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Commercial Acceptance

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 Selling our 50 top South Devon Bulls High Percentage & Efficiency Tested

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The Nation's Largest Source of Efficiency Tested South Devon Bulls from the Nation's Largest Registered Herd of over 350 Cows

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A TRUE GENETIC OUTCROSS

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MORE BEEF, LESS GRIEF

South Devon cattle are well-known for their quiet, docile nature. Producers throughout the country are finding South Devon is the ideal breed to use in a crossbreeding program, where temperament may be a problem.

PROFIT-MAKERS

Profit-driven, cow-calf operations looking for increased fertility, high weaning weight production and increased calf value can benefit from South Devon genetics.

F1 CROSS AND HYBRID VIGOR

South Devon is the best British breed cross breeding option. The breed has been proven to keep Angus marbling, adds to muscularity and increases carcass weight.

FEED EFFICIENCY

In the feedlot, lower feed intake and carcass merit are a compliment of the South Devon breed. Bulls on test at Midland Bull Test and Leachman Cattle of Colorado have shown less feed intake resulting in more efficiency on gain, thus resulting in more profit.

ADAPTABILITY

South Devon cattle have shown remarkable adaptability, thriving under vastly different climatic conditions.

TENDERNESS

Meat Animal Research Center (MARC) data indicated that steaks from South Devoncrosses have lower Warner-Bratzler shear force values than all other beef or dual-purpose breeds.
Also, taste panel tenderness, flavor and juiciness scores tended to be higher for South Devon steaks.

NORTH South

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Leachman Cattle of Colorado to Host 2016 Junior Nationals & Leadership Conference

By Leah Giess

outh Devon Junior members are travelling to Fort Collins, Colorado for the 2016 Junior National Show and

Leadership Conference, hosted by Leachman Cattle of Colorado (LCOC), June 23-26. The Junior National Show and leadership conference offers many opportunities for youth interested in the South Devon breed. Youth from across the U.S. participate in a steer, heifer and bred-and-owned bull show, showmanship competition, quiz bowl and other leadership and fun activities.

Fort Collins, Colorado is home to Colorado State University where South Devon junior members will participate in seminars given by the University. University officials will also be used as judges for the competitions.

Lee, Lisa and Graham Leachman have been active members within the South Devon Association attending the National Western Stock Show in Denver Colo.

and exhibiting cattle at past Junior Nationals. Graham has

served on the junior
board, holding a director
position. LCOC has
been implementing
South Devon into their
herd since the early 90's.
Many South Devon
breeders are cooperators

Juniors gain
lifetime
friendships along
with the
occasional purple
ribbon.

with the highly successful family, selling bulls and females through LCOC sales.

The Junior Association is fortunate to have such a passionate family to host the 2016 Junior Nationals, said Jenna White, junior association president. The Junior Association is continuing to gain members and support, she said. The 2015 Junior Nationals in Little Falls, Minn., had approximately 50 head of cattle and 40 juniors. There are currently 110 junior members from across the country repre-

senting 20 states.

Being active in the association gives youth the possibility to acquire life skills, White said. Lauren Terry from Winchester Kan., serves as a Junior Ambassador and holds a director position on the board. Handling new responsibilities, communication and leadership skills are life skills juniors learn when a part of the junior association, said Terry. "These skills are used in daily life and are really important," she said.

Juniors gain lifetime friendships along with the occasional purple ribbon, White said. "The friendships are unlike any other, you keep long distance relationships and when you get to see your friends only a couple times a year it's so much better," Terry said. The purple ribbons and awards are also a major plus to the shows, Terry said.

Juniors have the opportunity to compete in activi-

These positions help create leaders within the association and introduce youth into the cattle industry

ties such as an impromptu speech,
marketing and poster competitions in
addition to running
for the junior board
or represent the
breed as a Junior
Ambassador. As a

Junior Ambassador and board member Terry believes that the association is a great way to get involved, "it's a different atmosphere than school activities, it pushes you out



of your comfort zone," Terry said. These positions help create leaders within the Association and help develop and introduce passionate youth into the cattle industry. The youth chosen to participate in these positions are role models to younger junior members, representatives of the breed and spokespersons of the association, said White.

