Performance Matters

Carcass Quality Plus Lots More

by Shane Bedwell



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The American Hereford Association (AHA) National Reference Sire Program (NRSP) — the only one of its kind continues to open gates of new opportunity by identifying young sires that can positively affect the marketplace, giving seedstock and commercial breeders proof that Hereford genetics are profitable. Proven sires are also evaluated in this progeny test to further validate their performance values and provide more reliable data for comparing young sires to the Hereford population.

The following results are from the 2022-born calves at Olsen Ranches in Harrisburg, Neb. Their cow base used for the NRSP is a commercial Hereford herd. This is the Olsen's 25th anniversary of providing phenomenal results. Breeders can make more accurate decisions, relative to traits of interest, because of AHA's partnership with test herds like Olsen's.

2022 results

These cattle absolutely blew the doors off when it comes to quality grade. The entire group of nearly 300 steers —

Таріс	1: Efficiency Results			1				
Reg. No.	Sire Name	No. Progeny	DMI	DMI Ratio	ADG	ADG Ratio	Adj. F:G	Adj. F:G Ratio
Bulls used	on cows							
43268578	OR 3575 Husker N162 ET	7	26.6	102	4.50	105	5.99	98
43624399	Schu-Lar Conversion 501 ET	24	24.7	95	4.08	95	6.32	103
44001031	Stardance M9080 ET	20	24.7	95	4.15	97	6.22	101
44015253	Spearhead 4 Star General	16	27.1	104	4.23	99	6.31	103
44021997	Birdwell Vanguard 5022 9337	9	23.7	91	3.96	93	6.32	103
44024323	3S G Man Sullivan 226Z 915S	13	25.0	96	4.16	97	6.07	99
44053370	Whitehawk Arthur 240G ET	19	26.0	100	4.41	103	5.73	93
44097651	Innisfail Trademark 1939 ET	15	27.9	107	4.33	101	6.48	106
44108010	CMF 1720 Gold Rush 569G ET	15	28.3	108	4.56	107	6.06	99
44123599	SHF Haviland F158 H028	17	25.7	98	4.15	97	6.34	103
44178105	RST Final Print 0016	12	26.5	102	4.41	103	5.87	96
44189719	Wirruna Matty M288	13	27.1	104	4.28	100	6.1	99
44198621	Churchill Roughneck 0280H ET	15	26.0	100	4.42	103	5.9	96
44208622	EFBeef A250 Tested H627 ET	4	27.3	105	4.62	108	5.82	95

primarily straight Hereford — graded 50% Prime. You read it correctly — 50% Prime. The entire group graded 100% Choice and Prime. These are the most impressive results I've seen during my years with AHA. This is a major win for the breed and a great testament to Olsen Ranches' steadfast pursuit to make the breed better. The results are also a compliment to the breeders behind these impressive sires.

Listed in Table 1 you will find the phenotypic averages by sire group for dry matter intake (DMI), average daily gain (ADG) and adjusted feed to gain (Adj. F:G). Table 1 only includes feed test data from the sires used on the cows, as feed intake from the heifer group was not available at the time of publication.

Table 2 includes complete performance results from birth to harvest by sire group. It is important to note that two distinct sire groups were analyzed separately, as the firstcalf heifers were managed differently from the mature cows; consequently, two separate contemporary groups were formed, and data should only be compared within group.

Table 3 showcases the sire ranks by the measured phenotypic trait during the test. There are three distinct categories (divisions) that are highlighted by different colors representing the top five sires in each category. The categories are Growth Total (BW, WW and YW), Feed Total (DMI, ADG and Adj. F:G) and Carcass Total (HCW, REA, BF and MARB). For objective evaluation, bulls were ranked for each trait based on the number of bulls in the test. The most favorable sire for a trait received a score of 1, the second most favorable sire earned a score of 2 and so on (golf score). Sums for each category were then calculated to identify the top-ranking sires within this test.

There are six bulls highlighted in the growth and carcass division, as *continued on page 23...*

