

• SIMBRAH NEWS •

Brought to you by American Simbrah Breeders

Rich history, strong future at Tom Brothers Ranch

By Merridee Wells

There's a TV commercial currently running featuring the distinctive, deep voice of Sam Elliot talking about some of Texas' "firsts"....the first U.S. battleship aptly named The Texas; the nation's first domed stadium was located in the Lone Star State; and the first word spoken on the moon was "Houston"....so with our bigger is better attitude and pride in our state, it's not surprising that one of Texas's oldest ranching entities is also home to several "firsts" of their own.

Tom Brothers Ranch, a formidable south Texas

operation located in Campbellton, can trace its roots to 1857, and is proud to claim Ellen Campbell Tom as family matriarch and attributes the ranch's growth and success to the widow of Charles Tom, the ranch's founder. Ellen Tom continued to operate the thriving ranch after her husband's untimely death.

The mother of five was a savvy businesswoman. Not only did their cattle operation thrive but she would continue to purchase land and grow the Tom Ranch holdings until her death, making her not only one of the state's first female

ranch managers, but undoubtedly one of the most successful as well.

Time brought many hardships and changes to this operation. Several more generations of Toms would fight tick fever, drought, and the Great Depression, but always each generation brought change with it.

John "Lytle" Tom Jr., great-grandson of C.T. Tom, Ellen's son, returned to the ranch after college with the idea to turn the operation, which was primarily a Hereford-based crossbred herd, into a registered Angus operation.

One of the first beef herds in the U.S. to utilize A.I., Lytle Tom Jr. introduced this concept to the ranch in 1963 in his quest to "breed a better steak". He was also one of the first in the state to serve on the Beef Improvement Federation's Sire Evaluation Committee, which helped develop EPDs (Expected Progeny Differences) for the beef industry.

Lytle Tom's interest in improving his beef herd through data collection and research prompted the ranch to host many gain tests, experiments, and research trials, with special concentration on estrus synchronization. Embryo transfer was experimentally used in 1981 as a means to propagate superior genetics.

With the introduction of Angus cattle in 1961, the ranch concentrated their efforts on raising the breed however true to the Tom's "experimental" nature.

They also introduced a few continental breeds, crossing them with Angus in an effort to find the next best beef animal.

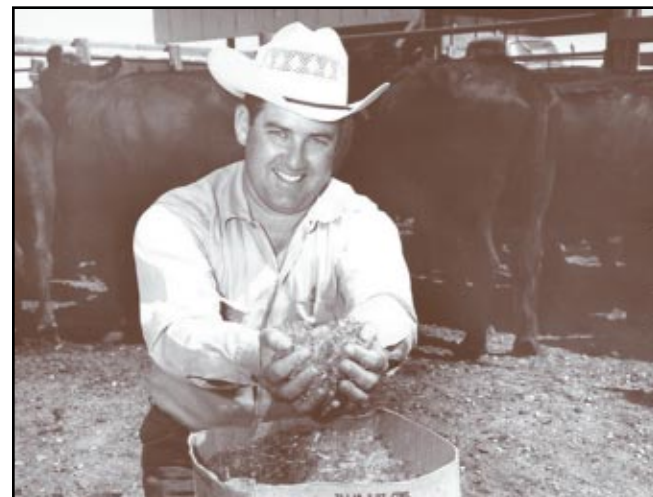
Fast forward four decades to 2000, when the 600 head Angus herd that contained 37 years of continuous A.I. breeding was

dispersed. The remaining cowherd that was left was SimAngus, Simbrah, and Angus born from the retained recipients. Because of continued drought and

(Continued on page 8)



Ellen Campbell Tom and her husband, Charles began what is known as Tom Brothers Ranch in 1857 near the town of Campbellton, Texas.



Lytle Tom, Jr., Philip's dad and Ellen's grandfather, was instrumental in bringing many new practices to the ranch, including the use of artificial insemination, estrous synchronization, performance measurements and introduced Angus and continental genetics to the cowherd.



This heifer, owned by L3 Cattle Co. was sired by a Tom Brothers Ranch bred Simbrah bull.



Philip Tom represents the fifth generation of his family to raise cattle in South Texas.



Ellen Tom is the sixth generation of the Tom family and she was named after ranch's first matriarch, who along with her husband, Charles Tom started the ranch in 1857.



This steer calf was sired by a Tom Brothers bred Simbrah bull. He belongs to L3 Cattle Co., Kenedy, Texas, which is owned by Bob and Yvonne Alexander. They purchased a Simbrah bull from the Toms to use on their Brangus x Hereford females.



TBR Right Time Z057 represents the type of Simbrah bulls the Tom program is raising. This one has EPDs ranking of top 1% in breed for calving ease, marbling and all purpose index and a top 5% for terminal index. He is also homozygous polled, homozygous black and had a 78 lb. birth weight.

NEWS

You Can Use...

Simbrah sired steer feed out planned

The Simbrah steer feed out will begin with a flex time entry in mid October and will be held at Graham Feeders.

The committee would like to have Spring born steers, branding preferred, tattooed and ear tagged. The cattle health work should follow the Texas A&M Vac 45 program. Texas A&M will be consulted during this test.

Breeders will own their individual cattle while in the feedlot and retain individual risk of death and sickness. Health insurance should be obtainable although seldom utilized due to high success ratio.

The intention is to feed to a large weight without additives to maximize carcass quality. The cattle will be fed to approximately 1400 lbs. Steers should weigh 550 lbs. or more at shipment.

Upon harvest, each breeder will receive all data

identified by tattoo numbers and each breeder will be paid based on the result of the individual carcass.

Freight to feedlot will be paid by each breeder. Group shipments and loading points will be studied to minimize shipping costs.

There are no scheduling or handling costs associated with this feed out and all risk is maintained by each breeder without recourse.

The goal is to express the carcass quality of the Simbrah breed. For additional information contact Bill Travis at billtravis@bigplanet.com or 214/850-6308.

Consignor information for all breed events

Fort Worth Commercial Female Sale

Entry forms for nominations will be available mid September. Contact Robert Schacher, (817/219-0102) to be placed on the

mailing list. Nomination forms are due December 1, 2014. However, if you want to be considered as a consignor, you must advise him of your intent to participate at the sale and inform him on the number of heifers that will be entered. Heifers will be screened for the sale around mid to late October.

San Antonio All Breed Bull Sale and All Breed Heifer Sale

Entry forms for nominations are available from October 1st to October 15th for the sale at the San Antonio Livestock Show in February. Evaluation committee will view all possible candidates prior to acceptance into the sale. Previous consignors have first choice to participate in sale.

Contact Jim Banner or Michael Sturgess (210/524-9697) for all the specifics and nomination forms.

Houston Livestock Show All Breed Bull Sale and Commercial Sale

Persons interested in consigning to the Houston Livestock Show and Ro-

deo, need to contact Gulf Tex Livestock at 979/482-2018 or gulftextlivestock@gmail.com.

La Muneca to host 27th Annual Jr. Round Up

"On Saturday, October 4th, starting at 9:00 a.m., La Muneca Cattle Co (LMC). will proudly be hosting our 27th Annual Jr. Round Up & LMC Futurity. This is a fun-filled, educational, family oriented event that anyone interested in is invited to attend. There will be speakers on many

topics related to the beef industry, showing cattle, leadership and motivation," states LMC owner, Carlos X. Guerra.


Adults and three age groups of juniors will have the opportunity to judge four classes of Simbrah, Brahman and Simbravieh cattle, two classes of hay plus a weight-guessing contest. Seventy-five juniors will win \$750 in premiums sponsored by the Darryl Raub Family, plus be in the drawing for over 100 door prizes donated by many local businesses, including

Martin's Farm & Ranch, Farm & Ranch in San Isidro-Kito Saenz, Hidalgo County Farm Bureau, Mueller Inc.-Frank Trevino, Chorizo de San Manuel, Creative Awards, San Isidro FFA-Raul Hinojosa, Rio Grande City FFA-Randy Lee Lara, Tandy's, La Muneca and the families of Dr. Oscar Alvarez, Benny Cano, Benjamin Hill and Doug Lightfoot. The average attendance through the years has been over 300 kids, parents and leaders. The LMC Special Awards of Volunteer,




La Muneca Cattle Co. will host it's 27th Annual Roundup on October 4th. The event is geared for families and includes a show for juniors. Past participants are pictured here.

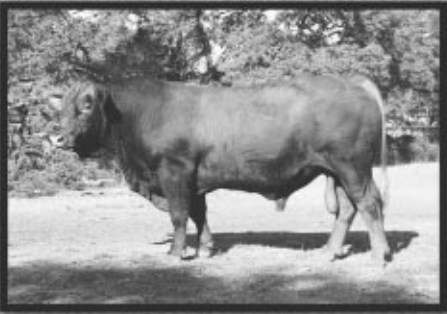
WE'VE SET OUR SIGHTS ON QUALITY!