This years event will be called the Rocky Mountain Round-up. The fun starts Wednesday, June 22 with set-up and registration. The next day is filled with photo and poster contest, quiz bowl, marketing and Ag Olympics. Friday brings the showmanship, bred-and-owned show and the speech contest. To wrap up the week the anticipated 2016 'Junior Nationals' will take place featuring, Poundmaker and purebred steers, heifers, cow/calf pairs and the awards ceremony. The North American South Devon Association encourages all those who are interested to attend the Junior National show and Leadership Conference.

Leah Giess is a freshman at Kansas State University majoring in agricultural communications.

Junior National Reminders>

Accommodations . . .

Days Inn Wellington

7860 6th Street

Wellington, CO 80549

(970) 568-1194

Rooms include two queen beds.

Rate: \$109 plus tax

Make reservation by May 30, 2016

Make your room reservations as soon as possible. There are limited rooms available in the Fort Collins area because of other activities.

Registration & Health . . .

Animals must be registered in the sole ownership of the junior exhibitor, ten days prior to the show. Original registration certificates or copies for each animal should be present at time of check-in. Entries must meet Colorado Health Regulations.

Juniors must be members of the North American South Devon Junior Association. An application for membership can be filled out at registration if you are not a member and the \$15 fee can be paid at that time.

Entry Deadline . . .

Entry deadline is June 3.

Send entries to:

NASDJA Junior Nationals

33424 183rd Street

Pierz, MN 56364

Make check payable to NASDA.

Complete Information and Entry Forms Available On line:

www.southdevon.com



Silent Auction Items & Sponsorships Needed . . .

In order to have this exciting Junior Leadership conference and Junior National Show for the junior South Devon members, the junior association needs your help. Each year a silent auction is held with unique items offered. All proceeds go to help with the costs of the conference.

Many of you have generously contributed to the junior events in the past and because of your support, the junior association continues to grow.

Sponsorships are needed for awards and activities. The advertisers in this issue of the South Devon review have already committed to helping sponsor the activities. Thank you for your generous support.

All sponsorship checks should be made payable to:

NASDA Junior Nationals

19590 E. Main Street, Suite 104

Parker, CO 80138

Location of Junior Nationals

The 2016 Junior National Show and Leadership Conference will be hosted by Leachman Cattle of Colorado at their headquarters.

2056 West County Road 70

Fort Collins, CO 80524

(970) 568-3983

www.leachman.com

2016 Rocky Mountain Round-Up Schedule of Events

Wednesday, June 22nd

Barns Open for Stall Setup and Cattle Arrival

Contestant and Cattle Check-In for Early Arrivals

Thursday, June 23rd

8-10:00 a.m. - Arrival, Check-In & Set-Up

Rolls, Coffee & Juice in the Barns

Contest and Project Registration

Turn in your Photo and Poster Contest Entries

Set-Up Silent Auction

10:00 a.m. - Impromptu Speech Contest

Noon - Pizza Party

Silent Auction Begins

1:00 p.m. - Marketing Contest

3:00 p.m. - National Junior Meeting

5:00 p.m. - Dinner

6:30 p.m. - Ag Olympics

Friday, June 24th

9:00 a.m. - Steer Weigh-In

10:00 a.m. - Quiz Bowl

Noon - Lunch on Your Own

2:00 p.m. - Group Photo, Wear Your 2016 T-Shirt

3:00 p.m. - No Fit Showmanship

PeeWee, Junior, Intermediate & Senior

Bred and Owned Show to follow Showmanship

Females & Bred and Owned Bulls

6:00 p.m. - BBQ and Awards Ceremony, Photos

8:00 p.m. - Silent Auction Closes

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Barn Dance

Saturday, June 25th

8:00 a.m. Cattleman's Breakfast

Sponsored by the Northern States South Devon

Association

10:00 a.m. - 2016 NASDJA 'Junior Nationals'

