpson/ Copiah County), Copiah County Extension office, Crystal Springs, MS, 6:30 p.m.
- April 8—Cattlemen's Exchange tour (Amite/ Franklin/ Wilkinson County), TBA
- April 18-21, 2006—Beef Improvement Federation annual meeting, Pearl River Resort, Choctaw, MS

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Mississippi BCIA Elects Board of Directors for 2006

At the Mississippi BCIA annual membership meeting in Jackson on February 10, 2006, a new Board of Directors was nominated and approved. The Board is comprised of slots representing a variety of groups and individuals involved in MBCIA. These slots are allocated based on the by-laws adopted at the 2003 annual membership meeting.

The 2006 Mississippi BCIA Board of Directors consists of the following individuals:

Commercial Producers

Mike Smith (Term expires 2007)
Cooper Hurst (Term expires 2008)
Mike Keene (Term expires 2008)
Doug Ross (Term expires 2009)

Purebred Producers

Mike Howell (Term expires 2007)
Brian Garner (Term expires 2008)
James Townsend (Term expires 2008)
Buddy Jones (Term expires 2009)

Mississippi Cattlemen's Assoc. Exec. VP
Sammy Blossom

Mississippi Cattlemen's Assoc. President
Gale Martin

MSU Animal and Dairy Sciences Department
Terry Kiser

Extension Animal Scientist
Blair McKinley

Area Extension Agent
Roy Higdon

Hinds Bull Test Station
Billie Banas

South Mississippi Forage Bull Test
Mark Mowdy

Past Presidents of Mississippi BCIA
Locations of BCIA sponsored sales
Kenny Banas

Officers (Terms expire 2008)
President
Jack Evans

Vice-President
Robert Field

Secretary/Treasurer
Jane Parish

Mississippi BCIA appreciates the service and dedication of the 2005 Board of Directors. The 2006 Board has an exciting year ahead as we prepare to host the Beef Improvement Federation annual convention for the first time ever in Mississippi next month.

Mississippi BCIA Bull Sale—Past and Present

Mississippi BCIA held its 1st Annual Gold Seal Silver Seal Bull Sale on November 13, 1969. The sale has been held annually on the 2nd Thursday in November since then.

Bulls sold for an average price of \$853 per head in the 1st annual bull sale. In the 2005 sale, bulls averaged \$2,042 per head.

The minimum adjusted 205-day weight requirement has moved from 450 lbs. in 1969 to the present rule of 575 lbs. (or 550 lbs. with a 95 ratio among 5 contemporaries).

The 10th annual bull sale marketed 84 performance tested bulls for an average \$1,367 per head. The 2005 sale marketed 36 bulls.

The annual fall bull sale was initially held at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds in Jackson. The sales are now held at the Hinds Community College bull sale facility in Raymond.

All of the breeds represented in the 1968 sale (Angus, Hereford, and Santa Gertrudis) were catalogued for the 2005 sale along with Charolais, Gelbvieh, and Simmental.



Top 10 Reasons to Attend BIF 2006

Reason #10

It is not too far to travel.

The Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) annual meeting is being held in Mississippi for the first time in its nearly forty year history. This is a rare opportunity to be able to attend the BIF convention within a reasonable driving distance.

Reason #9

BIF 2006 is a chance to learn about the latest in beef cattle ultrasound from the Ultrasound Guidelines Council.

Mississippi BCIA recognizes beef cattle ultrasound for body composition (ribeye area, intramuscular fat percentage, back fat, rump fat) as an important part of genetic improvement programs. Our annual fall bull sale guidelines encourage producers to collect this data. The UGC will be on hand at BIF 2006 for presentations and questions about beef cattle ultrasound.

Reason #8

You can help educate our visitors on fine Southern cooking.

In addition to a variety of excellent beef dishes, there will be a definite Southern flair to the menu at BIF 2006. The boiled crawfish will not come with eating instructions, so instructors are needed to assist our visitors from other regions of the country.

