



SANTA GERTRUDIS

USA

SEPTEMBER 2017 | VOLUME 20, NUMBER 9



Santa Gertrudis



The Preferred American
Beef Breed

29th ANNUAL

Alabama Connection

Santa Gertrudis Production Sale

Cullman Stockyards · Cullman, AL

11:00 am · October 7, 2017

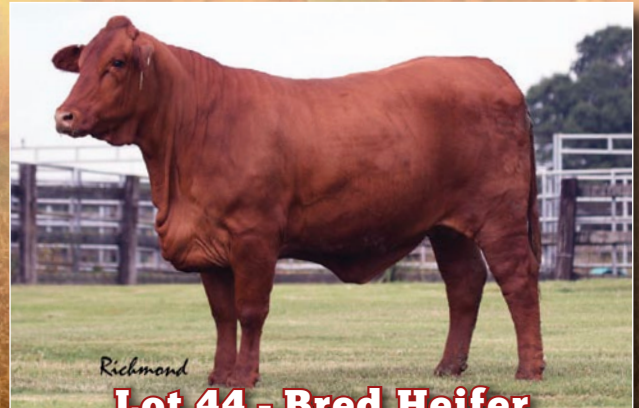
DON'T MISS THESE FEATURED LOTS!



Lot 42 - Bred Heifer

TF 5106 · Reg #20158513

Donor cow optional bred heifer sired by Grey Rocks 93/039. Sells Aled to National Champion Hatchetman on 3/17/17, then exposed to Briggs 153C1.



Lot 44 - Bred Heifer

TF 486 · Reg #20158560

Super stout TF 909 daughter combines Hatchet & Copperhead genetics. Sells Aled to National Champion Hatchetman on 3/17/17, then exposed to Briggs 153C1.



Lot 47 - Pair w/ Heifer Calf

TF 4114 · Reg #20146143

Super brood cow! Daughter of Briggs 021 sells with heifer calf born 6/9/2017 and sired by TF 1167. Cow sells exposed to 2017 National Champion Bull Masterpiece 101!



Lot 50 - Pair w/ Heifer Calf

TF 456 · Reg #20133893

This powerful Hatchet granddaughter sells with show prospect heifer calf born 3/1/2017 and sired by Red Doc 2346. Cow sells bred back to 2015 National Champion Bull Real Deal!



Sale to be broadcast on
www.cattleinmotion.com

Tinney Farms

5251 Co. Rd. 601 · Hanceville, AL 35077

Manager: Arlin Taylor

Phone: 256-507-3838

Email: arlin.taylor@bhamfast.com

Website: tinneyfarms.com

1131/13



Reg #: 20134080

	BW	WW	YW	Mat	TMat	HCW	REA	Marb	Tend	Fat	Carcass	\$G
EPD	-0.01	14.37	27.70	-4.22	2.97	20.02	0.38	0.01	0.01	0.02	10	\$25.32
Accuracy	0.25	0.47	0.39	0.21	—	0.30	0.28	0.29	0.18	0.41		

KR 1131/13 combines Foundation King Ranch genetics with Wendt All Star and two-time National Champion Magnum 357 bloodlines. We just got the weaning weights from his first calf crop from mature cows and they are *IMPRESSIVE*. And their docility is second-to-none. They are some of the most gentle calves we've seen.

Take a hard look at this bull as your next AI sire!

SEMEN AVAILABLE

SS

Wendt Ranches

5475 FM 457, Bay City, TX 77414
email: wendtranches@hotmail.com

Gene Kubecka
979-240-5311

Daniel Kubecka
979-240-5312

SGBI Herd #621, established 1954

SS

SANTA GERTRUDIS USA

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ON THE COVER

Cloned calves of Miss Double TT 230/3 roam a lush pasture in Iowa. *Photo courtesy Viagen*

Providing Polled Power Genetics to the Santa Gertrudis Breed



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Gray Oaks Farm 29th Alabama Connection Sale consignments will include:

3N1 SPLITS • PAIRS • BRED & OPEN HEIFERS

Cullman, Alabama
Oct. 7, 2017
Cullman Stockyards



Pair →

Gray Oaks 446 is double bred Hatchet 150. She sells with a heifer calf born 7/10/17 by Red Doc Sancho 3318, who is a powerful, high-performance son of Sancho 7-216. She sells exposed to Bandit 152.



← 3N1 Split

Gray Oaks 718 was born 2/4/17 and is a son of Viper 400, a TF 909 son. His dam is a Tony 108 daughter, who was our senior herd sire for several years. 718 is long, deep, thick and clean. He is double bred Hatchet and double bred Challenger L230.



← Bred Heifer

Gray Oaks 507 is a Tony 108 daughter. Her dam is a granddaughter of CB Grizzly's Chunk. She sells heavy bred to Red Doc Sancho 3318. 507 is a dark, deep-bodied and polled female that puts a lot of power in a moderate package.

We are also offering **2 open heifers** sired by Red Doc Sancho 3318. They are deep-bodied, thick and polled.

Gray Oaks Farm

DENNIS JONES, OWNER
(941) 735-9391

BILL LUNDBERG, CONSULTANT
(479) 880-6217

**Polled Santa
Gertrudis Association**

Curtis Hudnall, President • (936) 334-4804

Larry Osborne, Secretary & Treasurer
(937) 604-4999

GRAY OAKS FARM

Dennis Jones, owner

905 Foxtrap Rd., Russellville, AL 35654

Home: (941) 735-9391



Flying C Ranch

Lester & Ouida Cossey

2639 Gum Springs Rd., Searcy, AR 72143

(501) 207-2272





Ramblings from the Open Range

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By John Ford

(361) 592-9357 | jford@santagertrudis.com

The announcement made earlier this year by the American Angus Association regarding the adoption of the single-step genetic evaluation methodology captured the attention of industry members and dominated conversations at beef functions throughout the summer months. It also re-directed attention to the Santa Gertrudis breed, since SGBI pioneered this advanced process that is being recognized as the most accurate and effective way to generate Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs) and utilize DNA technology. The buzz created by the Angus Association's announcement resulted in an increase in the number of inquiries from commercial cattlemen who were curious about the genetic progress made by the Santa Gertrudis breed over the past 5-year period, as well as member acceptance and utilization of this technology. The number of DNA samples and data points submitted monthly highlights the fact that SGBI members are focused on growing industry acceptance and are committed to becoming the *Preferred American Beef Breed*.

