

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality



Upcoming events:

- July 31—Gulf Coast Beef Education Alliance, Beef Nutrition Series - Assessing Cattle Nutritional Needs and Feed Sources, 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., distance education sites throughout MS, AL, LA and FL
- August 2-5—Hereford PRIDE Convention, Mississippi State, MS
- August 9—Mississippi Beef Quality Assurance Training, Lafayette County regional meeting, Oxford, MS
- August 28—Gulf Coast Beef Education Alliance, Beef Nutrition Series - Winter Pasture Utilization and Fertility Planning, 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., distance education sites throughout MS, AL, LA and FL
- September 14-15—Master Stockman Program, MSU Beef and Horse Units, Mississippi State, MS

Inside this issue:

Bull Sale Nominations (Cont.)	2
Cattle Nutrition Series Reminder	2
Master Stockman Sign-Ups	3
MBCIA Membership Application	4
BCIA Genetic Profit Tips	4

MSU Welcomes New Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

Dr. Justin Rhinehart started work as an Extension Beef Cattle Specialist with the Mississippi State University Extension Service on July 1, 2007. He was raised in East Tennessee and has degrees from the University of Tennessee, University of Kentucky, and West Virginia University.

Dr. Rhinehart is based in Starkville and has statewide Extension responsibilities in beef cattle production education programs. In particular, he will assume leadership for Extension programs in the following areas:

- Stocker Cattle Management
- Feeder Calf Marketing
- Heifer Development Programs

Dr. Rhinehart's contact information is as follows:

Animal & Dairy Sciences, Box 9815
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Office: 662-325-7465
Fax: 662-325-8873
E-mail: jrhonehart@ads.msstate.edu

Look for Justin at many Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association events in the near future, and please help welcome Justin and his family to Mississippi.



Mississippi BCIA Seeking Bull Sale Nominations

After a successful 2006 sale, planning is now underway for the 2007 Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association Fall Bull Sale. The Mississippi Fall BCIA Bull Sale program encourages production and identification of genetically superior bulls by purebred breeders and purchase and use of these bulls by commercial producers. The 2007 sale is scheduled for Thursday, November 8, 2007 at 12:00 noon at the Hinds Community College Sales Facility in Raymond, Mississippi. Mississippi beef breeders are encouraged to nominate quality bulls that meet all the requirements for the sale.

across Mississippi. One change worth noting this year is that a minimum adjusted 365-day yearling weight of 900 pounds will be required for bulls to meet 2007 BCIA Fall Bull Sale eligibility.

**Mississippi BCIA
Bull Sale
Nomination
Deadline
September 1, 2007**

With the effectiveness of distance bidding sites being proven at last year's sale, the annual sale will once again be broadcast live from the Raymond sale site over the Extension distance education system

to interactive bidding sites in the Panola County Extension office in Batesville, MS and the North MS Research and Extension Center in Verona, MS. Producers at the remote sites will have the opportunity to view video of the bulls immediately prior to the sale, view and hear the sale live, and bid on bulls from Batesville and Verona. Look for sale advertisements in the future with more details on this.

The Rules and Regulations for the BCIA Bull Sale along with a nomination form and current bull sale information are posted on the BCIA website at msucare.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/bcia_bullsale.html and are available through county Extension offices

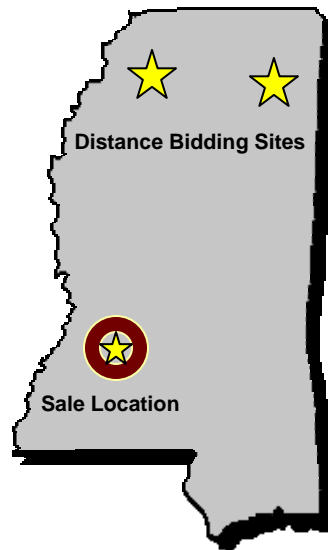
2007 Bull Sale Nominations (Cont.)



The annual fall BCIA bull sale highlights genetically superior bulls from throughout Mississippi

If you are interested in consigning bulls to this sale, please complete the nomination form and return it to Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762 no later than September 1, 2007. Be sure to include the nomination fee, a signed registration certificate, actual birth weight, and adjusted weaning and yearling weights and ratios for each bull.

If you have any questions about the sale, please call your local Extension Service office or contact Jane Parish in the MSU Animal and Dairy Sciences Department at 662-325-7466 or jparish@ext.msstate.edu.



2006 BULL SALE HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ 42 bulls marketed
- ✓ High selling bull brought \$3,500
- ✓ High yearling bull sold for \$2,600
- ✓ Average sale price \$2,094
- ✓ 4 breeds of bulls in sale
- ✓ Bulls sold to buyers in MS and LA
- ✓ 3 bulls sold over interactive video to bidding sites in Batesville and Verona

Reminder—Monthly Cattle Nutrition Series Begins in July

Put the Beef Cattle Nutrition educational sessions on your calendars. Registration brochures are available in county Extension offices and online at msucares.com/livestock/beef/beefnutrition2007.pdf

Gulf Coast Beef Education Alliance Beef Nutrition Series

Locations: distance education sites throughout MS, AL, LA and FL

Schedule:

July 31, 2007

Assessing Cattle Nutritional Needs and Feed Sources, 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.,

August 28, 2007

Winter Pasture Utilization and Fertility Planning, 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

September 25, 2007

Weaned Calf Nutrition and Economics, 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

October 30, 2007

Commodity Feeds in Detail, 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

November 27, 2007

Bull and Heifer Development and Computer Decision Tools, 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

“The Cattle Nutrition educational series will help answer many drought, winter feeding, and forage questions.”