Opening Ceremony and Dedication

Wear your NASDJA Show Shirt

Show Order:

Poundmaker:

Steer, Heifer, Cow/Calf

Purebred:

Steer, Heifer, Cow/Calf

Championship Photos Following the Show

Cattle Released Following the Show

All Contests Will be Conducted by Age Divisions:

PeeWee - 7 Years of Age and under as of Jan. 1

Junior - 8-12 Years of Age as of Jan. 1

Intermediate - 13-16 Years of Age as of Jan. 1

Senior - 17-21 Years of Age as of Jan. 1

Sunday, June 26th

Optional trip to Estes Park, Colorado

Photography & Poster Contest Update>

Il photos for the 2016 Junior National photo contest must have been taken by the NASDJA members within one year of the date of the photo contest.

Photos submitted must be 8" x 10", color or black and white and mounted.

There are three classes: cattle, people and scenic. The junior photographer can submit up to six entries, with no more than two entries per class.

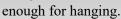
Juniors must have their name and age on the back of each photo.

Entries in the promotional poster contest should serve as a promotional tool for the given topic. Posters may be creative as well as informative. They may feature words, pictures, collages, objects or any other appropriate item for promoting the contestant's topic.

Judging criteria will consist of; neatness of construction, providing a clear message, clever verbiage, wise use of poster space, eye-catching appeal, originality/creativity, promotion of the appropriate topic, majority of work

done by individual and overall effectiveness.

All entries should be on regular poster board (22" x 28") and be light





Exhibitors will be able to enter as many as three posters in this contest; however, only one entry will be able to place in the top five.

Juniors can choose from the following topics: promotion of the South Devon breed, promote participation in junior activities, including the Junior Nationals, promote the use of a product in beef cattle production, promote a farm or ranch program or promote a sale or agricultural event.



MJB Ranch Bulls Top the Midland Bull Test Sale

MJB Ranch, Lodge Grass, Mont., topped the 2016 Midland Bull Test sale, held April 7 at the Midland Bull Test facilities in Columbus, Mont.

Twenty-two yearling South Devon bulls averaged \$4,048, with the top-selling bulls consigned by MJB. Top-sellers included:

MJB Cool 548C, a March 4, 2015 fullblood son of MJB Swagger 330Z and out of MJB Nikki 8613U sold for \$8,250 to Missouri Coteau Cattle Company, Crane Valley, Sask. Canada and Davelle South Devons, Jamestown, South Australia.

MJB Country Cool 535, a Feb. 25, 2015 son of Cimarron Rebel 941W and out of MJB Nikki 3657N sold for \$7,000 to Grande Ranch Company, Martinsdale, Mont.

MJB Charger 523C, a Feb. 19, 2015 son of Cimarron Avenger 234Z sold for \$7,000 to Sunlight Ranch, Wyola, Mont.

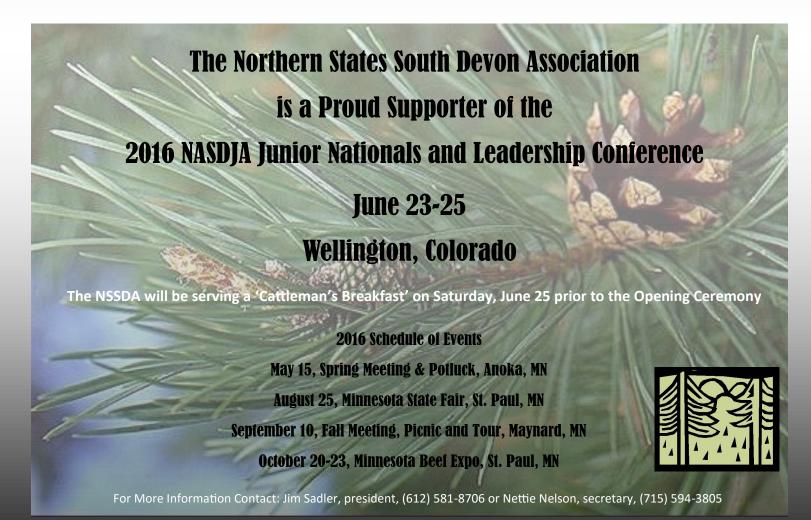
The high performing and high efficiency bull was Lot 1032, BC America 589C, a March 18, 2015 son of MJB



Mary & Matt Brown, MJB Ranch, Lodge Grass, MT accept the award for the high performing and high efficiency South Devon bulls at the 2016 Midland Bull Test.

