



SOUTH MISSISSIPPI GAIN-ON-FORAGE BULL TESTING PROGRAM

Rules and Plans for 2016 – 2017 Test

A BULL TEST WHERE BULL ARE EVALUATED ON FORAGES FOR 168 DAYS PROVIDING PRODUCERS REPORTS BY PERIOD ON WEIGHTS, AVERAGE DAILY GAINS, WEIGHT PER DAY OF AGE.

AT THE END OF TEST REPORTS ARE PROVIDED ON WEIGHTS, GAINS, WEIGHT PER DAY OF AGE, AVERAGE DAILY GAINS, TEST FRAME SCORE, AND SCROTAL CIRCUMFERENCE.

ULTRASOUNDS CAN BE TAKEN AND SUBMITTED TO ILIA CUP LAB FOR SUBMISSION TO RESPECTIVE BREED ASSOCIATIONS



**MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™**

EXTENSION

**In Association with
Holmes Cattle Company**

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI GAIN-ON-FORAGE BULL TESTING PROGRAM

Rules and Plans for 2016 – 2017 Test

- I. The primary purpose of the South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Test is to provide productive educational opportunities for beef cattle producers throughout the Southeastern United States. Holmes Cattle Company provides the grazing services and day to day management for the bull test. Mississippi State University Extension Service personnel collect and compile the data on the bulls, and provides test reports to bull owners. This bull test is endorsed by the Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association. The Mississippi State University Extension Service provides research-based information, educational programs, and technology transfer focused on issues and needs of the people of Mississippi, enabling them to make informed decisions about their economic, social, and cultural well-being. This educational process is grounded in the bull performance test – an official venue through which cattle producers can evaluate several performance parameters of young bulls for utilization in making informed breeding management decisions. Information collected during the minimum 168-day test is very valuable in helping producers evaluate the utility of their breeding programs and the genetic merit of their foundation breeding stock. Additionally, this test serves as a marketing tool for cattle producers to sell eligible bulls via private treaty transactions and as a source from which commercial beef cattle producers throughout the region can locate and acquire genetically superior, high quality, forage tested herd sires. The terms cattle producer, owner, and/or cattle grazer refers to a person who owns a bull(s) that has been, will be or intends to be nominated for participation in the Mississippi Gain on Forage Bull Test.

- II. Decision of South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Test Committee shall prevail in the event no rule or plan exists or there is a disputed rule or plan. President of the committee is Mr. Richard Hay, Walthall County Extension Director, 250 Ball Avenue, Tylertown, MS 39667; Ph. 601876-4021; email: crh40@msstate.edu.

- III. Data available to cattle producers submitting required bull information.
 - A. Reports detailing:
 - a. On-Test Age in days and months (Mths), On-Test Weight,, On-Test Weight per Day of Age (WDA), On-Test Average Daily Gain (ADG), On-Test Hip Height., and OnTest Frame Score.
 - b. Test Period Reports with Test Period Weight, Test Period Age (Mths), Test Period WDA, Test Period Gain, Test Period ADG, and Test Period ADG Ratio by breed and age.
 - c. Final Report with; On-Test Age (Mths), On-Test Weight, On-Test WDA, On-Test Frame Score, Test Per. 1 Gain, Test Per. 1 ADG, Test Per. 2 Gain, Test Per. 2 ADG, End Test Age (Mths), End Test Weight, End Test WDA , End Test Frame Score, Scrotal Circumference (cm), Test Gain, Test ADG, Test ADG Ratio by breed and age. And a Test Summary report showing averages by breed.
 - B. Ultrasound data can be collected on a bull on one of two set dates and information submitted to ILIA CUP Lab for submission to respective breed associations to be converted into EPDs or raw data sent to cattle producers on those not submitted to the lab. (requires ultrasounding fee and completed barn sheets from breed associations with registration number(s) and matching tattoo ID). A bull will be sonogramed only once while on test, either on the 1st or 2nd sonograming date. Non ILIA Cup ultrasounding will be done on 2nd sonograming date. **Bulls determined by the Ultrasound Technician to be lacking adequate body condition will not be ultrasounded, however, any attempt to ultrasound a bull will result in a charge regardless of results that the producer may get back**

**South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Testing Program Rules
and Plans for 2016 - 2017 Test (continued)**

