Performance Matters

Stahly NRSP Results Reported

by **Shane Bedwell**

Another year of successful sire testing at Stahly Ranch.

Shane Bedwell is the chief operating officer and director of breed improvement of the American Hereford Association. He can be reached at sbedwell@hereford.org.

Below are the National Reference Sire Program (NRSP) results from 2017-born calves at Stahly Ranch, Cavour, S.D. Mike and Judy Stahly, along with their family, have been a part of the NRSP since 1999. Each year, Mike selects three sires to use in his program — one of these sires will also be used in the Olsen Ranch NRSP herd to link data and to accurately compare young and proven sires.

Because of the American Hereford Association's (AHA) partnerships with various test herds like Stahly's, breeders can make better-informed decisions relative to traits of interest. Ultimately our goal is to identify young sires that can positively affect the marketplace and can give seedstock and commercial breeders alike proof Hereford genetics are profitable. Likewise, this test evaluates proven sires to further validate their values and compares young sires with the Hereford population.

Table 1 displays the expected progeny differences (EPDs) for sires used, along with the phenotypes of progeny evaluated in the test. These data and the rest of the phenotypes will be used in the Pan-America Cattle Evaluation (PACE). Birth, weaning and yearling data have already been added to the sire profiles, as shown in Table 2. The carcass data will be added to the system and will be reflected in the genetic evaluation that was released Aug. 20, 2018. I encourage you to evaluate the changes in accuracy of the each carcass trait before and after the carcass data are added.

In most cases, the phenotypic data aligned very well, but not perfectly, with the sire EPDs — this is not out of line. It is important to remember EPDs are the best indicators of potential performance, and we can only discover genetic potential, particularly of young sires, when progeny data are added.

In summary, the 42 cattle evaluated on test graded 79 percent Choice and had an average yield grade of 3.9. This is a little past optimum but falls within industry standards, especially considering the kill weight of the cattle.

Finally, the AHA Annual Meeting and Conference, Oct. 26-28, in Kansas City, Mo., is right around the corner, and I encourage you to attend this year's educational seminars. I would like to address a common misconception about the Annual Meeting — that only delegates can attend — and reassure you this could not be further from the truth. On Friday morning you will have the opportunity to tour the new AHA headquarters and to enjoy fellowship with our staff. The afternoon will offer four educational seminars to showcase services that can benefit your operation.

I look forward to seeing all of you this year in Kansas City. HW

Table 1: 2017-born calves at Stahly

Reg. No.	Sire Name	No. head	BW ratio	WW ratio	YW ratio	No. head harvested	HCW avg.	HCW ratio	BF avg.	BF ratio	REA avg.	REA ratio	Yield Grade avg.	Yield Grade ratio	MB avg.	MB ratio	% Choice
43500553	KCF Bennett Addition B262 ET	35	102	99	101	13	946	101	0.71	102	14.3	103	3.8	98	SM 50	97	77
43569919	REED 002X Complete 4C ET	34	96	100	98	15	913	98	0.68	97	13.6	99	3.8	98	SM 40	94	73
43586943	Churchill Influence 575C	31	102	100	101	14	944	101	0.69	99	13.6	99	4.0	102	MT 10	109	86

Table 2: EPDs of Hereford bulls used at Stahly (as of 8/13/18)

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	UDDER EPD	UDDER ACC	TEAT EPD	TEAT ACC	CWT EPD	CWT ACC	FAT EPD	FAT ACC	REA EPD	REA ACC	MARB EPD	MARB ACC	BMI	BII	CHB
43500553	2.4	0.41	4.1	0.80	54	0.70	82	0.70	-0.3	0.41	1.0	0.49	19.5	0.18	20	0.22	47	3.5	0.20	84	0.32	1.5	0.46	1.7	0.46	74	0.51	0.095	0.50	1.06	0.49	-0.04	0.51	30	24	33
43569919	10.4	0.40	-0.6	0.63	55	0.54	82	0.53	-0.1	0.17	1.3	0.35	17.7	0.18	29	0.23	57	8.9	0.21	94	0.30	1.3	0.42	1.4	0.41	72	0.20	0.015	0.25	0.53	0.20	0.00	0.21	27	23	33
43586943	5.6	0.34	4.1	0.63	65	0.53	104	0.55	0.2	0.17	1.2	0.44	14.5	0.11	17	0.17	50	6.1	0.15	118	0.29	1.2	0.37	1.1	0.38	82	0.21	0.035	0.28	0.75	0.22	0.36	0.23	26	24	37