All American 403A and out of BC Rockette 2625Z. He gained an average of 4 lbs. with a Weight Per Day of Age of 3.61.

Other consignors at the 2016 test included Hay Cow, Lincoln, Calif., and X-E Stock Ranch, Moses Lake, Wash.



In Remembrance . . .

of Melvin and Norma Gable Steffen. She was raised in the Malcom area and was a graduate of BGM High School.

On December 13, 1974, she was united in marriage with Kenneth Breiting, at the Trinity Lutheran Church near Malcom. The couple have made their home on an acreage near Malcom.

Linda was employed with GTE in Grinnell for several years and then began raising and showing registered South Devon Cattle under the name of Hilltop Acres. She was a former member of the Trinity Lutheran Church and for many years a member and secretary of the South Devon Cattle Association.

Linda loved her life on the farm and being in the outdoors. She loved nature and bird watching, particularly in her area, and was very kind and caring to animals. She held a big-heart!

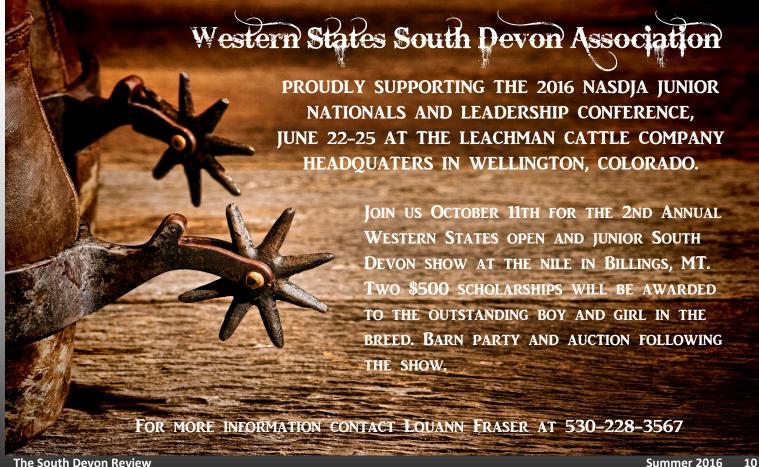
Survivors include her husband, Ken of Malcom; and two brothers, Larry (Julie Kjolhede) Steffen of Ankeny and David (Phyllis) Steffen of Malcom. She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Tim Steffen and one sister in infancy, Marilyn Steffen.



Linda Breiting exhibiting Champion Yearlings



Long-time supporter of South Devon cattle



2016 National Tour Set for October 27-30

The 2016 National South Devon Tour will be held October 27-30 in North Carolina.

Tour stops include a variety of South Devon operations, farms, research stations, farmers markets, livestock markets, extension and livestock facilities and other attractions in the state.

North Carolina is one of the most diversified agriculture states in the nation. The states' 52,200 farmers grow over 80 different commodities, utilizing 8.4 million of the states' 31 million acres to furnish consumers a dependable and affordable supply of food and fiber.

North Carolina produces more tobacco and sweet potatoes that any other state and ranks second in Christmas tree cash receipts and the production of hogs and turkeys. North Carolina has about 19,000 beef cattle farms that raise nearly 367,000 beef cattle. Cattle can be found in all 100 counties in North Carolina.

Tour participants will fly into the Raleigh/Durham airport. The tour will begin Thursday morning and conclude on Sunday. The price to attend the tour is \$750 per



person. This includes 4 nights hotel, several meals and the bus. For those who decide to fly out on Monday, the Sunday night hotel will be your responsibility.

