Performance Matters

NRSP Data Release from Olsen Ranch

by ***Shane Bedwell***

The 2016-born calves at Olsen Ranch show strong carcass results.

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Below are the National Reference Sire Program (NRSP) results from 2016-born calves at Olsen Ranch in Harrisburg, Neb. Because of the American Hereford Association's (AHA) partnerships with various test herds like Olsen's, breeders can make better-informed decisions relative to traits of interest.

Ultimately the Association's goal is to identify young sires that can positively affect the marketplace and give seedstock and commercial breeders alike proof that Hereford genetics are profitable. Likewise, proven sires are evaluated in this test to further validate their values and to give the young sires comparison with the Hereford population.

2016 Olsen Ranch results

Printed in Table 3 are the expected progeny differences (EPDs) for sires used, along with the phenotypes of progeny evaluated in the test. Listed in Table 1 are intake and gain data for the test cattle, along with calculated feed conversion results. The adjusted feed-to-gain (F:G) ratio takes into account body weight.

The EPD profiles of the sires used reflect the phenotypes of progeny from the Olsen test and are from the Pan-America Cattle Evaluation (PACE) released on Jan. 15.

In summary, in Table 2, of the 218 evaluated on test, 95% of the cattle graded Choice or better and had an average yield grade of 3.4. Even more impressive, 58% of the cattle graded in the upper two-thirds of Choice.

On average, during the test period (74 days), the cattle consumed 20.1 lb. per day on a dry matter basis, gained 5.1 lb. per day and converted at 4:1.

It should be mentioned that at the start of the test period, weather conditions were extremely hot and dry which explain the suppressed intake of the steers. It's also important to note these steers are backgrounded for approximately seven months on a forage diet and are not fed any concentrates before being placed on feed. These two reasons help highlight the exceptional conversion during the test period. Regardless, all steers were handled the same, and the differences between sires are the important data to study.

All in all, there are some great bulls in this lineup that can move the breed forward — checking a lot of boxes when it comes to being profitable in the industry. I would encourage any commercial cattleman to contact the breeders of these sires about getting semen on bulls meeting his or her criteria.

For breeders interested in participating in the NRSP, please refer to the nomination form or visit *Hereford.org/NRSP*. Nominations are due March 1. HW

Table 1: 2016 Olsen feed efficiency

Sire name	Reg. no.	No. progeny	Avg. DMI	Rank	ADG	Rank	F:G	Rank	Adj. F:G	Rank
C 440P HOMETOWN 3203 ET	43386575	16	20.2	7	5.22	2	3.88	4	3.90	3
EFBEEF X651 TESTED A250	43440096	23	20.8	10	5.08	6	4.11	11	4.11	12
EFBEEF BR VALIDATED B413	43558667	15	20.9	11	5.00	9	4.18	13	4.17	13
HYALITE RESOURCE 331	43388415	19	19.4	4	4.95	10	3.93	5	3.96	5
DS BEEF 9059	41149734	11	19.2	3	4.84	13	3.98	8	4.08	10
KCF BENNETT X51 A561	43455213	18	18.7	2	4.91	11	3.80	2	3.85	2
KCF BENNETT ADDITION B262 ET	43500553	15	18.4	1	4.91	12	3.76	1	4.01	7
LOEWEN C&L 33N APOLLO A42 ET	43373567	11	20.4	8	5.14	4	3.99	9	4.03	8
NJW 33TB 100W TRUST 167Y	43214415	20	20.2	6	5.08	5	3.97	7	3.94	4
OR 3575 HUSKER N162 ET	43268578	12	20.6	9	5.31	1	3.87	3	3.70	1
R LEADER 6964	43500058	22	21.1	13	5.18	3	4.08	10	3.98	6
SHF BATES Z22 B30	43477541	16	19.9	5	5.03	8	3.95	6	4.09	11
WHITEHAWK 225 BEEFMAKER 595B	43460363	19	21.0	12	5.06	7	4.15	12	4.08	9

