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www.MiBulls.com

September 11, 2026

MCA–MSU Bull Evaluation Program Consignors:

We are overwhelmed with the enthusiasm for the 2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation! Twenty-one seedstock producers from Michigan and Indiana have nominated 118 bulls. The Program Committee greatly appreciates your interest and confidence, and regrets that we cannot accept more bulls. Because nominations exceeded the station's capacity, we used our acceptance protocol, which prioritizes past consigners and allows for new participant entry. See page 3 for details on accepted nominations and reserve list. Reserve list bulls will be called upon, in order, if accepted bulls fail to show or meet entry requirements. Nomination payments for bulls not accepted can easily be applied to delivery and January fees.

All bulls must arrive with completed forms and required payments at delivery. **If you cannot deliver any of your accepted bulls, please notify me by September 18, 2026**. Otherwise, the bull slot will be considered a 'no-show', and the nomination fee will be non-refundable.

If not already done, complete genomic testing as soon as possible, as test results can take several weeks to process. Select any panel (e.g., GGP uLD, i50K, HD 50K) that will confirm sire parentage and generate genomically enhanced EPDs. Although BVD testing can be combined with genomic testing, I don't recommend doing so because of much longer turnaround times. Submitting samples directly to MSU VDL or a comparable lab will provide much faster results. **The BVDV test results must be submitted at delivery to protect the health of all bulls.**

Consignors must hold current Michigan Cattlemen's Assoc. membership. To renew or join, visit **www.micattlemen.org** and select "Membership".

Thank you for your participation in the program. Please direct any questions or suggestions for program improvement to me or a program committee representative.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Buskirk

Dan Buskirk, PhD, PAS, Professor & Extension Beef Specialist
Michigan State University, Department of Animal Science
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2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program ◆ Nomination Acceptance

BEFORE DELIVERY – ITEMS TO CHECK WHILE PROCESSING AT HOME

- ✓ Verify tattoos
- ✓ Scrotum and testicle integrity
- ✓ Foot confirmation (see www.mibulls.com/breeders)
- ✓ Free of ringworm and warts
- ✓ Weight per day of age ≥ 2.4 lb/day at delivery (remember to account for transport shrink)

DELIVERY: Friday, October 2nd between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Evaluation Station, Wernette Cattle Co., 9441 50th Ave., Remus, MI, 49340

DELIVERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Contract**
- ☐ **Health verification form**
- ☐ **Whole-herd TB testing date agreement**
- ☐ **Consignment delivery form**
- ☐ **Breed registration copy** (online or certificate) **showing EPDs are genomically enhanced**
- ☐ **Negative BVDV virus test result**
- ☐ **Negative DNA test for lethal gene(s)** (if potential carrier identified by pedigree)
- ☐ **Delivery payment** ($375/bull, made payable to: *Michigan Cattlemen's Association*)

[Did you remember the checkbook? 🙄]

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2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program ◆ Consignors

Last	First	Farm	City	St	Phone	Email	Breed	# Accepted
AcMoody	Phil	Butternut Ridge Farms	Coldwater	MI	989-429-5795	phil.acmoody@gmail.com	AN	**3**
Beckington	Kevin	KB Angus	Merrit	MI	734-368-8430	kevin@kbangus@.com	AN	**9**
Bordner	Monte	Bordner Farms	Sturgis	MI	269-506-5109	monte@bordnerfarms.com	AN	**4**
Bordner	Drew	D Bar E cattle	Remus	MI	269-330-1654	dbarecattleco@gmail.com	AR	**1**
Cholger	Matt	Cholger Farms	Traverse City	MI	517-243-1481	cholger85@gmail.com	SM	**2**
Dawson	Paul	Dawson Farms LLC	Hanover	MI	517-524-8941	dawsonfarms@frontiernet.net	AN	**9**
Foster	Tristan	Michigan State Univ.	Lansing	MI	715-892-1079	fostert8@msu.edu	AN	**6**
Hall	Ryan	Hall Cattle Co.	Charlotte	MI	616-902-7630	rhallcattle@gmail.com	AN	**1**
Heeg	Tim	3G Cattle	Fowlerville	MI	517-294-0251	braingheeg@aol.com	SM	**3**
Huchings	Dennis	Hutchings Angus	Bellevue	MI	269-758-3190	mhutch84@yahoo.com	AN	**6**
Jepson	Joe	Double Diamond J	Coldwater	MI	517-617-9023	jepsonddj@gmail.com	HP	**3**
Kenyon	Melissa	Hutchings Angus	Bellevue	MI	269-420-0725	mhutch84@yahoo.com	AN	**2**
Lattimore	Seth	Lattimore Cattle Co	Rodney	MI	231-250-3019	lattimorecattle@gmail.com	SM	**4**
Long	Justin	Long Cattle Co	St. Louis	MI	989-385-1281	almacollision@icloud.com	SM	**1**
Longcore	Randy	Longcore Cattle	Cedar Springs	MI	616-446-9360	longcore.dvm@gmail.com	SM	**25**
McDonald	Scott	McDonald Farm	DeWitt	MI	517-819-7978	greenger@icloud.com	HP	**5**
Patterson	Rick	CFC Angus	Kalamazoo	MI	269-217-7897	cfcangus@gmail.com	AN	**2**
Petersen	Paul	Gold Coast Cattle	Custer	MI	513-461-5686	pauljpetersen1975@gmail.com	SM	**1**
Pollington	Craig	Double 'C' Simmentals	Marion	MI	231-429-8336	tg.cap1@gmail.com	SM	**3**
Shaum	Michael	Legacy Farm	Sterling	MI	989-324-0493	Michaelshaum@icloud.com	AN, SM	**6**
Voogt	Gary	Voogt Farms	Marne	MI	616-862-4158	gcvoogt@gmail.com	AN	**3**
Willer	Ted	Willer Timber Ridge	Greencastle	IN	765-721-0420	wtrangus@wtrangus.com	AN	**1**
								100