We can't rest on our successes; we must continually share our breed's message of profitability. Recognizing that a majority of America's professional cattlemen attend state cattlemen association meetings, university-sponsored programs and livestock trade association functions, it is important that SGBI has a presence at industry activities to provide needed decision-making information, based on data generated by the industry's most comprehensive genetic evaluation. That being said, it is also essential that the breed maintains a strong presence at county, state and regional fairs as well as national livestock expositions. These venues remain excellent paths

for introducing the breed to a public that is three, four and five generations removed from the farm or ranch.

Shows also provide a more targeted marketing opportunity, a chance for exhibitors to visit one-on-one with neighboring producers, especially small- and mid-sized herd owners. However, there is a growing concern that participation in open shows is dwindling, not just for our breed but all breeds. I share this concern and understand that as an association we must look for innovative ways to encourage involvement and stimulate participation. I also understand that fairs and expos are facing challenges that impact the number of cattle tied in the beds. Each year I visit with fair managers and livestock show superintendents who are focused on the financial aspects of open cattle shows. The cost involved in conducting a show often falls short of the income generated by having open cattle tied in the stalls. We must be realistic – income is generated by midways, concerts and concessions. Unfortunately, cattle are not the main attraction for today's urban public.

In 1977, I jumped six head of Short-horn cattle onto a 24-foot gooseneck and followed Buck Bardwell, herdsman for Hart Farms, Ennis, Texas, down the road. We started at the State Fair of Tennessee in Nashville and traveled on to the Mid-South Fair in Memphis. From

there we headed to Dallas for the State Fair of Texas. Times have changed; two of these three shows no longer exist. Financial concerns and a changing demographic dictated organizers, managers and fair board members to make the hard decision to discontinue these long-term events. As we discuss options to grow the SGBI open show program, we must keep in mind that the fairs and expos are our partners; their needs and concerns are important to us as well.

It is important that SGBI has a presence at industry activities to provide needed decision making information, based on data generated by the industry's most comprehensive genetic evaluation.

There is a cost-benefit ratio for every decision that show organizers and seedstock producers make. Technology has changed the game and the opinion of one man standing in the sawdust making selections does not carry the weight with cattlemen today that it did 20 years ago. For many purebred breeders, genetic evaluation, gain testing, feeding trials, DNA testing and other measurement activities have a greater return on investment. This fact is easily supported by the amounts of data included in sale and semen catalogs worldwide. I know the issues; I don't know the answers. I know that shows are a great promotional tool and we need to be innovative and explore options designed to grow participation. There is an answer. Let's find it, let's build our numbers and let's grow open show participation. 🐄



SANTA GERTRUDIS DISTRICT VI BREEDERS



ANOTHER SEASON TO REMEMBER



ROXIE 609 20164086

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE
2017 OHIO STATE FAIR JUNIOR SHOW

Sire: Playboy 720

Dam: Rosie 190 (2013 National Champion Female)

Congratulations!

Gracey Pitchford won our donated heifer and took home awards for Grand Champion Purebred, Champion Yearling and Champion Best of Polled at the 2017 NJSGS.

Semen & Embryos For Sale
OSBORNE LIVESTOCK
859-991-2438

Great Job Ashley!



HEATHS BLIZZARD 715

RES. CHAMPION SENIOR FEMALE
2017 KENTUCKY NATIONAL
JUNIOR SHOW

Purchased at the 2016 District 6 Sale

C BAR C RANCH



De Soto, MO 63020
Alan Clark
Bud & Kelly Clark
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Parker Farms



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RUSTIC RAIL RANCH

PAUL & DEBBIE GAUTZ

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dgautz53@yahoo.com
417-437-2452 • 417-438-8712



Shampain Ranch

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Del & Ginny Thomas
Pleasant Hill, IL 62366
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Herd #4434



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Yancey Strait

(972) 841-0989 | yancey_strait@yahoo.com

Every Santa Gertrudis breeder has a reason for raising this breed of cattle. My family raises Santa Gertrudis because they perform in our environment. I assume that most also would say that their cattle perform well for them. To me, performance can mean many things, including, but not limited to, early fertility, tight calving intervals, quick breed-back, adequate growth, efficient gain and quality carcass.

We should all be on a mission to improve the performance of our cow herds. Our competitors in the beef industry take this business seriously and continually are seeking to improve. I encourage each of you to collect as much data as possible on your cattle and to evaluate your herd's expected progeny differences. As we put the pieces of the puzzle together to raise higher-performing cattle, we must all choose wisely so that we do not negatively affect other traits that we value.

Speaking of tools that help us evaluate, I think it is important to note that SGBI will be hosting a steer feed out in the Texas Panhandle later this fall. Adolfo Sanchez, MD, and the Research and Education Committee have been working diligently on this endeavor. The data obtained through this program will be very valuable in quantifying how our cattle are performing in the feedlot and on the rail. This program is open to any breeder who wants to participate. More information on this program can be found on page 21.

I had a very interesting conversation with an experienced cattlemen while attending the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Convention. He said he thinks all cattle producers south of I-44 in Oklahoma need a little ear in their herds. (I thought to myself that this is a market Santa Gertrudis breeders need to pursue.) We then talked through some recent data on Santa Gertrudis steers. I left the convention knowing that, as Santa Gertrudis breeders, we are being watched closely by commercial cattlemen. We must continue to seek improvement and prove that our cattle perform in the marketplace. Through this, new marketing opportunities will emerge.

I wish each of you the very best. 🐄

2017 Membership Directory

Make Sure You're Part of the Annual Membership Directory

The October issue of *Santa Gertrudis USA* will feature the annual Membership Directory of Santa Gertrudis Breeders International. For SGBI members, that means it's time to check to make sure your membership is current so you can be included. The October issue is the largest of the year and extra copies of that issue will be distributed at events and to cattlemen interested in Santa Gertrudis cattle throughout the year. This is just one of the many benefits of being an SGBI member.

It's not too late to make sure your membership is paid so you can be included in the 2017 SGBI Membership Directory. If you have questions about your membership status or need to make a change to your listing, you still have time to do so. Contact Diana Ruiz, SGBI registration and member services specialist, with questions about your membership status at (361) 592-9357 or diana@santagertrudis.com. 🐄

Be sure to pay your membership dues by September 8.
Your membership status must be current to be included in the directory!

SGBI OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

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SANTA GERTRUDIS *Production*

SEX-SORTED SEMEN 2.0

By Randy L. Stanko, Ph.D., Texas A&M University-Kingsville



beef cattle reproduction, second only to AI with conventional semen.

