

Balanced Predictability

National Reference Sire Program continues identifying sires of merit sooner.



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The American Hereford Association (AHA) National Reference Sire Program (NRSP) is designed to identify young sires that can positively affect breed improvement and the marketplace for seedstock and commercial producers. Depth and breadth of the test document and underscore the profit potential of Hereford genetics. Proven sires are also evaluated in the test to further validate their values while providing more reliable data for comparing young sires to the Hereford population.

What's more, testing NRSP sires within commercial cow herds enables users of Hereford genetics to make more precise decisions relative to traits of interest. The NRSP has benefited immeasurably from partnering with

committed commercial cow-calf producers over time, such as longtime partner, Olsen Ranches, Harrisburg, Neb. The results that follow represent the 2023-born calves at Olsen's and the 26th anniversary of Olsen Ranches providing phenomenal results.

Commercial Hereford cows are the base of Olsen Ranches' NRSP test herd.

What to look for

It is important to note that 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 the group.

Phenotypic averages by sire group are provided in Table 1 for dry matter intake (DMI), average daily gain (ADG) and adjusted feed to gain (adj. F:G). Complete performance results from birth to harvest by sire group are in Table 2.

Sires are ranked in Table 3 by the measured phenotypic trait during the test. There are three distinct categories (divisions) highlighted by different colors that represent the top five in each category. The categories are Growth Total (BW, WW, YW), Feed Total (DMI, ADG, adj. F:G) and Carcass Total (HCW, REA, FAT and MARB). Hereford expected progeny differences (EPDs) and indexes are defined at Hereford.org/genetics/breed-improvement.

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 (Page 22), 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. You will see several sires represented across the three categories.

Table 1: Feed Efficiency Results

Reg. No.	Sire Name	No. Progeny	DMI	DMI Ratio	ADG	ADG Ratio	Adj. F:G	Adj. F:G Ratio
Bulls used on heifers								
44011928	Genoa 6011 Belle Air 19073 ET	19	23.8	96	3.83	96	6.26	100
44123604	SHF Harvest D287 H033 ET	13	26.2	106	4.14	104	6.05	97
44154108	THF Toby 3H	14	24.3	98	3.98	100	6.33	101
44195289	OR L574 Pioneer B990	17	24.4	99	3.98	100	6.37	102
Bulls used on cows								
44254851	Birdwell Redbird 7098 0558ET	11	24.1	102	3.80	105	6.48	98
44255506	Birdwell Wall Street 0588ET	15	24.5	104	3.78	104	6.38	97
44267937	Churchill Kingdom 128J ET	14	24.4	103	3.44	95	7.07	107
44267942	Churchill Red Thunder 133J ET	8	21.1	89	3.36	93	6.72	102
43558667	EFBeef BR Validated B413	15	23.3	99	3.52	97	6.94	105
44208618	EFBeef C615 Resolved H615	17	23.8	101	3.56	98	6.76	102
44224721	L III NCC E158 Resolute 2058	19	22.9	97	3.41	94	6.79	103
44195235	OR L574 Groundbreaker B945	15	23.1	98	3.90	108	6.29	95
43910830	Schu-Lar Asset 36F	19	21.9	93	3.58	99	6.33	96
44293703	Schu-Lar Sustainable 101	13	24.6	104	3.53	98	6.68	101
44123641	SHF Houston D287 H086	19	24.7	105	3.90	108	5.99	91
44164566	WFF F803 Tried N True H010	18	22.7	96	3.47	96	6.81	103
44214471	Whitehawk 590F Judd 644JET	9	22.6	96	3.66	101	6.40	97
44218460	Whitehawk 593F Cosmos 672J ET	13	25.4	108	3.68	102	6.86	104

Hopefully this data helps you identify specific bulls and/or traits of interest that you need to add or improve in your operation. There is also a short summary for each sire with a QR code linked to their MyHerd animal details page where you can more closely evaluate pedigree, EPDs and progeny information. Scan the QR code, and it will take you directly to the page of the sire.

