

Balanced Excellence

National Reference Sire Program continues identifying promising new sires.



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The American Hereford Association (AHA) National Reference Sire Program (NRSP) and its partnership with various test herds enable Hereford breeders to make better informed decisions relative to traits of interest. Ultimately, the AHA's goal with the NRSP is to identify young sires that can positively affect the marketplace, giving seedstock and commercial breeders proof that Hereford genetics are profitable. Likewise, proven sires are evaluated in this test to further validate their values, providing more reliable data for comparing young sires to the Hereford population.

Olsen Ranches at Harrisburg, Neb., has been a valued cornerstone NRSP partner for 24 years. Below are NRSP results from 2021-born calves at Olsen Ranches. The Olsen

Ranches cow base for the NRSP is a commercial Hereford herd.

2021 results

You will find the phenotypic averages by sire group in Table 1 for dry matter intake (DMI), average daily gain (ADG) and feed to gain (F:G). Table 2 includes complete performance results from birth to harvest by sire group. It is important to note two distinct sire groups were analyzed separately, as the first-calf heifers were managed differently from the mature cows. Consequently, two separate contemporary groups were formed, so data should only be compared within each group.

Table 3 showcases sire ranks by measured phenotypic trait during the test. There are three distinct categories (divisions) highlighted by different colors representing the top five sires in each category. The categories are Growth Total (BW, WW, YW), Feed Total (DMI, ADG, F:G) and Carcass Total (HCW, REA, BF and MARB).

A simple ranking by trait was conducted based on the number of the bulls in the test, in order to provide an objective ranking. The most favorable sire for a trait received a score of 1, the second most favorable sire earned a score of 2 (golf score) and so on. The calculated sum for each category identifies the top-ranking sires within this test. There were six bulls highlighted in the growth category due to a tie for fifth. Notice that several of the sires ranked among the top of all three categories. Hopefully, this helps you zero in specific bulls and traits of interest that you can use to improve your operation. Look at pages 30-31 for a short description of each bull and a summary of his test performance. There is a QR code for each bull that you can scan to see individual animal details (in the new MyHerd search tool) including pedigree, expected

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Table 1: Efficiency Results

Reg. No.	Sire Name	No. Progeny	DMI	DMI Ratio	ADG	ADG Ratio	F:G	F:G Ratio
Bulls used on heifers								
43956196	RRLCC X651U201 Sir Catalyst ET	12	27.53	100	3.56	107	7.83	94
44021973	WLKR JM Guide 722 333 960G ET	8	28.36	104	3.32	100	8.70	104
43911639	FTF Relevant 831F	18	27.34	100	3.18	95	8.71	104
43268575	OR 3575 Husker N151 ET	11	26.17	96	3.26	98	8.26	99
Bulls used on cows								
44014184	JDH AH Benton 8G ET	17	23.93	97	4.37	107	5.52	91
43847198	EFBeef C609 Resolute E158 ET	18	24.30	99	4.01	98	6.09	100
43898290	EFBeef D876 Cost Cutter F255	19	22.99	94	4.14	101	5.55	92
44054046	SR Sierra 959G ET	20	25.45	104	4.17	102	6.15	102
44010158	CL 1 Domino 942G	16	25.66	105	4.30	105	6.03	100
44042074	Green JCS Makers Mark 229G ET	12	23.17	94	4.28	104	5.51	91
43268578	OR 3575 Husker N162 ET	10	24.68	101	4.02	98	6.32	104
44003325	SHF Gallagher E009 G011 ET	20	24.16	98	4.06	99	5.99	99
43894683	EFBeef A250 Tested F225	14	24.43	100	3.67	90	6.85	113
43950428	UPS Endure 8474 ET	21	25.74	105	4.11	100	6.30	104
43998376	Loewen CMF Mendel 7G	16	24.21	99	4.09	100	5.95	98
43859659	JW B716 Devout 18051	18	24.70	101	4.06	99	6.16	102
43986389	CMF Ernst Power Broker 405F	15	25.42	104	4.03	98	6.39	105