Table	2: Performance Resul	ts							-							
Reg. No.	Sire Name	No. Progeny	BW Ratio	WW Ratio	YW Ratio	No. Harvested	HCW	HCW Ratio	REA	REA Ratio	BF	BF Ratio	MARB	MARB Ratio	% Upper 2/3s Ch	% Prime
Bulls used	Bulls used on heifers															
43268575	OR 3575 Husker N151 ET	21	100	96	98	11	942	99	13.2	93	0.93	115	759	110	100	73
44008772	SPF B413 Guaranteed 11G	36	102	101	101	19	969	102	14.5	102	0.74	93	677	98	95	58
44109338	Whitehawk PR2 Ring Master 396H	40	102	99	99	19	952	100	13.9	98	0.81	101	701	101	94	47
44195289	OR L574 Pioneer B990	50	95	101	100	22	941	99	14.6	103	0.79	98	667	96	91	36
Bulls used on cows																
43268578	OR 3575 Husker N162 ET	26	101	100	105	7	884	103	14.2	103	0.70	101	718	100	100	43
43624399	Schu-Lar Conversion 501 ET	36	100	100	98	25	804	94	13.3	97	0.71	103	672	94	92	40
44001031	Stardance M9080 ET	38	95	95	96	21	844	99	13.4	98	0.72	105	807	113	100	86
44015253	Spearhead 4 Star General	30	101	106	102	16	882	103	14.3	104	0.67	97	685	96	100	44
44021997	Birdwell Vanguard 5022 9337	40	99	100	94	8	792	92	14.4	105	0.60	88	689	96	100	50
44024323	3S G Man Sullivan 226Z 915S	30	98	102	98	12	826	96	13.3	97	0.67	97	702	98	100	42
44053370	Whitehawk Arthur 240G ET	44	106	99	103	19	885	103	13.6	99	0.70	101	702	98	100	53
44097651	Innisfail Trademark 1939 ET	38	101	99	101	15	839	98	13.8	100	0.61	89	761	106	100	80
44108010	CMF 1720 Gold Rush 569G ET	33	101	101	105	16	900	105	14.0	102	0.74	107	715	100	100	56
44123599	SHF Haviland F158 H028	35	97	99	99	15	843	98	13.5	98	0.71	103	792	111	100	73
44178105	RST Final Print 0016	40	100	101	104	11	879	103	14.2	103	0.61	89	611	85	82	18
44189719	Wirruna Matty M288	38	104	105	104	14	897	105	13.9	101	0.69	100	749	105	100	57
44198621	Churchill Roughneck 0280H ET	41	97	96	101	17	869	101	13.6	99	0.74	107	674	94	93	24
44208622	EFBeef A250 Tested H627 ET	13	107	101	105	4	872	102	13.8	100	0.69	100	707	99	100	50

Reg. No.	Sire Name	BW Rank	WW Rank	YW Rank	Growth Total	DMI Rank	ADG Rank	Adj. F:G Rank	Feed Total	HCW Rank	REA Rank	BF Rank	MARB Rank	Carcass Total
Bulls used	on heifers													
43268575	OR 3575 Husker N151 ET	2	4	4	10					3	4	4	1	12
44008772	SPF B413 Guaranteed 11G	3	2	1	6					1	2	1	3	7
44109338	Whitehawk PR2 Ring Master 396H	4	3	3	10					2	3	3	2	10
44195289	OR L574 Pioneer B990	1	1	2	5					4	1	2	4	11
Bulls used	on cows													
43268578	OR 3575 Husker N162 ET	8	7	1	16	9	3	5	17	4	3	9	5	21
43624399	Schu-Lar Conversion 501 ET	6	8	11	25	2	13	11	26	13	13	10	13	49
44001031	Stardance M9080 ET	1	14	13	28	3	11	9	23	9	12	12	1	34
44015253	Spearhead 4 Star General	9	1	7	17	10	9	10	29	5	2	5	11	23
44021997	Birdwell Vanguard 5022 9337	5	9	14	28	1	14	12	27	14	1	1	10	26
44024323	3S G Man Sullivan 226Z 915S	4	3	12	19	4	10	7	21	12	14	4	9	39
44053370	Whitehawk Arthur 240G ET	13	10	6	29	6	5	1	12	3	10	8	8	29
44097651	Innisfail Trademark 1939 ET	10	11	8	29	13	7	14	34	11	7	2	3	23
44108010	CMF 1720 Gold Rush 569G ET	11	4	2	17	14	2	6	22	1	5	14	6	26
44123599	SHF Haviland F158 H028	2	12	10	24	5	12	13	30	10	11	11	2	34
44178105	RST Final Print 0016	7	5	4	16	8	6	3	17	6	4	3	14	27
44189719	Wirruna Matty M288	12	2	5	19	11	8	8	27	2	6	7	4	19
44198621	Churchill Roughneck 0280H ET	3	13	9	25	7	4	4	15	8	9	13	12	42
44208622	EFBeef A250 Tested H627 ET	14	6	3	23	12	1	2	15	7	8	6	7	28

National Reference NRSP Sire Program

Bulls used on heifers

Scan the QR code to learn more about each bull.



OR 3575 Husker N151 ET

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

SPF B413 Guaranteed 11G

Son of EFBeef BR Validated B413 and out of a Churchill Sensation 028X cow. The 11G sire group performed the best for end-product merit in the heifer group. He also offers SCF and UDDR in the top 2% of the breed.

Whitehawk PR2 Ring Master 396H

Son of Boyd 31Z Blueprint 6153 who offers a lot of maternal excellence with SC, SCF, UDDR and TEAT with the female indexes in the top 3% of the breed or higher. Plus, check out what his sire group did on MARB.



OR L574 Pioneer B990

This bull's pedigree is the epitome of the Olsen program: L574, N162, Advance 3575N, Ram Dominator, A250 and SHF Progress P20. There's no mistake he delivered as the spread bull in the heifer group. Elite top 2% CE and REA in the top 10% of the breed, plus many of the maternal traits in the top 20% of the breed or higher.

