

*S***SANTA GERTRUDIS** *Source*



FEBRUARY 2024 • VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 2

Proven Performance
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Abrian Bass | 817.517.3006



Joe Cavender | 903.571.1209
Mark Cowan | 903.495.4522
Todd Harvey | 386.288.8059

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY, MARCH 18TH

2:00 PM Bulls & females available for viewing

TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH

8:00 AM Bulls & females available for viewing

9:30 AM South Texas Cowboy Brunch

11:00 Texas Alliance Bull Sale

Commercial female sale to immediately follow

This sale will be broadcast live on the internet.
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SCAN ME

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and
phenotype collide!*

Kubecka 100 is a full brother to Kubecka 18/21 (pictured below), that sold as Lot 8 in last year's sale. She was Grand Champion at the 2023 Hot Gert Show in Robstown, Texas, and Reserve Champion at the 2023 State Fair in Dallas.



Kubecka 100 sells on Feb. 17!

Schedule of Events

CATTLE LOCATION

Wendt Ranches, main headquarters
5475 FM 457, Bay City, TX 77414

CATTLE VIEWING

Friday, Feb. 16, 4:00-7:00 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 17, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 17

Social & Dinner at the Run-N-Gun Lodge
Social starts at 4:00 p.m.
Dinner served at 6:00 p.m.

SALE ENDS AT 8:00 P.M., SATURDAY, FEB. 17

Sale will be **ONLINE ONLY** at sconlinesales.com



Scan to view offering
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SGBI Herd #621, Established 1954

Wendt Ranches Partners LLC

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Email: wendtranches@hotmail.com

www.wendtranches.com



KUBECKA RANCH

SGBI Herd #6417, Established 1978

SANTA GERTRUDIS *Source*

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VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 2

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ON THE COVER

Pinnacle Ranch, Schulenburg, Texas
Photo by Cate Doubet.

Providing Polled Power Genetics to the Santa Gertrudis Breed

5J'S CATTLE COMPANY

Jody Standley, owner
(919) 291-4212

Kim Prestwood, manager
(828) 320-7317

84 Austin Farm Lane, Clayton, NC 27520



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Patrick, Erin-Kay & Caroline Daniel
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AS SPRING SALE SEASON APPROACHES, 5J'S CATTLE HAS THEM COVERED!



LOOK FOR OUR
CONSIGNMENTS

Purple Reign III
SANTA GERTRUDIS SALE

MARCH 23, 2024
777 FARMS • MAGNOLIA, ARK.



Jody Standley, Owner
(919) 291-4212



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bpowell@powelltransportation.com

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frank.santos@veritacor.com



(512) 508-6747

Registration Is Valuable



Incourage Santa Gertrudis Breeders International (SGBI) members to recognize that change is occurring rapidly in today's world, breed associations must be committed to offering the programs and services that best serve their members. Successful breed associations must operate with a focus on member profitability and the economic success of the breed's bull and replacement customers.

One important service beef cattle registries provide is issuing registration papers. Registration is the lifeblood of an association. To accomplish SGBI's mission of breed improvement, registry maintenance, breed protection and dissemination of information regarding breed performance, animal registration is not only necessary but essential for long-term viability in the seedstock industry.

Today's registration certificate is a guidebook for making breeding decisions and a tool to be used when making animal selections. An animal's specific performance, heritable traits and lineage can all be found on its registration papers. Serious seedstock producers understand that the information provided on a certificate of registration has a direct impact on profitability.

Cattle of any type or kind can be marketed; however, cattle with registration certificates show that breeders are committed to keeping accurate records and have the ability to identify, track and document past generations and future offspring. The registration paper is the perfect marketing piece that objectively describes performance and provides an estimate of future offspring value.

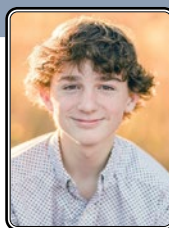
When it comes to beef genetics, the United States is recognized as a world leader, ranking as the world's largest exporter of embryos, semen and registered cattle. Foreign buyers seek quality genetics from purebred breeders. A registration paper opens the door for opportunities to market genetics internationally.

Please reach out to the SGBI office staff to assist you with your registration needs in 2024. 🐾

JUNIOR VOICES • Caden Tyson, At-Large Director

Q: WHAT IS THE BIGGEST LESSON YOU HAVE LEARNED FROM RAISING SANTA GERTRUDIS?

A: Roughly seven years ago, my dad was taking my sister to pick out something big, and I desperately wanted to know what it was. My excitement faded when I realized we were there for a cow. I didn't realize that this cow would help me learn many lessons. A while later I set out on my show career with a little too much confidence and a not-so-special bull, Cash. I soon learned that not everything was going to go my way when Cash and I sat at the bottom of every class. In November 2022 I began anticipating a calf from my two favorite show cows. One night, I looked toward the pasture and the baby I so desperately wanted was born in the pasture. However, she had a hernia, and I was reminded that things will not always go the way I want. While raising and showing cattle I have learned that not every banner belongs on my wall, and not every cow I raise will grow up the way I want. This lesson was truly hard-learned but has made me very grateful for all the times life didn't go my way. 🐾



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2023 SGBI HIGH POINT FEMALE
2022 STATE FAIR OF TEXAS GRAND CHAMPION
2023 FT WORTH LIVESTOCK SHOW GRAND CHAMPION
2022 HOUSTON INTERNATIONAL RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION



XL'S RED QUEEN 389 ET

777 HONEY BADGER 1202 X XL'S CLEOPATRA 008 ET

-2023 RESERVE CALF CHAMPION STATE FAIR OR LOUISIANA
-2023 GRAND CHAMPION HOT GERT JUNIOR



XL'S DREAMIN OF GOLD 240

XL'S MIDAS 355 X XL'S CLEOPATRA 008 ET

- 2022 HOT GERT GRAND OPEN FEMALE
- 2022 HOUSTON INTERNATIONAL RESERVE CALF CHAMPION
- 2023 YEARLING CHAMPION STATE FAIR OF TEXAS

**FULL SIBS SELL
MARCH 19TH!**

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2023 NJS GS High Point Open Breeder
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SANTA GERTRUDIS World Congress 2023

BY GENE KUBECKA, WENDT RANCHES AND JEROME URBANOSKY, URBANOSKY RANCH

*The next
World
Congress
will be held
in Australia
in 2027. It's
not too early
to put this on
your bucket
list. It is the
trip of a
lifetime and
affords all
who attend
a first-class
opportunity
to see and
enjoy real
cattle
operations
at their best.
Don't miss it!*

Brazil Santa Gertrudis breeders hosted the 2023 World Congress Nov. 25–Dec. 11, 2023. The Santa Gertrudis World Congress (SGWC) was organized so that breeders from across the globe could meet in Brazil to discuss the future of the Santa Gertrudis breed, the challenges each country faces and what the future holds for the breed worldwide.