Sex-sorting semen is possible because of the fact that X-bearing sperm contains approximately 4.0 percent more DNA than Y-bearing sperm due to the size difference of the X and Y chromosome, mostly due to chromosome length. The size difference between the X and Y chromosome is even greater in sheep, monkeys and horses. There are even sex chromosome size differences within and between breed types of cattle, Jersey at 4.22 percent, Brahman at 3.70 percent and Angus at 4.07 percent.

Until recently, sex-sorting procedures were fairly tough on those single-cell genetic packages. Previous semen-sexing methods (prior to June 2013) involved a total of 21 steps and a loss of about 75 percent of the sperm cells in the original ejaculate, leaving only 10-15 percent to be packaged in straws and sold to producers. Thus, most sexed-semen straws contained only 2.1 million sperm cells versus the 10 to 20 million sperm cells in conventional semen straws. In the past, the primary issue with sexed semen was the reduced fertility, 75-80 percent of that of conventional semen. This meant that if a particular AI bull used on your herd resulted in a 60 percent AI conception rate, that same AI bull would have a 45 percent conception rate if semen had been sexed. Moreover, this conception rate would not improve through simply packaging more sexed sperm cells per straw as it would with conventional semen.

Much research and improvement of semen-sexing methods have been made recently. All of this technology is proprietary, but in general it involves maintaining temperature and pH during the sexing and sorting processes, thus reducing the "stress" on the sperm cells. In addition, the accuracy of semen sexing has increased to levels of 95 percent for heifer-generating semen, as well as for other sperm characteristics such as motility and morphology (intact acrosome). All of

these improvements have translated into increased fertility of sexed semen, approaching 92 percent of that of conventional semen. Say hello to SexedULTRA™ and SexedULTRA 4M™. SexedULTRA 4M™ indicates new technology was used and that each semen straw has twice as many sexed sperm cells (4 million) as the "old days" (2.1 million). Conception rates with SexedULTRA 4M™ versus that of SexedULTRA™ should get an additional 5-6 percent bump. That is fantastic!

What is the downside? Not all beef bulls are candidates for having their semen sexed. Just because a bull has been collected and semen has been extended, packaged and frozen-thawed with good fertility does not mean that it can successfully be sexed. Conception rates can differ from bull to bull, but in general a high-fertility bull will have high-fertility with SexedULTRA 4M™ semen and a bull lower in fertility will have lower fertility with SexedULTRA 4M™ semen. Most, if not all, semen companies will offer both options but not necessarily on the same bull, and the product name may differ. This new technology (from STgenetics, Navasota, Texas) can actually produce more sex-sorted straws of semen from a high-fertility bull ejaculate than from conventional straws (i.e., 1,100 versus 1,000, respectively) due to efficiency and fertility improvements, and the reduced number of sperm used per straw. An additional downside is that all sexed semen is packaged in 0.25-cc straws versus the 0.5-cc conventional straws, which necessitates purchase of an appropriate AI gun or a universal AI gun that can accommodate both straw types.

How can we put this improvement in 15-year-old, commercially available technology to work at our place? It is still recommended that sexed semen be used in virgin replacement heifers due to exceptional female fertility, smaller reproductive tracts and no added nutritional stress due to lactation. However, fertile and functional mature cows can also be considered as candidates for AI with sexed semen. Breeding replacement heifers with heifer-calf-generating sexed semen really makes the most sense, with heifers giving birth to heifers more than 90 percent of the time if conceived with AI breeding. Think of the calving ease potential!

If there is a scarcity of sexed semen in the bulls you are currently using on your replacement heifers, I see one of two options: 1) select a different cattle breed that would complement well with your heifers and then find the lowest available birth weight Expected Progeny Difference bull that has been sexed with the new technology, or 2) perhaps contact



CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 ►

LA CAMPANA RANCH

COMMERCIAL *AND* PUREBRED SANTA GERTRUDIS

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(361) 566-2244
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REGISTRATIONS, STAR 5 RECORDINGS AND TRANSFERS BY DISTRICT

JULY 2017

ACTIVE MEMBERS

District	Purebred Reg.	STAR 5 Reg.	Performance Only	Purebred & STAR 5 Trans.
1	28	3	0	0
2	709	36	149	79
3	30	6	4	9
4	24	29	0	14
5	5	0	0	4
6	31	3	0	15

JUNIOR MEMBERS

District	Purebred Reg.	STAR 5 Reg.	Performance Only	Purebred & STAR 5 Trans.
1	4	1	0	10
2	9	0	0	4
3	1	0	0	2
4	0	0	0	0
5	2	0	0	1

CONTACT FOR SGBI REGISTRATIONS: Diana Ruiz

P. O. Box 1257, Kingsville, Texas 78364 | diana@santagertrudis.com

Phone: (361) 592-9357 • Fax: (361) 592-8572

SEX SORTED SEMEN 2.0

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

the owner(s) of your preferred bull and discuss having him collected and sexed. Sharing of costs of such an agreement could be spread across multiple ranches that have interest in using this technology. Proper marketing of a set of uniform crossbred replacement heifers (option 1) with calving ease genetics should more than cover the added expense of using sexed semen. Following are key components to ensure acceptable results using sexed semen in replacement heifers:

- Only use sexed semen on heifers that weigh 65 percent of mature body weight or greater, are in a body condition score 5 or greater and are old enough to have had at least one estrous cycle of normal length (19-22 days).
- Within the 30 days prior to AI, observe estrus for at least five consecutive days. You should observe signs of estrus in about 5 percent of the heifers, per day, if all heifers are pubertal.
- If using a heifer synchronization of estrus program, *only* use sexed semen on heifers detected in estrus. If any heifer is fixed-time AI (TAI), *please* use conventional semen.
- Observe for signs of estrus at least 2-3 times per day and be consistent in observation timing.
- Review proper semen handling and insemination techniques and be prudent in adhering to these techniques. 🐄

¹Johnson, L.A., J.P. Flook, and H.W. Hawk. 1989. Sex preselection in Rabbits: Live births from X and Y sperm separated by DNA and cell sorting. *Biology of Reproduction* Vol. 41, pp. 199-203.

