

2019 Virginia BCIA Southwest Bull Test & BCIA-Influenced Virginia Premium Assured Heifer Sale Report

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The 40th Annual Southwest Virginia Performance Tested Bull Sale sponsored by the Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Association was held Saturday, March 23, 2019 at Wytheville. The 124 bulls offered sold for an average price of \$2793 per head. Breed averages were as follows: 65 Angus averaged \$2654, 4 Charolais \$2550, 2 Purebred Gelbvieh \$2000, 5 Gelbvieh Balancer \$2720, 8 Hereford \$2875, 13 Purebred Simmental \$3023, and 27 SimAngus \$3102. The BCIA-influenced Virginia Premium Assured Heifer Sale held in conjunction with the bull sale sold 26 fall-calving bred heifers for an average price of \$1675 per head.

The sale was topped by the high-indexing Senior Simmental bull, Lot 402, bred by Joines Cattle Company of Blacksburg, VA and selling to Winticomack Farm of Amelia, VA for \$5800. This homozygous black son of TNC Top Grade B23 posted test YW ratio 109, along with YW EPD +114, MB +0.19, API +133 and TI of +77. Virginia Tech Beef Center consigned Lot 416, the top indexing Junior purebred Simmental which sold to Sinking Creek Farm of Newport, VA for \$5100. Sired by W/C Executive Order 8543B, this bull posted test YW and ADG ratios of 122 and 124, RE ratio 116, along with EPDs of +15.1 CED, -1.0 BW, +0.41 MB, +130 API and TI +74.

The demand was strong for the SimAngus bulls, led by Lot 446, who was bred by Cassell Angus Farm of Independence, VA and sold to Bar-C Farm of Lebanon, VA for \$5800. This homozygous black, homozygous polled son of Hooks Broadway 11B posted ADG ratio of 117, and YW EPD +109. Lot 426 consigned by Reasor Simmental of Rural Retreat, VA sold to Mark Johnson of Dobson, NC for \$5250. This calving ease, homozygous black son of WS All-Around Z35 posted test ratios of YW 112 and IMF 123 along with CE EPD +17.6 and YW +123. Another Reasor bull, Lot 427, went to Jesse Webster of Salem, VA for \$5000. This homozygous black son of GW Premium Beef 021TS posted YW EPD +115, DOC +15, API +135, along with test YW ratio of 109.

Williams Angus of Gray, TN consigned the top indexing Junior Angus bull, Lot 120, which commanded \$5100 from Bobby and Martha Jackson of Draper, VA. This high growth and high carcass value son of MGR Treasure posted EPDs of +16 CED, +149 YW, +1.09 MB, +0.69 RE, and +192 \$B along with test ratio of 119 for ADG. The high indexing Senior Angus, Lot 42, a high growth son of Deer Valley Old Hickory, was bred by Cassell Angus Farm of Independence, VA and sold to Shiloh Farms from Eagle Rock, VA for \$5000. This bull had YW EPD +134, DOC EPD +27 and test growth ratios of 106 and 126. Lucas Farms of Blacksburg, VA sold Lot 17, a calving ease, high growth son of S Whitlock 179 to Bobby and Martha Jackson of Draper, VA for \$4400.

A solid Hereford sale featured Lot 216 from the Virginia Tech Beef Center which commanded \$3600 from Mark Givens of Newport, VA. This January 2018 son of Churchill Red Bull 200Z posted YW EPD +96, Milk EPD +32, and test YW ratio 112 and ADG ratio 127. Lot 204 Senior Hereford, bred by Fields Edge Herefords, of Floyd, VA brought \$3500 selling to Joe McAndrew of Bedford, VA. This son of TH 49U 719T Sheyenne 3X posted CE EPD of +8.6, YW +100, MB +0.21, and CHB Index \$109.

A Gelbvieh Balancer led the Gelbvieh sale. Lot 610, bred by Little Windy Hill Farms of Max Meadows, VA, sold for \$4000 to Rodney Wade Moore of Mullins, SC. This homozygous black, homozygous polled son of CCRO Carolina Exclusive 1230Y had YW EPD of +112 and RE +0.65.

The Charolais bulls were paced by Lot 306 from the Virginia Tech Beef Center and brought \$3100 from Randy Hicks of Damascus, VA. Sired by LT Reward 2348, this bull had WW and YW EPDs of +41 and +82, along with test YW ratio 107.

The BCIA-Influenced Heifer Sale consisted of 26 fall-calving commercial bred heifers. All heifers were designated as Virginia Premium Assured females. Prices were steady, as the fall calvers averaged \$1675 per head. Lot 13, a pair of Angus x Simmental heifers due in early September were consigned by Virginia Tech Beef Center and sold to Mitchell Bottomley of Ennice, NC for \$1825 each. Beamer Cattle of Galax, VA consigned Lot 10, a trio of Angus x Gelbvieh females due in late August, which sold to Adam Hoke of Lexington, VA for \$1800.

All bulls and heifers were consigned by members of the Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Association. Bulls were developed at Mountain Spring Farm at Wytheville, VA owned and operated by Brian and Kayla Umberger. The sale was managed by Virginia BCIA, and the auctioneer was Mike Jones.

Virginia BCIA and the Southwest Bull and Heifer Sale consignors would like to thank ABS, Anders Realty and Auction, Boone Tractor, Bottomley Evergreens and Farms, Carrie B. Joines Photography, Chilhowie Fence Supply, DeHaven Farms, Edgewood Angus, Farm Credit, First Bank & Trust Company, Genex, Giles Farm Bureau, Handfula Gelbviehs, Legacy at Pine Hill Farm, Little Windy Hill Farms, Lucas Farms, Mark 4 Honda, Meade Tractor, Mt. Airy Equipment, Rural Retreat Mills, Select Sires, Smith Reasor Auctioneer & Reasor Simmentals, Southern States-Carroll County Coop, Southern States- Russell County Cooperative, Southern States- Wythe County Service, Southwest Farm Supply, Southwestern Equipment, Springwood Livestock Management Services, Tri-State Livestock Market, Virginia Beef Expo, Williams Angus, Washington Farmers Coop/Southwest VA Farm Supply, and Wythe County Livestock Exchange/Mt. Airy Livestock Exchange for their sponsorship and support.