2023 NRSP results

Several top-end bulls performed very close to their genetic profile prior to addition of the actual carcass data to the genetic evaluation. In fact, all but two bulls out of the 18 used in this test still rank in the top 15% of the breed for Certified Hereford Beef® Index (CHB\$), where they started prior to harvest data being added. Impressively, the two that missed this threshold still rank in the top 30% of the breed or better for CHB\$.

As a group, 70% of the 300-plus steers graded in the upper two-thirds of Choice or higher with an average

yield grade of 3.2. Considering the general level of backfat these cattle carried at harvest, I think it's pretty impressive how well they graded. This is especially true when you consider how much fat the industry is putting on cattle with more days on feed.

Finally, as you analyze these bulls, pay close attention to how well these bulls rank from a percentile standpoint for UDDR and TEAT EPD and Baldy Maternal Index. Keep focusing on the traits that your customers are needing and keep them sound. **HW**

Table 2: Performance Results

Reg. No.	Sire Name	No. Progeny	BW Ratio	WW Ratio	YW Ratio
Bulls used on heifers					
44011928	Genoa 6011 Belle Air 19073 ET	40	100	105	100
44123604	SHF Harvest D287 H033 ET	42	102	102	103
44154108	THF Toby 3H	42	94	99	98
44195289	OR L574 Pioneer B990	43	97	94	97
Bulls used on cows					
44254851	Birdwell Redbird 7098 0558ET	50	98	101	101
44255506	Birdwell Wall Street 0588ET	48	102	101	105
44267937	Churchill Kingdom 128J ET	43	98	99	98
44267942	Churchill Red Thunder 133J ET	51	98	100	97
43558667	EFBeef BR Validated B413	40	97	98	100
44208618	EFBeef C615 Resolved H615	54	100	98	96
44224721	L III NCC E158 Resolute 2058	48	102	100	97
44195235	OR L574 Groundbreaker B945	50	97	99	99
43910830	Schu-Lar Asset 36F	54	101	98	95
44293703	Schu-Lar Sustainable 101	35	105	105	104
44123641	SHF Houston D287 H086	47	106	104	107
44164566	WFF F803 Tried N True H010	44	102	98	101
44214471	Whitehawk 590F Judd 644JET	36	101	100	101
44218460	Whitehawk 593F Cosmos 672J ET	40	99	103	102

Table 2: Performance Results

Reg. No.	Sire Name	No. Harvested	HCW	HCW Ratio	REA	REA Ratio	BF	BF Ratio	CYG	CYG Ratio	MARB Score	MARB Ratio	% Choice	% Upper 2/3s Choice	% Prime
Bulls used on heifers															
44011928	Genoa 6011 Belle Air 19073 ET	19	843	100	13.5	97	0.62	103	3.4	107	618	106	100	94	18
44123604	SHF Harvest D287 H033 ET	13	886	106	14.3	102	0.68	114	3.5	109	578	99	100	77	8
44154108	THF Toby 3H	15	815	97	14.0	100	0.50	83	2.9	90	548	94	92	75	0
44195289	OR L574 Pioneer B990	18	821	98	14.2	102	0.59	98	3.0	95	584	100	89	83	17
Bulls used on cows															
44254851	Birdwell Redbird 7098 0558ET	11	762	94	13.1	97	0.56	99	3.1	98	535	97	91	73	9
44255506	Birdwell Wall Street 0588ET	16	816	101	13.2	97	0.62	110	3.4	109	568	103	93	86	8
44267937	Churchill Kingdom 128J ET	14	802	99	13.5	100	0.59	104	3.2	101	544	98	92	77	0
44267942	Churchill Red Thunder 133J ET	10	782	97	13.6	101	0.52	91	2.9	92	538	97	100	50	0
43558667	EFBeef BR Validated B413	15	802	99	13.4	99	0.57	100	3.2	101	626	113	100	100	36
44208618	EFBeef C615 Resolved H615	17	763	94	13.6	100	0.50	88	2.8	89	517	93	94	50	6
44224721	L III NCC E158 Resolute 2058	20	804	99	13.1	97	0.56	98	3.3	103	524	95	94	61	6
44195235	OR L574 Groundbreaker B945	16	815	101	14.3	106	0.52	92	2.8	88	473	85	79	29	0
43910830	Schu-Lar Asset 36F	19	781	97	13.6	100	0.48	85	2.8	89	528	95	94	56	0
44293703	Schu-Lar Sustainable 101	13	856	106	13.5	100	0.58	102	3.3	106	619	112	100	83	42
44123641	SHF Houston D287 H086	18	842	104	14.2	105	0.57	101	3.2	100	529	95	100	60	0
44164566	WFF F803 Tried N True H010	17	830	103	13.0	96	0.61	108	3.5	112	610	110	100	75	31
44214471	Whitehawk 590F Judd 644JET	10	820	101	13.6	100	0.65	115	3.4	109	559	101	100	50	20
44218460	Whitehawk 593F Cosmos 672J ET	13	858	106	14.1	104	0.68	120	3.5	109	623	112	92	77	38