LMC-WFC WAVE AMIGO
We purchased this son of Smith Nu Wave 11 and out of Diva at the Synergy Sale. He is a full sib to the popular, National and International Champion, LMC WFC Dream Girl. His sire is the popular Smith Nu Wave and his dam is now a donor in the Southwestern Farms/Smith Genetics programs. WE HAVE SEMEN FOR SALE ON THIS NU WAVE SON. CONTACT US!



SMITH ELYS GOLDEN CHARM
We have added this proven donor to our lineup. She is out of Smith Golden Girl and sired by the great maternal sire, NF Smith Sargeant.



SMITH NU APPROACH
We have purchased a semen package from this great three-quarter Simmental and one-quarter Brahman bull. He has some outstanding daughters at work in the breed and we are excited to have his influence as part of our program.

Mark your calendars!

7N RANCH WILL HAVE SEVERAL LOTS SELLING IN

October 25th
Smith Genetics
Giddings, Texas

Simbrah
Synergy
Sale

Nieschwietz
7N Ranch

Ranches located in Donna and Falls City

Pete Nieschwietz

P.O. Box 303
Falls City, Texas 78113
956/460-6002
pnieschwietz@sbcglobal.net
www.7NRANCH.net

7N Ranch is not just raising Simbrah cattle, we're raising them with quality at the forefront of every decision we make. In this day and time, of limited forage, high feed and fuel prices, it's imperative that our capital be spent on quality genetics that can improve our program and produce offspring that will be in demand.

We've made substantial additions to our program in the past couple of years and we're pumped about the calves we have on the ground and coming.

We invite you to visit and see what our vision of quality looks like!

News...

Booster and Educators of the Year will be awarded at the Round Up.

The Annual La Muneca Futurity will conclude the day's events with over \$9,000 in prize money and buckles. Half of this money will be awarded in showmanship. The RGV Brahman & F-1 Association will also be sponsoring a registered Brahman steer show at this event.

Food and refreshments will be served all day by the Edinburg FFA Booster Club. The ninth annual LMC Customer Appreciation Dinner will be held at the conclusion of the LMC Futurity. La Muneca is located three miles south of Linn on the west side of Highway 281. For more information, please call Carlos or Sister Guerra at 956-383-7566 or 802-1641 or email them at lamuneca-cattle@aol.com or call Brad Cowan, Hidalgo County Agent at 956-383-1026 or b-cowan@tamu.edu.

HOTSSA Fall Fest Sale changes format

The Heart of Texas Simmental/Simbrah Asso-

ciation will host their annual sale on September 18-20th, it will be an online sale. It will be carried on DVAuction.com. The sale will run from 8:00 a.m. on September 18th until 3:00 p.m. on September 20th.

Cattle will be available for viewing at JHC Ranch's Buckholts, Texas location on September 20th. The location for the sale viewing is 5276 FM 485, Buckholts, Texas 76518. For additional information contact Jim Carter, president at 254/697-1078 or jhc ranch@sbcglobal.net or Jim Ethridge at 979/255-2882.

ASA starts new tradition

Come to Bozeman, September 8-11th to help American Simmental Association (ASA) Board Chairman Jim Butcher kick off a new tradition for the Fall ASA Trustee Meeting/Educational Seminar. Join in the Open Committee Meetings, Board Meeting, Guest Speakers, barbeque at the ASA Office, and good conversation with fellow Simmental enthusiasts.

The host hotel will be Holiday Inn Bozeman 5 East Baxter Lane, Boze-

man, Montana. Call 406/587-4561 and reference "ASA" or "American Simmental" for the special \$85 rate. There is no fee for the seminar, but to help with planning for meals, you must register.

Visit simmental.org to register on-line or simply call the ASA office and someone will help you.

Synergy VII set for October 24-26th

Simbrah Synergy VII will be held October 24-26 at Smith Genetics, Giddings, Texas. The weekend event includes an educational skill-a-thon and sales talk competition for juniors, sale and the \$15,000 Synergy Showcase junior show.

The sale will be in the evening on Saturday, October 25th and includes over 100 lots of cattle. The lots are predominately Simbrah. Bulls, embryos, donors, pairs, breds and some fancy show prospects sell.

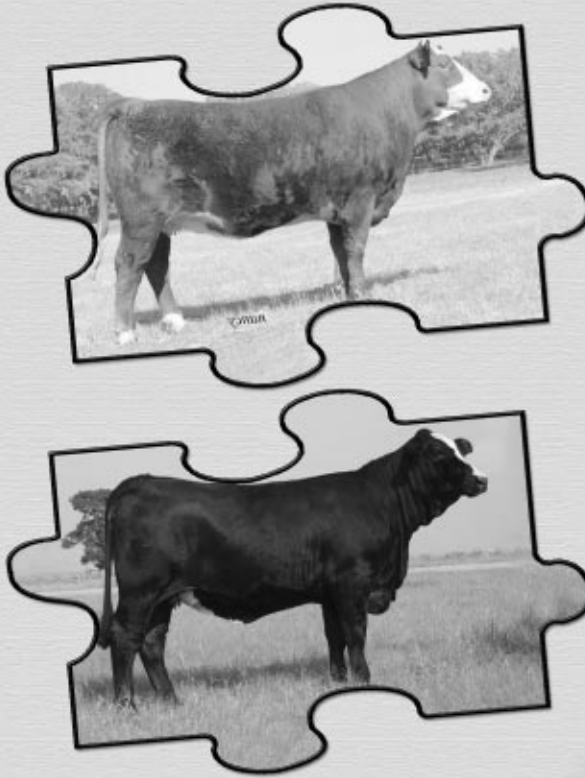
The skill-a-thon, sales talk and showmanship competition will be held Saturday afternoon. The Synergy Showcase will award \$15,000 to junior exhibitors of cattle purchased from the Synergy

(Continued on page 10)

Pieces To Our Genetic Plan

At McCrary Farms we have built our Simmental and Simbrah herds on proven, predictable genetics. We have added daughters of some of the top cow families and utilize sires that add strong genetics, performance, EPDs and marketing power too!

One of the cow families we have added is the great Smith Priceless, who is recognized as one of the top females in the breed and her earning power has been proven over and over! Look at her two daughters we have in the herd now!



Smith Priceless Wish—A purebred Simbrah daughter of the great Priceless, who's progeny have dominated sale rings. Wish is a daughter of Smith Nu Approach, a top three-quarter blood sire. She has solid EPDs and is now in our donor program.

Smith McCrary Hi Price—A percentage Simbrah and daughter of Smith Priceless and the great Simmental sire, CNS Dream On. She ranks in the top 1% of the breed for API and 3% for TI and we have her in our donor lineup. She has a Satisfies sired bull calf that we think is destined for greatness and you will be hearing more about him in the near future!

McCrary Farms

We will be participating in Synergy
October 25th.

We are located in Northeast
Texas and would love to visit with
you about our program!



Mark and Martha McCrary
903/667-5135 • 903/278-6819 •
mamamc4@aol.com
307 North Runnels • DeKalb, Texas 75559
We accept calf scramble certificates.



SimGenetic Bulls For Sale By Private Treaty RED AND BLACK

SimAngus™ • SimAngus™HT
Simmental • Simbrah

The Brush Country Bulls Group produces SimGenetic composite cattle to make it easy to maintain a significant level of heterosis, heat tolerance and uniform quality in both carcass and convenience traits. Our combination of breeds, provides choices to producers to optimize calves from different herd bases. Adaptability, fertility and growth are keys to profit.

Bull development takes place at Tom Brothers Ranch Bull Development, near Campbellton, Texas in lots large enough to allow adequate space for the bulls to exercise. The bulls are continuously evaluated for performance and disposition. Rations are designed to achieve gain without sacrificing rumen health and foot soundness. All bulls have passed a breeding soundness exam and are ready to work.

RX Simbrah and Filegonia Cattle Co are the current members of Brush Country Group and we are offering our 2013 Spring Bulls now, along with bred and open replacement heifers. Our 2013 Fall Born bulls will be available Spring 2015.



RX Shiraz A904-3/4 x 1/4 Simbrah Bull
Polled. He has some great carcass EPDs, and ranks in top 20% of breed for API and TI.



ZZ Mr. Fire A491-3/4 SM, 1/8Br, 1/8 MX
A polled, percentage Simbrah with a touch of Red Angus. A great calving ease bull as he ranks in top 1% of breed for birth weight and 2% for calving ease.

For more photos, details and videos of the bulls, visit our websites.

**FILEGONIA
CATTLE COMPANY**

Beth and Joe Mercer
956/802-6995 • www.filegoniacattle.com

RX

Sally Buxkemper
325/656-3008
www.rxsimbrah.com



We've Got More



Just Like Her!

If this is your kind of Simbrah female, then we are your source.

We will be offering a nice set of females, including this one at the Simbrah Synergy Sale and we have cattle for sale at private treaty!