The deadline to sign up for the tour is May 15.

For more information contact Steve Elmore, (910) 385-6200 or e-mail sandbelmore@centurylink.net.



NASDA Youth Experience Program Changes Lives

By Leah Giess

very year at the National Western Stock
Show a deserving junior member is
awarded with a South Devon show heifer. The Youth Experience Program has been used by the North
American South Devon Association for 4 years, making dreams
and accomplishing goals come true.

A family within the South Devon Association donates a heifer to be awarded to a junior who exhibits the qualities of leadership, aspiration and passion for the cattle industry. Each applicant must submit an application to be reviewed by a committee of board members. There are no qualifications except that the applicant be interested in the South Devon breed and be between ages 14-20.

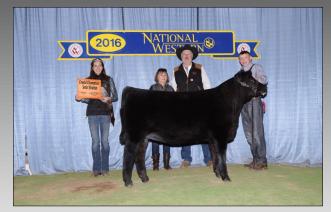
The 2016 recipient is Wyatt Lawrence from Princeton, MN. He is involved with the Princeton FFA chapter and the MN Junior Hereford Association. He is a member of the FFA

"I love agriculture and I plan on being part of it for the rest of my life." livestock judging team and is currently working on a supervised Agricultural Experience.

"Wyatt showed a lot of maturity in his application in addition to en-

thusiasm for the cattle industry and South Devon breed," said Committee Board Member Joel Popken.

Wyatt is a member of the high school swim team, track team and band program. Wyatt displays great leadership qualities and maturity, said Jessica Lupkes, Princeton High School, Agricultural Educator. "His work with livestock, especially cattle, demonstrates his true passion that is evident from



his attentiveness, hard work and participation in related activities and courses." Wyatt says, "My drive isn't powered by how many champions I have or how many showmanship contests I win. It comes from my heart and that is something that can't be taken from me. I love agriculture and I plan on being part of it for the rest of my life."

The 2016 heifer was donated by DLCC ranch. DLCC has been raising South Devon cattle since 1986 and has been a long time supported of the Junior Association and the next generation of cattlemen.

Past Youth Experience sponsors have been MJB

Ranch from Lodge Grass, MT who donated in 2013. 2014 JVM

Cattle Company, Pella, IA and 2015 Dahl Land and Cattle

Company, Gackle, ND. This program would not be successful

if not for the generosity of donors. Steve Elmore of Bar-E

Ranch plans to donate the 2017 Youth Experience Heifer.

Wyatt was presented the heifer at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver CO. in January. Wyatts' entrance into the South Devon breed was nothing but successful, winning the Senior Showmanship competition at the NWSS. Wyatt plans to continue his participation in the South Devon breed by attending future junior events and shows.

Wyatt's showmanship sponsor from NWSS is

Continued from page 10

Sampson MacGregor Stock Farm, Iron River, Alberta. Ralph and Betty MacGregor have sponsored juniors at the NWSS for the past 2 years and are very enthusiastic for what Wyatt can offer the South Devon breed.

Wyatt has a background in agriculture and has grown up on a farm his entire life. "I would like to participate in the South Devon Youth Experience Program so I can better myself as a cattleman. Winning a heifer would give me the opportunity to take full ownership of an animal and see all the pieces that go into raising a young animal. I also like the opportunity to work with a mentor to better understand what the cattle industry is and the part ranchers play in the industry," Wyatt said.

Leah Giess is a freshman at Kansas State University majoring in agricultural communications.