Groups from Australia, Argentina, South Africa, Paraguay, United States and Honduras toured Santa Gertrudis ranches and feedlots, and attended several

informative seminars. Two former Santa Gertrudis Breeders International (SGBI) presidents, Gene Kubecka and Jerome Urbanosky, their wives and Santa Gertrudis breeder Devlin Reese represented the United States. The U.S. delegates were very impressed by the active and enthusiastic Brazilian Santa Gertrudis group.

Brazil showcased its No. 1 world agricultural ranking with stunning corn and soybean crops. Santa Gertrudis beef cattle are thriving in Brazil as a sire-preferred breed used on Nelore cows.

What was so impressive about Brazil is the demand for the Santa Gertrudis bull to cross with the native Nelore breed. This cross yields an improved meat carcass compared to just pure Nelore and currently dominates the meat markets. In addition, the female offspring make an efficient mother cow that can thrive in the tropical climate. Certified Santa Gertrudis Beef is preferred and marketed in Brazil – no Certified Angus Beef was marketed there.



Participants view massive soybean fields across Brazil.



The U.S. delegation enjoys a field day at Malagueta Farm on the last farm visit.

We began our tour at Gamelinha Farm on the coast of Sergipe where we saw a diversified coconut plantation and cattle ranch that featured the Nelore Santa Gertrudis cross. We learned how the sand dunes were converted into pastures by planting grasses and the use of irrigation with rotation.

Another very interesting observation is the improvement the breeders in Brazil have made with their Santa Gertrudis herds. Having visited Brazil numerous times to judge shows, I (Gene) observed a tremendous amount of improvement in the quality of the cattle. Santa Gertrudis now has a big footprint in the Brazilian cattle industry. The Brazilian breeders



Jerome Urbanosky awards a trophy to the yearling bull winner. *Continued on 10 »*

777 Farms, along with our guest consignors, formally invite you to our

Purple Reign^{III}

SANTA GERTRUDIS SALE

March 23, 2024

11:00 a.m. • 777 Farms • Magnolia, Ark.

Online Semen & Embryo Sale, March 22 via [SmartAuctions](https://SmartAuctions.com)

GUEST CONSIGNORS:

5J's Cattle Co.
Bar M Farm
David Branch
Flying C Ranch
Grandview Farms
Graves Creek Ranch
H2 Cattle Co.
Heath Farm
Hurricane Cattle Co.
Gracelyn Lee
Lazy L Show Cattle
M Rock Farm
Mattingly Farms
Tripp Nichols
Pitchford Cattle Co.
Ridge Point Ranch
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FARMS**

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Darren Richmond
Sale Chairman

(423) 364-9281
djrichmd@gmail.com

Contact Darren Richmond to request your catalog!

were enthusiastic about their Santa Gertrudis cattle, what the future holds and what the Santa Gertrudis Association in Brazil does to promote their breeders.

The Brazilian National Santa Gertrudis Cattle Show and Sale was also held at the Avare Fair, and the quality ran deep in all classes. It was very exciting and enjoyable. The U.S. attendees were universal in their agreement that the Brazilian Santa Gertrudis were competitive with any in the world. Many champions were from bloodlines from around the world. While many Santa Gertrudis are shown in Brazil, the driving force behind their popularity is the commercial beef industry.

The Brazilians were gracious hosts, and all the participants enjoyed their visit.

The next World Congress will be held in Australia in 2027. It's not too early to put this on your bucket list. It is the trip of a lifetime and affords all who attend a first-class opportunity to see and enjoy real cattle operations at their best. Don't miss it! 🐄



Tour participants view Santa Gertrudis-sired steer calves from Nelore-based cow herds, a great cross in Brazil.



Gene Kubecka presents the Grand Champion Bull trophy to a 777 Vegas son!



This Brazilian Santa Gertrudis bull, Justus, has sold more than 50,000 units of semen.



SGBI Past Presidents Jerome Urbanosky and Gene Kubecka describe the Santa Gertrudis breed in the United States.



Nancy Kubecka enjoys viewing cattle representing bloodlines her parents, Dan and Jane Wendt, imported in the early 1980s.

Santa Gertrudis World Council Representatives Chosen

During the Santa Gertrudis World Congress, organizers chose two representatives from each country to serve on the Santa Gertrudis World Council. The delegation chose two former SGBI presidents, Gene Kubecka and Jerome Urbanosky, to represent the United States.

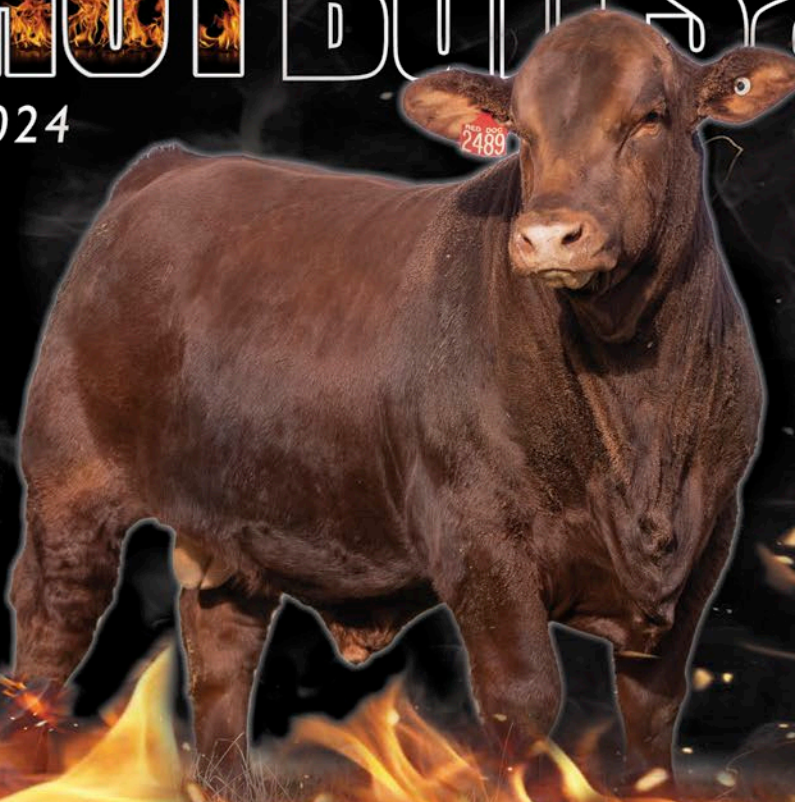
The Santa Gertrudis World Council will meet every six months to share topics of mutual interest involving Santa Gertrudis cattle.