This heifer is sired by our senior herd sire, Mr. Strack 254Y. We have semen for sale on him at \$25 per straw. Call for details.



October 25th
Giddings, Texas

NH

HALLAK RANCH

Billy Hallak • 1167 Oval Drive • Athens, Texas 75751
Cell: 903/203-8524 • Home/Fax: 903/292-1428 • Nhalla@hotmail.com

Preparing your ranch for the next drought

By Larry A. Redmon and Mark McFarland, state forage specialist and state soil fertility specialist

They say hindsight is 20-20. The question is: What lessons can we learn in hindsight to minimize the negative effects of the next drought? Because there certainly will be a next drought. Below are several key factors to help prepare for, and survive, the next drought.

Adjust stocking rate

Even when the production system is irrigated, drought will be part of the risk associated with forage production, and by extension, livestock production. One immediate and dramatic strategy that can mitigate the negative effects of future drought events is to adjust the stocking rate of the cow herd to 75% of what could be maintained based on long-term precipitation and forage production records. This stocking rate should be based on several years (more is better) of observing the quantity of forage produced

under the typical management strategy. Additionally, cow size has increased over the years. Larger cows require more forage; thus the stocking rate should also be adjusted for a difference in cow size if the ranch used to run 100 cows 25 years ago when average cow size was 900 to 1000 pounds/head.

When stocked at 75%, livestock producers usually will not be overstocked during most drought years. This prevents having to purchase expensive feed in an attempt to "feed your way out of a drought". The 75% stocking rate also will reduce the need to sell cows at a time when many others are being sold and prices are deflated. During years of good forage production, stocker calves may be used as flex grazers to utilize excess forage. Calves may come from the producer's herd (keep them longer) or may be purchased or grazed on a gain or head/day basis. Excess forage in good years also may be harvested and stored for drought years or

sold as hay.

Forages should never be grazed "to the roots" under any circumstances; removal of most or all green leaves deprives the plant of the ability to convert sunlight into carbohydrates (energy) vital for plant growth. Decreased carbohydrate production results in decreased root production, thus reducing the plant's ability to obtain necessary water and nutrients from the soil. The relationship between leaves and roots is critical at all times, but especially during drought. Besides allowing the plant to carry out optimum photosynthetic activity, adequate green leaf residue also reduces soil moisture evaporation and promotes infiltration of precipitation that is received. When there is little or no forage residue, raindrop impact on bare ground can damage soil structure resulting in surface crusting, reduced rainfall infiltration and much great water loss as runoff. For bermudagrass, a target residue height should be no

less than 4 inches, while other species will be different depending on their growth habit. Some of the tall, bunch grasses like little or big bluestem should not be grazed shorter than 10 to 12 inches.

Manage fertilizer inputs

Fertilizer is never inexpensive, and all fertilizer nutrients have increased in cost dramatically in recent years. Thus, the first inclination of livestock producers is to not fertilize during drought. This is seldom a wise strategy. Nitrogen is essential for photosynthesis, which enables the plant to produce its own food. Phosphorus and potassium are critical for root development, water use efficiency, and overall plant vigor. Soil testing and implementing a well-balanced fertility program can help plants survive drought and recover more rapidly after the drought has ended.

If fertilizer already has been applied, but there has been no significant precipitation, fertilizer will remain in the upper soil profile. Although nitrogen is sub-

ject to some volatilization loss as ammonia gas to the atmosphere under certain conditions (wet soil or sod, high soil pH, elevated temperatures), the fertilizer investment in the pasture program will not have been wasted. When precipitation does occur, the plant will re-initiate growth and plant uptake of the fertilizer nutrients will occur.

If fertilizer has not been applied, the tendency of many producers is to take a "wait and see" attitude regarding a break in the prevailing dry weather pattern. This strategy reduces financial risk but may result in missing the first good precipitation event. Pay attention to weather forecasts and if it appears that the pattern may change and offer a higher potential for precipitation, make every attempt to get the fertilizer in the field before that next rain. Fertilizing immediately after a rainfall event is not recommended. Addition of a urease inhibitor to urea containing fertilizers (urea and liquid 32%) also may

be justified to reduce potential nitrogen volatilization losses when chances for rainfall are uncertain.

Summary

The following key points should be remembered regarding preparation for the next, and inevitable, drought event.

- For livestock producers, attempting to feed your way out of a drought is usually not economically viable and should not be attempted.

- The cow herd should be stocked for 75% of what the forage resource can produce based on long-term records.

- Properly fertilized forages tolerate and recover from drought better than poorly fertilized forages.

- It is generally better to have fertilizer in the field waiting on a precipitation event than to fertilize after rain, so that the rainfall can move nutrients into the plant root zone for uptake.

- Do not be afraid to sell cows; protect your forage resources by culling deeply before the drought becomes too severe.

BULL POWER We've Got It

A polled purebred Simbrah son of Smith Evan, out of an Also N Red bred daughter. His EPDs rank him in the top 2% for calving ease and API; top 3% for birth and TI, top 10% for weaning, yearling and top 20% for maternal weaning weight. He was Grand Champion Bull at the ASA National and National at San Antonio. His first calves are impressive and we will be campaigning a powerful son this coming spring. Owned with Smith Genetics, Burch Farms, Diamond RF Farms and Reavis Farms.



His EPDs rank in the top 1% for weaning, API and TI; top 2% for calving ease, birth and yearling; top 4% for yearling, top 10% for maternal calving ease and maternal weaning weight. He is sired by Charismatic and is out of Madam W, a Dream On daughter. He is a polled/scurred purebred Simbrah. Owned with Smith Genetics and Reavis Farms.

We've invested heavily in this breed with some of the most proven cow families and we have acquired some of the most exciting young sires to lead the program as well. Bulls with genetic greatness, strong EPDs, and powerful phenotypes are part of the Southwestern Farms program. In addition to the bulls pictured, we have semen interests in Smith Stout N Black, Smith Evan and Smith Nu Approach.

We are a young program, but we think the potential for greatness is unlimited!

Come visit us and see the progeny we are putting on the ground!



Smith Xtra Ordinary



Smith Fierce N Black

A black polled Simmental sire that we are using to produce percentage Simbrahs. He is sired by Flying B Cut Above and out of a Dream On daughter. He was the reserve grand champion bull at the 2014 Houston International Show. Owned with Smith Genetics.



Smith Wentz Blackfoot

Sired by Smith Nu Wave II and out of the great LMC Diva. He is a polled purebred and ranks in the top 1% of weaning; top 2% for yearling; top 3% for maternal weaning weight, carcass weight and TI. His first calves are very impressive. Owned with Smith Genetics.

SOUTHWESTERN
Farms

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How much should I feed my cows?

The answer... in five simple questions.

By Rick Machen and Ted McCollum,
Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service

Review of a cow/calf enterprise budget generally finds supplementation among the top three expenses. If profitability is a primary goal, then it's imperative that supplementation efforts be effective and cost efficient.

Unlike cattle feeders and dairymen, beef producers seldom know exactly what and how much their cows are eating. So the question often arises - "How much

should I feed my cows?"

This question is similar to "How long does it take to get to Amarillo?" Perhaps the most accurate answer to both is "It depends." A response which in turn begs more questions: From where are you departing from? Methods of transportation? Route? Number of stops?

The intent herein is to identify five questions (in order of priority) cattle-

men should consider as they develop their supplementation program. [Supplementation is often thought of in the context of a winter activity. Yet as the previous three years (2010-2013) have illustrated, supplementation may be warranted anytime nutrient demand exceeds nutrient availability, regardless of the season.]

1. How much do they weigh?

Larger cows can eat more and must do so to satisfy maintenance requirements and production expectations. Body weight is the largest factor affecting the pounds of nutrients required. Table 1 illustrates the effect of body weight on nutrients needed.

Notice the weights listed in nutrient requirements tables assume cows are in average condition (body condition score = 5).

Stocking rates and forage demand are expressed in animal units, with an animal unit being the weight/number of a species expected to consume 26 pounds of air dry forage per day. Relative to beef cows, an animal unit is a 1,000 pound cow.

Mature weight/size of the U.S. beef cow herd has steadily increased over the past 40 years. There is no substitute for scales when it comes to assessing cow body weight - too often



Most supplements contain both protein and energy, so it becomes a balancing challenge to determine which supplement best combines the needed nutrients at the best cost.

'guesses' are off by 200 pounds or more. Suffice it to observe, there are not many 1,000 pound cows left in the country.

