



IBEP Indiana Beef Evaluation Program

Feldun Purdue Agriculture Center

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S22 – 2
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Last weeks combination of daily high's in the 90°F's and evening lows in the 80°F's coupled with 60% humidity or higher dealt not only beef cattle producers, but all livestock producers a major weather challenge to manage through. Circulating images on the internet of feedlot mortalities from heat stress emphasize how real and serious the heat stress episode was. Comparing data collected by the weather stations located on the Feldun Purdue Ag Center to the *Beef Cattle Temperature Humidity Chart* (<https://beef.unl.edu/cattle-handling-during-high-heat-index-webinar>) indicate beef cattle in the general area of the bull test station fluctuated between "Alert", "Danger" and "Emergency" on the THI chart from Monday until just after midnight on Saturday, June 18. Finally on Saturday morning, cattle had their first chance to release their heat load with several consecutive hours or temperatures at or less than 68°F.

None the less, all bulls were weighed and received their booster vaccination to protect against BVD Types 1 and 2, IBR, campylobacteriosis and five serovars of leptospirosis. Out of state bulls had a blood sample drawn to test for brucellosis with all testing negative. Bulls were brought out of bets starting just after 8:30 am and the last gate was chained shut just after 11:00 a.m. The 62 bulls averaged 898 lbs with an ADG of 3.05 lbs/day since the on-test weight. Projections used in the feed sheet had the group at 2.96 lbs/day. The spread in ADG was 2.39 lbs/day with the greatest ADG at 4.32 and the least at 1.93 lbs/day. Thirty-three bulls averaged 3.0 lbs per day or more. Going into the July weight, if we observe several more period of heat as we did last week, I would anticipate performance to remain the same at best. We'll continue to drain and scrub water's no less than twice per week. I wish bulls would spread out more than they do when in the barn as they have ample space. The majority of bulls are in the midst of still shedding their winter hair coat with a couple struggling to shed off.

A hand full of bulls gaining less than their projected weight were evaluated by Dr. Funnell and Dr. Rusch. None of the bulls evaluated were treated since lungs sounded good, no observed labored breathing and no fever, although the baseline normal rectal temperature for the day was 103.6°F. Many thanks to the board members, advisors and volunteers for coming and helping. There are some isolated cases of ringworm and a few bulls with warts. Bulls with warts were administered a third dose of wart vaccine.

Once bulls were weighed and re-penned the Summer IBEP Board of directors meeting was called to order at 11:12 am and adjourned at 2:39 pm with about a 15 minute recess for lunch. Several orders were listed on the agenda that set the stage for good, productive, discussion throughout.

Please see the reverse side of this page for a calendar of upcoming IBEP and Beef Cattle related activities. NOTE: 2022 Summer Test bulls will be scanned for carcass characteristics on **Tuesday, August 16, 2022.**

Cattlemen's Calendar

County beef cattle groups are encouraged to contact IBEP to volunteer (3-4 people) to help on a weigh or workday as listed below. Activities usually begin between 8:30 and 9:00 a.m. Bring a potential cooperator or bull buyer to give them a first-hand look at the bulls, facilities and the central testing program.

July 19, 2022	Summer Test 2022 – 63 Day Weight (Weight Only – Short day) Based on weather forecast, bulls may be weighed at first light.
July 29 to Aug. 21, 2022	Indiana State Fair Consider volunteering to work in the Hoosier Ribeye Tent
August 16, 2022	Summer Test 2022 – 91 Day Weight & Carcass Characteristics Scan
9/1/2022	Forage Management Workshop Location: Feldun Purdue Ag Center 8:00 AM to 4:15 PM "Workshop focuses on current relevant issues in forage production. Our specialists cover forage and weed species identification, nutrient management practices and forage cropping and rotation practices" Registration required and cost per person is \$111.00
9/7/2022	Indiana Beef Cattle Association Field Day Details to follow

Best Regards,



Nick Minton
Executive Secretary, Treasurer and Coordinator of the IBEP