


MCA/MSU BULL EVALUATION PROGRAM

Brian Plank - station
989.506.2061
brianplank@rocketmail.com

MCA - office
517.347.8117
info@micattlemen.org

MSU - office
517.432.0400
buskirk@msu.edu

www.MIbulls.com

DATE: September 13, 2019
TO: 2019-20 MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program Consignors
FROM: Dr. Dan Buskirk, Michigan State University, Department of Animal Science 

Twenty-one regional seedstock producers nominated bulls for the 2019-20 evaluation. The bull program committee appreciates the continued confidence and consignor enthusiasm in the program. This year the nomination total was near, but did not exceed the stations capacity. Therefore, all nominations were accepted (see page 3). If, for any reason, you are unable to deliver all accepted bulls, please notify me or Brian Plank, as nomination fees must be forfeited for non-communicated no-shows. All bulls must have the enclosed forms completed and payment at delivery.

Act early on genomic testing, as DNA results may take several weeks after being received by the lab. You may order an ultra-low (GGP uLD), low (i50K), high (HD 50K, GGP 50K), or very high (GGP HD150K) density test, as long as it minimally verifies sire parentage and generates genomically enhanced EPDs.

Consignors must be members of the Michigan Cattlemen's Association (MCA) to participate. If your membership is not current, go to www.micattlemen.org and click on membership, or call 517.347.8117.

We truly appreciate your participation in the MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program, and look forward to meeting and working with our new consignors. I would like to stress, particularly for first-time consignors, do not hesitate to ask questions (517.432.0400 or buskirk@msu.edu). Feedback and suggestions for program improvement are also always welcome.

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2019-20 MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program ♦ Nomination Acceptance

DELIVERY **Friday, October 11th** **9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**
 Saturday, October 12th **9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

When possible, delivering bulls Friday tends to reduce unloading wait times. Enclosed is a consignor list for your consideration in pooling transportation to the station.

LOCATION

MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Station is at Plank Farm, 375 Mt. Hope Road, Crystal, MI 48818

BEFORE DELIVERY – ITEMS TO CHECK WHILE PROCESSING AT HOME

- ✓ Verify tattoos
- ✓ Check scrotum/testicle integrity
- ✓ Check foot confirmation (see www.mibulls.com/consignors)
- ✓ Check for ringworm and warts (can be rejected at delivery)
- ✓ Bulls must weigh 2.4 lb/day of age at delivery, which includes transportation shrink

DELIVERY CHECKLIST

1. **Contract**
2. **Health verification form**
3. **Whole-herd TB testing date agreement**
4. **Consignment delivery form**
5. **Copy of online breed registration for each bull, which indicates EPDs are genomically enhanced**
6. **Negative DNA test for lethal gene(s)** (for potential carriers based on pedigree)
7. **Negative BVD virus detection test**
8. **Delivery payment** (\$200 per bull, Made payable to: *Michigan Cattlemen's Association*)

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Last	First	Farm	City	St	Phone	Email	Breed	Bulls
Beckington	Kevin	KB Angus	Merritt	MI	734.368.8430	kevin@kbangus.com	AN	5
Benaske	Mark & Greg	R Value Farms	Rosebush	MI	517.204.4747	mark@rvaluefarms.com	AN	3
Bordner	Monte	Bordner Farms	Sturgis	MI	269.506.5109	monte@bordnerfarms.com	AN	6
Bossenberry	Stephen	Bo Z Angus	Hadley	MI	810.309.9697	bo.z.angus@gmail.com	AN	2
Cline	Carl	White Diamond Angus Ranch	Albion	MI	517.554.1729	carlzan@yahoo.com	AN	1
Dawson	John & Paul	Dawson Farms LLC	Hanover	MI	517.524.8941	dawsonfarms@frontiernet.net	AN	7
Dow	Kevin	Dow Livestock Acres	Mulliken	MI	517.449.5399	dowfarms@sbcglobal.net	AN	3
Foster	Tristan	Michigan State University	E. Lansing	MI	715.892.1079	fostert8@msu.edu	AN	8
Hutchings	Dennis	Hutchings Angus	Bellevue	MI	269.758.3190	mhutch84@yahoo.com	AN	5
Jepson	Joe	Double Diamond J	Coldwater	MI	517.279.9022	jepsonddj@gmail.com	AN	3
Karweik	Mike	Walnut Springs Farms	Hopkins	MI	616.293.6019	mk@triton.net	AN	6
Longcore	Randy	Longcore Cattle	Cedar Springs	MI	616.644.4516	longcoreherefords@sbcglobal.net	SM	1
Mott	Britt	Mott Farms	Olivet	MI	269.209.2598	brittdmott@hotmail.com	SM	2
Plank	Brian	Plank Simmental Farm	Crystal	MI	989.506.2061	brianplank@rocketmail.com	SM	11
Pollington	Craig	Double 'C' Simmentals	Marion	MI	231.429.8336	tg.cap1@gmail.com	SM,AN	4
Smith	Phil & Abby	Rural Route 5 Farm	St. Johns	MI	989.314.3018	qasmichigan@gmail.com	SM,AN,AR	7
Underwood	Neil & Mariah	Underwood Angus Farms	N. Manchester	IN	260.901.0006	nunderwood3@gmail.com	AN	3
Vander Lugt	Wayne	Black Creek Beef	Hudsonville	MI	616.610.1602	blackcreekbeef@rocketmail.com	SM,AR	3
Voogt	Gary	Voogt Farms	Marne	MI	616.862.4158	gcvoogt@gmail.com	AN	4
White	G. Patrick & Cheryl	White Charolais	Allegan	MI	269.673.1634	whitecowsusa@gmail.com	CH	2
Zellmer	Bob	Highbanks Angus	Nashville	MI	269.945.7796	bob@highbanksangus.com	AN	3