IV. Charges for testing (per bull):

- A. Basic Care and Feeding per bull fee: **\$450.00 payable in full upon delivery of bull(s) to Test Station on October 28, 2016.**
- B. Supplemental Feeding: Bulls will be maintained on an adequate plane of nutrition at all times. Ration will consist of cool season annual forage grazing, Rumensin minerals, and free choice hay. Should forage growth conditions result in less than adequate amounts of grazing, supplemental feed will be provided. **Actual costs of supplemental feed will be prorated evenly on a per bull basis. Bull owners will be billed accordingly.**
- C. If total veterinary costs on an individual bull exceed \$15.00, additional charges will be billed to owner.
- D. Applicable Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BSE), Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI), and any other veterinary fees must be paid by the owner prior to execution of any private treaty sale transaction.
- E. Additional requested services are available at a cost of \$15 per man hour and \$1.60 per mile.
- F. Producer is responsible for all cost associated with ultrasounding regardless of results, partial results, or no results (any attempt to ultrasound a bull will result in a charge regardless of results that the producer may get back).

V. Eligibility requirements for animals to be enrolled in the test:

- A. Bulls eligible for full or percentage registration with an established breed association and bulls of composite breeding approved by the Test Committee are eligible for this test. **Complete sire and dam information (and other supportive pedigree information for composite bulls) on each bull (A COPY OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE FOR EACH BULL – DO NOT send original) must be submitted with nomination form (due October 15, 2016).**
- B. Age. Birthdates of bulls eligible for this test shall fall between: **September 01, 2015 and April 30, 2016.** The data for contemporary groups will be broken down by breed and age. Age groups: Group A bulls are those born Sept. 1 to Nov. 30th; Group B are bulls born Dec. 1 to Feb. 28th; Group C are those born March 1 to April 30th.
- C. Bulls must be identified with at least one permanent form of ID (tattoo or brand) and at least one easily visible form of ID (i.e., ear tag in left ear). **All bulls will be assigned a test ID consisting of RFID (left ear) and visible producer tag (right ear).**

- D. A health certificate, or certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) written within 30 days of delivery, is required upon arrival for all bulls entering the test.
- 1) Mississippi is brucellosis-free and tuberculosis-free; therefore, brucellosis and tuberculosis tests are no longer necessary.
 - 2) Bulls moving interstate must have an official individual animal ID according to USDA Animal Disease Traceability regulations.
 - 3) Trichomoniasis testing must be followed according to Mississippi Board of Animal Health regulations. For bulls less than 18 months of age moving interstate, the following or similar statement should appear on the CVI: “The bulls identified here are under 18 months of age and have not been comingled with female breeding cattle since weaning.”

**South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Testing Program Rules
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- 4) Non-resident beef cattle producers should contact their local or state veterinarian for interstate permit and any additional health requirements.
- E. **Bulls MUST TEST NEGATIVE for Bovine Viral Diarrhea Persistent Infection (BVD-PI) via the “EAR NOTCH TEST” (immunohistochemistry) prior to delivery to the Test Station. The test must be completed through an approved diagnostic laboratory. A copy of test results must be provided, or the results can be written on the CVI signed by a veterinarian, prior to or upon arrival at the test station.**
- F. **All bulls must be weaned at least 45 days prior to delivery to the Test Station. Each bull must be treated for internal parasites (dewormer should be effective against lungworm, see schedule below), grubs and lice, and administered a coccidiostat following an approved protocol (see table).**

Drug	Treatment dose	Prevention dose
Amprolium (Corid®)	10 mg/kg/day for 5 days	5 mg/kg/day for 21 days
Decoquinatate (Deccox®)		.5 mg/kg/day for 28-30 days
Lasalocid (Bovatech®)		1 mg/kg/day continuously, 360 mg/head/day max
Monensin (Rumensin®)		1 mg/kg/day for 28 days 200 mg/head/day max 10-20 ppm in feed, continuously
Sulfamethazine	110 mg/kg/day for 5 days 140 mg/kg/day for 3 days	35 mg/kg/day for 15 days
Sulfaquinoxaline	10-20 mg/kg/day for 5-7 days	

- G. The required vaccination protocol for all bulls shall include a **modified-live virus vaccine** containing IBR, PI-3, BVD, and BRSV; a five-way *Leptospira* vaccine; a sevenway *clostridial* product; vaccine(s) for *Mannheimia haemolytica* (Pasteurella) that contains both a bacterin and leukotoxoid, *Pasteurella multocida*, and *Histophilus somni* (formerly known as *Haemophilus somnus*). **Vaccines and dewormer should be given twice (14-21 days apart) with the second round administered 21 days before delivery to Test Station.** Bulls will be dewormed and vaccinated a third time when they arrive at the Test Station and will be treated for coccidiosis with Rumensin minerals.