Kubecka and Urbanosky will be working with the Santa Gertrudis membership and SGBI Board of Directors on topics of mutual interest involving all aspects of improving and promoting the expansion of the Santa Gertrudis footprint in worldwide beef production. 🐄

20th Annual Red HOTBULL Sale

April 5th - 6th, 2024

SELLING
150
SANTA
GERTRUDIS
& GERT
INFLUENCED
BULLS



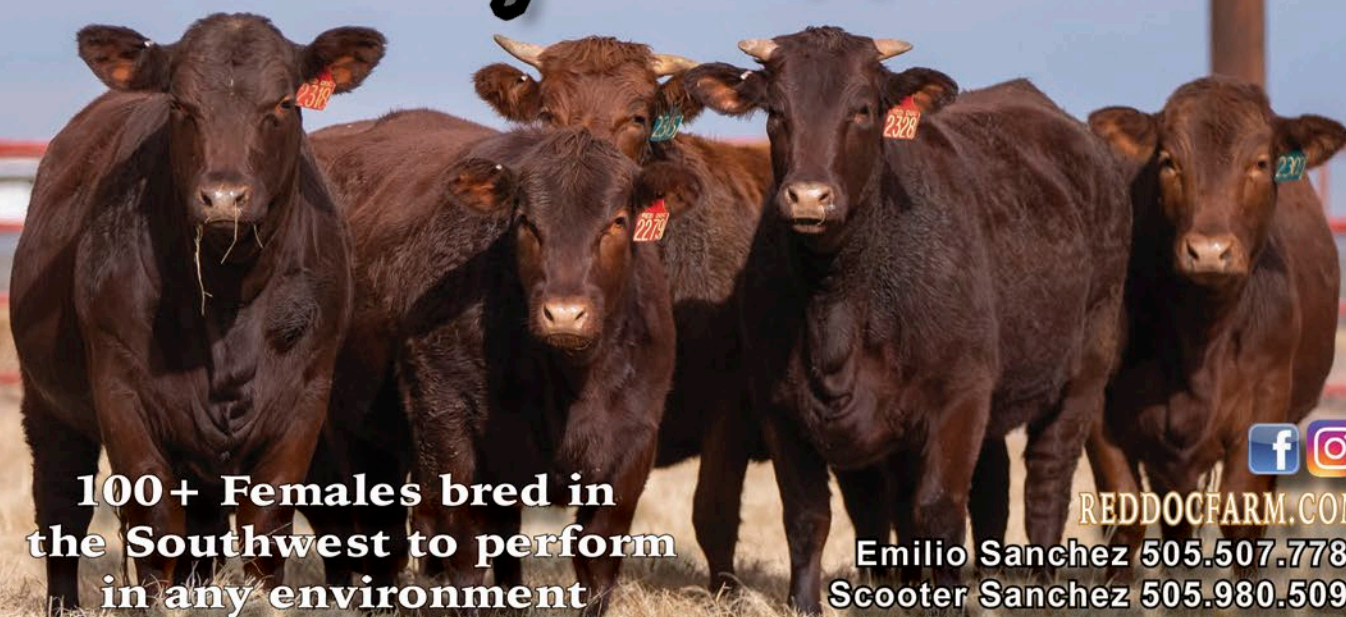
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Collecting Semen to Freeze

Over Christmas break I came across a Kansas State University Research and Extension Cattleman's Field Day 2022 Report that was very interesting. This 10-year project evaluated and compared 14,750 ejaculates from 906 beef bulls collected at the Kansas Artificial Breeding Services Unit. Specific breeds or breed types were not included, and I will venture to guess that not many of the beef bulls were of the American breed type. However, I still believe that we can learn from their research results.

All bulls collected were provided with age, based on owner data, and then grouped by age into four different age categories: less than or equal to 12 months, 13 to 18 months, 19 to 30 months and greater than 31 months. Each bull was semen collected twice per week (Mondays and Thursdays) with the preferred artificial vagina (AV) and a mount steer. Bulls that did not like the mount steer and/or AV combo after three to four attempts were electro-ejaculated. Thus, even the stubborn bulls were collected.

Each ejaculate was evaluated by a single technician at the Kansas Artificial Breeding Services Unit for pre-freeze and post-thaw analysis. The ejaculate requirements for freezing were more stringent at this unit as compared to a breeding soundness



exam (BSE). Pre-freeze progressive motility had to be equal to or greater than 50 percent, as compared to 30 percent for a BSE. Freezable ejaculates must have had less than 30 percent abnormal sperm and must have had at least a 30 percent post-thaw motility.

If your brain is spinning like a swimming sperm by now, please rest assured that these ejaculates were tested very well. In fact, all ejaculates that passed the initial benchmarks (≥ 50 percent progressive motility and ≤ 30 percent abnormal spermatozoa) for freezing were extended and frozen. Information recorded for each ejaculate included pre- and post-thaw motility, primary abnormalities (the sperm head) and secondary abnormalities (other than the sperm head).

To raise the bar even higher, these researchers decided to combine both the Kansas Artificial Breeding Services Unit's criteria for semen freezing and the results of bulls' BSEs as a "super" threshold. The Society of Theriogenology requirements for a bull to be considered a "satisfactory breeder" are as follows: progressive motility of 30 percent or greater and sperm abnormalities less than 30 percent (70 percent normal spermatozoa). Moreover, of that 30 percent abnormal sperm, less than 20 percent can be head defects (primary abnormalities). The research results surprised me. Only 21, 23, 22 and 20 percent of bulls ≤ 12 months, 13 to 18 months, 19 to 30 months and ≥ 31 months, respectively, met both criteria (the "super" threshold).