2. What stage of production are they in?

In addition to body weight, nutrient demand is influenced by physiological status or stage of production. In order of increasing nutrient demand, the four

stages of production are:
mid-gestation → late gestation → late lactation → early lactation
Yet the order in which they occur is:

mid-gestation → late gestation → early lactation → late lactation
and depending on calf age at weaning, late lactation and mid-gestation may
(Continued on page 10)

Table 1. Protein & Energy Requirements – Mature Cows
Middle 1/3 Gestation (maintaining weight)

Weight, lb*	Dry Matter Intake, lb/d	Crude Protein, lb/d	TDN, lb/d	Calcium, grams/d	Phosphorus, grams/d
1000	18.1	1.3	8.8	15	15
1200	20.8	1.4	10.1	18	18
1400	23.3	1.6	11.4	21	21

*in average body condition (BCS=5)
from *Nutrient Requirements of Beef Cattle*, 6th Ed., 1984

Notice the weights listed in nutrient requirements tables assume cows are in average condition (body condition score = 5). For more information on body condition scoring

Table 2. Protein & Energy Requirements – Mature Cows
1st 3-4 months lactation (predicted gain 0.0 lb/day; superior milking ability)

Weight, lb*	Dry Matter Intake, lb/d	Crude Protein, lb/d	TDN, lb/d	Calcium, grams/d	Phosphorus, grams/d
1000	20.6	2.5	13.8	36	25
1200	23.8	2.7	15.2	39	28
1400	26.7	2.9	16.5	42	31

*in average body condition (BCS=5)
from *Nutrient Requirements of Beef Cattle*, 6th Ed., 1984



MOSSY CREEK RANCH

SIMBRAH

Kevin Kent • www.mossycreekranch.com • kevinwkent@gmail.com • Cleveland, GA



Taking a look at the numbers...

Fall 2014 Simbrah EPDs

The American Simmental Association (ASA), maintains the registry and Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs) database for the Simbrah breed and has published the Fall 2014 EPDs. We have provided the top 12 rankings for each trait based on sires who have had progeny born since January 1, 2011. EPDs are estimates of how a bull or cow's future progeny will perform, on average, for a given trait. They provide estimates of the genetic value of an animal as a parent. Specifically, differences in EPDs between two individuals of the same breed predict differences in performance between their future offspring when each is mated to animals of the same average genetic merit.

Fall 2014 Simbrah Calving Ease Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2347626	FEA REX	4/5/06	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	10.3	0.31
2	1065880	CR HONCHO LAD 249S	12/13/84	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	10.1	0.51
3	2567964	SMITH ALWAYS IN STYLE	4/15/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	9.6	0.33
4	2567966	SMITH HIGHLY RECOMMENDED	6/10/10	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	9.4	0.30
5	2477664	BHR WILLIS W555	3/7/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	8.8	0.35
6	2252007	LMC MAGNUM 5M/486	10/27/02	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	8.7	0.48
7	2435393	SMITH EVAN	2/12/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	8.3	0.49
8	2344033	SMITH NU APPROACH	3/10/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	8.1	0.63
9t	2560052	FEA PREFERRED PETE	3/17/10	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	8.0	0.18
9t	2526677	RFI SMITH THUNDERSTRUCK	4/5/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	8.0	0.46
11	2537907	LMC RHINO 5W/367	11/18/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	7.8	0.43
12	2446430	PRR OPTIMUM 892T	12/22/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	7.6	0.64

Fall 2014 Simbrah Birth Weight Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2567612	RX CINNAMON X041	4/23/10	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.9	0.39
2	2381562	RX CINNAMON	12/10/06	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.7	0.75
3	2435393	SMITH EVAN	2/12/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.6	0.56
4	2347626	FEA REX	4/5/06	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	-0.1	0.34
5	2477664	BHR WILLIS W555	3/7/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.0	0.42
6	2381099	SMITH ISGRIG CHARISMATIC	2/26/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.2	0.70
7t	2344033	SMITH NU APPROACH	3/10/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	0.4	0.67
7t	2449149	PVF MAVERICK 853	3/12/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.4	0.51
9	2467353	TSC CLASS ACT	11/4/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.6	0.45
10	1065880	CR HONCHO LAD 249S	12/13/84	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.7	0.66
11	2397605	ZZ MR T799	2/26/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	1.0	0.61
12	2394729	PSR NORMAN T708	3/20/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	1.1	0.72

Fall 2014 Simbrah Weaning Weight Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2305018	SMITH NU WAVE II	12/10/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	116.6	0.76
2	2381099	SMITH ISGRIG CHARISMATIC	2/26/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	103.1	0.59
3	2545552	SMITH HAGAN TSUNAMI	3/5/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	101.0	0.26
4	2162556	NF SMITH SARGEANT	2/18/02	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	94.5	0.81
5	2465658	LMC WFC MOOSE 5U/57	1/27/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	87.7	0.37
6	2465659	LMC WFC WAVE AMIGO 5U/58	1/27/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	86.7	0.59
7	2411914	SMITH RONEN	5/15/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	84.9	0.39
8	2620841	LMC 6G RED ROCK 5Y/203	4/21/11	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	84.0	0.24
9	2351969	HAGANS ANTE UP 51S	7/24/06	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	81.7	0.56
10	2242894	WCC PRINCE P01	3/2/04	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	81.1	0.69
11t	2296440	PRR BLACK MAJOR 25R	2/9/05	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	80.6	0.42
11t	2488653	J7N VICMAR 420	9/25/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	80.6	0.60

Fall 2014 Simbrah Yearling Weight Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2305018	SMITH NU WAVE II	12/10/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	137.4	0.75
2	2381099	SMITH ISGRIG CHARISMATIC	2/26/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	133.1	0.56
3	2162556	NF SMITH SARGEANT	2/18/02	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	126.9	0.81
4	2545552	SMITH HAGAN TSUNAMI	3/5/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	126.3	0.26
5	2488653	J7N VICMAR 420	9/25/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	117.8	0.61
6	2495219	PRR DR. DAZZLE 911U	12/2/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	117.6	0.48
7	2411914	SMITH RONEN	5/15/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	116.9	0.37
8	2620841	LMC 6G RED ROCK 5Y/203	4/21/11	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	113.5	0.24
9t	2439925	PRR TARGET 826T	9/10/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	112.1	0.66
9t	2351969	HAGANS ANTE UP 51S	7/24/06	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	112.1	0.56
11	2465658	LMC WFC MOOSE 5U/57	1/27/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	111.0	0.36
12	2242894	WCC PRINCE P01	3/2/04	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	110.4	0.68

Fall 2014 Simbrah Maternal Calving Ease Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2409813	PRR PAPA 702T	2/19/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	14.0	0.49
2	2586449	PRR SEDONA 004X	8/31/10	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	12.7	0.29
3	2408389	LMC P43 AMIGO 3T/65	3/18/07	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	11.9	0.44
4t	2513493	PRR CHOICE 565W	3/22/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	11.5	0.31
4t	2144815	LM FULL HOUSE 5L/133	10/8/01	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	11.5	0.75
4t	2446419	PRR HOUSE 818T	9/1/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	11.5	0.26
4t	2278892	PRR RED AMMO 506P	9/4/04	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	11.5	0.73
8	2285747	PRR IRISH PIONEER 306P	9/12/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	11.3	0.53
9	2381099	SMITH ISGRIG CHARISMATIC	2/26/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	11.2	0.47
10	2341008	PRR PREVAIL 774S	1/17/06	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	11.0	0.73
11	2537907	LMC RHINO 5W/367	11/18/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	10.7	0.25
12	2567964	SMITH ALWAYS IN STYLE	4/15/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	10.6	0.28

Fall 2014 Simbrah Maternal Milk Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2446550	LMC LF GOLIATH T211	11/2/07	3/8 SM 1/2 BV 1/8 BR	38.5	0.34
2	2203223	PRR SCOUT 002N	1/27/03	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	36.4	0.70
3	2403665	SSS PEYTON 395T	9/5/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	33.9	0.32
4	2279820	PSR PROTOTYPE R103	1/23/05	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	32.4	0.47
5	2567609	RX RED X031	3/20/10	5/8 SM 1/4 BR 1/8 MX	32.1	0.35
6	1065880	CR HONCHO LAD 249S	12/13/84	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	32.0	0.40
7	2422331	PSR SHOWBOAT T143	12/10/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	31.2	0.27
8t	2399159	RX AMS T706	3/8/07	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	30.8	0.34
8t	2408389	LMC P43 AMIGO 3T/65	3/18/07	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	30.8	0.43
10	2422942	SW WAR DANCER	8/2/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	30.1	0.33
11	2229819	PSR ANDY N124	12/26/03	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	30.0	0.44
12	2519174	SSS HES GOOD 444W	8/15/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	29.9	0.27

They provide a tool to allow breeders and bull buyers a calculated way to measure predicted per-EPDs, as well as see breed averages, visit www.simmental.org and view the Simbrah tab titled, herdbook service-