Bulls used on cows

Scan the QR code to learn more about each bull.



OR 3575 Husker N162 ET

N162 served as one of the reference sires in the cow group, and like before, his sire group put up some great figures. He is a trait leader for CE, BW, SC, MM, CW, REA, MARB and CHB.



Schu-Lar Conversion 501 ET

Conversion served as the other reference sire in the cow group. He is a trait leader for UDDR, TEAT, REA and MARB, while also ranking in the top 20% of the breed for DMI.



Stardance M9080 ET

A son of EFBeef BR Validated B413 and out of Churchill Lady 284Z ET, an Advance 3575 x Sensation cow. This bull's sire group dominated for quality grade with 86% of them grading Prime in one of the toughest Olsen tests to date. M9080 is now the No. 1 bull in the breed for MARB, and all of his indexes are in the top 1%.



Spearhead 4 Star General

A homozygous son of EFBeef BR Validated B413 out of the Spearhead program whose sire group performed well at every weigh period. 4 Star General ranks in the top 1% of the breed for REA, MARB and all the indexes while also offering YW, SC, SCF and UDDR in the top 5 % of the breed.





Birdwell Vanguard 5022 9337

A homozygous polled son of EFBeef BR Validated B413 out of the famed 5022 Sensation daughter in the Birdwell program. A trait leader for BW, SCF, MM, MCE, UDDR, TEAT, REA, MARB and all the indexes. His sire group was the No. 1 DMI, REA and BF group in the cows.





3S G Man Sullivan 226Z 915S

A homozygous polled son of FTF Prime Product 226Z who follows in his sire's footsteps, ranking in the top five for intake and in the growth test. G Man is really solid across the board in his profile with multiple traits ranking in the top 20% of the breed.



Bulls used on cows (cont.)

Scan the QR code to learn more about each bull.



Whitehawk Arthur 240G ET

Arthur is a pigmented son of Innisfail WHR X651/723 4013 ET out of a strong daughter of NJW 73S W18 Hometown 10Y ET. His sire group found its way to the top of the feed period, ranking No. 1 for adjusted feed to gain. This bull's sire group hit it out of the park with 53% of his progeny grading Prime.



Innisfail Trademark 1939 ET

Trademark left his mark on his sire group at Olsen's as they ranked in the top five in the carcass test with 80% of them grading Prime. He's another extra-dark pigmented son of EFBeef BR Validated B413 out of the famed Innisfail P230 T723 cow. As expected MARB is in the top 1% of the breed. UDDR, TEAT and all the indexes are also in the top 1%.



CMF 1720 Gold Rush 569G ET

Gold Rush delivered with his sire group ranking in the top five for both the growth and carcass test. His sire group just missed being in the top five of the feed test. Arguably, he was the most complete sire in the 2022 Olsen test. Gold Rush is a homozygous polled son of NJW 79Z Z311 Endure 173D ET and a trait leader for CE, WW, YW, SCF, TEAT, UDDR, CW, REA, MARB and all the indexes.



SHF Haviland F158 H028

Haviland, a homozygous polled son of SHF Foresight B413 F158, is a trait leader for CE, BW, SCF, MCE, UDDR, TEAT, CW, REA, MARB and all the indexes. His sire group went 73% Prime, living up to his excellent profile.



RST Final Print 0016

Final Print was a standout in the 2022 Olsen test. His sire group ranked in the top five for growth and the feed test. His sire group just missed being in the top five for carcass. His impressive profile held up and more. He is a trait leader for CE, BW, WW, YW, SC, SCF, MM, MCE, UDDR, TEAT, REA and all the indexes.



Wirruna Matty M288

Matty brings an incredible outcross opportunity to U.S. seedstock producers. ABS leased him from the Wirruna Poll Hereford Stud in Holbrook, Australia. You have to dig a long way to find U.S. genetics in his pedigree. His sire group topped the carcass test and finished in the top five in the growth test. Progeny were among the heaviest at every weigh period and they graded 57% prime. He is homozygous polled and in the top 1% for CW.



Churchill Roughneck 0280H ET

Roughneck is a Churchill Rough Rider 719E son out of Churchill W4 Lady 770E, a 1321 x Bakken cow from the Churchill program. His sire group ranked in the top five for the feed test and his calves were light at birth. Roughneck is horned bull who is a definite calving ease option and his SC, MM, MCE, MCW, UDDR, TEAT rank in the 10% of the breed.

















EFBeef A250 Tested H627 ET

A homozygous polled son of EFBeef X651 Tested A250 who is balanced in his genetic profile across the board. His sire group ranked top for average daily gain and was in the top five for the feed test.

there was a tie for fifth. You will see several sires represented across all three categories. Hopefully, this helps you home in specific bulls and or traits of interest that you need to add or improve in your operation. See Pages 22-23 for a description of each sire. The QR code for each is linked to the animal details page on the new MyHerd search tool where you can evaluate pedigree, expected progeny differences (EPDs) and progeny information. Scan the QR code and go directly to the sire's information.

Keep focusing on the traits that your customers need and keep them sound. **H**W