Overall, these results illustrate that sperm motility benchmarks are more often the most challenging criteria to meet when collecting semen from beef bulls that are to be used in artificial insemination programs. Furthermore, if your bulls can pass a BSE, that does not necessarily mean that they can be collected for semen freezing. But like fine wine, beef bulls appear to improve with age, having better spermatozoa morphology, especially in terms of producing fewer primary abnormalities (see Table 1). 🐄

TABLE 1. Semen Quality of Beef Bulls by Age

Bull Age (months)	Percentage Ejaculates Meeting 30% Motility Threshold (BSE)	Percentage Ejaculates Meeting 50% Motility Threshold (Freezing)	Percentage Ejaculates with $\leq 20\%$ Primary Abnormalities	Percentage Ejaculates with $> 70\%$ Normal Spermatozoa
≤ 12	85	36	76	72
13-18	94	42	85	75
19-30	90	39	87	75
> 31	86	33	90	80

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MID-COAST
Santa Gertrudis
ASSOCIATION

2024 INTERNATIONAL *Super Sale*

MARCH 1, 2024

7:00 PM • HOUSTON, TX • NRG CENTER EAST ARENA

This sale will be broadcast live on the internet.

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Broadcasting Real-Time Auctions
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JOIN US AT 5:30PM FOR
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NRG CENTER EAST ARENA

Sale managed by:

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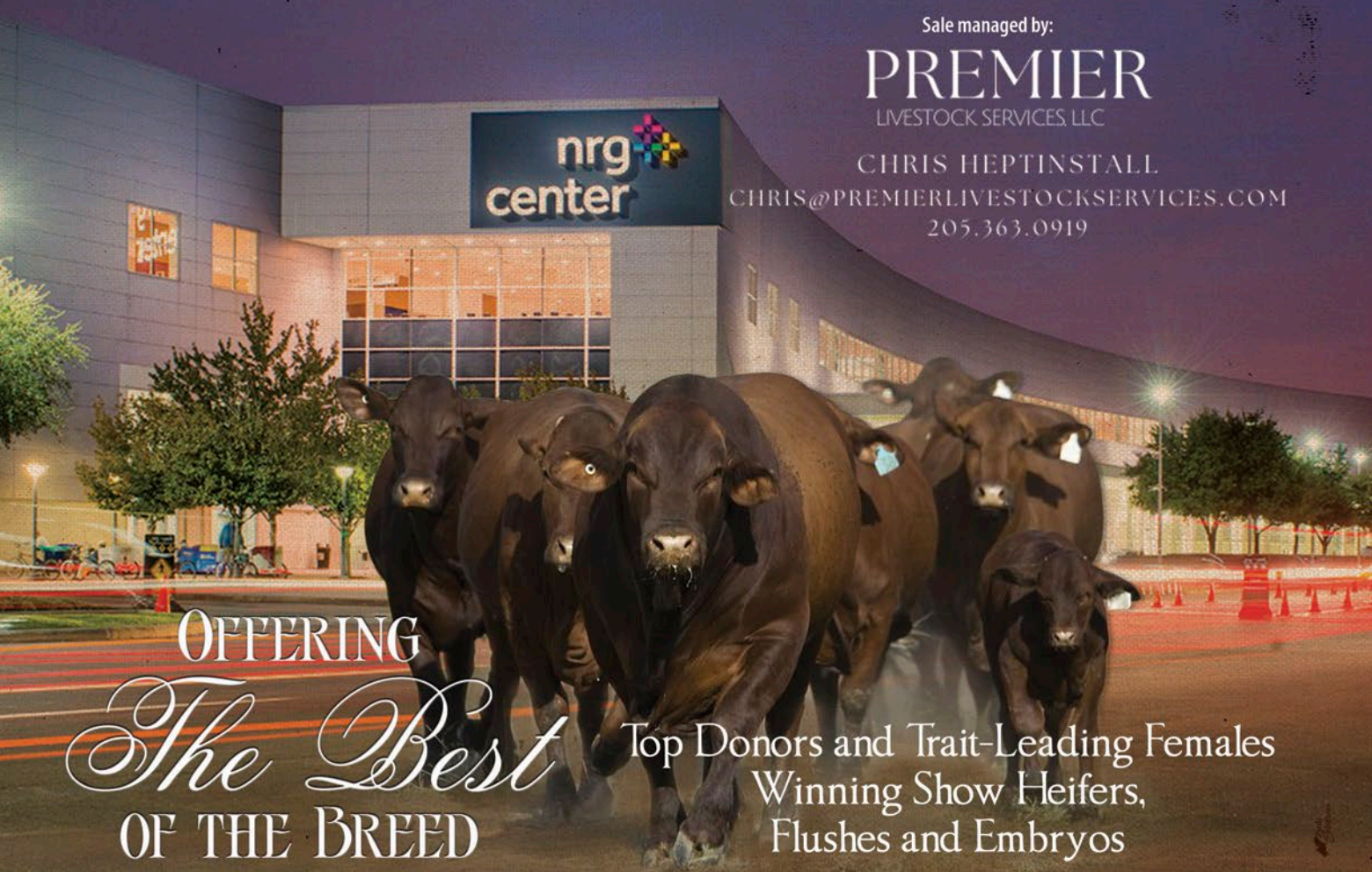
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Santa Gertrudis: Oceans of Opportunity

SANTA GERTRUDIS BREEDERS INTERNATIONAL 73RD ANNUAL MEETING

OCEANS
OF OPPORTUNITY

April 25-27, 2024

Myrtle Beach, S.C.