Table 2: Performance Results

Reg. No.	Sire Name	No. Progeny	BW Ratio	WW Ratio	YW Ratio	No. Harvested	HCW	HCV Ratio	REA	REA Ratio	BF	BF Ratio	MARB	MARB Ratio	% Choice	% Upper 2/3s Ch
Bulls used on heifers																
43956196	RRLLC X651U201 Sir Catalyst ET	35	98	99	98	12	829	101	13.3	102	0.69	102	494	107	100	33
44021973	WLKR JM Guide 722 333 960G ET	16	103	103	104	8	865	106	13.2	102	0.74	110	492	107	100	50
43911639	FTF Relevant 831F	48	92	102	100	18	802	98	13.0	100	0.65	96	435	94	67	17
43268575	OR 3575 Husker N151 ET	34	104	98	99	12	799	98	12.7	98	0.65	96	432	94	58	8
Bulls used on cows																
44014184	JDH AH Benton 8G ET	47	102	103	104	17	860	105	14.3	106	0.57	94	479	93	88	59
43847198	EFBeef C609 Resolute E158 ET	45	102	105	100	18	817	99	13.7	101	0.64	105	572	111	100	78
43898290	EFBeef D876 COST Cutter F255	55	102	98	97	20	804	98	13.4	99	0.55	90	516	100	90	55
44054046	SR Sierra 959G ET	47	96	100	102	22	845	103	13.6	100	0.72	120	497	96	82	50
44010158	CL 1 Domino 942G	51	103	101	102	17	819	100	13.0	96	0.61	100	513	99	88	47
44042074	Green JCS Makers Mark 229G ET	40	101	99	97	12	809	99	13.6	101	0.62	102	476	92	100	33
43268578	OR 3575 Husker N162 ET	35	99	99	102	12	849	103	14.0	103	0.79	130	547	106	100	64
44003325	SHF Gallagher E009 G011 ET	48	98	97	98	20	815	99	13.2	98	0.58	97	528	102	95	60
43894683	EFBeef A250 Tested F225	48	98	100	101	14	802	98	13.7	101	0.56	92	535	103	85	54
43950428	UPS Endure 8474 ET	54	105	101	102	25	866	105	14.3	105	0.64	105	501	97	92	48
43998376	Loewen CMF Mendel 7G	46	98	96	97	17	787	96	12.8	94	0.53	88	529	102	94	59
43859659	JW B716 Devout 18051	39	106	95	100	20	795	97	13.4	99	0.53	88	516	100	95	55
43986389	CMF Ernst Power Broker 405F	45	96	99	98	19	794	96	13.2	98	0.58	91	506	100	93	55

Table 3: Sire Rank by Trait

Reg. No.	Sire Name	BW Rank	WW Rank	YW Rank	Growth Total	DMI Rank	ADG Rank	F:G Rank	Feed Total	HCW Rank	REA Rank	BF Rank	MARB Rank	Carcass Total
Bulls used on heifers														
43956196	RRLLC X651U201 Sir Catalyst ET	2	3	4	9	3	1	1	5	2	1	3	1	7
44021973	WLKR JM Guide 722 333 960G ET	3	1	1	5	4	2	3	9	1	2	4	2	9
43911639	FTF Relevant 831F	1	2	2	5	2	4	4	10	3	3	2	3	11
43268575	OR 3575 Husker N151 ET	4	4	3	11	1	3	2	6	4	4	1	4	13
Bulls used on cows														
44014184	JDH AH Benton 8G ET	8	2	1	11	3	1	2	6	2	1	5	12	20
43847198	EFBeef C609 Resolute E158 ET	10	1	7	18	6	12	7	25	6	4	10	1	21
43898290	EFBeef D876 Cost Cutter F255	9	10	12	31	1	5	3	9	9	9	3	6	27
44054046	SR Sierra 959G ET	1	5	4	10	11	4	8	23	4	7	12	11	34
44010158	CL 1 Domino 942G	11	3	2	16	12	2	6	20	5	12	8	8	33
44042074	Green JCS Makers Mark 229G ET	7	9	11	27	2	3	1	6	8	6	9	13	36
43268578	OR 3575 Husker N162 ET	6	8	5	19	8	11	11	30	3	3	13	2	21
44003325	SHF Gallagher E009 G011 ET	3	11	10	24	4	8	5	17	7	10	7	5	29
43894683	EFBeefA250 Tested F225	5	6	6	17	7	13	13	33	10	5	4	3	22
43950428	UPS Endure 8474 ET	12	4	3	19	13	6	10	29	1	2	11	10	24
43998376	Loewen CMF Mendel 7G	4	12	13	29	5	7	4	16	13	13	2	4	32
43859659	JW B716 Devout 18051	13	13	8	34	9	9	9	27	11	8	1	7	27
43986389	CMF Ernst Power Broker 405F	2	7	9	18	10	10	12	32	12	11	6	9	38

Top 5 Growth (Tie for 6th)

Top 5 Feed

Top 5 Carcass

Bulls used on heifers

Scan the QR code to learn more about each bull.



RRLCC X651U201 Sir Catalyst ET

Time tested pedigree with CE, SCF, UDDR, MARB, BMI and BII being in the top 1% of the breed. His sire group ranked the best for F:G and end-product merit in the heifer group. Homozygous polled.



WLKR JM Guide 722 333 960G ET

Son of the famed "Carcass Queen" cow and by F Final Test 722, plus SCF, UDDR, TEAT, BMI and BII top 1% of the breed. No. 1 growth and carcass weight sire in the heifer group. Homozygous polled.



FTF Relevant 831F

Homozygous polled son of EF Beef TFL U208 Tested X651 ET with CE, BW, MCE, UDDR in the top 1% of the breed. No. 1 BW sire in the in the heifer group.



OR 3575 Husker N151 ET

Served as the reference sire in the heifer group. N151 is a trait leader for CE, BW, SCF, MCE, MCW, MARB and all the indexes. His sire group excelled at DMI and BF as they ranked No. 1 in the heifer group.

Bulls used on cows

Scan the QR code to learn more about each bull.