Reason #7

BIF 2006 is a great place to hear the latest information on beef cattle feed efficiency.

Feed efficiency is a hot topic in beef cattle research today. More importantly, it has a tremendous impact on producer profitability. Three of the leading researchers from the United States and Canada will discuss recent progress in measuring and selecting for improved feed efficiency in beef cattle.

Reason #6

Golf anyone?

The BIF 2006 convention kicks off on Tuesday morning with a golf tournament at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw, MS. The Oaks and Azaleas courses at Dancing Rabbit are both highly acclaimed with the Azaleas ranking as the 2nd best course in Mississippi and the 70th best public course in the country by Golf Digest. Golf Magazine rates the Azaleas course No. 34 on its top 100 public courses list.

Reason #5

As hosts, we need a strong showing of Mississippians at BIF 2006.

Neighboring states have promised to bring large crowds of producers to BIF 2006. As the host state, we can show our interest in the beef industry and beef improvement efforts by turning out in respectable numbers for BIF 2006. We have the chance to make a great impression on our visitors and show them that we appreciate having been given the opportunity to host such a prestigious event. Setting an attendance record is not out of the question for BIF 2006.

Reason #4

The Producer Tour...

The BIF 2006 convention wraps up with a bus tour around Mississippi on the final day of the meetings. Tour stops include the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station at MSU, EE Ranches in Winona, Gaddis Farms in Bolton, and the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum in Jackson. The tour meals alone will be worth the trip.

Reason #3

There will be opportunities to interact with celebrity attendees at BIF.

Some of the leading beef cattle breeders, producers, feeders, industry representatives, Extension personnel and researchers will be at BIF 2006. Baseball hall-of-famer Nolan Ryan will help cook and serve steaks on Wednesday night and will visit with the crowd. Elvis will also be in the building...

Reason #2

Hear the 2005 National Beef Quality Audit results first at BIF 2006.

The National Beef Quality Audit (NBQA) is conducted every few years to benchmark where the beef industry is in terms of quality assurance. Very revealing and practical knowledge from the latest NBQA will be presented at BIF 2006.

Reason #1

This is our opportunity to showcase what Mississippi offers to the beef industry.

The 2006 BIF convention gives us a golden opportunity to highlight Mississippi beef production to a national and even international audience. Come help share our Mississippi hospitality at BIF 2006.

“The BIF convention is an opportunity to highlight Mississippi beef production to a national audience ...”

Registration Form



Registration Due by March 15, 2006 for Early Registration Rate.

Name(s): _____
Ranch/ Company/ Institution Name: _____
Address: _____
Preferred Name(s) for Name Tags: _____



Full Registration: includes all sessions, all meals/ receptions, and proceedings (does not include tour);
Spouse Registration: the same as the full registration with no proceedings;
Daily Registration: includes meals and sessions for that day with no proceedings.

Full Conference:
____ Full at \$125 per person (\$150 late/ on-site)
____ Spouse at \$115 per person (\$140 late/ on-site)
____ Student at \$75 per person (\$90 late/ on-site)

Additional Items:
____ Conference Proceedings at \$20 each
____ Tuesday Evening Reception at \$20 each
____ Wednesday Breakfast at \$10 each
____ Wednesday Lunch at \$30 each
____ Wednesday Supper at \$25 each
____ Thursday Breakfast at \$10 each
____ Thursday Lunch at \$30 each

Daily Registration (Wednesday):
____ Attendee at \$70 per person (\$85 late/ on-site)
____ Student at \$40 per person (\$50 late/ on-site)

Producer Tour, Friday, April 21:
____ Seedstock/Commercial at \$50 each

Daily Registration (Thursday):
____ Attendee at \$70 per person (\$85 late/ on-site)
____ Student at \$40 per person (\$50 late/ on-site)

Find out more about BIF 2006 online at msucares.com/livestock/beef/bif2006.html

**Golf Tournament, Tuesday, April 18,
Dancing Rabbit Golf Club:**
____ Tuesday 10:00 am at \$85 each
____ Handicap (18 Hole)