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. Breakfast
10:00 a.m.-Noon Committee Meetings
Kick-Off Lunch and Keynote - Daniel Poole, Ph.D.,
North Carolina State University
2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting, Committee Meetings
6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. "Boots-Scooting Boogie Myrtle Beach Style" Welcome Social

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Buses leave for tours: Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science, and Hobcaw Barony. Lunch at Wicked Tuna, followed by Dolphin Cruise*.
8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Free time for those who do not want to participate in the tours. Some options include chartered fishing trips, shopping, sightseeing or a day at the beach.
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Show and Performance Awards Presentation

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:00 a.m. Annual Membership Meeting and Breakout Sessions
Lunch
2:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Cocktail Social
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. President's Dinner and Hall of Fame Inductions

*The Dolphin Cruise is limited to 57 people.
SIGN UP EARLY!*

REGISTRATION FORM

Affiliate: _____

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Ranch Name: _____ Herd No.: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Complete Registration Includes:

All sessions, tours and meals for Thursday-Saturday, Awards Program and President's Dinner

\$225 per person x _____ = \$ _____ *If received BY March 25, 2024*

\$250 per person x _____ = \$ _____ *If received AFTER March 25, 2024*

Dolphin Cruise x _____ = \$ 0 *NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE, but requires a head count*

A la Carte Tickets Available

Thursday a la carte tickets

Kick-Off Lunch & Keynote, Welcome Social
\$100 per person x _____ = \$ _____

Friday a la carte tickets

Tours, Dolphin Cruise and Awards Evening
\$125 per person x _____ = \$ _____

Saturday a la carte tickets

Annual Business Meeting, Lunch and Breakout Sessions
\$100 per person x _____ = \$ _____

President's Dinner and Hall of Fame

\$200 per person x _____ = \$ _____

Payment Method

Check No.: _____ TOTAL: \$ _____

Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard
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Room Rate: \$199 · Group code: SGB
Room reservations must be made before March 25, 2024, for the SGBI block rate.

TOUR TIME!

JOIN US FOR SGBI ANNUAL MEETING TOURS

Clemson Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science

The Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science (BICEFS) is located in Georgetown, S.C., on Hobcaw Barony. The coastal environment offers a diversity of ecosystems including estuaries, tidal marshes, freshwater swamps, coastal forests, streams and rivers.

As an ecological research center, BICEFS conducts research and Extension not only in the southeastern United States, but across the country and internationally. Topics of research at BICEFS address critical environmental issues including climate and land-use change, coastal science, water quality and quantity, biodiversity loss, and forest and watershed ecology and management. Findings from research conducted at BICEFS inform conservation, management and policy.

Hobcaw Barony

Hobcaw Barony is a 16,000-acre tract of undeveloped land owned by the Belle W. Baruch Foundation, a non-profit organization. This tour will include highlights of Hobcaw Barony's 16,000 acres of history, ecology and research. A privately owned research reserve, the property represents every environment and century of the Low-

country. You will also stop at Bernard Baruch's circa 1930 home that played host to politicians, generals and newspapermen, as well as Winston Churchill and President Franklin Roosevelt. In addition to Hobcaw House, tours include a drive by the home and stables of Bellefield Plantation, the home of Baruch's oldest daughter, Bell Baruch, who owned all the property by 1956, as well as a stop in one of four slave villages – settlements on Hobcaw Barony that were constructed by enslaved people, then inhabited by them and their descendants well into the 20th century. Information shared will include coastal ecosystems, native wildlife and endangered species.

Dolphin Cruise by Express Watersports

Look for wild dolphins and other aquatic life feeding and playing in the ocean on the Myrtle Beach Dolphin Watch Tour and Ocean Sightseeing Cruise. The Myrtle Beach area

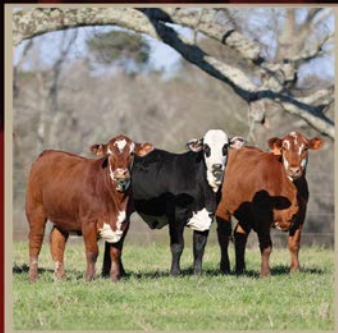


is home to more than 60 miles of coastline. The 1.5-hour tour departs out of Murrells Inlet, a beautiful saltwater marsh that leads to the Atlantic Ocean. An on-board

naturalist will describe the history of Murrells Inlet area as you make your way to the ocean. The on-board Coastal Carolina University marine science majors will present information about dolphins and other aquatic life. Once you are on the ocean, you will travel along the beautiful coast, looking for dolphins, sea turtles and other aquatic life. ☂

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HALL OF FAME 2024

YANCEY NEWMAN “Y.N.” STRAIT

Yancey Newman “Y.N.” Strait, Sr., was born in 1950 in Cotulla, Texas, to a South Texas ranching family that has spanned five generations.

His great grandfathers, grandfathers and father were ranchers, operating in South Texas since the early 1900s. Strait Ranches, historically referred to as Strait Brothers, was initially operated by Yancey Clarence (Y.C.) Strait and his brothers. Strait Brothers started ranching in Dimmit County, Texas, in 1913 and came to the area from Yancey, Texas. Like most, the brothers faced tough times during the Great Depression, and each pursued their own ventures as the economy recovered. Y.C. and his wife, Marle Vesper Strait, remained in ranching and chose to add the Santa Gertrudis breed to their cattle operation because of the benefits they provided to cattle producers in the region. Y.C. Strait became a member of Santa Gertrudis Breeders International (SGBI) in 1951 and maintained a herd of commercially managed, purebred Santa Gertrudis.

In 1954, when Y.N. was just 4 years old, his father died. After his death, Y.N. started a cow herd with remnants of his father’s herd. Then in 1972, when Y.N.’s grandfather, Y.C. Strait, passed away, Y.N. took over the Strait Ranches operations.



tending the ranch management courses, Joe Paschal, Ph.D., livestock specialist for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension service, wanted to know why Y.N. was going to school – he thought he should be teaching the class.

Y.N.’s passion always resided in his cattle operation, Strait Ranches. Y.N. raised commercial Santa Gertrudis-influenced cattle until the early 1990s when Strait Ranches began raising Santa Gertrudis seedstock with production philosophies heavily rooted in the commercial cattle sector. Strait Ranches cattle are not only evaluated by the collection of data (weights, gain tests, ultrasound mea-

surements), but are also tested by the environment. For the last 30 years, Strait Ranches has focused on continuous improvement and superior genetics, all while fighting drought conditions and cattle market volatility. Strait Ranches is focused on raising fertile, functional, efficient beef cattle that maintain balanced performance across all measured traits. The Strait Ranches cow herd has been strongly influenced by Pat Welder and Winrock Farms’ genetics and, most recently, by the purchase of Olivarez Ranches’ females. Genetics used and/or developed in the Strait Ranches breeding program include UV Mason 0/72, SR Genesis 75/3, KR Catalyst 531/15, SR Arkoma 30/0, SR Hazel 23/7, SR Paradigm 135/7, SR Paramount 30/H4, SR 87/7 “Wickham,” SR MPact 30/F2, SR Marksman 33/19, SR 68/F2, SR Advantage 5235/J among many others. Today, Strait Ranches is one of the premier Santa Gertrudis breeders in the United States.