JDH AH Benton 8G ET

Son of the potent 45C donor, Benton and his flush brothers were sought after sale features in the 2020 Atkins/Delaney sale. Benton has gone on to be a proven trait leader for WW, YW, SC, MM, UDDR, TEAT, CW, REA, MARB and all the indexes. His sire group mostly dominated across the board in the cow group with him being the only sire to make the top five in each category.



EFBeef C609 Resolute E158 ET

E158 is maternal sib to EFBeef TFL U208 Tested X651 ET and out of EFBeef Resolute CEO, he's homozygous polled and a proven trait leader for CE, SC, SCF, UDDR, TEAT, CW, REA, MARB and all the indexes. His progeny were the high marbling sire group at the Olsen test with 78% grading upper two-thirds choice and higher! He was one of the reference sires in the cow group.



EFBeef D876 Cost Cutter F255

Cost Cutter lived up to his name, with his sire group excelling in the on-feed portion of the test. His sire group ranked No. 1 in intake but still gained well, allowing his calves to be in the top three for F:G. He's one of the few bulls in the breed with a -0.3 DMI EPD and an above 100 YW. He's homozygous polled and out of a full brother to EFBeef BR Validated B413. Plus, consider his dam. She was born in 2009!



SR Sierra 959G ET

Son of NJW Long Haul 36E ET and a young Churchill donor working well for the Stuber program. His sire group was the best in the BW YW spread growth division ranking first. 959G is in the top 1% of the breed for CE, SC, SCF, BMI and BII.



Bulls used on cows (cont.)

Scan the QR code to learn more about each bull.



CL 1 Domino 942G

Son of CL 1 Dominette 664D 1ET and by CL 1 Domino 7131E 1ET, who has a nursing ratio of 101.6. 942G is trait leader for SC, CW, MARB and all the indexes. His sire group came to the top in terms of growth performance throughout the test.



Green JCS Makers Mark 229G ET

Makers Mark is a homozygous polled son of Boyd 31Z Blueprint 6153 out of the famous Mercedes donor. He's in the top 1% of the breed for CE, UDDR and TEAT. Just as impressive, his sire group performed outstanding in the on-feed portion of the Olsen test, with them being tied for the top score. Plus, his sire group graded 100% Choice.



OR 3575 Husker N162 ET

N162 served as the other reference sire in the cow group and stayed true to form. His sire group is always at the top in terms of end-product merit. He's a trait leader for CE, BW, SC, M, CW, REA, MARB and all the indexes.



SHF Gallagher E009 G011 ET

Gallagher is a homozygous polled son of SHF Eagle Eye 001A E009 and a KCF Bennett Revolution X51 daughter that is a donor in the Shaw Cattle Co. program. His sire group ranked in the top five for the on-feed portion of the Olsen test and graded 60% upper two-thirds Choice and higher. MARB and CHB are in the top 1% of the breed.



EFBeef A250 Tested F225

Homozygous polled son of EFBeef X651 Tested A250 out of a EFBeef TFL U208 Tested X651 ET daughter. His sire group made the top five categories for BW-YW spread as well as end-product merit. Top 1% for MARB and all the indexes.



UPS Endure 8474 ET

Son of the famous 1353 donor cow from the Upstream Ranch program and by NJW 79Z Z311 Endure 173D ET. 8474's sire group rang the bell for HCW and REA. Accordingly, CW and REA are in the top 1% of the breed. Plus, SCF and all the indexes are also in the top 1%.



Loewen CMF Mendel 7G

A homozygous polled son of KCF Bennett Devout B716 ET whose sire group went 59% upper two-thirds Choice and higher and made the top five in the on-feed portion of the Olsen test. SCF, BMI and BII are in the top 1% of the breed.



JW B716 Devout 18051

Also a homozygous polled son of KCF Bennett Devout B716 ET that is a trait leader for WW, YW, SC, SCF, M, MCE, MARB and all the indexes. His sire group ranked No. 1 for backfat.



CMF Ernst Power Broker 405F

A homozygous polled son of R Leader 6964 and out of a Gerber Anodyne 001A daughter that is off the charts on her performance pedigree. His sire group ranked in the top five for the BW-YW spread growth division.

progeny differences (EPDs) and progeny information.

Table 4 highlights the top five sires whose sire groups graded the highest for the upper two-thirds of the USDA Choice quality grade (Premium Choice) and higher. I ran a correlation between MARB EPD and MARB rank of sires to see how well the MARB EPD was performing. The correlations between the two was a strong 0.76. Even so,

you will see the percentage Choice doesn't necessarily follow along. Some bulls more consistently produce the percentage of Choice-grading calves, suggested by their marbling scores. Keep in mind, the cow base in this NRSP test; the Olsens have done a remarkable job of focusing on marbling for some time.

Keep focusing on the traits that your customers need and keep them sound! **HW**

Table 4: Bulls Used on Cows

Reg. No.	Sire Name	% Upper 2/3s Ch
43847198	EFBeef C609 Resolute E158 ET	78
43268578	OR 3575 Husker N162 ET	64
44003325	SHF Gallagher E009 G011 ET	60
44014184	JDH AH Benton 8G ET	59
43998376	Loewen CMF Mendel 7G	59