Reserve bull list (in order)

1. Legacy Farm
2. Longcore Cattle
3. Legacy Farm
4. Longcore Cattle
5. Legacy Farm
6. Longcore Cattle
7. Legacy Farm
8. Longcore Cattle
9. Legacy Farm
10. Longcore Cattle
11. Legacy Farm
12. Legacy Farm
13. Longcore Cattle
14. Legacy Farm
15. Hall Cattle Company
16. Willer Timber Ridge
17. Gold Coast Cattle
18. Willer Timber Ridge

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2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program ◆ Work Schedule

The Evaluation Program is a cooperative effort — many hands make light work. Consignors are asked to help with routine evaluation tasks. This is also an opportunity to see your bull's development and understand the evaluation processes. **Weigh days will begin at 10:00 a.m., and with a full crew, the tasks are typically accomplished by noon. Ultrasound and BSE tasks may have different start times and will take much of the day.** If the assigned date will not work for you or you are not physically able, please let us know as soon as possible, and we will switch dates with another consignor or make alternate arrangements. All consignors are invited to attend the mid-evaluation meeting, immediately following weighing on Dec. 11.

Date	Purpose		
Thur. Oct. 22	Initial weight	**Heeg**	**Petersen**
Fri. Oct. 23	Initial weight	**Hutchings**	**Kenyon**
Fri. Nov. 20	29-d weight	**Long**	**Patterson**
Fri. Dec. 11	49-d weight	**Beckington** **D. Bordner** **Cholger**	**Dawson** **Jepson** **Longcore**
Thur. Jan. 28	Final weight/ feet scoring	**Lattimore**	**McDonald**
Fri. Jan. 29	Final weight/ ultrasound	**Buskirk**	**Jaborek**
*Week of Feb. 1	Breeding soundness exams	**Schaum**	**Hall**
*Week of Feb. 15	Video day	**~6 volunteers required**	

*Dates to be determined

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2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program ◆ Contacts

Kevin Gould	MCA President	616-443-2956	
Karl Wernette	Bull & station management	989-506-7715	9144 50th Ave. Remus, MI 49340
Sara Horton Flokstra	MCA, payments, advertising, & settlement	269-213-7492	2163 Jolly Rd. Okemos, MI 48864
Dan Buskirk	MSU, evaluation, & reports	517-432-0400	474 S. Shaw Ln. E. Lansing, MI 48824
Program Committee Breed Representatives*			
Kyle Longcore	Simmental, Chair	616-446-9360	
Paul Dawson	Angus, Vice Chair	989-259-8725	
Phil AcMoody	Angus	989-429-5795	
Kevin Beckington	Angus	734-368-8430	
Drew Bordner	Red Angus	269-330-1654	
Matt Cholger	Simmental	517-243-1481	
Joe Jepson	Hereford	517-279-9022	
Mark Sears	Commercial	517-563-2460	

*Committee breed representation is based on the number of bulls evaluated in each breed the previous year. Breed representatives begin their term at the mid-test meeting.