**South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Testing Program Rules
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It is very important to follow recommended procedures for administering vaccines and boosters to achieve effective immunity. Please refer to the attached information sheet for additional details about how to properly handle and administer vaccines.

H. The Test Committee reserves the right to remove any bull from test based upon unfavorable disposition.

VI. Documentation needed

A. By Oct 15, 2016, send to Richard Hay, Walthall County Extension Agent, MSUES, 250 Ball Avenue, Tylertown, MS 39667; Ph. 601-876-4021; e-mail: crh40@msstate.edu

- 1) Completed and signed Cattle Grazing Contract. (pages 8 - 10)
2. Completed and signed Bull Nomination Form.
(page 11)

3. Photocopies of registration certificates (or declaration of sire and dam genetics and supportive pedigree information for composite or unregistered bulls)

4. Completed and signed Cattle Health Record. (page 12)

5. Completed barn sheets from breed associations with registration number(s) and matching tattoo ID for bulls to be ultrasounded on November 20, 2016 and sent to ILIA Cup Lab. Bulls born from September 1, 2015 to December 27, 2015

B. When bulls are delivered on October 28, 2016 and/or before bulls are unloaded at Holmes Cattle Company Test Station facility located at 565 Stallings Bridge Road southwest of Tylertown, Mississippi, the following documents are required:

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) issued within the last 30 days.

2. Statement of Virgin Bull Status for bulls less than 18 months of age on bulls moving interstate, can be written on the CVI signed by a veterinarian.(see section IV D 3)

3. Copy of Negative Bovine Viral Diarrhea Infection Test, can be written on the CVI signed by a veterinarian.(see section IV E)

4. Any additional interstate permits and/or health requirement paperwork that was required to move the bull(s) interstate.

**South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Testing Program Rules
and Plans for 2016 - 2017 Test (continued)**

VII. Bulls sold at Private Treaty:

- A. It is neither the responsibility nor the right of the South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Test to negotiate private treaty sale agreements. It is the obligation of the seller and buyer to negotiate terms and conditions of private treaty sale transactions. The South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Test makes no warranty or guarantee of any kind or nature on bulls enrolled in the test that are purchased via private treaty transactions. The contract is between the buyer and seller.
- B. Bull(s) must pass a Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BSE) prior to delivery (within 30 days of sale). Owner is responsible for payment of BSE veterinary fees prior to execution of any private treaty sale transaction.
- C. Before private treaty negotiations on any bull on test can begin , the following **must** be submitted to Richard Hay:
 - 1. Copy of registration certificate or for bulls of composite breeding, complete sire and dam and other supportive pedigree information must be submitted for approval by the South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Test Committee
 - 2. Current EPD information from breed associations.
 - 3. Written notification of the price being asked for each bull.
- D. If a private treaty sale is transacted prior to the end of the test, the bull(s) must remain on test until the final weighing and processing date.

VIII. Bulls Cataloged in the Performance Forage Sires and South Mississippi Gain on Forage Bull Test Final Report (available in paper copy and via internet).

- A. Bulls eligible to be cataloged as Performance Forage Sires at the end of test are subject to Private Treaty Sale rules in section VII and must meet the following eligibility requirements:
 - 1) Registered bulls must be registered through the appropriate breed association; bulls of composite breeding must be approved for sale by the South Mississippi Gain-On-Forage Bull Test Committee (See section VII, C-1 and C-2).
 - 2) Must have either; (1) a minimum adjusted 205-day weight shall be 500 pounds or 450 pounds with a least a 95 ratio within a minimum of 5 contemporaries (documentation included with nomination form) and meet the follow minimum on test Weight per Day of Age (WDA) in pounds.

Months of Age	WDA		Months of Age	WDA
8	2.00		12	1.67
9	1.90		13	1.61
10	1.81		14	1.55

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11	1.74	15	1.50
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Or (2) at the conclusion of the test, be in the top 10% of test ADG within each breed.

- 3) The bottom 10% of Weight per Day of Age values within each breed at the end of the test will not qualify to be cataloged.
- 4) Meet the Society for Theriogenology guidelines for scrotal circumference.