SANTA GERTRUDIS

Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- 11** Four States Fair Open Santa Gertrudis Show, Texarkana, Ark.
- 14** Southeastern Empire Fair Open Santa Gertrudis Show, Lawrenceville, Ga.
- 15-16** District 6 Haltered Heifer Show & Sale, Richmond, Ind.
- 16** Mid-Coast Cattleman's Opportunity Sale, Hallettsville, Texas
- 24** Oklahoma State Fair Open Santa Gertrudis Show, Oklahoma City, Okla.
- 30** Breeders of the Carolinas Field Day, Creech Farms, Zebulon, N.C.
- 30** Arkoma Santa Gertrudis Association Sale, Tulsa, Okla.

OCTOBER

- 1** Tulsa State Fair Open Santa Gertrudis Show, Tulsa, Okla.
- 7** Alabama Connection Sale, Cullman, Ala.
- 18** North Carolina State Fair Open Santa Gertrudis Show, Raleigh, N.C.
- 18** Arkansas State Fair Open Santa Gertrudis Show, Little Rock, Ark.
- 20** State Fair of Texas Open Show, Dallas, Texas

NOVEMBER

- 4** Mountain Laurel Classic Sale, Calhoun, Ga.
- 5** Louisiana State Fair Open Santa Gertrudis Show, Shreveport, La.
- 10-11** Tri-Star Santa Gertrudis Sale, Bloomington, Texas
- 16** North American International Livestock Expo Santa Gertrudis Show, Louisville, Ky.
- 18** South Texas Heritage Sale, Robstown, Texas

SANTA GERTRUDIS WELCOMES

New Members

Active Members

Mary Ann Schirimer, San Antonio, Texas

Commercial Members

David Chambers, Pawhusken, Okla.
Thomas Dale McCollum, Winnebago, Minn.

Junior Members

Tad Estes, Texarkana, Texas

Chase Schlottman, Ennis, Texas

Jordyn Dozier, Waller, Texas

**Membership dues must be paid by
September 8 in order to be included in
the Membership Directory next issue.**

Look for these *Grandview Farms* **FEATURED LOTS** at the *Connection Sale!*

622/12



LOT 1

Briggs bred female (201201004658) sells with show prospect heifer calf born 11/15/2016 sired by Harris 005/2. Cow sells bred back to Grandview 404.

MISS GRANDVIEW 556



LOT 17

Very impressive **Pusher 804 daughter** (20158601) and half sister to National Champion Annie. Sells bred to Grandview 404.

29th Annual Alabama Connection Sale

Broadcast by:



www.CattleInMotion.com

❖ **October 7, 2017** ❖
Cullman Stockyards • Cullman, Ala.

MISS GRANDVIEW 707



LOT 25

Polled show prospect or donor candidate, this open heifer (20167367) is **sired by Grandview 209**.

MISS GRANDVIEW 727



LOT 29

Another stout **Grandview 209 daughter** (20167367) out of a Red Hot bred dam, she's a show prospect, donor candidate or deluxe replacement!



Grandview Farms Hamilton, AL

Owners: Delmo & Wilmuth Payne
Cell phone: (205) 468-5319
Email: delmo.payne@gmail.com

Website: grandviewfarm.biz
Brent Shaw, Manager (205) 412-5761
Seth Holmes, Herdsman (205) 412-7053

Seeing Double

How Universities and Santa Gertrudis Breeders Are Using Cloning

By Jessie Topp-Becker, Managing Editor

When it comes to breeding high-quality livestock, producers have many tools available in their reproductive toolbox, including artificial insemination, embryo transfer, in-vitro fertilization and cloning. In recent years, a growing number of producers have started to utilize cloning.

"As the ability to determine the most elite animals is quantified through tools like genomics, we expect to see an increase in demand for livestock genetic preservation and cloning," explains Diane Broek, cloning sales and marketing manager at ViaGen Livestock, a leading expert in animal cloning and genetic preservation.

ViaGen, a wholly owned subsidiary of Trans Ova Genetics, has been a major player in bovine cloning for nearly 20 years. The company produced its first cloned calf in 1998, and Broek says interest in cloned cattle has steadily increased ever since.

According to Broek, there are a variety of reasons to utilize cloning:

- Duplicate the animals contributing the most value in their herds;
- Replace an animal lost early in its breeding career, before the full value of its genetics was discovered;
- Extend an elite animal's genetic influence and contribution by increasing embryo or semen production through multiple cloned animals; and
- Produce intact breeding males from castrated animals, adding genotypes to the genetic pool that would've been lost.

A cloning contract for a female calf at ViaGen begins at \$21,000; the fee includes embryo production, recipients, gestation, calving and raising the calf to six months of age. "When you consider that the replacement cost on many elite breeding cows and bulls can be in excess of \$50,000 to \$100,000, the fee to produce a cloned calf or identical twin to your elite cow or bull is a wise decision," Broek says.

ViaGen has cloned more than 30 breeds of beef and dairy cattle, including Santa Gertrudis.

Jerome Urbanosky, owner of Urbanosky Ranch, Plantersville, Texas, is the first Santa Gertrudis breeder to produce a clone. Urbanosky cloned Miss Double TT 230/3. "We realized that we had a very special cow, maybe a once-in-a-lifetime type cow," he says. "We wanted to utilize her genetics to the max." Four identical twins of Miss Double TT 230/3 were born this spring.

The calves will remain at Trans Ova Genetics, where all calves for ViaGen are housed, until September. "The pictures that we've seen are shockingly good and the calves are thriving," Urbanosky says. He hopes to use the clones to produce more high-quality calves for his operation, as well as other Santa Gertrudis breeders.

Stricko Ranch, Verona, Ky., is also working with ViaGen to produce a clone. Jason Heath, Stricko Ranch manager, says they were looking for a proven bull that fit their operation's criteria phenotypically and in terms of EPDs and genetic background. "[NAF Tomahawk 414] fit every criteria that I wanted, except for the fact that he was 13 years old and no longer producing semen. That's when the whole idea of cloning came about."

The clone should be born around Jan. 1, and the ultimate goal with the clone is to enhance Stricko Ranch's program. They may show the bull, but "our main goal is producing semen, good calves and quality animals that will help the Santa Gertrudis breed," Heath says.

While Miss Double TT 230/3 and NAF Tomahawk 414 are the first in the breed to be cloned, that's not their only connection. Miss Double TT 230/3 is the daughter of NAF Tomahawk 414. An added connection is that Wylie Taliaferro, Double TT Ranch, Rosser, Texas, is the breeder of these two animals.

"We're pretty proud of the fact that we're the first in the breed to have our animals cloned," Taliaferro says. "Both ranches have knowledgeable owners and managers, and if it works out, I think you'll see more operations cloning."