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2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program ◆ BVD Testing

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 unthrifty. If they survive, 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 animal 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 feedlots screen incoming cattle for BVD PI and many dairy farms screen replacement heifers to identify PI heifers. 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 using specific staining techniques to identify BVD virus in the tissue. The cost of the test is typically less than $5 and results are often available in one week.

For the MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation, we want a "virus detection" or "antigen detection" test for BVDV. These tests will pick up the presence of virus or antigen from virus. We do not want an "antibody detection" test, as this only means that the animal has made antibodies toward the presence of the BVDV virus at some point. Whether the test is an ELISA or PCR is not as important to our objectives in this screening.

Sampling Procedure

1. Ear notches are relatively easy to collect and test. With the animal properly restrained, use an ear notching tool (pig ear-notcher) that yields a V-shaped, 5/16" notch to obtain a skin sample from the edge of a clean portion of the ear. Bleeding is usually minimal and can be controlled, if necessary, by applying digital pressure for a few seconds. Make sure the sample includes skin and not only hair. Place each ear notch sample in its own separate sealed plastic bag. Collected ear notches must be free from contaminating dirt, feces, or tattoo ink. Dip the notching tool in disinfectant between each ear notch collection. A 10% bleach solution (i.e., made from 3 oz. household bleach in 27 oz. water) is an appropriate disinfectant. Always rinse disinfectant from the notching tool with lots of clean rinse water in a 3-to-5-gallon bucket before collecting the next sample. Change the water in the rinse bucket periodically. Make sure to thoroughly rinse the tool with clean water to avoid false negative test results.
2. Label the individual plastic bag with the animal's identification using a permanent marker.
3. Store the collected ear notches at refrigerator temperature and ship to the laboratory within 72 hours of collection. Send samples on cold packs by overnight mail. Avoid shipping samples on Thursdays or Fridays so that they do not arrive at the lab over the weekend. Make sure to include the appropriate paperwork!
4. If using MSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory go to cvm.msu.edu/vdl/submit-a-sample and follow the instructions. Click "submittal form" and then under the GENERAL SUBMITTAL FORMS heading, click "General Submissions". Fill out the form completely, and select BVD PCR (ear notch) (80991).

Submittals via U.S. Postal Service:
MSU VDL, PO Box 30076, Lansing, MI 48909-7576
Submittals via all other carriers:
MSU VDL, 4125 Beaumont Rd., Lansing, MI 48910-8104

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2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program ◆ Consignment Agreement

This Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by the undersigned consignor ("Consignor") and the Michigan Cattlemen's Association ("Program") for participation in the 2026–2027 Bull Evaluation.

1. Acceptance Consignor accepts pen space for the bull(s), as listed on the consignment form. Participation is subject to this Agreement and the 2026–27 Program Policies.

2. Compliance Consignor affirms having read and understood the Program Policies. The MCA–MSU Bull Evaluation Committee has authority to establish and enforce all rules and policies. Decisions of the Committee are final and binding.

3. Fees and Payment

- **Delivery Payment:** $375 per bull, due at delivery, with this signed Agreement and all required paperwork.
- **January Payment:** $375 per bull (subject to adjustment based on market conditions), due January 15, 2027.
- **Late Fees:** A $50 per bull late fee will be assessed if the total payment of $1,125 is not received by January 15, 2027, for each bull. Bulls with delinquent accounts will not be cataloged or released.

4. Records Consignor shall provide actual birth weight and adjusted weaning weight for each bull no later than November 20, 2026. A $50 per bull late fee will be applied if records are not submitted on time.

5. Inspection Consignor agrees to inspection of bull(s) by Program representatives, veterinarians, or designated personnel to determine health, structural soundness, disposition, genetic status, and dentition. All inspection decisions are final.

6. Research and Monitoring Program may collect biological samples (e.g., blood, urine, feces, semen) and apply biosensors (e.g., ear tags, rumen boluses) as needed for health monitoring, genetic evaluation, program management, and research. All procedures will follow approved protocols, with research reviewed by the MSU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and conducted in a manner that minimizes animal stress.

7. Cost Allocation
Feed costs will be allocated by period as follows:
1. **Adaptation (21 days):** Divided equally within pen.
2. **Feed Test (49 days):** Based on individual feed intake plus proportional share of unknown disappearance.
3. **Gain Test (49 days):** Prorated by individual weight gain within pen.
4. **Post-Evaluation:** Divided equally within the pen by days present. Veterinary and medical expenses incurred individually will be charged to the respective bull. All other evaluation costs will be shared equally among bulls. Sale expenses will be assessed as a percentage of the sale (or floor) price.