Minimum Recommended Scrotal Circumference	
Age (months)	Scrotal Circumference (cm)
<= 15	30
> 15 - <= 18	31
>18 - <= 21	32
>21 - <= 24	33
>24	34

- 5) Any bull(s) failing to meet all requirements and/or considered unsuitable to be cataloged will not be cataloged. Committee decisions are final.
- 6) **Bulls eligible to be cataloged at the conclusion of the test must have EPD and/or all other supportive information to Richard Hay by January 15, 2017. Bulls on which the information is not received by this date will NOT be cataloged.**

IX. Bulls must remain on test for the entire minimum 168-day test period (unless sickness, injury, unfavorable disposition, or other situations mandates early removal).

X. Calendar of Events:

A. October 1, 2016 - Plant cool season forages on prepared seedbed at the rate of one acre per bull.

B. October 15, 2016 Nomination forms and required documentation due enroll bulls on test. **(see section VI) mail to:**

Richard Hay
Walthall County Extension Director
250 Ball Avenue, Tylertown, MS 39667
Ph. 601-876-4021 e-mail: crh40@msstate.edu

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SAFE HANDLING AND ADMINISTERING OF VACCINES TO ACHIEVE EFFECTIVE IMMUNITY

Revised August 2013 by: Dr. Carla Huston and Dr. David Smith
Mississippi State University Extension Service

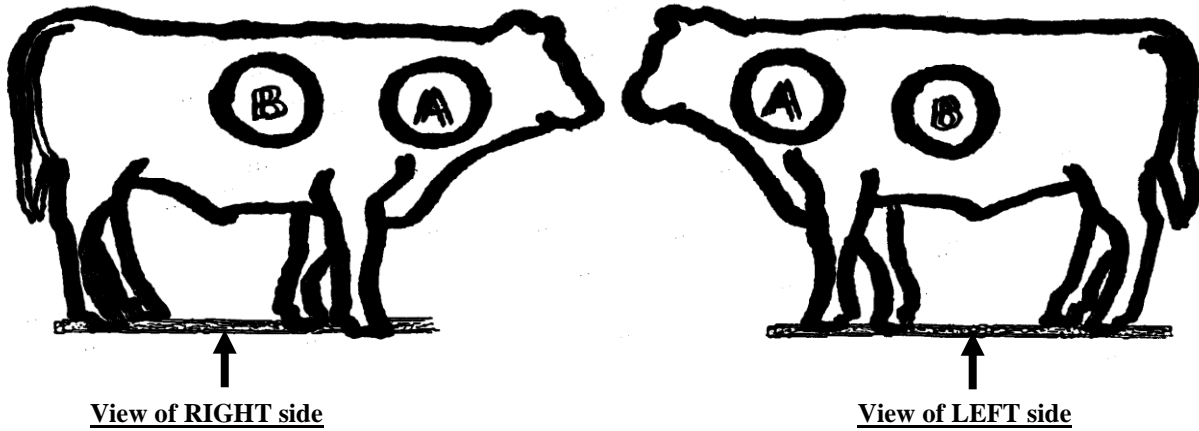
It is very important for cattle producers to follow recommended procedures for purchasing, storing, handling, and administering vaccines and needed boosters in order to achieve effective immunity. A vaccine is a suspension of attenuated (weakened) or killed microorganisms, or the antigenic proteins derived from them. Key components for successful immunization after vaccination are: (1) an efficacious (effective) vaccine, and (2) a functioning immune system within the animal, and (3) appropriate placement of the correct volume of vaccine product at the appropriate time(s).

For a vaccine to work the immune response that it elicits must occur prior to the challenge of the infectious agent – i.e., the vaccine must be administered before the animal becomes exposed to the disease to be truly effective. If a vaccine is used in any fashion other than prior to disease exposure, vaccine efficacy (effectiveness) may be less than desirable.