Fall 2014 Simbrah Maternal Weaning Weight Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2203223	PRR SCOUT 002N	1/27/03	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	70.6	0.73
2	2381099	SMITH ISGRIG CHARISMATIC	2/26/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	68.9	0.47
3	2305018	SMITH NU WAVE II	12/10/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	67.9	0.72
4	2495221	PRR PLENTIFUL 914U	12/9/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	64.4	0.32
5	2545552	SMITH HAGAN TSUNAMI	3/5/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	63.9	0.23
6	2488653	J7N VICMAR 420	9/25/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	62.9	0.44
7	2391576	SMITH RFI NF THE BOSS	8/5/06	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	62.1	0.28
8	2411914	SMITH RONEN	5/15/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	62.0	0.28
9	2162556	NF SMITH SARGEANT	2/18/02	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	61.6	0.80
10	2590951	PRR TOPLINE 327X	9/4/10	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	61.1	0.34
11	2490152	JHC HOUSE OF SOUL	12/7/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	60.9	0.23
12	2351969	HAGANS ANTE UP 51S	7/24/06	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	60.7	0.54

Fall 2014 Simbrah Docility Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2470233	ZZ MR FULL FIGURES U907	3/9/08	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	19.5	0.30
2	2439924	PRR PALISADE 813T	8/30/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	14.2	0.27
3	2567212	SWR BLACK CHIEF	6/8/10	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	13.0	0.11
4	2636889	PRR ALAMO 690Y	10/5/11	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	12.7	0.15
5	2447044	LMC HS ROCCO 5T/201	10/31/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	11.8	0.32
6	2449178	PVF TECH CADENCE 806	2/19/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	11.6	0.16
7	2305018	SMITH NU WAVE II	12/10/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	11.3	0.30
8	2567611	RX SHIRAZ X018	3/23/10	5/8 SM 1/4 BR 1/8 AR	11.2	0.14
9	2620841	LMC 6G RED ROCK 5Y/203	4/21/11	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	10.7	0.09
10	2465659	LMC WFC WAVE AMIGO 5U/58	1/27/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	10.6	0.11
11	2490971	MR STRACK U46	11/1/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	10.5	0.04
12	2488652	J7N WHISKEY RIVER W02	1/15/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	10.3	0.26

Fall 2014 Simbrah Carcass Weight Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2488653	J7N VICMAR 420	9/25/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	56.7	0.48
2	2495219	PRR DR. DAZZLE 911U	12/2/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	53.9	0.39
3	2305018	SMITH NU WAVE II	12/10/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	50.0	0.56
4	2162556	NF SMITH SARGEANT	2/18/02	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	49.5	0.58
5	2545552	SMITH HAGAN TSUNAMI	3/5/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	47.3	0.23
6	2381099	SMITH ISGRIG CHARISMATIC	2/26/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	47.0	0.46
7	2242894	WCC PRINCE P01	3/2/04	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	45.0	0.52
8	2439925	PRR TARGET 826T	9/10/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	44.5	0.51
9	2557999	OAKS MR JERICO 016X	5/23/10	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	44.0	0.22
10	2411914	SMITH RONEN	5/15/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	43.8	0.32
11t	2296440	PRR BLACK MAJOR 25R	2/9/05	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	42.6	0.35
11t	2620841	LMC 6G RED ROCK 5Y/203	4/21/11	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	42.6	0.21

Fall 2014 Simbrah Yield Grade Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2495222	PRR STAR TROOPER 924U	12/15/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.42	0.28
2t	2446550	LMC LF GOLIATH T211	11/2/07	3/8 SM 1/2 BV 1/8 BR	-0.37	0.12
2t	2513488	PRR APACHE 539W	1/8/09	5/4 SM 3/8 BR	-0.37	0.18
4	2447044	LMC HS ROCCO 5T/201	10/31/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.36	0.31
5	2144815	LM FULL HOUSE 5L/133	10/8/01	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.35	0.35
6t	2495230	PRR AMMO POWER 977U	10/27/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.33	0.30
6t	2382434	LMC SHOTGUN 5S/258	9/21/06	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.33	0.15
6t	2586450	PRR PILGRIM 008X	9/4/10	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.33	0.25
9t	2341008	PRR PREVAIL 774S	1/17/06	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.32	0.42
9t	2470233	ZZ MR FULL FIGURES U907	3/9/08	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	-0.32	0.28
9t	2495219	PRR DR. DAZZLE 911U	12/2/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.32	0.35
9t	2203223	PRR SCOUT 002N	1/27/03	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	-0.32	0.41

Fall 2014 Simbrah Marbling Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2465869	LMC LF BRAVEHEART T195	10/29/07	3/8 SM 1/2 BV 1/8 BR	0.34	0.03
2t	2446550	LMC LF GOLIATH T211	11/2/07	3/8 SM 1/2 BV 1/8 BR	0.20	0.07
2t	2495219	PRR DR. DAZZLE 911U	12/2/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.20	0.44
4	2470233	ZZ MR FULL FIGURES U907	3/9/08	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	0.15	0.27
5t	2567611	RX SHIRAZ X018	3/23/10	5/8 SM 1/4 BR 1/8 AR	0.13	0.24
5t	2397576	ZZ MR COMPOSITE T829	3/16/07	5/8 SM 1/4 BR 1/8 AR	0.13	0.15
7t	2447044	LMC HS ROCCO 5T/201	10/31/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.12	0.39
7t	2286648	LMC GODFATHER 5R/83	2/27/05	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.12	0.08
9t	2252007	LMC MAGNUM 5M/486	10/27/02	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.11	0.14
9t	2537883	LMC GIGEM AMIGO W299	8/19/09	1/2 SM 1/4 BR 1/4 BV	0.11	0.06
11t	2567966	SMITH HIGHLY RECOMMENDED	6/10/10	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	0.10	0.16
11t	2495225	PRR PREVAILANCE 961U	10/10/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	0.10	0.26

Fall 2014 Simbrah EPDs...

Fall 2014 Simbrah Warner-Bratzler Shear Force Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD	Acc
1	2470233	ZZ MR FULL FIGURES U907	3/9/08	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	-0.50	0.08
2	2278892	PRR RED AMMO 506P	9/4/04	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.48	0.26
3	2473989	PRR RULER 447U	4/21/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.37	0.03
4	2526677	RFI SMITH THUNDERSTRUCK	4/5/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	-0.32	0.46
5	2560052	FEA PREFERRED PETE	3/17/10	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	-0.22	0.05
6	2518598	6G/LMC RAJIN CAJUN W908	3/4/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	-0.21	0.03
7	2490971	MR STRACK U46	11/1/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.18	0.01
8	2544168	BCRC JOHNNY RED 001	1/22/10	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	-0.17	0.01
9t	2382421	LMC AMMO AMIGO 5S/280	9/28/06	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.14	0.01
9t	2252007	LMC MAGNUM 5M/486	10/27/02	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.14	0.06
11t	2245229	LMC-RFI-SMITH RED BULLET	1/20/04	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.13	0.02
11t	2401489	PVF BLACK POWER 736	2/9/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	-0.13	0.01

Fall 2014 Simbrah All Purpose Index (API) Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD
1	2567964	SMITH ALWAYS IN STYLE	4/15/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	115.60
2	2567966	SMITH HIGHLY RECOMMENDED	6/10/10	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	114.60
3	2305018	SMITH NU WAVE II	12/10/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	109.50
4	2381099	SMITH ISGRIG CHARISMATIC	2/26/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	106.80
5	2560052	FEA PREFERRED PETE	3/17/10	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	101.50
6	2526677	RFI SMITH THUNDERSTRUCK	4/5/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	101.40
7	2439317	LMC RFI SMITH HURRICANE	5/20/07	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	98.10
8	2518598	6G/LMC RAJIN CAJUN W908	3/4/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	97.00
9	2532458	RFI PRESTIGE	11/7/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	96.80
10	2537907	LMC RHINO 5W/367	11/18/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	96.10
11	2435393	SMITH EVAN	2/12/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	95.40
12	2530807	SMITH SATISFIES	9/9/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	94.90

Fall 2014 Simbrah Terminal Index (TI) Trait Leaders

Rank	ASA No	Name	DOB	Breed Codes	EPD
1	2305018	SMITH NU WAVE II	12/10/04	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	85.10
2	2381099	SMITH ISGRIG CHARISMATIC	2/26/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	80.60
3	2545552	SMITH HAGAN TSUNAMI	3/5/09	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	75.60
4	2465658	LMC WFC MOOSE 5U/57	1/27/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	68.90
5t	2465659	LMC WFC WAVE AMIGO 5U/58	1/27/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	68.80
5t	2162556	NF SMITH SARGEANT	2/18/02	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	68.80
7	2465869	LMC LF BRAVEHEART T195	10/29/07	3/8 SM 1/2 BV 1/8 BR	68.00
8	2620841	LMC 6G RED ROCK 5Y/203	4/21/11	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	67.30
9	2567964	SMITH ALWAYS IN STYLE	4/15/09	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	65.80
10	2567966	SMITH HIGHLY RECOMMENDED	6/10/10	3/4 SM 1/4 BR	65.40
11	2411914	SMITH RONEN	5/15/07	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	64.30
12	2435393	SMITH EVAN	2/12/08	5/8 SM 3/8 BR	64.10

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This is our sire lineup—the leading bulls and genetics of the Simbrah breed. If you need herd sires, range bulls, replacement females, show prospects... then visit us. We have the genetic potential and productivity bred into every animal.