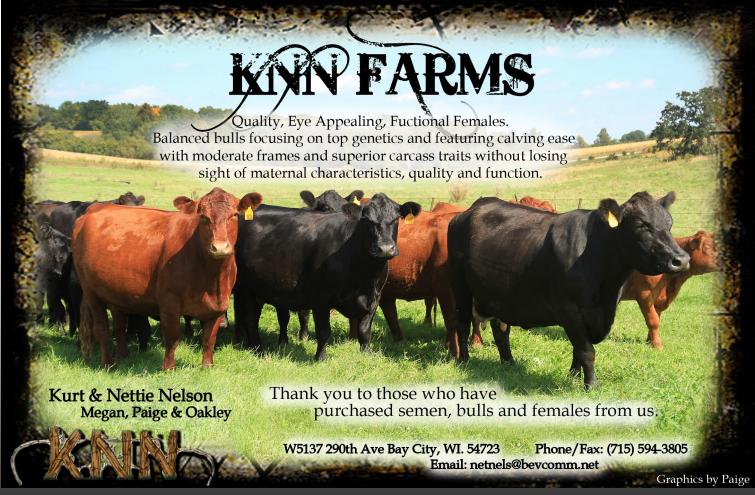


2017 Applications Due November 1

Applications for the 2017 NASDA Youth Experience Heifer are currently being accepted. All applications must be submitted by November 1, 2016 in order to make the junior show entry deadline for the National Western Stock Show.

Juniors 14-20 years-of-age may apply. For application forms log on to www.southdevon.com.

The 2017 heifer will be presented at the 2017 National Show in Denver, Colorado.



South Devon See Worldwide Commercial Acceptance

By Leah Giess

rogressive cattlemen all over the
world are looking for something new
to implement into their herds, but
what is the missing piece for com-

mercial producers?

The Australian South Devon Society says that South Devons, their genetics and the profitability that comes with them is just what commercial producers need for the improvement in their herds. For years the society has been promoting the use of South Devons into commercial herds and advertising the success it has brought producers.

South Devons compliment any crossbreeding

A crossbreeding program that incorporates South Devon will increase rancher profitability.

program, said Charles
Green, rancher from
Queensland. "South
Devons perform well
in terms of calving
percentage, calving
ease, mothering ability, growth rates and

carcass quality," Green said.

The key to success is heterosis, said Lee Leachman, owner of Leachman Cattle of Colorado, Wellington, Colo. *Heterosis*, or hybrid vigor, is the performance advantage crossbreds wield over the average of their straightbred parents, a system Leachman Cattle of Colo-



Commercial South Devon calves in Australia

rado is well aware of. The South Devon breed keeps Angus marbling, adds to muscularity and increases carcass weight, Leachman said. Leachman Cattle of Colorado has prospered by producing and supplying composite bulls to ranchers worldwide. In a cattle industry where producers are profit driven, Leachman wants these profit driven ranchers as customers. "Profit driven ranchers will pay for genetics that improve their bottom line," Leachman said. A crossbreeding program that incorporates South Devons will increase rancher profitability, he said. "Having measured large numbers of bulls in many breeds, it is interesting that South Devon ranks higher than every other breed except for Angus on our \$profit index," Leachman said.

President of Free State Agriculture South Africa,

Dan Kriek believes that South Devons are crucial to longterm sustainability. "The animals exhibit good growth
because it is originally a dual-purpose breed. We have to
deliberately select for lower birth weight, which is something we manage effectively. However due to good milk

production our calves grow exceptionally well," Kriek said. Kriek's herd consists of 120 stud and 250 commercial cows. "I don't think everyone realizes how much value you can add to your cattle herd by doing things right, (South Devon)" Kriek said.

The United Kingdom is where the South Devon breed originated. Producers are putting efforts into commercial breeding as well as purebred. John East a commercial beef producer using South Devons since the 1970's, "we've always aimed for the better quality end of the carcass market-it costs as much to feed poor cattle as good ones, and using the South Devons has certainly not lowered the carcass grades," East said. When becoming involved in the South Devon breed East wanted a breed that had a good disposition but would stand up to the continental breeds in terms of quality.

Another commercial producer from the UK, Brian Mac Taggart has been crossing South Devon on Angus for the past 20 years. "The system works, we've been selling to the same finishers for 14 years, so we have no plans to change," he said. Mac Taggart uses a red or black Angus bull on South Devon cows to produce an easy-fleshing cow with good milking ability and a docile nature. The cross produces a high-performing, feed efficient animal, he said.