BF-Backfat; CYG-Carcass yield grade; HCW-Hot Carcass Weight; MARB-marbling; REA-Ribeye area

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Table 3: Sire Rank by Trait														
Reg. No.	Sire Name	BW Rank	WW Rank	YW Rank	Growth Total	DMI Rank	ADG Rank	Adj. F:G Rank	Feed Total	HCV Rank	REA Rank	BF Rank	MARB Rank	Carcass Total
Bulls used on heifers														
44011928	Genoa 6011 Belle Air 19073 ET	3	1	2	6	1	4	2	7	2	4	3	1	10
44123604	SHF Harvest D287 H033 ET	4	2	1	7	4	1	1	6	1	1	4	3	9
44154108	THF Toby 3H	1	3	3	7	2	2	3	7	4	3	1	4	12
44195289	OR L574 Pioneer B990	2	4	4	10	3	3	4	10	3	2	2	2	9
Bulls used on cows														
44254851	Birdwell Redbird 7098 0558ET	4	5	5	14	9	3	6	18	14	13	6	9	42
44255506	Birdwell Wall Street 0588ET	12	4	2	18	11	4	4	19	6	11	12	5	34
44267937	Churchill Kingdom 128J ET	5	10	10	25	10	12	14	36	10	8	10	7	35
44267942	Churchill Red Thunder 133J ET	3	8	12	23	1	14	8	23	11	4	3	8	26
43558667	EFBeef BR Validated B413	2	12	8	22	7	10	13	30	9	10	7	1	27
44208618	EFBeef C615 Resolved H615	7	14	13	34	8	8	9	25	13	6	2	13	34
44224721	L III NCC E158 Resolute 2058	11	7	11	29	5	13	10	28	8	12	5	12	37
44195235	OR L574 Groundbreaker B945	1	9	9	19	6	1	2	9	7	1	4	14	26
43910830	Schu-Lar Asset 36F	9	11	14	34	2	7	3	12	12	5	1	11	29
44293703	Schu-Lar Sustainable 101	13	1	3	17	12	9	7	28	2	9	9	3	23
44123641	SHF Houston D287 H086	14	2	1	17	13	2	1	16	3	2	8	10	23
44164566	WFF F803 Tried N True H010	10	13	6	29	4	11	11	26	4	14	11	4	33
44214471	Whitehawk 590F Judd 644JET	8	6	7	21	3	6	5	14	5	7	13	6	31
44218460	Whitehawk 593F Cosmos 672J ET	6	3	4	13	14	5	12	31	1	3	14	2	20

Top 5 Growth

Top 5 Feed

Top 5 Carcass

Bulls used on heifers

Scan the QR code to learn more about each bull.



Genoa 6011 Belle Air 19073 ET

A son of Belle Air, out of a 3027 cow, 19073 is a trait leader for CE, BW, SC, SCF, MM, MCE, UDDR, TEAT, MARB and all the indexes. His sire group ranked first for MARB in the heifer group.