Smith Stout N Black

A polled son of Dream On, the most popular sire in Simmental. He ranks in the top 10% of the Simmental breed for calving ease, and top 15% for yield grade and API. We are using him to produce percentage Simbrahs and purebred Simmentals. Owned with Smith Genetics.



RFI Real Deal

A polled purebred son of Evan. He was the ASA National and National at San Antonio Champion bull. His first calves have arrived and we are impressed. Ranks in the top 2% of the breed for API and 3% for TI. Owned with Smith Genetics, Southwestern Farms, Burch Farms, and Diamond RF Farms.



Smith Evan

A polled purebred sire that carries the genetics of Smith Nu Approach and the breed matriarch, Bella Bella. He ranks in the top 1% of the breed for calving ease and birth weight, while still in the top 10% for weaning and 25% for yearling. Owned with Smith Genetics and McCrary Farms.



RFI Red Raider

HE SELLS IN SYNERGY
OCTOBER 25th

This 3/4 x 1/4 sire sells in his entirety. He ranks in the top 1% for birth weight and API; top 2% for birth; top 3% for maternal calving ease and top 15% for yield grade and TI. Sired by Smith Evan!

Smith Nu Wave II

A polled three quarter-one quarter sire. His progeny have dominated sale, show and EPD charts for the past few years. He currently ranks in the top 1% of the breed for seven traits. He is considered as the top sire in the breed and with our partner, Smith Genetics, we are offering a semen package in Simbrah Synergy.



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We also have Smith Isgrig Charismatic, Smith Nu Approach, McCrary Smith Fortunate, Smith RFI MCCR Gangster and Smith XtraOrdinary at work in our herd too!

Tom Brothers...

(Continued from page 1)

the loss of both Lytle Tom Jr., and Lytle Tom III, the cowherd was managed commercially until Philip Tom and his niece, Ellen, the fifth and sixth generation of Toms came home to the ranch.

Today, with Ellen and Philip's return to the ranch, these two Aggies, both with backgrounds in the Junior Simmental/Simbrah Association have committed their efforts to developing Simbrah, SimAngus, and SimAngus HT (heat toler-

ant) cattle to fit the commercial demands of south Texas and the Gulf Coast regions.

"While Philip and I both were active with the junior breed association, showing heifers and competing in leadership events," explained Ellen Tom, "we don't sell any show heifers. I am still involved in the state junior organization as an advisor, and I continue to support other youth events helping to develop leadership contests that have application to the beef business. I think it's very important that the

next generation, whether they stay involved in agriculture or not, be advocates for the industry."

"Our focus here on the ranch since its inception is the development of superior beef genetics for the commercial industry," she explained. "We are committed to improving genetics through performance testing and utilizing all the available tools, collecting data from birth to carcass ultrasound and using genomic testing to identify and advance our program. Not only do we want to identify the superior per-

formers and propagate those genetics, but we also need to identify the bottom end and cull those low performers from the herd."

"We emphasize convenience traits, such as solid color patterns, be it red or black, and docile dispositions in our Simbrah and SimAngus herds. We also want polled cattle. There is no reason for our commercial customers to have to dehorn," she continued.

We operate very much like our commercial customers, with big pastures or traps, some with poor access and lots of brush, so

we have to have to have docile, low maintenance cows that will calve unassisted and wean a heavy calf."

"Our Simbrah are our most problem free herd," she explained, "and our customers tell us calf survivability is excellent. The cows are easy calvers, stay in production longer, and the Simbrah progeny on test perform comparatively to our SimAngus. So we think we are on the right track producing a heat tolerant breed with superior performance."

Tom indicated that in visiting with their customers and other area cattlemen, their black Simbrah cattle are offering long-time Brangus bull buyers an alternative.

"Whether it's because they need to branch out genetically or other reasons, cattlemen that have been traditionally buying Brangus bulls are now interested in our black Simbrah," she said.

While the ranch has not reached the cowherd numbers of the Angus years, they are holding at 200 females, with one-third of them Simbrah. A 100% fall calving herd, they utilize estrus synchronization and

A.I., embryo transfer, and in-vitro fertilization (IVF) to grow their numbers. However, drought conditions continue to plague the area and keep the operation from making large jumps in cow numbers."

"We don't want to put undue pressure on our pastures, plus we want to be able to build with quality, not numbers," explained Ellen. "Our customers have cut back on numbers due to drought and so the demand is not as strong. What they are interested in is quality and we provide the performance data on each animal so they are able to make informed buying decisions," she indicated.

From the very beginning the Tom Brothers operation has been about innovation. They are not interested in the status quo. Instead, this family that started with Ellen Campbell Tom and her husband, Charles, and continues to operate under the guidance of Ellen Tom and her uncle, Philip Tom to remain a strong, viable ranch entity. Who knows what other "firsts" this operation might enjoy as they move into another era!

SLS



The Tom family operates their purebred herds very much like those of their commercial customers.

TOM BROTHERS RANCH

We're Not Your Average Simbrah Program

As our mission statements says "The goal of the Tom Brothers Ranch breeding program is to continually improve our cattle from pasture to plate and provide customers with an enjoyable and profitable experience with their cattle." A simple statement that encompasses the hard work, attention to detail, and focus on the big picture that we are ultimately in the business of producing food.

We invite you to visit our website, www.tombrothersranch.com and learn more about our entire program, our genetics, our philosophy and what we expect our cattle to do for us and our customers!

Just look at the genetic progress we have made over the past 20 years for weaning weight, post weaning gain, marbling, API and TI.

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How much...

(Continued from page 5)

overlap.

Like body weight [among some breeds], milk production has increased appreciably in most breeds in the last three decades. Greater milk production is accompanied by increased nutrient demands. In addition, cows with greater milk production potential have increased maintenance requirements, even when not lactating. Nutrients needed to support maintenance and lactation are shown in Table 2.

Compare the requirements between the two production stages (Table 1 vs. Table 2) for a given weight of cow, and it illustrates the effect of physiological status. Compare between body weights of cows within either table and one understands the importance of accurately assessing cow body weight.

3. What response do you expect?

Reproductive performance is closely related to nutrition. Research results clearly demonstrate that cows need to be in body condition of five (5) in order to facilitate early lactation and a timely return to estrus (such that the cow

will conceive within 90 days after calving and maintain a 365 day (or less) calving interval). Cows in adequate condition at calving (condition score 5 or greater) have the 'luxury' of being able to utilize body reserves (primarily fat) and lose weight while sustaining lactation and reproduction.

Maintenance requirements must be met daily; otherwise the cow will lose weight. Weight gain results when nutrient intake exceeds nutrient demand, hence the most efficient conversion of supplement

to body weight gain is expected to occur after weaning and prior to late gestation. Improving body condition of a grazing beef cow via supplementation during periods of greatest nutrient demand (late gestation through early lactation) is difficult if not economically and practically unfeasible.

4. What and how much [forage] do they have to eat?

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News...

(Continued from page 3)

participants and/or purchased in the sale. The Showcase includes five divisions of showmanship in addition to the Simbrah, Percentage and Simmental shows and you must pre-enter. The show will be on Sunday, October 26th.

Participants in this year's sale include Baring Cattle Company, Elmen-dorf, Texas; Burch Farms, Hempstead, Texas; Diamond RF Farms, Wallis, Texas; Hagan Cattle Company, Yoakum, Texas; Halk Ranch, Athens, Texas; McCrary Farms, DeKalb, Texas; Pine Ridge Ranch, Dallas, Texas; Reavis Farms, Mission, Texas; Smith Genetics, Giddings, Texas; Triple J Ranch, Sour Lake, Texas; Triple P Ranch, Pearland, Texas; Southwestern Farms, Kirbyville, Texas; 7N Ranch, Falls City, Texas and Smith Farms, Denton, Texas.

For additional details, entry forms, rules and sale accommodations, visit www.smithgenetics.com or call 512/587-7896. You can also follow the event on Facebook.

How much...

filling the void between nutrient demand and nutrient(s) supplied by the forage/hay being consumed. (Realize hay is a substitute for standing forage.) Feeding is providing a bal-

anced diet that meets nutrient demand (i.e., drylot cows).

**The success or failure of a supplementation program is dependent upon the quantity and quality of forage being supplemented.*

As forage quality

decreases (envision dormant, dry grass mid-winter), nutrient content decreases as does forage intake. If cows had unlimited intake and digestion potential, they could stay fat on wheat straw. Unfortunately, the fiber content of forages limits how quickly digestion occurs, which in turn influences forage intake. In contrast, the higher the quality (picture immature wheat pasture or lush spring grass), the more a cow can and will eat.

Understanding the quantity and quality of the forage being consumed is fundamental to designing a supplementation program for beef cows. If a cow is roaming over several acres of native range consuming some grasses, some forbs and maybe a small amount of browse, estimation of diet quality is difficult. Observing grazing behavior and the consistency of feces are useful indicators of forage availability and quality, respectively. Experienced range cattle nutritionists/cattleman often use experience and best-guess estimates of diet quality as a starting point for developing supplement-

tation strategies.

