



## *Rules for Entry and Participation* *2009-2010*

### **1. Entry Requirements**

- a. Nomination forms are due October 13, 2009. Membership fee must be included with nomination to reserve space. (See #2 Costs)
- b. Entries will be limited to approximately 150 head due to pen space. Priority will be given to previous participants if their nomination forms are in by October 13, 2009, with reservations made in order of receipt. As of October 13, 2009, new cooperators nominations will be accepted in order of receipt, provided space is still available. New cooperators should send nominations as early as possible to establish priority.
- c. It is recommended that the calves be weaned three weeks to a month before delivery to test site.
- d. Calves must weigh at least 450 lbs. at time of arrival. Scrotal circumference will be measured, and it is recommended that those with less than 17 cm. be withheld from the test. The recommended measurement is 20 cm.
- e. All bull calves must be tattooed and/or ear tagged for positive identification. Please fill in all information on nomination forms so that you, the bull, and his sire and dam receive proper credit for his performance. ***All bulls will be retagged with a SECBTA tag and retinal scanned for positive identification at receiving.***
- f. Age limits
  1. January 1, 2009 to April 30, 2009.
  2. May 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008 (must have at least 20 entries).
- g. Bulls must be at least ½ blood of the breed represented and 75% of their pedigree must be documented. If eligible for registry in the represented breed, they will compete with that breed group. Bulls not eligible for registry in a breed association will be entered in the Commercial category. Commercial purebred bulls may be nominated, and may be accepted, and grouped at the discretion of the test management.
- h. Brand Inspection must accompany bulls entering the test unless originating in area covered by Lamar inspectors, (75 mile radius), or from an area without brand inspection.
- i. The date for receiving is Wednesday, October 28, 2009. ***IF NOT*** possible to deliver on this date, they should be delivered earlier, ***NOT LATER!!*** Please call Southeast Colorado Research Center to make arrangement for early arrivals. Meeting and lunch Tuesday noon. **At least 30 bulls must be consigned to justify holding the test.**

## 2. Costs:

- a. Membership in the association is \$10.00 per year, due October 13, 2009, with nomination forms.
- b. The entry fee cost per bull is **\$650**. In order for SECBTA to have funds available to pay feed bills as received, participants are **required** to pay **\$325** per bull at time of delivery to the feedlot, and an additional **\$325** by January 31.

In addition to feed costs, the **\$650** is used to cover pen and handling charges, printing and mailing of reports, advertising, administrative fee, breeding soundness exam, ultra sound measurement and clipping prior to the sale.

Any additional costs will be billed to the cooperator at the end of the test.

- c. Veterinary costs will be billed to the owner upon office receipt of bill, and are not included under the **\$650** fee, as they vary so much. This will help give each owner a track record of the health and treatment of each bull.
- d. Each owner's account must be current before the owner's bulls are allowed to leave the feedlot to be taken home, or allowed to sell at the sale.
- e. A floor price may be established for each bull by the consignor prior to the sale.
- f. Horn Weights may be furnished by the owner or will be charged to the owner. (Note Rule 4e)
- g. ***Bulls designated to participate in the sale will be charged a \$25.00 per head Administrative Fee. Bulls NOT designated for the sale will be charged a \$50.00 Administrative Fee. (Included in the \$650.00 per bull cost)***

## 3. Sale Eligibility & Rules:

- a. The test management reserves the right to reject from the test, or from the sale, any bull that in their opinion would be a discredit to the breeder or to the program due to structural or breeding unsoundness, over-finish, etc.
- b. To qualify for sale, a bull must pass conformation, soundness, health, and breeding soundness examination as required by the test management.

Final index will be computed on 60% ADG and 40% WDA.

- c. ***Bulls must be designated for sale or retention for private treaty by the second (77 day) weigh day. Advertising and/or Administrative Fees will be charged appropriately on the final accounting sheets.***
- d. Owners may select one bull by the last weigh day to be returned into their herd to assist them in producing high performance cattle. Low indexing bulls may also be removed from the sale.