Most demand for cloning services at ViaGen comes from beef and dairy producers; however, universities and businesses also use cloning. The use of cloning at West Texas A&M University started seven years ago. "We are using cloning as a tool in the toolbox, so to speak, in what we've called an innovative cattle breeding project," explains Ty Lawrence, animal science professor and director of the Beef Carcass Research Center at West Texas A&M University.

Unlike typical breeding scenarios that are focused on the animal's physical appearance and Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs), the researchers at West Texas A&M University are only interested in the most desirable carcass – Prime and Yield Grade 1.

Identifying Prime, Yield Grade 1 carcasses is challenging. A Prime quality grade occurs in roughly 5 percent of the population; similarly, Yield Grade 1 occurs in about 7-8 percent of the population. "Three in 10,000 animals are Prime and Yield Grade 1, so it's a very rare outcome," Lawrence says.

Since starting the research project in 2010, Lawrence's team has found 47 Prime, Yield Grade 1 carcasses. Once they identify that animal in carcass form – and the DNA suggests it's repeatable – the team attempts to clone the animal. So far, they've cloned three animals – Alpha, Gamma and Delta.

Lawrence and his colleagues have completed one experiment, and two more are ongoing. In the first experi-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16 »

ADJUSTED MEASUREMENTS:

What Are They and How Do They Work?

By Brad Wright, SGBI Advisor for Data Collection

Adjusted measurements are a very important part of our industry, but they are often misunderstood. I have even heard rumor of some individuals who don't place any value on the adjusted measurement, but hold dear the actual measurement. This thought process demonstrates a lack of understanding about the purpose of the adjustment. Very simply, an adjustment for a trait adjusts the measurement to a common age of calf so that you have an apples-to-apples comparison. That said, I must add my disclaimer that many of you have heard me rant about before – you should be using the Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs) for comparison of animals instead of the actual or adjusted measurements. However, since many are determined to use performance data instead of EPDs, and the fact that the adjusted measurements and the way they compare within

their contemporary groups form the basis of EPD calculations, it's important to understand adjusted measurements.

Adjusted values take the actual value and adjust to a common point for all animals while adjusting for age and age of dam. The age-of-dam adjustment is based on scientific findings related to size and milk production. Age-of-dam adjustments only apply to calves of dams younger than five years of age and older than 11 years of age. The primary adjustment is due to age. It's obvious that comparing the weight of a 200-day-old calf to the weight of a 260-day-old calf cannot identify genetic differences for weaning weight. However, by adjusting the weights based on the individual's performance to a common point of 205 days, those weights are more comparable.

Using the formula on page 16 as the simplest form of a 205-day adjusted

weight, notice that it's the average daily gain of the animal from birth to weaning multiplied by 205 days, then adding the birth weight back in. This takes the growth of the calf on a linear plane up for calves younger than 205 days and down for calves older than 205 days.

205-day adjusted = ((weaning weight – birth weight)/Age in days) x 205 + birth weight.

Some breed associations have adopted other methods of adjusting weights in a non-linear method to more accurately predict the known growth curve of cattle as they get older, but this linear model is still the most common.

For Santa Gertrudis breeders, calves must be weighed during a specific age window so that the adjustment is most accurate. Calves must be between 119 and 301 days old. From a contemporary group perspective, only calves

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16 ►

Mountain Laurel Classic SANTA GERTRUDIS SALE

Hosted by the Georgia Santa Gertrudis Assoc.

NOVEMBER 4TH, 2017

At the University of Ga. Livestock
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Santa Gertrudis Cross Females



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GERTS ★ GUITARS ★ GOALS

By Christy Moran, GOALS Committee Member

Fifty youth members of the National Junior Santa Gertrudis Association (NJSJA) converged on Nashville, Tenn., July 23-27 for an action-packed experience at Gerts Ongoing Advanced Leadership Summit (GOALS). "Gerts ★ Guitars ★ GOALS" was a harmonious theme for the juniors to experience new adventures, learn valuable leadership skills and interact with many wonderful Santa Gertrudis friends.

Young leaders representing 10 states participated in this year's event. The event was hosted at The Inn at Opryland, where featured speaker Rhett Laubach of Your Next Speaker led multiple educational and inspirational sessions. Laubach shared an energy-packed learning experience through sessions focusing around writing songs. While playing his guitar, he enthusiastically engaged the young people to "Write a Little Song about Self," "Write a Big Song about Service" and "Write a Power Song for Life." Laubach was phenomenal and bonded with each junior to bring out the best in each of them!

Outside the classroom, the juniors experienced active bonding and leadership skills through teambuilding activities at Adventureworks. An entire afternoon and evening were spent doing exercises to challenge each individual and teammates to work together, culminating by testing these concepts through challenging and exhilarating zip lines. This was quite a workout, both mentally and physically!

The NJSJA Board met one evening to plan and discuss events and concerns for the coming year. Meanwhile, other attendees enjoyed a visit to the Gaylord Opryland to explore the sites of this grand hotel through a scavenger hunt. All the juniors reunited to enjoy a pool party at the Gaylord.

Tuesday included a second session with Laubach followed by an afternoon of tours and learning at the Ellington Agriculture Center. The group viewed antique farm equipment in the agricultural museum and heard from Jessica Carter, Ph.D., director of agriculture at Middle Tennessee State University, on agricultural careers and marketing in this field.

Juniors viewed an intriguing demonstration on training horses for mounted police at the Metro Mounted Police Barn. Everyone enjoyed interacting with the horses and police officers. The tour ended with a visit to the Tennessee Agriculture Diagnostic Lab where state veterinarian Tina Fisher, DVM, explained the lab's role in testing and diagnosing diseased animals in Tennessee. This talk provided great insight into animal health and treatment of animal diseases.

GOALS provided a balance of fun with its educational experiences. Juniors had an awesome time at the Grand Ole Opry during an evening filled with music from many entertainers.

Wednesday morning began at the Country Music Hall of Fame, which features history and artifacts from country



music singers. Stepping into the Hall of Fame was surreal, and spending an hour with famous songwriter Billy Montana, who writes for famous artists like Jo Dee Messina, Sara Evans, Garth Brooks and even the NJSJA, was a phenomenal experience. Our young people shared creative expressions about the Santa Gertrudis breed and the junior organization to write a song about The American Original. This experience was one-of-a kind, and we can't wait for everyone to hear this special song unique to our breed.

Juniors visited the well-known Wildhorse Saloon for lunch and line dancing, and were surprised to hear their newest recorded country music song played over the Wildhorse speakers while they dined.