SHF Harvest D287 H033 ET

Harvest is a son of Daybreak and out of the D81 cow known for her udder quality. His sire group cumulatively put up the best tabulation in the heifer group. He is a trait leader for CE, BW, YW, MCE, UDDR, TEAT, CW, REA, MARB and CHB\$ — touting calving ease with pounds.



THF Toby 3H

Toby is a son of Cuda that stacks 9126, 3008, 44U and Rib Eye on the bottom-side. His sire group was the best at birth and for backfat. Toby is an elite sire for calving ease with 11 traits in the top 35% of the breed. Homozygous polled.



OR L574 Pioneer B990

This bull's pedigree is the epitome of the Olsen program — L574, N162, Advance 3575N, Ram Dominator, A250 and Progress. Pioneer served as the reference bull in the heifer group, and his sire group put up the best score for end-product merit. He's a trait leader for CE, BW, MCW, UDDR, TEAT, REA, MARB and all the indexes.

Bulls used on cows

Scan the QR code to learn more about each bull.



Birdwell Redbird 7098 0558ET

Redbird is a Red Baron son out of 7098. His sire group made the top five in both the growth and feed test; only one other bull in this test accomplished the same feat. He's a trait leader for CE, BW, SC, SCF, MCE, UDDR, TEAT, MARB and all the indexes. Homozygous polled.



Birdwell Wall Street 0588ET

Wall Street is a son of Broadway and out of 7098. His sire group made the top five in the growth division and was in the top half of the test for every weigh period. Wall Street is a trait leader for WW, YW, SC, SCF, MM, MCE, UDDR, TEAT, CW, MARB and all the indexes. Homozygous polled.



Churchill Kingdom 128J ET

A son of All Around and out of 7098, Kingdom lived up to his CE and BW EPD with his sire group ranking in top half of the test at birth. Kingdom is a trait leader for CE, BW, SC, SCF, MM, MCE, UDDR, TEAT, CW, REA, MARB and all the indexes. Homozygous polled.



Churchill Red Thunder 133J ET

Red Thunder is full brother to Kingdom and the fourth son of 7098 in this test. Red Thunder's sire group ranked in the top five for end-product merit and came close to making the top five in the feed test, where they were the low-intake sire group. Accordingly, he is trait leader for CW, REA, MARB and CHB\$, while still being a trait leader for SC, SCF, MM, UDDR, TEAT and BMI\$ and BII\$. Homozygous polled.



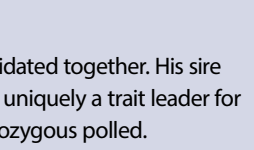
EFBeeF BR Validated B413

Validated served as one of the reference sires in the cow group. True to form, his sire group came to the top for MARB. His sire group was the only one that graded 100% in the upper two-thirds of Choice and higher. Validated's influence will be long lasting in the breed. You will find he also has ties to several of bulls used in this test. He's a trait leader for SCF, MM, MCE, UDDR, REA, MARB and all the indexes. Homozygous polled.



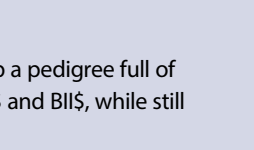
EFBeeF C615 Resolved H615

Resolved is a son of Resolute C615 that stacks the famed Mabel cow family and the mother of Validated together. His sire group finished second for backfat and in the top half of the test for ribeye area. Accordingly, he is uniquely a trait leader for FAT, REA, MARB and CHB\$, while still offering trait leading MCE, MCW, UDDR, TEAT and BII\$. Homozygous polled.



L III NCC E158 Resolute 2058

Resolute 2058 is a son of E158 and out of a tested X651 daughter that ties together and lines up a pedigree full of maternal excellence. Accordingly, 2058 ranks in the top 2% or higher for SCF, UDDR, TEAT, BMI\$ and BII\$, while still ranking in the top 10% for CHB\$.