In early 2021, Y.N. and Cynthia moved the Strait Ranches headquarters and their cattle operation to Streetman, Texas. Being rooted in South Texas, this was not an easy decision or transition but one that they felt was necessary to continue the legacy of Santa Gertrudis genetics that they had worked so hard to continually improve and that the Strait Ranches family is so passionate about.

Y.N. was a revered cattleman, but above all, he was a family man. Y.N.’s most cherished time was with his family and that time typically centered around the cattle Yancey and Callie raised and showed throughout their grade school years. Y.N. loved sharing his passion with his grandchildren, Avery, Arden, Piper and Nellie, and watching them become involved in Strait Ranches and show cattle across the state.

Y.N. left a lasting legacy of superior genetic improvement, purposeful stewardship of the land, cattle and relationships, and a strong work ethic that was hard to match. Ranching was a way of life for Y.N., a total commitment to a heritage that has many challenges and sacrifices but also great fulfillment. ➔

Y.N. left a lasting legacy of superior genetic improvement, purposeful stewardship of the land, cattle and relationships, and a strong work ethic that was hard to match.

He graduated *magna cum laude* from Southwest Texas State University in 1972 with a degree in animal science and a minor in chemistry. Y.N. started his career working for Devine Nuts, the family-operated, peanut-processing business. Y.N. married Cynthia Ann Wooley in April 1976 in San Marcos, Texas. Y.N. and Cynthia had two children, Yancey and Callie. The Strait family moved to Carrizo Springs in June 1984 and quickly immersed themselves into the community. Y.N. worked in agricultural finance in Carrizo and Uvalde until he retired in 2011. Y.N. served on the Dimmit County Appraisal District Agricultural Advisory Committee, was a district director of the local Soil and Water Conservation District for more than 30 years and was highly involved with the Dimmit County Livestock Association, serving in every capacity from director to president. He was also a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church in Carrizo Springs. Y.N. received an Advanced Ranch Management degree in 2009 from the King Ranch Institute of Ranch Management. While at-

DR. BURTON McDANIEL, JR.

Dr. Burton McDaniel, Jr., was a lifetime scholar. He was a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry; Emory University with a Physical Therapy Specialty; Medical College of Georgia with a Doctorate of Medicine; and an Emory University Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Fellow. Burton was highly respected and recognized for his medical expertise, receiving many honors including Atlanta's Top Doctor of Physiatry and Chief Medical Officer of the historic Roosevelt Warm Springs Rehabilitation Hospital.

"Doc," as he was often referred to around the barns, loved cattle, dating back to the years he spent on his grandparents' farms in Ringgold, Ga. While accompanying his grandfather on one of their many cattle auction adventures, he purchased his first bottle babies at age 13, and continued building his commercial herd, even while attending medical school. In 1976, he bought a Santa Gertrudis bull to breed to his commercial cows. So pleased with the results, he began buying more purebred cattle, mainly at the Clarendon Plantation Dispersal. In 1986, a drought forced him to reduce his numbers. It was then that he made the decision



to focus strictly on raising purebred Santa Gertrudis. Burton was keenly aware of the importance and reaped the benefits early on of befriending many Santa Gertrudis legends who willingly shared their expertise and knowledge of Santa Gertrudis cattle.

Although Burton was involved in the cattle business all his life, his first experience in the show ring came in 1988 when he decided to take "Sweet Potato," a heifer he had produced, to the National Show in Lawrenceville, Ga. Despite being a rookie showman, he won second in the class, and that gave him a taste for the excitement of winning. He began looking for a female that he could use in an embryo transfer

program that would make a difference in his herd. Scarlet 24/9 turned out to be one of his greatest investments. Without a doubt, Scarlet's impact on the MC Ranch breeding program and Santa Gertrudis breed was phenomenal!

In 1992, Scarlet was named National Champion Female and SGBI High Point Female. Thus began a long list of accolades for MC Ranch cattle as they dominated the show ring and sales throughout the '90s and early 2000s. Burton

Continued on 19 »



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To request a catalog



Santa Gertrudis Research at North Carolina State University

BY JESSIE TOPP BECKER, SANTA GERTRUDIS SOURCE MANAGING EDITOR

A research project involving Santa Gertrudis was launched at North Carolina State University (NCSU) in January 2023. *Santa Gertrudis Source* had the opportunity to learn more about this research project from Daniel Poole, Ph.D., animal science professor at NCSU.

Q: When/how did this research project get started?

A: In the summer of 2022, Josh Bowman, an NCSU graduate and president of the Santa Gertrudis Breeders of the Carolinas Association, communicated the affiliate's interest in this research project. In our initial meeting, Josh informed NCSU faculty about the success of the STAR 5 program and expressed interest in collecting data to determine how these animals compare to other cattle breeds. In response, Gary Gregory and I discussed the possibilities of conducting this type of project within the NC Beef System, which is a collaborative effort

to unify the goals and management strategies across the beef-focused University Field Laboratory and Research Station to expand nutrition, physiology and genetic research opportunities within the state. Cattle across the seven research stations and field laboratories are of a similar

project requires input from other disciplines, we developed our research team consisting of myself as lead and physiologist, beef cattle nutritionist Carrie Pickworth, Ph.D., and Extension specialist and geneticist Andrew Weaver, Ph.D. We oversee this project and meet regularly to discuss the progress of this multi-year project.

Q: What is the goal of this research project?

A: Beef production needs to increase from 60 million to 130 million tons by 2050 to feed a growing world population, and 70 percent of this production increase is expected from beef industries located in semitropical and tropical regions of the world. Therefore, it is of interest to examine performance traits of hybrid cattle containing the positive attributes of both British and Brahman breeds when chronically exposed to environmental challenges in order to identify breeds and/or bloodlines that can thrive in semitropical and tropical regions.

Q: What data has been collected already? Do you have any preliminary findings?

A: The project started in January 2023 when the cow herd (approximately 300 head at two research stations) was synchronized for estrus and then bred via artificial insemination with semen from Angus or Santa Gertrudis bulls. Pregnancy rates were confirmed at 30 days post AI via ultrasound.