Our tours concluded with a mythological excursion to visit the Parthenon, featuring a 42-foot replica of Athena, goddess of wisdom. This unique structure, an exact duplicate of the Parthenon in Greece, was originally built to commemorate the Tennessee Centennial Exposition in 1897.

GOALS is never complete without an etiquette class to help juniors learn the P's and Q's of sharing formal dining experiences necessary as they mature and represent the breed as professionals. The evening concluded with a celebratory dinner, dance and closing session to bring together all that was learned during the week.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 18 ►

ARKOMA

Santa Gertrudis Sale

Saturday, September 30, 2017

Tulsa Stockyards • Tulsa, OK

Our Consignments

HF Fred 503/4

Genetic Development Center Data

IMF: 5.12 • Ratio: 136

RFI feed efficiency of -2.29 # feed/#gain

Adj BW: 82 • Adj WW: 765 • Adj YW: 1398



	BW	WW	YW	Milk	TMat	HCW	BF	Marb	REA	Tend	SC
EPDs	1.16	14.0	26.2	4.11	11.1	15.4	.01	.01	.18	.07	-.1
Rank in Breed	-	3%	1%	10%	-	3%	-	-	3%	-	-

Harding 515/5

Polled, moderate, dark red daughter of
Silva 700/8 out of a Harris Farms 15/4 daughter.

Bred to HF Fred 503/4.

EPDs	BW	WW	YW	Milk	TMat	HCW
515/5	.52	12.5	27.3	-.54	5.7	14.8
Pregnancy	.8	13.2	26.7	1.8	8.4	15.1



Harding 517/6

A yearling Silva 700/8 daughter out of a
Yogi daughter. Sells open and ready to breed.

Also Selling

A polled CSC Hitchhiker127 daughter
that will calve before the sale. Calf sired by
HF Fred 503/4. Also selling three more spring 2016
open heifers that are ready to breed.



Gary Harding

918-616-7741 | gary.harding1944@yahoo.com | Checotah, OK 74426

ADJUSTED MEASUREMENTS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13 »

within 60 days of age can be compared to one another; however, the wide weaning window does allow for weaning of multiple contemporary groups at one time if management dictates. This large window also allows for early weaning of calves in drought conditions as well as the ability to leave calves a little longer in good years.

Also, regarding contemporary groups, any calves weaned within seven days of each other can remain in the same contemporary group if there are no additional management differences. This allows for stragglers and missed calves to remain in their group as long as they're brought up within seven days of the other calves in the group.

Yearling, carcass ultrasound traits and scrotal circumference are all adjusted to 365 days of age. This is generally an easier time to gather measurements on cattle since breeders typically have yearling bulls and yearling heifers in specific groups that are easier to gather than cow-calf pairs at weaning time.

The adjustment formulas for these yearling traits are very similar to the above weaning formula, with a linear adjustment up or down to 365 days. Yearling measurements can be taken between 300 and 456 days of age. The age restriction for ultrasound traits is similar at 310-450 days of age. Efficient management would suggest using the slightly narrower ultrasound window for both yearling and ultrasound so that the ultrasound scan weight can double as the yearling weight. Also, scrotal circumference of yearling bulls should be collected at this time.

These adjustment formulas are built in to the current data management system provided by LGS. It's very important to turn in the actual perfor-

mance and the specific date that measurements were taken and allow the current data management tools to make the adjustments and analyze the data. (Some breeders regularly make their own adjustments for within-herd use. It's important that these personally adjusted values aren't the measurements reported to the association. Using previously adjusted measurements will result in skewed data.)

LGS's adjusted values are then compared within contemporary groups to assign a ratio. The new and improved SGBI portal now shows ratios that can be of assistance in recognizing how animals compared to their contemporaries. The ratios still aren't as accurate as EPDs for use in selection, but can be important in recognizing which animals excelled within their contemporary group. The adjusted values cannot be accurately compared across contemporary groups due to environmental and management biases; however, if buyers choose to use them, they will be comparing a value with a similar endpoint as other animals in the comparison.



Cherokee Ranch, Sedalia, Colo.

Use the table below as a quick reference guide to ensure that all measurements submitted to SGBI can be utilized for the genetic evaluation process. Each measurement is the observation of a phenotype. The more "good" phenotypes in the database, the higher the EPD accuracies will be throughout the breed. This should be the primary motivation of collecting good data, since the EPD system is the only validated method of genetic selection that enables breeders to make significant genetic changes in a herd. Performance data that is turned in correctly will always be important, but the combination of data points across multiple contemporary groups by many breeders across multiple environments makes EPDs the best selection tool. 🐾

	MINIMUM AGE	MAXIMUM AGE	MAX. MEASUREMENT DAYS IN SAME GROUP	ADJUSTMENT AGE
<i>Birth</i>	Birth	Birth	60	Birth
<i>Weaning</i>	119	301	7	205
<i>Yearling</i>	300	456	1	365
<i>Scrotal Circumference</i>	300	456	1	365
<i>Ultrasound</i>	310	450	1	365

SEEING DOUBLE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12 »

ment, 13 calves were born from three Gamma heifers that were super-ovulated and inseminated with Alpha semen. Of the 13 calves (four heifers and nine bulls), seven bulls were castrated, fed at the university feedlot and slaughtered. Of the seven carcasses, 14 percent were Prime and 86 percent would have qualified for Certified Angus Beef. In terms of yield grade, 14 percent were Yield Grade 1 and 86 percent were Yield Grade 2. "That's much better than

the industry average by far," Lawrence says.

Although many think Lawrence is only focused on Prime, Yield Grade 1 outcomes, he says that's not the goal. "What we are trying to do, and what is possible, is to produce higher-quality, higher-yielding beef, simultaneously."

That's exactly what happened in the first experiment. Although they didn't produce a Prime, Yield Grade 1 carcass, "based on what we did have, I can calculate the rate it would have occurred, and we shifted distribution

of the quality and yield where a Prime, Yield Grade 1 would occur 1 in 98 animals."

Lawrence says the best application of cloning is to recapture lost genetic potential. "If a producer had a sire that's phenomenal, it's very beneficial to clone it and continue that line of genetics."

However, he encourages producers to consider the return on investment when considering cloning as a tool in their reproductive toolbox. 🐾

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We thank the many individuals who make this event possible through their contributions.