5. What supplement(s) are available?

Supplements come in numerous forms – cubes, blocks, tubs, lick tanks, grains, bales, plant co-products, milling co-products, bakery waste, bulk candy, etc. The choice of supplement is often determined by historical use, producer preference, quantity purchased and ease of handling/provision.

Ruminants are amazing animals created with the unique ability to convert a wide variety of feedstuffs, from rice hulls to casein, into high quality animal protein and/or milk. Generally, forages comprise the least expensive portion of a cow's diet, so the challenge becomes how to 'best' supplement the forage to achieve performance goals (weight change, reproduction, lactation). As noted in Table 1 and 2, protein and energy are the two major nutrients considered for supplementation (mineral requirements and supplementation not to be overlooked).

Identify the first production-limiting nutrient (often protein) and evaluate supplements on a cost

per unit of that nutrient basis. Most supplements contain both protein and energy, so it becomes a balancing challenge to determine which supplement best combines the needed nutrients at the best (not necessarily the cheapest) cost.

Supplement delivery also has influence on decision making. If it is not practical/feasible to see cows every day to two, then self-limiting supplements or those that can effectively be fed infrequently (once

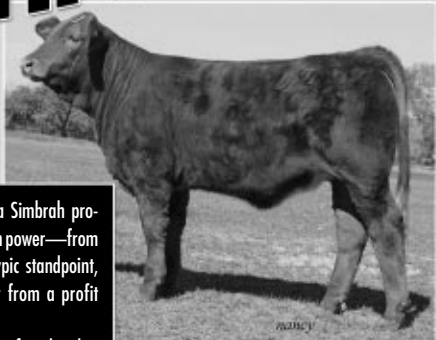
per week) might be considered. Purchasing in large quantity (tons) typically results in a lower cost per unit of supplement, but some producers cannot handle (economically or physically) large quantities of supplement. Physical ability also effects supplement choice; whether mobility-challenged or not producers should exercise caution when distributing supplement. The inability to avoid cows competing for supplement can result in serious injury.

Want more information?

For more detail regarding supplementation strategies see B-6067 Supplementation Strategies for Beef Cattle at: <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/livestock-species/beef/publications/>.

Producer-friendly software is available to aid in answering these questions and development of a sound supplementation program for beef cows. Oklahoma State University faculty have developed Cowculator, a very useful tool for evaluating supplementation options. The program may be downloaded at no cost at: <http://www.extension.org/pages/23788/osu-cowculator-v20-beef-cow-nutrition-evaluation-software#.U8BzWkC9ZmM>

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Lot 5 - LMC LF Polled Ace is a double smooth polled show and herd bull prospect sired by LMC LF Ambassador and out of LMC WFF Caroline 5/6. Buy him young, right and develop him just the way you want. His sire will enter the ABBA's prestigious Register of Renown next spring as the second polled bull to ever reach this pinnacle of success. Photo at seven months of age.

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Lot 8 - LMC Polled Bella 41/4 is a double smooth polled baby doll sired by LMC Polled Integrity and LMC Polled Baby Doll. She is long, feminine and the kind to build a herd around. The demand for top polled Brahman cattle is growing daily. Do not be left behind!! Photo at five months of age.

Lot 17 - RGVLMCCTCF Blossom is a major league show and donor purebred polled Simbrah prospect sired by the International Champion LMC 6G Red Rock and out of the many times champion RGV Dr. Beauty. Photo at seven months of age. One of 12 top quality Simbrah lots selling!!!



Upcoming events

October 4th - The 27th Annual LMC Jr. Round Up, Futurity & Customer Appreciation Dinner at La Muneca
November 22nd - 25th - La Muneca "GIVING THANKS" Online Sale VI
March 27th & 28th - LMC Annual Jackpot, LMC Sellabration Show and Online Sale (March 28th - 31st)

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Fence-line weaning: It can be easy

By Jason Banta, Texas A&M associate professor and extension beef cattle specialist

Many beef cattle producers are hesitant to wean calves because they believe they don't have the required facilities or have heard horror stories about weaning. In reality, when done correctly weaning can be a very easy practice that not only helps the producer generate more income, but also helps the beef industry as a whole. In a recent

analysis of the Superior Livestock Auction sales data in 2013, weaned calves brought \$4.78/cwt more than calves that were not weaned. While it may not be as readily apparent, there are also economic benefits of selling weaned calves through a local livestock auction. Weaned calves will shrink less than no-weaned calves, result-

ing in more pounds to sale generating more income for the producer.

Many producers have actually weaned calves without even realizing it. At meetings, I sometimes ask the question "How many people wean their calves?" and a few hands go up. I then ask "How many people keep replacement heifers?" More people always raise their hands in response to this question. If you are keeping

heifers, you are weaning calves; there is nothing different between weaning male and female calves.

There are numerous methods of weaning calves: 1) fence-line weaning, 2) putting calves in a corral, 3) putting cows in a corral, 4) trailer ride to the local auction market, 5) separating cows and calves in distant pastures, and 6) even the use of devices that prevent calves from nursing. While each approach has some

pros and cons, fence-line weaning is considered to be the best by most in the industry. Additionally, several research projects have shown the benefits of fence-line weaning compared with other methods.

What is fence-line weaning? Fence-line weaning is just the practice of putting calves in one pasture and cows in an adjacent pasture so that they are only separated by a fence. Being able to see, hear, and smell each

other provides comfort for both the calf and cow and when done right, is probably the least stressful method of weaning. After a few days the calves will move further and further away from the weaning fence and the bawling decreases greatly among the calves. The cows especially some will generally tend to walk the fence and vocalize for a longer period of time than the calves. After about five to seven days you can generally move the two groups apart if desired.

There are several tips that producers can incorporate to make fence-line weaning easy and successful. These include:

- Keep calves as calm as possible on the day of weaning.
- If possible don't conduct any other management practices on the day of weaning.
- Select a weaning location that provides good shade.
- Select a weaning location with a water source a reasonable distance from the weaning fence.
- Plan ahead to have good quality forage available in the weaning pasture.
- Prior to weaning, expose pairs to the pasture calves will be weaned in.
- Prior to weaning, teach calves how to eat from bunks.

Keeping calves calm

One of the biggest mistakes made when weaning calves is getting the cattle excited. Working with excited cattle can make the weaning process exponentially harder and is the main reason some folks have not been successful when trying fence-line weaning. Ideally it is best not to process (vaccinate, dehorn, castrate, treat for parasites, etc.) calves the day of weaning. Vaccination can be done either before or after weaning. When calves are handled correctly, sickness rates in weaned calves will usually be non-existent. Consequently, some producers will wait seven to 14 days after weaning before administering booster vaccines.

The ideal scenario is to calmly sort cows from calves on weaning day and quietly move them to the appropriate weaning pasture.

Selecting a location

Several factors should be considered when selecting a weaning location

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JUNIORS: If you have purchased a heifer from a sale participant, it is eligible for the \$15,000 Showcase. Heifers purchased in the sale will have registration papers transferred by November 1 deadline for Texas Majors.

For additional information call any of the participants or Tim Smith, 512-587-7896 or email smithgenetics1@gmail.com. More information available on the Synergy tab at www.smithgenetics.com.

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Fence-line...

including: shade, water source, forage conditions, distance from sorting facility, size of pasture, and disposition of cattle and the resulting impact on fence quality.

Weaning locations should be selected that have good shade on both sides of the fence, especially for calves weaned during the summer or early fall. If a location is not available with good shade on both sides, choose a location that will have good shade next to the fence where the calves will be. A desirable weaning pasture should also have a good water source within a few hundred yards of the weaning fence in the pasture where the calves will be kept. Location of the water source for cows is not as critical. Producers should plan ahead to ensure good forage conditions in the pasture where calves will be weaned.

It can sometimes be challenging to push cows and calves after they have been sorted (especially if they haven't been taught how to handle), so a sorting location close to the weaning pastures can be helpful. The size of pasture used to wean calves can vary, but something between about two and 20 acres tends to be ideal. Putting calves in really large pastures can create some challenges. Cows can be placed in a larger pasture, adjacent to the smaller pasture for calves.

The quality of fence needed to separate cows and calves does not have to be near as stout as many might think. While pipe, net-wire, or good barbed wire fences are ideal, fence-line weaning has been successfully accomplished with old barbed wire fences, smooth wire fences, and even single strand electric fences (although I would not recommend only using a single strand of electric fence for most operations). On old barbed wire fences or smooth wire fences, placing a strand of electric fence on the primary fence can be helpful (place the electric wire on the side of the fence the cows will be on). If one or two calves out of 20 or 100 crawl through the fence, don't get worked up, just wait until the end of the day or the next day and sort them back out. It is not the end of the world if they get to nurse for an extra day or two.

