

by **Trey Befort**

Feeding Cattle; Collecting Data

The 2021 feedout programs, organized by the American Hereford Association (AHA), have been completed with all cattle harvested in June. This year, the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) Fed Steer Shootout and the Hereford Feedout Program were both held at HRC Feed Yards in Scott City, Kan., and all cattle were harvested through the U.S. Premium Beef program at National Beef Packing Company.

Retaining ownership, gaining knowledge

Looking toward fall planning and preparation for preconditioning and weaning, I encourage anyone interested in learning about the quality of their genetics and herd health program to participate in these programs. The marketplace is becoming more competitive and higher feed costs are forcing stockers, backgrounders and cattle feeders to place increased focus on healthy cattle with high performance potential. Feedout programs like these provide a great opportunity to benchmark performance and make improvements if needed. These programs also provide producers valuable information to have on hand at sale time for prospective buyers.

Consider retaining ownership, rather than marketing calves at or after weaning. Though retained ownership can seem intimidating, feedyard managers are always available and happy to sit down and walk you through the process and outline its benefits. Having a performance benchmark allows for better, data-based decisions when developing marketing and risk management plans, and these feedout programs are a great platform to gain that information.

Whether you are interested in participating in the AHA feedout programs or working with a feedyard on your own, you can gain knowledge that sets you apart as a progressive producer. Below is general information about the 2022 AHA and NJHA feedout program opportunities. Additional information will be provided as we get into the fall. I encourage interested participants to also look closely at the recommended preconditioning protocol and contact us anytime with questions. **HW**

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NJHA Fed Steer Shootout	
Performance Averages	
Head Harvested	124
In Weight	738
Out Weight	1408
Days on Feed	177
Average Daily Gain	3.91
Carcass Averages	
Hot Carcass Weight	899
Dressing Percentage	63.9%
Ribeye Area (in. ²)	15.0
Back Fat (in.)	0.70
Marbling Score	418
Quality Grade	
Prime	0%
Choice	63%
Select	36%
No-Roll	1%
Yield Grade	
1	7%
2	34%
3	46%
4	13%
5	0%
Breed Type	
Hereford	60%
Hereford x Angus	33%
Hereford x Red Angus	6%

Hereford Feedout Program	
Performance Averages	
Head Harvested	151
In Weight	726
Out Weight	1388
Days on Feed	177
Average Daily Gain	3.71
Carcass Averages	
Hot Carcass Weight	897
Dressing Percentage	64.6%
Ribeye Area (in. ²)	15.3
Back Fat (in.)	0.66
Marbling Score	458
Quality Grade	
Prime	3%
Choice	63%
Select	33%
No-Roll	1%
Yield Grade	
1	14%
2	42%
3	33%
4	9%
5	1%
Breed Type	
Hereford	67%
Hereford x Angus	8%
Hereford x Red Angus	15%
Other	10%



2022 CONTEST ENTRY DEADLINE
NOVEMBER 1, 2021

2022 CONTEST DELIVERY DATE
DECEMBER 11 - 15, 2021
HRC FEED YARDS - SCOTT CITY, KANSAS

PRE-DELIVERY PROTOCOL:

- Weaned 45+ days
- 2 rounds of vaccinations (MLV) - specific protocol available





ENTER & REVIEW GUIDLINES:
Hereford.org/youth/njha-fed-steer-shootout

Powered by BioZyme Inc.'s Feed the Future program, the NJHA Fed Steer Shootout is an industry-leading opportunity for NJHA members to gain invaluable industry education and experience. Contestants will collect feed yard performance and carcass data while gaining a broad knowledge of the cattle feeding and packing industries through a comprehensive educational contest.

HEREFORD FEEDOUT PROGRAM

AMERICAN HEREFORD ASSOCIATION

ENROLLMENT DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2021
DELIVERY TO HRC FEED YARDS: DECEMBER 11 - 15, 2021



PROVE THE WORTH OF YOUR GENETICS!

- Maximize your profit potential
- Improve carcass EPD accuracy
- Expand marketing avenues
- Gain access to the U.S. Premium Beef® grid
- Market into the Certified Hereford Beef® brand

CONTACT INFORMATION
FED STEER SHOOTOUT & FEEDOUT PROGRAM

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PROGRAM GUIDELINES

- Groups of 5 head (min.) per producer
- Weaned 45+ days
- 2 rounds of vaccinations (MLV) - specific protocol available upon request
- Financing options available