Table 2: 2016-born steer calves at Olsen Ranch

Sire name	No. progeny	BW ratio	WW ratio	YW ratio	No. harvested	HCW	HCW ratio	%Ch or Pr	Marb score	Marb ratio	REA	REA ratio	Fat	Fat ratio	CYG	CYG ratio
C 440P HOMETOWN 3203 ET	42	102	100	98	16	791	102%	100%	551	105%	12.4	100%	0.65	105%	3.6	104%
EFBEEF X651 TESTED A250	48	96	101	100	23	783	101%	96%	537	103%	12.1	97%	0.66	107%	3.7	107%
EFBEEF BR VALIDATED B413	27	97	103	101	15	770	99%	100%	648	124%	12.8	103%	0.68	109%	3.4	100%
HYALITE RESOURCE 331	62	100	97	102	19	767	99%	100%	521	100%	12.3	99%	0.57	92%	3.3	96%
DS BEEF 9059	37	105	102	98	11	760	98%	91%	456	87%	12.3	99%	0.51	82%	3.1	91%
KCF BENNETT X51 A561	46	105	98	97	18	742	96%	89%	490	94%	12.2	98%	0.58	94%	3.3	95%
KCF BENNETT ADDITION B262 ET	46	102	96	95	15	769	99%	80%	456	87%	12.4	100%	0.55	88%	3.2	94%
LOEWEN C&L 33N APOLLO A42 ET	33	100	101	100	11	768	99%	91%	484	93%	12.4	100%	0.56	91%	3.3	95%
NJW 33TB 100W TRUST 167Y	42	102	104	104	20	790	102%	100%	553	106%	12.4	100%	0.64	103%	3.5	103%
OR 3575 HUSKER N162 ET	37	98	102	103	12	854	110%	100%	583	112%	13.7	110%	0.72	116%	3.6	104%
R LEADER 6964	46	100	102	103	22	802	103%	95%	512	98%	12.4	100%	0.65	105%	3.6	105%
SHF BATES Z22 B30	44	97	101	95	17	722	93%	88%	483	93%	11.8	95%	0.59	96%	3.3	97%
WHITEHAWK 225 BEEFMAKER 595B	50	95	99	101	19	777	100%	95%	501	96%	12.4	100%	0.65	104%	3.5	102%

American Hereford Association National Reference Sire Program

Responsibilities of Test Herd:

- Select from nominated bulls
- Contact bull owner for semen shipping instructions
- Breed 55-60 cows at a random mating across genotypes
- Breed 30 cows to one reference sire that has been tested in previous years (at the cost of the test herd, semen and shipping at a commercial rate)
- Provide complete data on National Reference Sire Program (NRSP) forms
- Breeding data: Cow ID, specific breed makeup (based on percent), age of cow at breeding time, date bred and sire used
- Birth data: Calf ID, date of birth, weight and calving ease score
- Weaning data: Calf ID, date weaned and weight
- Interim data: Calf ID, date, weight
- Carcass data: Calf ID, carcass weight, marbling score, fat thickness, ribeye area, internal fat and yield grade
- Test herd must provide at least 55% conception rate
- Test herd must retain ownership or partnership at 50% or greater on cattle until they have been harvested

Test Herd Cost:

- All costs will be covered by test herd
- Test herd will pay for the reference sire semen for the 30 cows, and shipping semen will be priced at a commercial rate, data collection will be paid by test herd on all cattle

Responsibilities of Bull Owner:

- Nominate bulls for test sire
- Nominate bulls to American Hereford Association (AHA) by **March 1, 2018**
- **Furnish 75 straws of semen** and pay shipping cost to test herds
- Pay fees as required

Bull Owner Cost:

- Semen and shipment of semen
- Pay the test herd fee per bull tested when semen is shipped — contact Shane Bedwell for details

Responsibilities of AHA:

- Receive data and report all data back to bull owner and to test herd

AHA Cost:

There will be no cost to the test herd or the bull owner for the data reporting done by the AHA

Benefits of Test Sires:

- Obtaining high accuracy carcass expected progeny differences (EPDs)
- Obtaining performance data compared to other sires tested in herd contemporaries
- Opportunity to market semen as an NRSP reference sire, after nominated and selected
- Opportunity to test sires next to the top Hereford genetics in the breed