At the Butner Beef Cattle Field Laboratory (BBCFL), 168 cows were synchronized using the CoSynch + 7-day CIDR and TAI protocol. All cows were randomly assigned to receive either Angus (86 cows) or Santa Gertrudis (82 cows) semen, then time bred on Jan. 12, 2023. Overall, first-service conception rates for this farm were 60.7 percent, with 44 of 82 cows (53.7 percent) inseminated with Santa Gertrudis semen and 58 of 86 cows (67.4 percent) inseminated with Angus semen confirmed pregnant on Feb. 16, 2023. Based on a 283-day gestation interval, calves were expected starting Oct. 21, 2023.

At the Cherry Research Station (CRS), 69 cows were synchronized using the CoSynch + 7-day CIDR and TAI protocol. All cows were randomly assigned to receive either Angus (34 cows) or Santa Gertrudis (35

Continued on 20 »



Daniel Poole, Ph.D.

genetic base (Black Angus) and receive the same health management and reproductive plans to produce a uniform group of calves that can be used for research and teaching.

Following our initial conversation and realizing that this multifaceted



Research with Santa Gertrudis is being conducted at two North Carolina State University research stations: Butner Beef Cattle Field Laboratory, above, and the Cherry Research Station.

became well known for producing outstanding cattle. MC Ranch was recognized five times as the SGBI Breeder of the Year (1994-1998) and received multiple SGBI Exhibitor of the Year Awards, exhibiting six National Champions and countless award-winning Santa Gertrudis cattle over the years. MC Ranch genetics can still be found in many current champions and herds across the world today.

Burton was deeply honored to be asked by SGBI Executive Director Jim Reeves to be one of only two founding supporters of the official SGBI NuGen Project. Ann Samford Upchurch, Grey Rocks Ranch in Selma, Ala., was the project's co-founding supporter. The NuGen Project was proposed and unanimously approved by the SGBI Board of Directors in 1994 to recreate the 3/8 Brahman and 5/8 Shorthorn animal originally created by the King Ranch with new and improved Brahman and Shorthorn genetics.

In addition to his legacy of strengthening and improving the genetic composition of Santa Gertrudis cattle, Burton and his family have created a legacy of active involvement and support of SGBI. He served on the SGBI Board of Directors for 12 years, including as vice president of membership. He was a chairman for the 1995 National Junior Santa Gertrudis Show; SGBI representative at the 1996 National Beef Congress; special guest of SG Australia delegation in 1998; chairman of the 2012 SGBI Annual Meeting; Honorary Junior Member; and onsite physician to many fellow members and juniors whenever needed.

MC Ranch genetics can still be found in many current champions and herds across the world today.

His wife, Judy, was an active member of the SGBI Youth Activity Committee for more than 20 years, hosting multiple bi-annual junior GOALS Leadership Conferences. She has twice been awarded the SGBI President's Award and was instrumental in the facilitation of the 2020 SGBI World Congress. Son, Wes, is a former president of SGBI and the National Junior Santa Gertrudis Association (NJSJA). Both daughters, Ali McDaniel Hill and Anna McDaniel LoBean, served as NJSJA Queens, as well as NJSJA Board members. Daughter, Anna, and son, Will, both served as NJSJA presidents.

Following the untimely death of Burton in 2019, Judy and family continue to keep the cattle grazing and look forward to the next generation carrying on his influential legacy. Burton's commitment and love for the Santa Gertrudis breed was fully evidenced by his accomplishments while with us and the living legacy he created through his family and the next generation of nine grandchildren. The family has recently endowed a legacy Youth Foundation Scholarship to benefit NJSJA members.

In the Santa Gertrudis family, Burton was known for his uncanny way of being a champion for the underdog. He truly enjoyed watching old and new breeders find success in their breeding programs. 🐮



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Santa Gertrudis Research Continued from 18

cows) semen, then time bred on Jan. 27, 2023. Overall, first-service conception rates for this farm were 52.2 percent, with 14 of 35 cows (40.0 percent) inseminated with Santa Gertrudis semen and 22 of 34 cows (66.7 percent) inseminated with Angus semen confirmed pregnant on March 3, 2023. Based on a 283-day gestation interval, calves were expected starting Nov. 5, 2023. We have compiled the calving data from the Butner Beef Cattle Field Laboratory and shared it with producers at the Santa Gertrudis Breeders of the Carolinas Annual Field Day on Dec. 9, 2023. In brief, we had 41 Santa Gertrudis x Angus F1 calves (18 heifers and 23 bulls) born that will be compared to 53 Angus calves (20 heifers and 33 bulls). There were minimal birthing differences observed in these calves. Santa Gertrudis x Angus F1 bull calves were heavier than the other calves born however despite the heavier birth weights there were no calving issues.

Calves generated from this initial year will be tracked throughout their lifespan for performance traits (birth weights, weaning weights, temperament, ribeye area, etc.). Steers would be destined for a GrowSafe feedlot for growth performance and then carcass data will be collected post-harvest to examine meat color, shear force, etc. Heifers would be raised through 1 year of age to collect growth, onset of puberty and reproductive performance.

Q: Where did the cattle/genetics for this research project come from?

A: The females used in this study were postpartum Angus cows at the Butner

Beef Cattle Field Laboratory and the Cherry Research Farm. Semen from Santa Gertrudis bulls was donated from the following Santa Gertrudis breeders: Five J's Cattle Co, Rockin B Farm, Bar M Farm, King Ranch, Grandview Farms, Quail Valley Farms, Wiley Ranch, Hefte Ranch, Strait Ranches, Red Doc Farm, Reese Ranch and Tinney Farms.

Gary Gregory was the consultant who put forth the following recommendations to nominate sires for this project. To nominate a particular bull for consideration, we asked interested parties to submit the nominations of bulls that met requested criteria to match the breeding goals of the Angus herd to ensure appropriate comparisons could be made. The requested criteria were:

- Balanced, Cow/Calf and Terminal Index Values in the Top 35 percent;
- Birthweight EPD in the Top 60 percent; and
- Marbling EPD in the Top 25 percent.

Additionally, all ranches/owners donating frozen genetics to this study had to be willing to donate a minimum

of 20 straws from each sire nominated and acknowledge that they maintain no claims to offspring resulting from the use of the donated semen. All offspring produced from this project will be owned in their entirety by NCSU, and no restrictions can or will be placed on these animals by the donor.