Preparing calves for weaning

Prior to weaning calves should be taught how to eat from a bunk or eat cubes off the ground. This task can be accomplished by feeding pairs a small amount of feed (one-two lbs. per pair) until a majority of the calves are consuming some feed. I have seen this accomplished in as few as four or five feedings, although it may take longer in some operations. Many feeds can be used to accomplish this task, but my preference is either cottonseed or soybean meal because those supplements are nor-

mally the preferred choice to use once the calves are separated. Calves will learn quickly by watching their mothers eat and this practice will make it much easier to get calves eating after weaning if supplementation is required.

It is also beneficial to expose the pairs to the weaning pasture for a day or two within a couple of weeks of weaning. This lets the calves become familiar with where the water sources are located. However, you don't want to keep the pairs in the weaning pasture for several days before weaning because

the cows will end up consuming the highest quality forage. You can either put the pairs in for a few days and then let the grass regrow for a couple of weeks, or you can put the


pairs in one day before weaning and then pull the cows out the next week.



In summary, weaning is economically beneficial to the producer and also results in less sickness and


death loss of calves once they leave the cow-calf operation. Additionally, by following a few simple guidelines, weaning can be a very easy and rewarding practice.





Fence-line weaning is just the practice of putting calves in one pasture and cows in an adjacent pasture so that they are only separated by a fence.










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Vitamin A: What you need to know

Successfully incorporating mineral and vitamin supplementation into your nutrition program stems from understanding why cattle need those nutrients in the first place. Producers who have a better under-

standing of key nutrient functions, more specifically the biology behind bodily functions, will be better able to decide on appropriate supplements and timing, as well as the efficacy of the product that the nutrition consultant is pushing this year.

What is vitamin A?

According to Homer Sewell, University of Missouri (MU) Extension, vitamin A is considered a required nutrient for beef cattle because, unlike vitamins B and K, microbes in the rumen are unable to synthesize it. Animals are the only carriers of vitamin A. Plants, the natural source of vitamin A for cattle, contain carotenes, which the animal then converts into vitamin A through the wall of the small intestine.

Vitamin A is a fat-soluble vitamin and is stored in the liver.

Daniel Rivera, Mississippi State University

(MSU) assistant research/extension professor, says, "Carotenes are pigments synthesized by plants for use in the photosynthetic process. They are found in green and yellow plants (forages) and are readily destroyed by sunlight (cured hay). They are also found in minor amounts in yellow corn, but are in low amounts in other grains."

Functions

Many immune system cells require vitamin A to function well, says Rivera. It plays a role in the epithelial (lining) tissue of the respiratory, digestive and reproductive tracts. Vitamin A assumes the role of a nonprotein-helper molecule or cofactor in kidney function and bone development, he adds.

Sewell explains that the eye uses vitamin A to adapt from light to dark.

How much is needed?

Because cattle convert carotenes to vitamin A and

then store it in the liver, an animal's needs are primarily dictated by its available liver stores. Requirements change based on the circumstances the cattle are experiencing. Rivera says, "Stresses such as heat stress, immune challenge, inflammation and parasites might interfere with the animal's ability to convert carotene to vitamin A, thereby increasing the requirement."

Like many minerals, vitamin A absorption can be inhibited by other minerals and chemical compounds. According to Rivera, nitrate can reduce absorption, and low phosphorus is thought to play a role in decreased absorption, as well.

Should it always be available?

Interestingly enough, "Once [vitamin A] stores have become depleted, the animal has difficulty in converting carotene to vitamin A," says Rivera, who advis-


es that cattle should be supplemented with vitamin A year-round. This will allow liver stores to build, and a reserve will be available for times of stress or when the forage quality decreases during drought or dormancy. He says that most commercial mineral supplements include vitamin A in the mix, and the actual supplementation cost of the vitamin is minimal.

Baby calves are born with limited stores of vitamin A, but Rivera says as long as the calf receives colostrum, an injection dose is not needed.

Vitamin A deficiency

A deficiency occurs when cattle have mobilized all reserves of one or many nutrients. Vitamin A deficiency, in particular, causes night blindness. Sewell explains that the easiest way to check for night blindness is to place an object in the pathway of an animal at twilight and notice if it stumbles over it.

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Some of the cattle will be available for viewing at JHC Ranch at their Buckholts, Texas location, near Cameron on September 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

For more information on sale contact:

**Jim Carter, 254/697-1078
or Jim Ethridge, 979/255-2882**

Heart of Texas Simmental/Simbrah Association

Jim Carter, president
219 Goetz Rd. Cameron, Texas 76520
254/697-1078 jhcranch@sbcglobal.net

Vitamin A...

Other conditions generally linked to vitamin A deficiency are loss of appetite, rough hair coat, greater susceptibility to infection and disease, diarrhea, decreased performance and reproductive problems, says Rivera. He cautions that these are similar to many other nutrient deficiencies, making it difficult to assess if the problem is associated entirely with vitamin A.

Remember carotenes, the sources of vitamin A, are found in green and yellow growing plants. "Cattle

that have been on drought-stressed pastures or high-grain diets for an extended period of time are more susceptible to vitamin A deficiency via a carotene deficiency," says Rivera.

He says cows can take up to 180 days to deplete their liver stores, and young cattle can deplete theirs in half the time. On the flip side, it can take nearly 40 days to correct a deficiency problem using supplementation only. That's a long time to suffer the effects of a deficiency, so the fastest, safest way to address the problem is through an injection.

A producer Rivera once worked with quit feeding a complete mineral mix that included vitamins A, D and E for about two years. He noted a decreased calving rate and weaned calves having a greater susceptibility to bovine respiratory disease (BRD). However, once he got back on the complete mineral mix, the problem was resolved.

"Since many minerals and vitamins are cofactors in many biological processes it was difficult to ascertain if there was one specific deficiency," Rivera says.

Source: *Angus Bulletin*
SLS

• CALENDAR •

- August 30-September 2 LMC GenePLUS V Online Sale
- September 18-20th-Heart of Texas Simmental/Simbrah Association Fall Fest Online Sale. Cattle viewing on the 20th at JHC Ranch, Buckholts, Texas.
- October 16-Pan Am Simmental and Simbrah Shows, Dallas, Texas
- October 17-State Fair of Texas Junior Simmental and Simbrah Shows
- October 19-Black Label Sale, Grandview, Texas
- October 24-26-Simbrah Synergy VII and \$15,000 Showcase, Giddings, Texas
- November 13-15-Two Fast Nickels Online Bull Sale
- November 22-25-LMC GenePLUS Online VI "Giving THANKS" Sale

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Smith Isgrig Charismatic ~ Sired by Smith Nu Wave II and out of Smith Eleanor. Owned by Smith Genetics, Burch Farms, Reavis Farms and McCrary Farms. Ranks in the top 1% of the breed for seven traits, including all purpose index and terminal index.



Smith Wentz Blackfoot ~ Sired by Smith Nu Wave II and out of LMC Diva. Owned by Smith Genetics and Southwestern Farms. Ranks in the top 1% of the breed for weaning; top 2% for yearling; top 3% for maternal weaning weight, carcass weight and TI.



Smith Hagan Expressive ~ Sired by Nu Wave II and a full sister to Smith CRC Nu Perfection, the 2012 National and International Grand Champion. Now a donor in the Reavis Farms' program.



Smith Wentz Superior Mom ~ Another Nu Wave II daughter, who was a many time champion for Candice Tindle-including wins at the Fort Worth and Houston Junior Show. Her influence sells in Synergy VII.



Smith Wentz Lil Diva ~ This Nu Wave daughter out of LMC Miss Diva was raised in the Southwestern Farms program and purchased by Reavis Farms in the Synergy VI Sale. Lil Diva is now in their donor program.



Smith Wentz Diamond Diva ~ Sophie Palmore showed this Nu Wave II daughter to the International Grand Champion Female honor, as well as the ASA National and National at San Antonio Senior Champion honors.



Smith CRC Nu Perfection ~ This Nu Wave daughter from the Irreplaceable Cow Family was the 2012 International Grand Champion for Caleb Rodenbeck.



Smith Wentz CRC Keepsake ~ Caleb Rodenbeck has shown this Nu Wave II daughter to multiple championships. He won the San Antonio Junior Show, which netted him a \$10,000 scholarship, plus he won the Houston Junior Show with her. In addition, she was the Superbowl Senior Champion and National Reserve Junior Champion.

	Direct					Maternal				Carcass							\$ Index	
	CE	BW	VW	YW	MCE	Milk	MWW	STAY	DOC	WT	YG	MRB	BF	REA	SHR	API	TI	
EPD	6.7	1.1	116.6	137.4	9.9	9.6	67.9		11.3	50.0	-0.23	-0.17	-0.096	0.46	-0.11	109.5	85.1	
Rank	4%	2%	1%	1%	10%	99%	1%		3%	1%	40%	85%	1%	40%	25%	1%	1%	

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