For more information, contact

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Shampain 68/5



*We also thank
White Rock Farm,
Talking Rock, Ga.,
for purchasing our
other bred females
at the Kentucky
National Sale.*

Thank you Tinney Farms, Hanceville, Ala.
and Arlin Taylor (represented by Darren
Richmond), for making her the high-selling
female in the Kentucky National Sale.

GOALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14 »

Thursday's final meeting included an unplanned session where juniors shared what GOALS has meant to them. This session brought about testimonies with passionate emotion and gratitude from the oldest junior veteran to the newest GOALS rookie.

These youth appreciate the support from financial donors as well as parents for this unique leadership opportunity. Kudos to longtime supporter and coordinator Judy McDaniel for making another successful GOALS possible! 🙌

Photo Contest Winner



Santa Gertrudis Breeders International held a photo contest on social media to promote a National Junior Santa Gertrudis Association program – Gert's Outgoing Advanced Leadership Summit (GOALS). The contest ran in conjunction with GOALS, which took place July 23-28.

SGBI asked juniors to submit photos taken during GOALS, as well as a description of why the person submitting the photo is proud to be a part of SGBI. The winner was selected based on the number of "likes" and "shares" the photo received.

Jessie Coker of Magnolia, Texas, was the winner of the photo contest. "I am proud to be a part of Santa Gertrudis Breeders International because of the opportunities I have been given and the friendships I have made," Jessie says. "I am proud to say it is not just an association, but a family. I am especially proud to be a part of the GOALS family. Our trip to Nashville, Tenn., will be one that I will remember for a lifetime."

Thank you to everyone who participated in the contest and congratulations, Jessie. 🙌



SANTA GERTRUDIS Juniors



By Taylor Terry, Vice President

Performance is a key part of a successful herd and is required to keep the cattle business thriving and growing. If you expect high-quality performance from your cattle, wouldn't you expect the same from people? As you look through your herd's performance records, you sort through the ones you keep and cull based on their records. Shouldn't we be doing this with the people we work with?

Expecting high-quality performance is the key to healthy change and growth in a successful herd and in assuring success in an organization. Looking for new ideas and expecting the level of quality to increase will push us to become better. We breed heifers to high-performing bulls so they produce superior offspring. If we push young members and young adults to give their highest quality work, imagine the progress we could make as an organization and as a country.

I have heard countless speakers say that young people involved in agriculture are the future leaders of our cities, states and country. If we continually improve our performance then, as a group, we will prove these people right. As we look to improve our herds' performance through the many means at our fingertips, we must remember to improve our own performance as well. 🙌

SANTA GERTRUDIS SALE Reports

39TH KENTUCKY NATIONAL SALE JULY 14-15, 2017 | BOWLING GREEN, KY.

SALE AVERAGES

46 Registered Lots	\$1,850	7 Pairs	\$1,770
12 Bred Females	\$1,960	4 Bulls	\$2,700
15 Open Heifers	\$1,845	8 STAR 5 Females	\$1,525

The 39th Kentucky National Sale was held in Bowling Green, Ky. and was sponsored by the Kentucky Santa Gertrudis Association and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. The auctioneer was Greg Reynolds and the sales manager was Darren Richmond. The high-selling female was consigned by Shampain Ranch, Pleasant Ill., and was sold to Tinney Farms, Hanceville, Ala., for \$3,500. The high-selling open heifer was consigned by Heath Farm, Hodgenville, Ky., and was sold to Lester Smith, Elkmont, Ala., for \$2,750. The high-selling bull was consigned by Heath Farm, Hodgenville, Ky., and was sold to Lester Smith, Elkmont, Ala., for \$4,000. The high-selling STAR 5 female was consigned by Circle A Farm, Williamsport, Tenn., and was sold to Myers Cattle & Land Co., Navasota, Texas, for \$3,000. The high-selling pair was consigned by Stricko Ranch, Verona, Ky., and was sold to Robert Rans, Culver, Ind., for \$2,500. The volume buyer was Wiley Ranch, Deville, La. 🙌

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Make Plans to Consign Feeder Calves to the 2017 Feedout Program

By Jessie Topp-Becker, Managing Editor

Plans for the 2017 National Santa Gertrudis Feedout program are well underway. The program was initiated by Santa Gertrudis Breeders International in 2003 and has been conducted nine times since its inception. Harvest data has been collected on more than 1,500 head of Santa Gertrudis cattle through the program.

This year, cattle will be fed at AzTx Cattle Co.'s Hereford, Texas feedyard. Although exact delivery dates have not yet been determined, the program is slated to start before the end of the year. "The time frame we're shooting for is to have cattle on feed starting in November and possibly December, depending on the interest we've got," says Jake Alden, who is coordinating this year's program.

Similar to previous years, the 2017 feedout program is open to purebred and percentage Santa Gertrudis feeder calves. Percentage Santa Gertrudis

calves must have at least one registered Santa Gertrudis parent.

A variety of data will be collected on the animals, including weight per day of age and average daily gain, as well as carcass data – hot carcass weight, marbling, yield grade and back fat. While cattle are on feed, producers will receive three different reports. "Data collected for those producers will be valuable to their operations as they look to the future and areas where they can make improvements, specifically with genetics," Alden says.

The best opportunity to improve a herd's carcass traits is through genetics, and John Ford, Santa Gertrudis Breeders International executive director, says this program gives producers data so they know how their genetics perform. "Knowing how your herd's genet-

ic package performs in the yard and on the rail is the first step to strengthening carcass trait genetics." He adds, "Utilizing harvest data and the breed's genetic evaluation to make breeding decisions will result in cattle that are profitable for all industry segments and, most importantly, an end product that is demanded by the beef-buying consumer."

Alden encourages all Santa Gertrudis breeders to consider consigning feeder calves to this year's feedout program. "I think it's something that has so much potential – not just for the breeders, but for the entire membership – being able to identify some of those cattle that excel and have real-world traits in a feedlot setting. It can sure move a breed forward really rapidly when you start putting a program together like this." 🐄

Producers interested in consigning cattle to the 2017 National Santa Gertrudis Feedout program should contact Jake Alden at (814) 465-0358 or alden.jake@gmail.com.

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KENTUCKY NATIONAL SALE

The Kentucky Santa Gertrudis Association welcomes the SGBI Board Members for their fall meeting!