Richard Newbould, UK producer claims South

Devon crossbreds have the same commercial capabilities
as the Continental breeds, but are much quieter. "We had
been using Limousins and Simmentals and then kept our
own heifers, but you couldn't get anywhere near them



Commercial South Devon cow/calf pairs in Chinook, Montana

when they calved," he said. South Devon crossbreds have either matched or exceeded the Continental breeds on almost every occasion, Newbould said. "You can't separate them on carcass grades." Using South Devon has been a real success, he said.

The UK South Devon Society promotes South Devon as being "Commercially Sound."

South Devon's were first introduced in New Zealand for the main goal of cross breeding for beef herd improvement in 1969. According to the South Devon Cattle Society of New Zealand South Devons add to commercial herds in terms of excellent performance weight-gain and wonderful temperament.

All over the world producers agree that South Devon cattle have something to offer their herd, feed efficiency, high -performance, maternal values, a quality well-marbled carcass and a calm temperament.

Leah Giess is a freshman at Kansas State University majoring in agricultural communications.

DLCC Ranch Sells to 13 States & Canada

A large crowd attended the 24th Annual DLCC Ranch production sale, April 30, Pierz, Minn.

Cattle sold to 13 states and Canada.

Sale Results:

Purebred Bull Average: \$5,512 Poundmaker Bull Average: \$3,871

Show Heifers: \$3,700 Females: \$2,030

Top-sellers included:

DLCC Stockman 39C, a March 27, 2015 son of MMM Untouchable W810 and out of DLCC Promise 40U sold for \$34,000 to Missouri Coteau Cattle Company, Crane Valley, Sask. Canada, Dr. Terry Houser, Manhattan, Kan., and Jared Mumm, Twin Falls, Idaho.

DLCC Cool One 23C, a March 23, 2015 son of MMM Untouchable W810 and out of DLCC Gracie 80Y sold for \$11,000 to Center Valley Livestock, Pierz, Minn.

DLCC Coulee 97C, a June 1, 2015 son of DLCC Dodge City 78Y and out of DLCC Clare 1X sold for \$17,000 to Leachman Cattle of Colorado, Wellington, Colo.

DLCC Copy Cat 69C, an April 9, 2015 son of DLCC Dodge City 78Y and out of DLCC Topaz 20Y sold for \$15,000 to Leachman Cattle of Colorado, Wellington, Colo.

DLCC Caliber 24C, a March 23, 2015 son of MMM Untouchable W810 and out of Frosty In Focus H119 sold for \$13,500 to Raty Ranch, Chinook, Mont.

DLCC Crossfire 67C, an April 9, 2015 son of DLCC



Dodge City 78Y and out of DLCC Claire 50W sold for \$9,500 to Dahl Land & Cattle Co., Gackle, ND.

DLCC Cadet 4C, a February 22, 2015 son of DLCC Admiral 12A and out of DLCC Mammy 46A sold for \$6,000 to Diamond Plus Cattle, Gackle, ND.

DLCC Color Me Red 77C, an April 14, 2015 son of DLCC Dodge City 78Y and out of DLCC Sierra 92Y sold for \$6,000 to Carroll Nelson, Ryegate, Mont.

DLCC Kally 77B with an April bull calf at side, a daughter of DLCC Shur Loc 99W sold for \$5,000 to Hay Cow, Lincoln, Calif.

DLCC Baby Girl 86B, a May 14, 2014 daughter of DLCC Shur Loc 99W sold for \$\$4,600 to Leachman Cattle of Colorado, Wellington, Colo.

George Gersema, Meridian, Idaho was the volume buyer of females.



Injectable Trace Minerals Boost Immunity

By Gilda V. Bryant

In spite of good animal husbandry practices, stocker or feedlot calves can become ill with a variety of diseases. Sick animals lose weight with subsequent poor weight gain, plus they tend to be more susceptible to ailments as they grow older. Many times, all attempts to treat these animals fail, and calves die.