- e. Registration Certificates, copies, or registration numbers **must** be in to the Southeast Colorado Bull Test Office (P.O. Box 97, Eads, CO 81036) by the 77 weigh day (February 3, 2010). No bull will be sold without papers, (or verification for breeds that require yearling weight for registration). The certificates are needed for registration verification, catalog information, and for transfer. All original certificates will be returned following the sale, and consignors will be responsible for transfer to new owners. An exception to this rule will be made for the bulls listed as crossbred or commercial bulls.

#### 4. Test Procedures:

- a. Bulls will receive ratios and indexes within breed groups. Breed groups will be determined by the test management, but generally will consist of 5 or more bulls per breed. In the case of smaller numbers of bulls of a breed within an age division, the test management may group the bulls into “other breeds” groups according to size, type, and similarity of breed characteristics.

“Low Birth Wt.” or Calving Ease” groups are planned for Angus and Hereford (Horned and Polled) or other breeds as appropriate. These groups will be ratioed separately, but a minimum of 5 head will be required to establish a separate LBW breed group. To qualify, bulls must have a birth weight EPD as follows: Angus +2.5 or less; Hereford +1.5 or less. To qualify for the LBW classification, a registration certificate or other verification from the breed association should be provided by the date the bulls are placed on test, but NO later than the 35 day weigh day. Failure to provide proof of EPD eligibility will result in the bull being placed in the regular breed group. If up-dated EPD’s are received later they may be printed in sale catalog, but no change will be made in classification of the bulls.

- b. Bulls will be penned in groups of approximately eighteen. Bulls of the same ownership and breed will be kept together when possible. Weight and structural size will also be considered.
- c. Sire groups will consist of three or more bulls. Reports will include sire group averages. Larger sire groups will provide more meaningful data.
- d. **Owners are required to pre-condition and individually BVD test bulls before arrival. Negative BVD test documentation must accompany all bulls entered.** Preconditioning vaccinations should be a minimum of 2 weeks prior to delivery, and include: IBR - BRSV - PI 3 - BVD; 7-Way clostridial; Wormer; “one shot” or Presponse of Pasteurella. A certificate or statement of pre-conditioning from the owner will be helpful toward health management of the bulls after arrival. If any bull has not received shots as outlined above, please let Test personnel know before they are processed.

Bulls will be processed under direction of a veterinarian on delivery day, and may receive booster shots of Bovishield 4 + LS (or similar product) according to veterinarian’s recommendation. They will receive a feed-additive coccidiostat for 5 or more days after arrival.

- e. Owners of horned bulls are requested to have their bulls’ horns “tipped” prior to delivery (before weaning is best). If not tipped in advance, they may be horn weighted at the appropriate time.
- f. The ration fed will be high quality ration that will produce medium high gains without any damage to the breeding potential of the bull.

- g. No cattle will be removed until settled for and released by the test management. Consignor will not be permitted to work their cattle at any time, other than helping on weigh days.
- h. *The consignor is responsible for bulls remaining at the feedlot after the conclusion of the test –i.e. - sale day. Arrangements must be made with feedlot management. Bulls remaining for longer than 30 days, without prior arrangements, will be sold, in the owners name, with the feedlot bill deducted from the selling price prior to disbursement of the proceeds to the owner.*
- i. No bull may be removed from the test during the test period without a Veterinary illness release, and/or the consent of the test management, or an ADG ratio below 80 at 77 days.
- j. The feeder, test management, or Southeast Colorado Bull Test Association will not be held liable for sickness, injury, or death loss of any bull, or any person visiting or helping with the bulls on the feedlot premises.
- k. Insurance - Each owner will be responsible for obtaining mortality insurance on their bulls if they so desire.

## **5. Rule Enforcement:**

Failure of a participant to abide by the rules of the Southeast Colorado Bull Test Association may result in the individual being barred from future tests and sales, along with forfeiting of all fees, at the discretion of the board of directors.

## **6. Meeting:**

Meetings of the association will generally be held on delivery day and on each weigh day at noon. All members are welcome to attend.

### **Following are addresses and phone numbers of people involved in management of the test program:**

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