

Fall 2017 Standards and Guidelines

UBB Bull Development and Marketing Program

Spring born bulls (January through May) will be delivered November 10, 2016 and targeted an early October 2017 sale in Louisiana.



Commitment Fees

\$50/head commitment fees must be submitted to the UBB by the postmark date indicated on the commitment forms. There is a \$25/head penalty for nominations sent after the postmark date.

When a bull passes the yearling evaluation, he is pre-qualified for the sale, at which point the consignor will be billed an additional \$100 per bull to continue in the program. Failure to pay this continuation fee in a timely manner will result in a late payment penalty fee of \$50/head to be deducted from sale proceeds. Failure to pay this fee will not release a bull from the program. This fee aims to cover the breeding soundness exam (BSE) and other processing costs and should subsidize the costs of transporting the bulls to the sale site. Pre-qualified bulls must still pass the BSE and health evaluation before they make the final cut to be shipped to the sale.

Once a bull is committed to the program and designated as a bull to be sold, there are no options to remove a bull prior to the sale unless he fails to qualify at some point. Bulls initially designated as not for sale will not be added to the sale qualifiers at any time in the program.

Preconditioning and Health Requirements

Prior to program admittance:

- It is highly recommended that all bulls be weaned and dehorned (if necessary) for at least 45 days prior to their arrival at Graham Land and Cattle Company in Gonzales, Texas. The 45-day weaning program is just as important as the vaccinations.
- All bulls should receive two or three rounds of vaccinations and deworming four to six weeks apart prior to arrival at Graham. Please note that proper herd health is of utmost importance to ensure quality performance. Maximize health at home in order to maximize success in the feed yard. Recommended vaccination and deworming protocol listed below. Since this is often a group of calves' first time being processed, it is essential to utilize low stress handling techniques and make it a positive first experience. Minimizing the stress response in calves will allow for a better vaccine response.
 - At weaning or prior to:
 - 1) Bovi-Shield Gold 5®
 - 2) One Shot®
 - 3) Ultrachoice 8®
 - 4) Dectomax® Injectable
 - Four to six weeks later:
 - 1) Bovi-Shield Gold 5®
 - 2) One Shot®
 - 3) Ultrachoice 8®
 - 4) Valbazen® Drench

** Note: The aforementioned vaccines are products of UBB corporate sponsor, Zoetis. Consult your veterinarian about products used on calves while nursing.*

Protocol list written by Dr. Jim Harvey, DVM, endorsed by the UBB.

- All bulls must be registered. Pending animals will not be accepted.
- Prior to arrival at Graham, bulls must be properly identified. They must have a permanent ID (brand or tattoo) that matches their ID on their registration certificate. And, they must have an ear tag that matches this permanent ID. If a horned bull is delivered to Graham, he will be dehorned and the costs of dehorning will be passed on to the consignor. Dehorning after arriving at Graham will expose the bull to serious health issues and will significantly depress performance.

Performance and Phenotypic Evaluation Requirements

Delivery

- Bulls must weigh a minimum of 500 lbs. at the time of processing into the program (as voted and agreed by Bull Development Committee, May 17, 2016), it has been determined that bulls below this weight do not have a realistic chance to succeed. No shrink and/or conversion to be used at this time, please take into account hauling.

At delivery time, if a bull is delivered that clearly lacks the potential to complete the program as a quality marketable bull, he will be castrated and fed out as a steer. As a producer, you are encouraged to assist in the processing of incoming cattle and assist in making this decision on your bulls.

Yearling Evaluation

At the time of yearling evaluation all bulls must meet the following performance criteria to be eligible for the Advancing the Breed sale:

- Scrotal circumference of 30 cm or greater
- Adjusted yearling weight of 900 lbs. or greater
- Adjusted rib eye area of 9 inches or greater
- Bulls must be structurally sound and appear to be in good health. As this is the premier marketing event for the breed, it is the responsibility of the Bull Development and Marketing Committee to maintain a rigorous standard of quality for the bulls delivered to the sale. Therefore, if a majority of committee members present believe that any bull lacks the quality and/or demonstrated performance to be a worthy representative of the breed, said bull(s) will be removed from the program.

Final Pre-Sale Evaluation

30 days prior to sale all bulls must pass the following examinations/inspections to be eligible for the Advancing the Breed sale:

- Breeding Soundness Exam (BSE) performed by a licensed veterinarian to include scrotal circumference minimums, reproductive organ palpation and visual inspection for structural defects, injury and vision.
- A general health inspection performed by a licensed veterinarian.

Failure to Meet Requirements

There are several evaluation points in the program, following those evaluation points producers will be notified by email of bulls that have failed to meet the requirements. Upon notification that bulls did not meet criteria producers must notify the Bull Development Chairman as to which of the of the following options they would like to use:

1. At yearling evaluation time, a failed bull can be
 - a. Banded and moved to the steer feedout program. This is the preferred option and no additional fees are required.
 - b. Picked up by the producer (within 24-48 hours) (at a time coordinated through Bull Chairman at Graham's convenience)
 - c. Left in the program but removed from the sale and further evaluation and testing (any further evaluation at the owner's expense)
 - d. Marketed by Graham either directly or at a local sale barn.
2. At the time of the Breeding Soundness Exam a failed bull can be
 - a. Picked up by the producer (within 24-48 hours at Graham)
 - b. Marketed by Graham either directly or at a local sale barn

These Standards and Guidelines have been written by the UBB Bull Development and Marketing Committee in an effort to maintain the integrity of the Bull Development and Marketing Program and advance the Braford breed. All criteria are evaluated regularly for the benefit of the breed and UBB members. If you have questions or concerns, please direct to a committee member or director for discussion.

Steer Program

Shortly after weaning, it can be challenging to determine the bull potential of each calf. The Bull Development and Marketing Committee recognizes this difficulty which is the primary reason for the reduced (\$50) commitment fee. Breeders are encouraged to send all potential bull calves for further development and evaluation. At the time of arrival, bulls will undergo a cursory evaluation.

Some bulls may be castrated at that time and moved into a steer group. All bulls that remotely show potential to develop into a quality commercial bulls will be further developed as bulls. At the time of yearling evaluation, bulls failing to meet standards stated above can be banded and moved into the steer pen(s). Steers will be marketed at an optimal composition as determined by Graham personnel and carcass data will be collected and sent to the consignor and to the UBB to enhance the genetic evaluation database.