For more information on BIF 2006 contact:
Jane Parish or Blair McKinley
Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences
Mississippi State University
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762
(662) 325-7466 or (662) 325-3691
jparish@ads.msstate.edu
bmckinley@ads.msstate.edu

**Spouses Tour, Wednesday, April 19,
Meridian, Mississippi:**
____ Wednesday at \$50 each

TOTAL DUE (\$US): _____

Payment Method: _____ Check (made payable to BIF 2006) _____ Mastercard _____ Visa

Expiration Date: _____ **Acct.#** _____ **Name on Card** _____

Signature _____

**Make checks payable to: BIF 2006. Send registration form and payment to BIF 2006:
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762, phone (662) 325-7466 or (662) 325-3691, fax (662) 325-8873**



**Mississippi
Cattleman's
Association**



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*Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement
Association—Productivity and Quality*

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement
Association
Box 9815
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Phone: 662-325-7466
Fax: 662-325-8873
Email: jparish@ads.msstate.edu



Send questions or comments about this
newsletter to Jane Parish, Extension Beef
Specialist, Mississippi State University
Extension Service

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**Visit MBCIA online at
[http://msucares.com/
livestock/beef/mbcia/](http://msucares.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/)**

MBCIA Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(Check one) Seedstock: Commercial:

Cattle breed(s): _____

Completed applications and \$5 annual dues payable to
Mississippi BCIA should be mailed to:

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association
c/o Jane Parish, Extension Beef Specialist
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762

BCIA Management Calendar—March 2006

GENERAL

Plan to attend the Beef Improvement Federation meeting in Choctaw, Mississippi on April 18-21, 2006. The early registration deadline is Wednesday, March 15, 2006.

Watch for grass tetany, particularly on lactating cows grazing lush pastures. Feed a high magnesium mineral supplement to cows on annual ryegrass/tall fescue pastures. Provide proper free-choice minerals and fresh water at all times. Maintain at least 4" average stubble height on winter annual pastures to avoid overgrazing. Fertilize cool-season grasses according to soil tests if not done by February. Locate hybrid bermudagrass sprigs for planting next month. Spray to control little barley, buttercup, and other winter annual weeds. Make plans to service hay equipment well before hay season. Plan summer fly control before fly population buildup. Consider vaccination for anaplasmosis and/or pinkeye and develop a complete herd health program in consultation with a veterinarian. Vaccinate all calves more than three months old for blackleg. Consider marketing cull cows in good condition. Cull cow markets are typically favorable in the next few months compared to the rest of the year. Continue good production and financial record keeping. Finish tax returns this month to avoid last minute preparation stress. Secure a premises identification number for your farm or ranch from the Mississippi Board of Animal Health if you have not already done so.

SPRING CALVING—January, February, March

Dip navels, identify, castrate, dehorn, and implant calves as appropriate at birth. Acquire quality herd sires with performance information from reputable sources. Make sure that calving ease sires are selected for breeding to heifers. Conduct breeding soundness exams and make sure bulls are in good condition in advance of spring breeding. Trim feet and provide additional feed if needed. For artificial insemination programs, have ample semen and other needed supplies on hand and facilities in shape for breeding. Vaccinate all open cows and heifers for vibriosis, leptospirosis, and IBR at least 30 days before breeding. Consult with a veterinarian for BVD recommendations for the local area. Cows need to be in moderate to good condition to rebreed early. Place cattle with the highest nutritional needs (lactating first-calf heifers and cows) on the highest quality grazing and hay. Supplement the cow herd as needed according to forage test results. Start breeding heifers about a month before the cow herd.

FALL CALVING—October, November, December

Remove bulls 283 days prior to the end of the desired calving season (mid-March to end the calving season around late December). Keep bulls in a small pasture traps with effective fences. Feed bulls to start the next breeding season in good condition. Observe the cow herd for returns to standing heat. Castrate and dehorn late calves or those missed in early working.