Sign-Ups Now Available for the Master Stockman Program

Registrations are now being accepted for the 2007 Master Stockman Program. Registration fees are \$150 per participant and include all program educational materials, a steak supper, break refreshments, and an intensive day and a half long educational program. The program will be held at Mississippi State University South Farm and Mississippi Horse Park on September 14-15, 2007. Participants may choose from three different beef cattle tracks or two different

horse tracks. Upon completion of the program, participants are eligible for Master Cattle Producer or Horseman certification.

The program will feature Curt Pate demonstrating low stress cattle handling on horseback and on foot. Participants may also opt to ride horses with Pate at the conclusion of the program. Complete details are at msu-cares.com/livestock/beef and will be available in county Extension offices in mid-July.

“...Master Stockman Program participants may choose from 3 different beef cattle tracks or 2 different horse tracks.”

Basic Cow-Calf Track	Advanced Cow-Calf Track	Stocker Cattle Track
<p>Nutrition Body condition scoring, feedstuffs, heifer target weights</p> <p>Reproduction Controlled breeding season, breeding soundness evaluations</p> <p>Breeding and Genetics Sire selection, performance data</p> <p>Forages Forage species, grazing management, stocking rate demo</p> <p>Beef Quality Assurance BQA certification training</p> <p>Economics and Marketing Annual cow cost, marketing alternatives</p> <p>Herd Health Herd vaccinations and parasite control</p> <p>Cattle Handling Low stress cattle handling techniques</p> <p>End Product Management Skills Yield and Quality Grades Calf processing at birth</p>	<p>Nutrition Calculating herd nutritional needs, nutrition computer spreadsheets</p> <p>Reproduction Estrus synchronization</p> <p>Breeding and Genetics DNA technologies, selection indices</p> <p>Forages Assessing available forage, farm forage plan development</p> <p>Beef Quality Assurance BQA certification training</p> <p>Economics and Marketing Risk management, using futures contracts</p> <p>Herd Health Johnes, BVD, and Leukosis monitoring</p> <p>Cattle Handling Low stress cattle handling techniques</p> <p>End Product Management Skills Genetic selection impact on carcass merit Freeze branding, cattle foot care</p>	<p>Nutrition Ethanol co-products for stocker operations</p> <p>Receiving Selection Troubleshooting receiving programs Identifying quality suppliers</p> <p>Forages Forage plans for stockers, stocking rate demo</p> <p>Beef Quality Assurance BQA certification training</p> <p>Economics and Marketing Choosing a feedlot, risk management</p> <p>Herd Health BVD-PI monitoring and control, sick calf ID</p> <p>Cattle Handling Low stress cattle handling techniques</p> <p>End Product Management Skills Interpreting and using feedlot and carcass close-out data EID information management systems</p>



Curt Pate will be on hand at the Master Stockman Program to demonstrate cattle handling on horseback and foot

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

Mississippi State
University does not

discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion,
national origin, sex, sexual orientation or group
affiliation, age, disability, or veteran status.



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
Jane Parish, Extension Beef Specialist
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762

BCIA Genetic Profit Tips – July 2007

Behavioral Traits

Important behaviors to beef cattle production include reactions to processing through a squeeze chute, maternal instincts at calving, newborn calf vigor, bull serving capacity, and foraging behavior. Since these are distinctly different behaviors, different strategies are necessary to quantify differences among animals.

Among the most important of behavioral traits, temperament reflects the ease with which animals respond to handling, treatment, and routine management. Animals with disposition problems are a safety risk to handlers, themselves, and other animals in the herd. Disposition affects handling equipment requirements, operation liability exposure, beef quality assurance, and performance.

The scoring system provided below is designed to subjectively evaluate differences in disposition when animals are processed through the squeeze chute. Because an animal's behavior can be influenced by past experiences, scoring should be conducted at weaning or yearling ages. This will reduce the extent to which current behavior has been influenced by prior handling experiences.

Score 1 - Docile. Mild disposition. Gentle and easily handled. Stands and moves slowly during processing. Undisturbed, settled, somewhat dull. Does not pull on headgate when in chute. Exits chute calmly.

Score 2 - Restless. Quieter than average, but may be stubborn during processing. May try to back out of chute or pull back on headgate. Some flicking of tail. Exits chute promptly.

Score 3 - Nervous. Typical temperament is manageable, but nervous and impatient. A moderate amount of struggling, movement and tail flicking. Repeated pushing and pulling on headgate. Exits chute briskly.

Score 4 - Flighty (Wild). Jumpy and out of control, quivers and struggles violently. May bellow and froth at the mouth. Continuous tail flicking. Defecates and urinates during processing. Frantically runs fence line and may jump when penned individually. Exhibits long flight distance and exits chute wildly.

Score 5 - Aggressive. May be similar to Score 4, but with added aggressive behavior, fearfulness, extreme agitation, and continuous movement which may include jumping and bellowing while in chute. Exits chute frantically and may exhibit attack behavior when handled alone.

Score 6 - Very Aggressive. Extremely aggressive temperament. Thrashes about or attacks wildly when confined in small, tight places. Pronounced attack behavior.

Source: *Guidelines for Uniform Beef Improvement Program*, 8th ed. 2002.