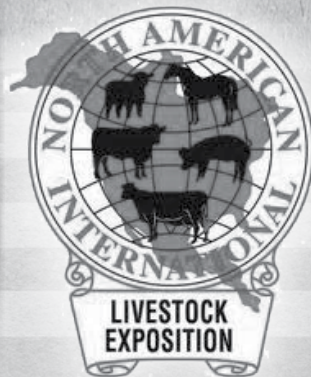


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KENTUCKY NATIONAL SHOW

July 14-15, 2017 | Bowling Green, Ky. | Judge: Kathryn Riley

The Kentucky National Show was sponsored by Kentucky Santa Gertrudis Association and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

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Heaths Growler, shown by Heath Farm,
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RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BULL

Jernigan 606, shown by
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GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE

Shampain 68/5, shown by
Shampain Ranch, Pleasant Hill, Ill.

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE

Heaths Little Holly 26, shown by
Heath Farm, Hodgenville, Ky.

GRAND CHAMPION STAR 5 FEMALE

Flying C 014/4, shown by
Circle A Farm, Williamsport, Tenn.

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION STAR 5 FEMALE

MC 527, shown by MC Ranch,
Alpharetta, Ga.



Winning exhibitors received crystal decanters. Shown left to right: Burton McDaniel, Wes McDaniel, David Alderson, Pat Heath, Beverly Heath, Lavonne Jernigan, Wayne Jernigan, Ginny Thomas, Del Thomas and Kathryn Riley, judge of the show.

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China Receives First Shipment of U.S. Beef Since 2003

After 14 years, China has started to receive beef imports from the United States. The process to open its market started last September, and in June the first shipments of U.S. beef arrived in China.

In June, a ceremony to celebrate the first shipments of American-produced beef arriving to China took place. National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) President Craig Uden joined U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, U.S. Ambassador to China Terry Branstad and Chinese officials at a ceremony in China's capital of Beijing. The highlight

of the event came when Uden and Perdue participated in a joint ceremonial "Cutting of the Prime Rib."

"Restoring U.S. beef access to China has been a top priority for many years, and we are excited to have the opportunity to provide Chinese consumers with

safe, tender and delicious U.S. beef once again," Uden said at the ceremony.

Long a supporter of international trade and greater access to foreign markets, NCBA has worked since 2003 to help restore access to China's more than 1.3 billion consumers for America's cattle producers. Those efforts finally bore fruit earlier this year, when the Trump administration announced that U.S. and Chinese negotiators had reached agreement on the final protocols that would break the nearly 14-year logjam.

The appetite for American beef has grown tremendously in Asia in recent years, with Japan, South Korea and Hong Kong rapidly becoming three of the world's top five importers of American-produced beef. NCBA said it will continue to fight for greater and fairer access to foreign markets for American producers.

"Regaining access to the world's largest market is a huge step in the right direction," Uden said. "But we still have a lot of work to do, like negotiating a bilateral trade agreement with Japan that puts us on even ground with our competitors, and ensuring that the renegotiation of NAFTA doesn't mess up the great deal we've had with our consumers in Canada and Mexico for years." 🇺🇸



Photo credit: China News Service



U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue and chef Austin Hu prepare U.S. steaks at a City Super supermarket in Shanghai. Photo from U.S. Meat Export Federation.

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RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE

Miss Double TT 545, shown by
Randall Strickmeyer, Verona, Ky.



GRAND CHAMPION STAR 5 FEMALE

Heath's Miss J.L., shown by
Windcrest Farm, Leitchfield, Ky.

SANTA GERTRUDIS SHOW *Results*



**GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE AND
BEST OF POLLED FEMALE**

Miss Grandview 555, shown by
Quail Valley Farms, Oneonta, Ala.

No Photo Available

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION STAR 5 FEMALE

Shaker's Ava, shown by
Shaker Hill Farm, Sparta, Ky.

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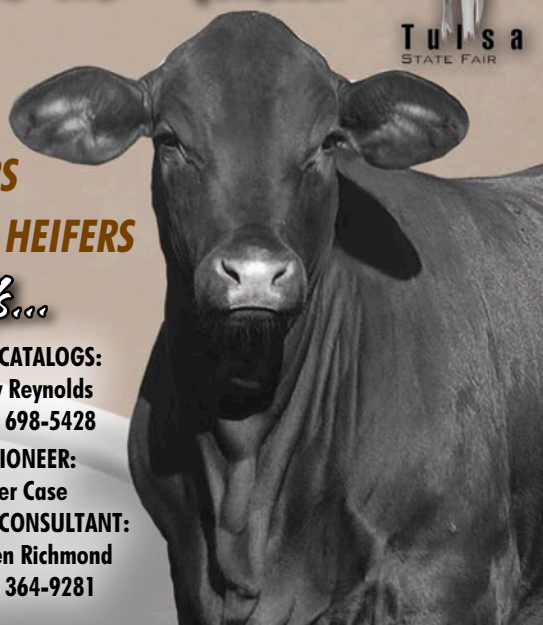
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Friday, November 10th
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11:00am - 14th Annual Bull Sale
1:00pm - 14th Annual Commercial Female Sale
4:00pm - Tri-Star cattle viewing
6:00pm - Gathering & dinner

Saturday, November 11th
8:00am - Breakfast & cowboy coffee, cattle viewing
11:00am - 40th Annual Tri-Star Sale

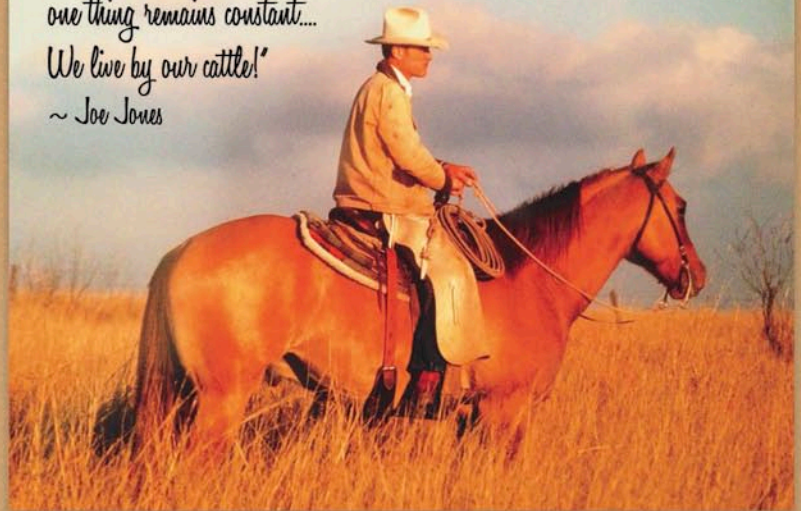
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