Bovine Respiratory Disease (BRD) has a tremendous economic impact on the cattle industry both in the United States and abroad. The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS), reports that BRD occurs in 16.2 percent of cattle in U.S. feedlots. These daunting figures include cattle that receive vaccines along with protection from various levels of biosecurity.

The most common causes of illnesses seen in cattle are various viruses, including the bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV), bovine herpes virus 1 (BHV-1), bovine respiratory syncytial virus (BRSV), and the parainfluenza 3 virus (PI3V). Throw in varieties of bacteria such as *Pasteurella multocida and Mannheimia haemolytica*, and infected animals can have a high rate of illness and death.

Newly received and highly stressed young calves are most often at-risk, especially if they have had incomplete immunizations or no immunizations at all. Animals that have had marginal nutrition with poor mineral supplementation tend to have more health problems. They are exposed to stressors that impair immune functions, such as weaning, comingling with calves of different infectious levels and spending as much as 30 hours on a truck without food and water. Once unloaded, they must quickly adapt to a new environment. Stressed calves often display decreased appetite, resulting in nutrient deficiencies, which further impair immune function.

Research has shown that trace minerals, such as copper, zinc, manganese and selenium, play a vital role in immune function in young animals. For example,



when injectable trace minerals (ITM) accompany vaccines, calves display earlier and stronger immune responses.

In a recent University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine study, 30 normal male Holstein calves received an MLV (modified-live virus) vaccines with BHV1, BVDV1, BRSV, and PI3V and an attenuated-live bacterin. These three-month old calves were divided into two groups. The control group received a subcutaneous (Sub-Q) injection of sterile saline, while the ITM group received a Sub-Q injection containing trace minerals, copper, zinc, manganese and selenium.

Three weeks after receiving vaccinations, researchers gave calves a booster of the same vaccine and another injection of ITM or sterile saline, depending on the group. After running extensive tests on blood and liver biopsy samples, researchers analyzed the results.

This study indicates that ITM supplements lead to positive responses to vaccination. The ITM group had a higher response to BVDV, BHV-1, and BRSV. Giving ITM concurrently with MLV vaccine resulted in higher levels of antibodies to BVDV than the control group. Seven days after the initial vaccination, the ITM group had a higher response to BRSV than the control group. Additionally, calves that received ITM had a stronger and earlier cellular immune response to BVDV. ITM also induced faster and higher immune response to

Continued from Page 17

Pasteurella multocida and the rate of increase in antibody titer to Mannheimia haemolytica was higher in the ITM group compared to the control group.

Calves receiving ITM had elevated concentrations of selenium, manganese, and copper in the liver on days 21 and 56, while the control group had a dramatic drop in selenium and copper.

Researchers at Cornell University conducted a similar study of 790 Holstein heifer calves. They were not deficient in trace minerals and had received passive immunity from their mothers. Within 12 hours after birth, researchers fed them raw colostrum and then pasteurized milk twice a day. Researchers injected ITMs on days three and 30 after birth. The data from this study suggests that ITM supplements increased immunity and antioxidant status in these calves. Animals that received trace mineral treatment had a reduced incidence of scours, ear infections and pneumonia compared to the control group. Injectable trace mineral studies are ongoing to determine the complete effects of this sup-

plementation on immune response.

What does this research mean for beef cattle producers? These studies may influence management decisions, such as treating calves with injectable trace minerals when giving vaccinations to increase their immune response. If animals avoid serious infections, they are likely to stay healthy, with a higher average daily gain. That means less antibiotic use and treatment expense, saving the rancher or feedlot producer precious time and money because he is not treating sick calves. When following dosage instructions, the producer knows his animals have received adequate trace minerals. Healthy animals have better carcass quality, which adds more money to the bottom line. Reproductive performance increases, as well, which is especially important to rebuilding America's herds. Injectable trace minerals are another valuable tool beef producers can

Gilda V. Bryant is an Amarillo-based freelancer who writes about agriculture and ranch topics.

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