Q: Does the project have an end date?

A: To truly understand the value of hybrid vigor in semitropical and tropical regions of the world, we need to evaluate these cattle genetics over several years to understand how exposure to various environmental challenges such as ambient temperature, rainfall and other factors out of producers' control impact these black-headed STAR 5 cattle.

Q: Anything else we should know about the project?

A: We are excited to see these cattle grow and develop in our system and are fortunate to work with eager, young beef producers who not only want to enhance the visibility of their breed but address grander challenges in the U.S. beef industry. 🐮

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Santa Gertrudis F1 Project Phase 1: Creating the Calves



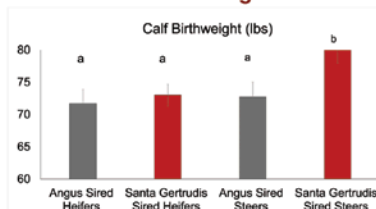
Action Plan

Year	Month	Activity
2022	Dec	Identify Cows @ BBCFL & CEFS (n=300)
2023	Jan	Estrous Synchronization (CoSynch+7d CIDR protocol & TAI) Use 4 AN and 4SG Bulls, Record Cow BW, BCS and response to ES
2023	Feb	30 day Pregnancy Check via Ultrasonography
2023	Mar-Sep	
2023	Oct	Record Calving Data (BW, Calving Ease, sex)
2023	Nov	
2023	Dec-Apr	
2024	May	What's Next! Weaning Data (Calf BW, Hip Height, HCS, & Temperament)

2023 Data	Total Bred	Pregnant	AI Pregnancy Rate %
Butner Beef Cattle Field Laboratory			
Angus Sired	86	58	67.4
Santa Gertrudis Sired	82	44	53.7
Cherry Research Station			
Angus Sired	34	22	64.7
Santa Gertrudis Sired	35	14	40
TOTAL			
Angus Sired	120	80	66.7
Santa Gertrudis Sired	117	58	49.6
TOTAL	237	138	58.2

2023 Data	Total AI Calves Born	Heifers	Bulls (steers)
Butner Beef Cattle Field Laboratory			
Angus Sired	53	20	33
Santa Gertrudis Sired	41	18	23

Despite heavier birth weights, there were no calving issues!



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NCSU Field Day

The Breeders of the Carolinas Field Day was hosted by the North Carolina State University Butner Beef Cattle Field Laboratory in Bahama, N.C. We had a nice turnout for a cool, sunny December morning. Attendees were greeted by Breeders of the Carolinas President Josh Bowman. He gave the crowd an update on the association and spoke about the upcoming Breeders of the Carolinas Sale.



Daniel Poole, Ph.D., discussed and gave updates on the ongoing Santa Gertrudis crossbreeding research project and was very encouraged about the results and data being collected. Gary Gregory spoke about the NC State Bull Test and its benefits to breeders. Next, Felipe Silva, Ph.D., spoke about the power of crossbreeding. Lunch was served and the group got to tour the beef farm and see the Santa Gertrudis-sired calves in the research project.

Working with the Carolina breeders is always enjoyable, and they are excited about hosting the upcoming Santa Gertrudis Breeders International Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, S.C., April 25-27. 🌂



ACTIVITY REPORT

Youth Activities Committee • Trai Stegall, Chair

The Youth Activities Committee met to select judges for the 2024 National Junior Santa Gertrudis Show (NJSGS), which will be June 16-22 in Little Rock, Ark. During the selection process, each committee member may nominate one or two judge prospects. This list, along with the candidates' resumes, are compiled and sent to committee members. After reviewing the nominees, committee members then rank each of the nominees by number, with 1 being their first choice, etc. The judge candidate with the lowest combined total ranking is selected to judge the purebred day. The judge with the next lowest combined total is selected to judge special classes. This is contingent on each judge's acceptance of our invitation to judge the show. This year, the NJSGS judges will be Jason Duggin of Calhoun, Ga., for purebred day and Kevin Jensen of Courtland, Kan., for special classes. Also selected was Emma Jumper of Little Rock, Ark., for showmanship. 🌂

EVENT CALENDAR

February

- 1 Premier Santa Gertrudis Association Sale Entry Deadline
- 13 Santa Gertrudis Show at the Dixie National Livestock Show & Rodeo, Jackson, Miss.
- 17 Wendt's Super Santa Sale, Online

March

- 1 Mid-Coast Santa Gertrudis Association International Super Sale, Houston, Texas
- 19 Reds to Die for Volume III, www.steerbidder.com
- 19 Texas Alliance Sale, Bloomington, Texas
- 23 Purple Reign III Sale, Magnolia, Ark.

April

- 5 Rocky Mountain Elite Cut Sale, Belen, N.M.
- 6 Red Hot Bull Sale, Belen, N.M.
- 6 Rocky Mountain Spring Runoff Sale, Belen, N.M.
- 13 Wiley Spring Bull Sale, Effie, La.
- 19-20 Santa Gertrudis Bluebonnet Classic Sale, Hallettsville, Texas
- 20 Crimson Classic Sale, Hanceville, Ala.
- 25-27 2024 SGBI Annual Meeting, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

May

- 1 NJSGS Ownership Deadline - All Other Classes
- 2-5 Premier Santa Gertrudis Association Sale, Annual Meeting & Junior Warm-Up Show, Gainesville, Texas
- 11 Breeders of the Carolinas Sale, Monroe, N.C.

June

- 10-13 Beef Improvement Federation Annual Symposium, Knoxville, Tenn.
- 16-27 National Junior Santa Gertrudis Show, Little Rock, Ark.

July

- TBD Kentucky National Show & Sale, Bowling Green, Ky.

September

- 13-14 District 6 Halted Helper Show & Sale, Corydon, Ind.

October

- 25 Tri Star Sale, Bloomington, Texas
- 26 Briggs Ranches Annual Bull and Commercial Female Sale, Bloomington, Texas

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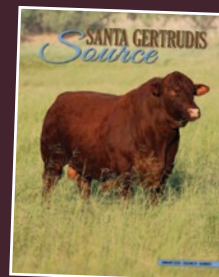
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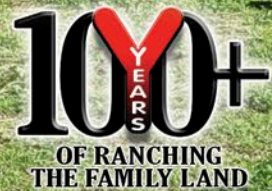
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