OR L574 Groundbreaker B945

Groundbreaker is a horned bull with a strong phenotype. I'll never forget seeing him for the first time at Olsen's. He's another son of L574 and out of a 3027 daughter that goes back to DS Beef 9059 and 552. His sire group ranked in the top five for both the feed and carcass test, making him one of only two bulls to do so in this test. He writes an intriguing genetic profile.



Schu-Lar Asset 36F

Asset 36F served as the other reference sire in this test and is a son of 88X and the famed Vivian cow family. Just as his genetic profile indicates, Asset's sire group performed near the top in the feed test and was the best sire group for backfat. Asset is a trait leader for DMI, MCW, UDDR, TEAT, FAT and MARB.



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Bulls used on cows (cont.)

Scan the QR code to learn more about each bull.



Schu-Lar Sustainable 101

Sustainable is another son of E158 who also goes back to the famed Vivian cow family with a shot of 3027. His sire group ranked in the top five for both the growth and carcass test — ranking first at weaning and earning the prize as the highest grading group for Prime percentage. His genetic profile is in the top 1% for WW, CW, MARB and all the indexes. He will add the pounds of Prime.



SHF Houston D287 H086

Houston is a son of Daybreak and out of a 20Z daughter whose sire group was the only one to rank in the top five in all aspects of the test. His calves were heavy at every weigh period and tied together the best adjusted feed-to-gain conversion. His profile offers elite growth potential as he is a trait leader for WW, YW and CW, combined with trait-leading SC, UDDR, REA, MARB, BMI\$, BII\$ and CHB\$. Homozygous polled.



WFF F803 Tried N True H010

Just like his name indicates, Tried N True is by a really predictable pedigree. His sire F803 is by Tested X651 and out of a maternal sister to Genesis, Grady and Garfield. On the maternal side, the mother of Tried N True is a CEO that goes back to Proficient N093. His sire group finished in the top half of the test for YW, DMI, HCW, MARB and Prime percentage. His genetic profile is in the top 5% or better for M, CW, MARB and all the indexes. Homozygous polled.



Whitehawk 590F Judd 644JET

Judd is a son of Vanguard out of a Warrior x 4010 daughter — 4010 is a full sister to 4013 and 4020 from the Innisfail program. His sire group rang the bell in the feed test portion of the test. Judd's genetic profile is in the top 25% or better of the breed for DMI, SC, MCW, UDDR, TEAT, CW, REA, MARB and all the indexes. Homozygous polled.



Whitehawk 593F Cosmos 672J ET

Cosmos is also a son of Vanguard out of a full sister to the mother of Judd. Cosmos' sire group ranked the best for the growth and carcass test of the 2023-born Olsen Ranches test with 38% of them grading Prime. Cosmos' genetic profile ranks in the top 20% or better for the breed for BW, WW, SC, M, CW, REA, MARB and all the indexes.



Hereford EPDs

BW — Birth Weight
 CE — Calving Ease-direct
 CW — Carcass Weight
 DMI — Dry Matter Intake
 FAT — Rib Fat
 M&G — Maternal Milk & Growth
 MARB — Marbling
 MCE — Material Calving Ease
 MCW — Mature Cow Weight
 MM — Maternal Milk

REA — Ribeye Area
 SC — Scrotal Circumference
 SCF — Sustained Cow Fertility
 TEAT — Teat Size
 UDDR — Udder Suspension
 WW — Weaning Weight
 YW — Yearling Weight

Hereford Selection Indexes

BII\$ — Brahman Influence Index
 BMI\$ — Baldy Maternal Index
 CHB\$ — Certified Hereford Beef **HW**

NRSP Nominations

The AHA's National Reference Sire Program (NRSP) is designed to identify and validate the genetic merit of young sires that offer seedstock producers and commercial users of Hereford genetics opportunities to improve their herds for specific traits and a combination of traits. It also provides ongoing confirmation of the profitability associated with Hereford genetics. Find more details and the nomination form at Hereford.org/genetics/breed-improvement/nrsp. **HW**