8. Settlement Program will deduct evaluation and sale expenses from sale receipts. A sale price percentage payment will be remitted within one week of the sale. Final settlement of net proceeds will occur at or following the May wrap-up meeting.

Settlement should be payable to:

_____
Print settlement payee (owner or farm)

9. Liability and Insurance
Consignor agrees to pay for veterinary services obtained by the Program for the health and welfare of consigned bull(s). Consignor acknowledges that MCA, MSU, and Wernette Cattle Co. assume no liability for loss, damage, or injury to consigned bull(s). Insurance coverage is the responsibility of the Consignor.

_____ _____
Consignor signature Date

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2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program ◆ TB Testing Agreement

Background

This agreement is established to protect bulls consigned to the Michigan Cattlemen's Association–Michigan State University Bull Evaluation Program (BEP) from unnecessary bovine tuberculosis (bTB) testing or quarantine during the evaluation period. If a BEP consignor were to conduct a whole-herd bTB test while the evaluation is in progress, and an animal within that herd tested positive, a trace-out investigation would be required. At a minimum, this would involve the removal and destruction of trace-out bulls, along with quarantine and bTB testing of all bulls in the BEP. Such an event could result in significant financial loss and reputational harm to both the program and its consignors. To prevent this risk, the consignor agreement is in place to defer planned whole-herd bTB testing outside of the BEP evaluation dates.

Whole-Herd TB Testing Date Agreement

As a consignor to the MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program, I agree not to conduct whole-herd bovine tuberculosis (**bTB**) testing during the period of September 15, 2026, through March 31, 2027. I further acknowledge that, should I wish to modify the anniversary date of my whole-herd bTB testing, this agreement may restrict my potential testing dates.

This Agreement shall be binding upon the consignor, as well as their successors, assigns, and personal representatives, and shall be governed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan. This document constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

Consignor signature *Date*

Michigan Cattlemen's Association/Michigan State University Bull Evaluation Program

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2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program ◆ Health Verification

Owner
Bull visual farm ID(s)

To the best of my knowledge, all bulls:

☐ **are visually free of active ringworm lesions and warts,**

☐ **have 2 testes with normal positioning, shape, and tone by palpation, and**

☐ **tested negative for BVDV** (must be a virus or antigen detection test (see BVD Testing page).

Booster vaccinations must be administered between 14 and 90 days before delivery. See MIbulls.com/breeders for a list of vaccines that fit the criteria. *Out-of-state bulls must satisfy all Michigan health requirements and be accompanied by an official certificate of veterinary inspection and official RFID.*

Vaccines	Product name	Initial date	Booster date
Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR)			
Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) (types 1 & 2)			
Parainfluenza$_3$ (PI$_3$)			
Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRSV)			
Mannheimia haemolytica (with toxoid)			
Histophilus somni			
Clostridial - 7-way			
Optional wart vaccine			
Parasite control	**Product name**	**Admin date**	
Internal/external parasite control			

At least 1 dose as **modified-live** vaccine

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

Consignor signature *Date*

2026-27 MCA-MSU Bull Evaluation Program ◆ Consignment Delivery Form

_____ _____ _____

Consignor name | Farm name | # of calving females in your herd

	Office Use																			
	test ID	*weight*	*scrotal*	*Sire verified*	Ear tag	Birth date	Tattoo/ brand	Registration #	Breed	Actual Birth wt.	205-d Adj. Wean wt.[a]	Birth type[b]	Horn status[c]	Color[d]	Contemporary group[e]	Lethal defect free[f] Pedigree	Lethal defect free[f] DNA test
1				☐												☐	☐
2				☐												☐	☐
3				☐												☐	☐
4				☐												☐	☐
5				☐												☐	☐
6				☐												☐	☐
7				☐												☐	☐
8				☐												☐	☐
9				☐												☐	☐
10				☐												☐	☐
			Example		104	3/13/25	N04	3757697	SM	94	705	S	H	Red	1	☑	☐

[a]205-d adjusted weight as reported by breed assoc.
[b]Birth type = S=single, T=twin, ET= embryo transfer.
[c]Horn status = P=polled, S=scurred, H=horned.
[d]Predominant hide color.
[e]Indicate contemporary groups (typically calves raised in same environment, weaned on same day, i.e., 1, 2, 3…).
[f]Determined free of lethal genetic defects based on pedigree (sire and dam are not potential carriers by breed assoc.) or DNA tested as free.