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2019-20 MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program ♦ Work Schedule

All consignors are expected to help with routine processing of the bulls. Weighing will begin at **10:00 a.m.**, and, with a full crew, is easily accomplished by noon. This tentative schedule has been filled out for your participation. If the assigned date will not work for you, please let us know at bull delivery, and we will try to accommodate requests to switch dates. Also, mark your calendars for the mid-evaluation meeting, which will immediately follow the December weighing. Of course, you are welcome to come and help on a date not assigned too.

Initial wt. (on test)		28-d wt.	Mid-eval wt.	84-d wt.
Thur	Fri	Fri	Fri	Fri
Oct. 24, 2019	Oct. 25, 2019	Nov. 22, 2019	Dec. 20, 2019	Jan. 17, 2020
Vander Lugt Karweik White	Voogt Longcore Underwood	Pollington Benaske White	Beckington Bordner Smith Zellmer	Hutchings Cline Mott

Final wt. (off test)			Breeding	
Thur	Fri		Soundness	
Feb. 13, 2020	Feb. 14, 2020	Ultrasound- TBD	Tentative	Video-TBD
Jepson Dawson Bossenberry	Underwood Zellmer	<i>week of Feb 3</i> Dow Smith	<i>Feb 17</i> Foster <i>Feb 18</i> Karweik	<i>week of Feb 17</i> *

***We will need at least 6 volunteers to help with video day (week of February 17th). Let us know on delivery day if this is something you can help with. Thank you!**

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2019-20 MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program ♦ Contacts

Brian Plank	Station management	989-506-2061	375 Mount Hope Rd. Crystal, MI 48818
Paula Plank	Accounting	989-463-2315	862 N. Duffield Road Sumner MI, 48889
George Quackenbush	MCA (payments & settlement)	517-347-8117	2145 University Park Dr. Suite 300 Okemos, MI 48864
Dr. Dan Buskirk	MSU (evaluation & reports)	517-432-0400	474 S. Shaw Ln. 2265 Anthony Hall E. Lansing, MI 48824
Dr. Lisa Sanford	Sterner Vet Clinic (veterinary services & breeding soundness)	616-527-3320	
Kevin Gould	MSU (ration formulation & ultrasound)	616-527-5357	
Bob Zellmer	Bull Evaluation Committee, Chair	269-945-7796	
"	Angus representative	"	
Monte Bordner	Angus representative	269-506-5109	
Kevin Beckington	Angus representative	734-368-8430	
Brian Plank	Simmental representative	989-506-2061	
Phil Smith	Simmental representative	989-314-3018	
Mike Karweik	Red Angus representative	616-293-6019	
Mark Sears	Commercial representative	517-563-2460	

*Breed representatives begin their term at the winter meeting.

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Pre-test Requirement: Testing Cattle for Persistent BVD Infection

Background

Bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) persists and spreads between herds in the U.S. cattle population primarily via persistently infected (PI) cattle that were exposed to virus before they were born. Many PI cattle are more susceptible to disease and are unthrifty. If they survive to weaning they are unlikely to be selected for replacement stock.