Table 3: EPDs for 2016 NRSP bulls tested at Olsen Ranch

Reg. no.	CE EPD	CE ACC	BW EPD	BW ACC	WW EPD	WW ACC	YW EPD	YW ACC	DMI EPD	DMI ACC	SC EPD	SC ACC	SCF EPD	SCF ACC	MM EPD	MM ACC	MG EPD	MCE EPD	MCE ACC	MCW EPD	MCW ACC	UDDR EPD	UDDR ACC	TEAT EPD	TEAT ACC	CWT EPD	CWT ACC	FAT EPD	FAT ACC	REA EPD	REA ACC	MARB EPD	MARB ACC	BMI	BII	CHB
43386575	-1.2	0.38	2.5	0.68	55	0.59	88	0.57	0.2	0.38	0.9	0.37	14.1	0.19	28	0.27	56	-10.3	0.25	98	0.35	1.2	0.44	1.2	0.45	78	0.47	0.105	0.47	0.52	0.46	0.59	0.48	25	23	32
43440096	9.4	0.44	0.0	0.8	64	0.71	98	0.68	0.4	0.5	1.4	0.47	15.4	0.19	24	0.26	56	9.6	0.23	72	0.36	1.6	0.47	1.4	0.46	76	0.58	0.095	0.55	0.33	0.57	0.54	0.57	26	24	30
43558667	4.1	0.35	0.7	0.70	63	0.58	103	0.57	0.5	0.41	1.1	0.33	17.4	0.14	26	0.2	57	6.7	0.17	62	0.31	1.5	0.39	1.4	0.39	78	0.49	0.075	0.45	0.97	0.46	1.11	0.46	31	30	35
43388415	2.5	0.47	3.1	0.83	62	0.73	105	0.70	0.0	0.41	0.7	0.5	21.3	0.15	21	0.26	51	5.3	0.22	104	0.34	1.4	0.46	1.5	0.45	59	0.50	0.005	0.49	0.52	0.50	0.40	0.49	32	28	31
41149734	5.8	0.44	2.5	0.90	44	0.85	69	0.86	0.1	0.74	1.2	0.59	13.5	0.38	13	0.73	35	4.4	0.49	90	0.68	1.4	0.78	1.3	0.80	65	0.78	-0.065	0.75	0.85	0.77	0.13	0.77	23	19	32
43455213	-0.8	0.38	5.1	0.73	66	0.64	106	0.62	-0.1	0.44	1.5	0.43	22	0.18	25	0.25	58	3.3	0.22	82	0.36	1.5	0.43	1.6	0.41	65	0.55	0.025	0.53	0.67	0.53	0.10	0.54	32	27	32
43500553	0.7	0.41	4.3	0.79	56	0.66	84	0.65	-0.2	0.4	1.0	0.39	19.5	0.15	20	0.19	47	2.1	0.19	90	0.32	1.5	0.42	1.6	0.43	74	0.50	0.095	0.49	1.06	0.48	-0.03	0.48	30	24	33
43373567	6.6	0.37	1.4	0.74	60	0.64	91	0.63	0.3	0.38	1.1	0.39	20.9	0.20	16	0.26	46	7.9	0.23	111	0.36	1.7	0.46	1.7	0.49	77	0.46	0.015	0.44	0.79	0.44	0.14	0.44	31	26	33
43214415	2.0	0.44	2.5	0.83	49	0.74	91	0.70	0.3	0.41	1.0	0.55	18.2	0.20	28	0.35	52	7.2	0.28	100	0.46	1.5	0.54	1.5	0.56	78	0.51	0.045	0.49	0.64	0.49	0.59	0.51	30	26	36
43268578	12.5	0.32	0.3	0.77	54	0.68	94	0.69	0.3	0.56	1.2	0.30	12.5	0.15	22	0.21	49	8.2	0.17	108	0.36	1.2	0.41	1.2	0.40	93	0.60	0.145	0.56	0.87	0.59	0.76	0.58	26	24	39
43500058	9.9	0.47	1.3	0.86	66	0.77	109	0.71	0.5	0.42	1.6	0.51	18.8	0.22	28	0.27	60	12.6	0.24	70	0.37	1.3	0.45	1.4	0.47	88	0.50	0.085	0.49	0.45	0.49	0.16	0.49	29	25	36
43477541	6.8	0.41	0.3	0.76	50	0.65	72	0.64	0.3	0.42	1.6	0.46	18.1	0.16	26	0.21	51	2.8	0.21	70	0.34	1.4	0.41	1.3	0.4	29	0.50	0.025	0.48	0.02	0.49	0.06	0.49	23	20	12
43460363	9.0	0.29	-1.7	0.69	52	0.58	86	0.57	0.2	0.41	0.9	0.35	18.2	0.09	26	0.13	52	7.6	0.11	65	0.28	1.5	0.36	1.3	0.36	82	0.51	0.065	0.48	0.71	0.49	0.21	0.50	29	24	35

2018 National Reference Sire Feedlot and Carcass Testing Program Nomination Form

Ranch Name _____ Contact person _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____ E-mail: _____

Test Bull Information: Name and Registration No. _____

Name and Registration No. _____

*I acknowledge that any information or samples I provide to the AHA or through AHA programs may be used by the AHA for any purpose. _____ Signature

*Send application by **March 1, 2018** to:*
American Hereford Association
Shane Bedwell
P.O. Box 014059
Kansas City, MO 64101-0059

For more information, visit *Hereford.org/nrsp* or contact Shane Bedwell at 816-842-3757 or sbedwell@hereford.org.