

**IBEP**

# INDIANA BEEF EVALUATION PROGRAM

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*S20-2*  
*06/16/20*

Attached is the 28-day summary for 32 bulls and 3 get-of-sire groups being evaluated in the 2020 Summer Test. Bulls were weighed on June 16 and their average weight was 821 lbs vs. 683 lbs on May 19, for a 28-day ADG of 3.16 lbs.

Bulls are doing well even though gain is just below the target of 3.25 lbs/day. Health issues have been minor with no lameness issues thus far amongst the group. All bulls were revaccinated, and Dr. Jerry Rusch and Dr. Ellen Jarvis collected blood for brucella retest on out-of-state bulls.

A couple bulls are struggling to shed their winter/calf hair coat. This could increase their susceptibility to heat stress and further compromise growth performance. For reference, we'd like to see mature cattle fully shed their winter hair coat by mid-June.

On the topic of hair shedding, if you've not done so already, now (mid-June) is a good time to assess the cows' ability to shed. The American Angus Association has a useful guide

([http://www.angus.org/Performance/documents/Hairshedding\\_Guidelines\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.angus.org/Performance/documents/Hairshedding_Guidelines_FINAL.pdf)).

This was adapted from the original publication on the ebeef.org website

([https://beef-cattle.extension.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2017-](https://beef-cattle.extension.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2017-1_Hair_shedding_scores_Arial_1.pdf)

[1\\_Hair\\_shedding\\_scores\\_Arial\\_1.pdf](https://beef-cattle.extension.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2017-1_Hair_shedding_scores_Arial_1.pdf)).

While the sire influences the bull's ability to shed as well, you may have to do a little more leg work on determining his shedding ability if he's in stud. Links to the articles are now on the IBEP web site, near the bottom of the "FAQ and Information" page.

Don't forget that registration numbers, weaning data, and final payment of \$250/bull are due on July 21. Sheets for the data are enclosed. If we already have your data, and everything on the sheets is correct, you don't need to return them. Otherwise, please get the data to us. You can return it by mail, fax (765-494-9346), email to [dlofgren@purdue.edu](mailto:dlofgren@purdue.edu), or a phone call (765-494-6439). Be sure to also get weaning data sent in to your breed association; most breeds use the weaning data to adjust the ultrasound scan data.

We have not yet determined the date for ultrasound scanning. It will likely be in early September. We'll let you know once we set the date.

Normally, we strongly encourage all owners to come to at least one weigh day or work day. While restrictions on group gathering remain in effect, we're hopeful we can work something out by the time the bulls are evaluated for structure and disposition, which will be on September 15. See the calendar below for the full schedule.

You are still welcome to come and view your bulls and encourage potential buyers to monitor and come view bulls as well; however, we ask that you or they contact the test station or Nick (812-279-4330) in advance.

If you ever have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us.

## Cattlemen's Calendar

*County beef cattle groups are encouraged to contact IBEP to volunteer (3-4 people) to help on weighdays/workdays shown below. Activities usually begin at 9:00 a.m. Bring a potential cooperater or bull buyer to give them a first-hand look at the bulls, facilities and the central bull testing program.*

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|-------------------------|----|---|
| <b>TUES., JULY 21</b>   | -- | Record 63-day weights. Adjusted 205-day data and registration numbers due. Final payment due.   |
| <b>TUES., AUGUST 18</b> | -- | Record 91-day weights.  |
| <b>TUES., SEPT. 15</b>  | -- | Evaluate bulls for structural soundness and disposition.  |
| <b>MON., SEPT. 21</b>   | -- | Record off-test weights; measure hip height and scrotal circumference; TB injection.  |
| <b>THURS., SEPT. 24</b> | -- | Breeding soundness evaluation; freeze brand; read TB test.  |
| <b>FRI., SEPT. 25</b>   | -- | Videotaping of sale bulls.  |
| <b>SAT., OCTOBER 17</b> | -- | 86 <sup>th</sup> IBEP Bull Sale and Springville Feeder Auction Association's Cow and Heifer Sale. Sales will be broadcast on DVAuction.com. |

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