Unfortunately, a few survive, appear healthy, and may be retained as breeding animals. PI's shed BVD virus continuously and provide constant exposure to any other cattle with which they come in contact.

The likelihood of finding a PI is low but the potential damage to herd productivity is very high. Newly purchased bulls have been incriminated as a source of new BVD infections in cattle herds. Some major feedlots are now screening incoming cattle for BVD PI's. Many dairy farms screen replacement heifers to identify PI's. Finding persistently infected animals and eliminating them from breeding herds is an essential part of controlling this disease.

PI cattle have BVD virus present throughout their body. The standard test requires a small skin sample, and uses specific staining techniques to identify BVD virus in the tissue. Cost of the test is typically less than \$5 and results are often available in 1 week.

Testing Procedure

1. Any full-thickness piece of skin will work, but ear notches are easy to collect. With the animal properly restrained, remove a small sample of

skin from the edge of the ear. A pig ear-notcher works well for this. Bleeding is usually minimal and can be controlled, if necessary, by digital pressure for a few seconds. Make sure the sample includes skin. A piece of ear tissue (not hair) ½ inch long and ½ inch wide is adequate.

2. Place the sample in a leak-proof plastic bag. Write the date collected, animal identification, and owner's name on the bag with a waterproof marker.

3. Chill the sample(s) on ice or in a refrigerator to minimize tissue destruction. Samples should be submitted, with the appropriate paperwork, within 48 hours to a diagnostic laboratory that performs BVD testing. Avoid shipping samples on Thursdays or Fridays so that they do not arrive at the lab over the weekend. The shipping address for the MSU VDL is:

*MSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
Michigan State University
4125 Beaumont Road, Room 122
East Lansing, Michigan 48910-8104*



You can download the form from the VDL website www.animalhealth.msu.edu. On the top menu click "Forms", "General Submissions". On this form, the correct test is in the middle column under the heading "RUMINANT" and has a check-box labeled "**BVD PCR (ear notch)**".

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2019-20 MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program ♦ Contract

I, _____, hereby accept pen space for _____ bull(s) in the 2019-20 Bull Evaluation to be conducted by the Michigan Cattlemen’s Association (MCA) and Michigan State University (MSU). The bull(s) nominated for evaluation are described on the consignment form.

I have read the 2019-20 MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program Policies and understand my obligations for bulls accepted into the evaluation. I agree that the Bull Evaluation Committee has the authority to make the rules and regulations governing this evaluation and that this contract is signed with my full knowledge of the rules in effect as of this date.

I agree to pay, at the time of delivery of the bull(s) described, the sum of \$200 per bull. Also, I agree to furnish at the time of delivery for each bull, this signed contract and all paperwork outlined in the accompanying packet.

I agree to the inspection of my bull(s) by the Committee, its designated veterinarians, or other representatives, for the purpose of determining health status, structural soundness, disposition, quality, blood type, or development and configuration of the teeth. I further agree that decisions reached by them, regarding such inspection, shall be final and without recourse.

I understand that I must provide actual birth weight and adjusted weaning weights for each bull consigned by December 20, 2019 or be assigned a \$50 late fee per bull.

I will make an additional payment of \$200 per bull (which may be adjusted upward depending on market conditions) by January 17, 2020, and pay

any remaining cost at the conclusion of the evaluation. I understand that if the entire \$600 per bull fee has not been paid by January 19, a \$50 late fee will be assessed for each bull. I also understand that bulls will not be cataloged for sale, nor released to the consignor, if payments are not current at the end of the evaluation period.

Feed cost per bull will be pro-rated at the conclusion of the evaluation based on the weight gain of each bull within each pen. Sale expense per bull(s) (catalog, auctioneer, advertising, administration fee, etc.) will be calculated by multiplying the sale expense percentage (total sale expenses divided by the gross sales) by the individual bull sale price (or floor price for no-sales). Refunds will be made for individual bull(s) whose expenses are less than \$600. A percentage of the sale price will be paid within a week following the sale, and settlement of the net sale proceeds will occur at or following the late April wrap-up meeting. The settlement check will be made out to:

(individual or farm name)

I agree to pay, without prior approval, for veterinary service expended by, or procured by the Committee or station management that is required for the maintenance of good health of my bull(s) while at the MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Station. I understand that the Board of Directors and Officers of MCA, Michigan State University, and Planks assume no risk or liability for any bull(s) consigned to the evaluation. I further understand that insurance coverage is the responsibility of each owner for his/her bull(s) while at the MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Station.