Vaccines are not 100% effective. There can be many reasons for vaccine failure which include:

- The animal may have been incubating the disease when it was vaccinated.
 - **Certain conditions may affect the vaccine to making it ineffective, such as mishandling (i.e., exposure to sunlight, heat, and adverse climatic conditions).**
 - The immune status of the animal may make it unresponsive to the vaccine. The immune system of the calf may not be fully functional, antibodies derived from the colostrum of the cow may still be present and inactivate the vaccine, or the nutritional program may be inadequate and not allow an immune response to occur.
 - The animal may be exposed to an overwhelming dose of the infectious agent.
 - The duration of immunity after vaccination was not adequate.
 - **A booster may be required for proper vaccine response. Be sure to read and follow label directions.**
 - Important antigenic differences exist between the vaccine and field strains.
-
- Only purchase vaccines from reputable dealers that have taken steps necessary to ensure the product remains potent (i.e., kept at recommended temperatures, shelf-life/expiration date of product is not exceeded, etc.).
 - Store vaccines according to manufacturer’s recommendations.
 - Prepare (constitute) vaccines according to label directions **only when ready to be used**. Once reconstituted, vaccines must be used within several hours.
 - **Keep vaccines cool and in the shade while in use (it is best to keep them in an insulated cooler).**
 - **Do not leave vaccines in direct sunlight (especially on vehicle dash boards and seats).**
 - Work cattle in the coolest parts of the day and avoid unnecessary stress on animals while handling them.
 - Do not inject into areas where the skin is wet or visibly dirty.
 - Do not utilize dull or bent needles.
 - Recommended needle sizes for subcutaneous – sub-Q – (S.C.) injections are 1/2 or 3/4 inch 18 gauge.
 - For intramuscular (I.M.) injections use 1.0 or 1.5 inch 18 gauge needles.
 - **Do not use disinfectants to clean syringes or needles to be used with modified-live virus vaccines.**





A = Location acceptable for administering vaccines which require intramuscular (I.M.) injections and those which can be administered through subcutaneous (sub-Q) injections.

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 Appreciation is expressed to Retired Mississippi State University Extension Service Beef Cattle Specialist Blair McKinley for contributing portions of the information used in this document.
 Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY OF WALTHALL

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI GAIN ON FORAGE BULL TEST CATTLE GRAZING CONTRACT

AGREEMENT made and entered by and between HOLMES CATTLE CO. a corporation licensed to do business in the state of Mississippi, whose principal office address is, 225 Stallings Bridge Road, Tylertown, Mississippi 39667, (hereinafter referred to as "Cattle Grazer") and , whose address is _____, hereinafter referred to as "Owner").

WITNESSETH:

1. Cattle Grazer agrees to pasture approximately _____ head of Owner's livestock on ryegrass or equivalent type pasture owned and/or leased by Cattle Grazer located in Walthall County, Mississippi. Owner agrees to deliver the livestock to Cattle Grazer on or before November 1, 2016. It is further understood that the livestock will be grazed as long as grass is deemed adequate by Cattle Grazer for optimum weight gains or until a day certain that owner elects to receive possession of his cattle, whichever date shall first occur. Cattle Grazer agrees to furnish adequate care and a clean supply of water for all livestock.

2. Mississippi State University and Holmes Cattle Company, along with their

employees, agents, and assigns, are immune from liability in connection with any injury or loss to person or property in connection with the execution of this contract. All risk of injury or death is borne by Owner.

3. Owner shall retain ownership of the livestock, subject to the lien of Cattle Grazer as provided by Sections 85-7-103 and 85-7-105 of the Mississippi Code Annotated of 1972, and by execution of this Agreement Owner consents to such lien and its superiority as provided by law over any other lien that may exist against such livestock.
4. Each animal will be identified by a plastic ear tag or other manner of identification.
5. Owner reserves the right to check livestock at reasonable times and intervals and should he determine that the livestock are being improperly cared for or that there is a shortage of pasture and/or water, Owner shall have the right to remove the livestock from Cattle Grazer's pastures if the situation is not corrected to Owner's satisfaction within a reasonable amount of time. Cattle Grazer agrees to contact Owner immediately if it encounters any problems and to keep Owner informed as to the welfare of the livestock upon request.
6. Payment shall be due and payable within ten (10) days of receipt of any invoice.

Payments shall be payable to HOLMES CATTLE CO. and mailed to 225 STALLINGS BRIDGE ROAD, TYLERTOWN, MISSISSIPPI 39667. Owner agrees to pay the following price for grazing services: **\$450.00 per bull and actual cost of supplemental feeding prorated on a per bull basis.**

7. Owner agrees to notify Cattle Grazer at least ten (10) days prior to the approximate shipping date. Exact delivery date will be agreed upon by both Cattle Grazer and Owner; however, it is contemplated by the parties that Owner will pick up all livestock at Cattle Grazer's farm between

8. Cattle Grazer also agrees to administer any health care products or procedures requested by Owner at the cost of Owner.