Consignor signature

Date

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Whole-Herd Bovine Tuberculosis Testing Date Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT is between

_____ a consignor of bull(s) to
Consignor name (print)

the MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program and the Michigan Cattlemen's Association.

As a consignor to the MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program, I agree not to conduct whole-herd bTB testing between October 1, 2019 and March 23, 2020. Should I wish to modify my whole-herd bTB testing date anniversary, I further acknowledge that this agreement may restrict potential testing dates.

This agreement shall be binding upon the consignor, their successors, assigns, and personal representatives. This agreement shall be enforced under the laws of the state of Michigan. This is the entire agreement.

Consignor signature

Date

Background

This agreement is in place to protect the Michigan Cattlemen's Association/Michigan State University Bull Evaluation Program (BEP) consignor bulls from being subjected to additional bovine tuberculosis (bTB) testing or quarantine during the upcoming evaluation period (October 1, 2019 to March 23, 2020). If a BEP bull consignor was to subject their herd to a whole-herd bTB test during the running of the BEP evaluation, and an animal in that herd was determined to be bTB positive, a trace-out investigation would, at a minimum, include removal and sacrifice of trace-out bulls, and quarantine and a bTB test of all bulls in the BEP. This process has the potential to bring significant financial and reputation harm to the BEP and its consignors. Therefore, this agreement with consignors is needed to eliminate risk exposure encountered with planned whole-herd testing of consignor herds during the BEP evaluation period.

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Health Verification Form

Owner
Bull Visual ID(s)

- To the best of my knowledge, all bulls are visually free of active ringworm lesions and warts.
- To the best of my knowledge, by palpation, all bulls have 2 testes with normal positioning, shape, and tone.
- All bulls are tested negative for BVDV – test paper must be provided at delivery. Must be a virus detection test and not an antibody or serology test (for more detail, see “Pre-test Requirement: Testing Cattle for Persistent BVD Infection”).

Vaccinations and boosters must be completed at least 14 days and no more than 30 days prior to delivery. See Mibulls.com/consignors for a list of vaccines that fit the criteria. Out-of-state bulls must pass all Michigan health requirements and be accompanied by an official interstate health certificate including individual identification.

	Date	Date	Product name
<i>Vaccines</i>			
Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR)			
Bovine Virus Diarrhea (BVD) <i>(must include types 1 & 2)</i>			
Parainfluenza₃ (PI₃)			
Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRSV)			
Mannheimia haemolytica <i>(must contain “toxoid” or “leukotoxoid”)</i>			
Histophilus somni			
Leptospira - 5 strains			
Clostridial - 7-way			
<i>Parasite control</i>	Date		Product name
Internal/external parasite control			
<i>Wart vaccine</i>	Date	Date	Product name
Wart vaccine (not required, but note if administered)			

At least 1 dose as modified-live vaccine

Depending on product, may not require booster

I certify that I have examined the above animal(s) and found them to be in good health and free of apparent signs of disease, and that they have been vaccinated as indicated above.

Owner signature

Date

2019-20 MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Program ♦ Consignment Delivery Form

Consignor name _____

Farm name _____

of calving cows in your herd _____

Office Use				Ear tag	Tattoo/ brand	Birth date	Registration #	Breed	Actual Birth wt.	205-d Adj. Wean wt. ^a	Birth type ^b	Horn status ^c	Color ^d	Contemporary group ^f	Lethal defect free ^e	
test ID	weight	scrotal	Sire verified												DNA test	
1			<input type="checkbox"/>												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2			<input type="checkbox"/>												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3			<input type="checkbox"/>												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4			<input type="checkbox"/>												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5			<input type="checkbox"/>												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6			<input type="checkbox"/>												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7			<input type="checkbox"/>												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8			<input type="checkbox"/>												<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Example				F01	901	3/13/19	2281133	SM	94	705	S	H	Red	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

^a205-d adjusted weight as reported by breed association - not actual weaning weight.

^bBirth type = S=single, T=twin, ET= embryo transfer.

^cHorn status = P=polled, S=scurred, H=horned.

^dPredominant hide color.

^eDetermined free of lethal genetic defects based on pedigree (sire and dam are not potential carriers within breed association) or DNA tested as free.

^fIndicate weaning contemporary groups that should be maintained during the evaluation (1, 2, 3...).