9. In addition to the considerations described above, Owner shall pay the following additional expenses:

- a. Cost of animal health products;
- b. Chute fee of \$5.00 per animal; and,
- c. Any charge for services rendered by a veterinarian or other animal specialist.
- d. Producer is responsible for all cost associated with ultrasounding regardless of results, partial results, or no results (any attempt to ultrasound a bull will result in a charge regardless of results that the producer may get back).

Payment will be due and payable thirty (30) days following invoice to Owner for services performed.

10. Cattle Grazer and Owner specifically limit the terms of this contract to the group of cattle identified in this contract and the terms of this contract shall not exceed a period of one (1) year from the date of execution.

11. Cattle Grazer reserves the right to reject any animal he deems unsuitable due to injury, disease, or other condition.

12. In the event of a breach of the terms and conditions herein, the non-breaching party shall be entitled to recover actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, court costs and filing fees, as well as any other damages or fees incurred as a result of said breach.

13. This Contract shall be governed in its entirety by the laws of the State of Mississippi. The terms stated herein contain the entire Agreement of the parties and shall not be altered absent execution by them of a subsequent writing.

WITNESS the signatures of the parties, on this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Cattle Grazer

Frank Holmes or Mark R. Holmes

Authorized Agents for:

HOLMES CATTLE CO.

225 Stallings Bridge Road

Tylertown, Mississippi 39667

Telephone: (601) 876-5204

(601) 248-4159

_____, Owner

Telephone: _____

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13									
14									
15									

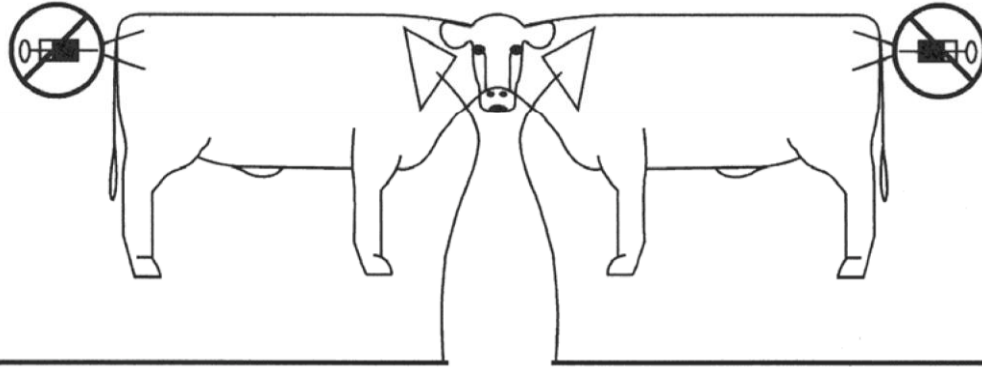
If nominating more than 15 bulls, make additional copies of this form as need

Cattle Health Record

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Ph: _____

Identify Brand and Indicate Location



List "Procedure Number" on the line above which corresponds to the side of the cattle the injection was given. Give all injections within the Injection Triangle.

When possible select SQ products, and never give injections in rear leg or top butt.

List of Common Procedures:

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Respiratory virals, | Clostridials, | Pasteurella, | H.somnus, | Brucella, |
| Internal Parasites, | Coccidiostat, | External Parasites, | Implants, | Antibiotics, |
| Creep/Bunk Broke, | Micro-Nutrients, | Medicated Feed | | |

Circle procedure performed and list on numbered line in table below AND list number on line above that corresponds to the side of the cattle the injection was given.

NOTE: Use the Injection Triangle for all shots.

Procedure / Procedure #	Lot or Serial #	Company	Date Given	Date Withdrawal	Route Admin	Dose	Booster N/Y-when	Crew Initials
1.								
2.								
3.								
4.								
5.								
6.								
7.								
8.								

Number of Cattle: _____ Date Weaned: _____ Dehorned (Yes / No)

Bulls _____ Steers _____ (method _____) Heifers _____ (Spayed: No/Yes =method _____)

ID: Right Ear or Left Ear/Group color and number: _____ /Individual (as appropriate):

Description / Comments:

Owner's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Veterinarian's Signature: _____ Phone: _____