

Greetings Beef Producers,

Cattlemen raise high-quality replacement heifers in southern Illinois. The SIU Bull Test Station Committee (BTSC) is providing cattlemen in Illinois an opportunity to expand their marketing by again offering the opportunity to enroll and sell bred replacement heifers in the Common Sents Bred Heifer Classic.

While the opportunity is open to all cattlemen, the number of lots and total bred heifers will be limited. The requirements for heifer entry into the sale are within this document, but the major points to remember are:

- Enrolled heifers will be inspected by a minimum of two members of the BTSC and **MUST** pass inspection before being placed in the sale catalog.
- Heifers sold as artificially inseminated must not be exposed to natural service sires for 14 days after AI.
- Heifers failing to become pregnant or losing a pregnancy after the breeding season are not eligible.
- Heifers must be managed to have their first calf prior to **27** months of age.
- Requirements for natural service and AI sire birth weight and calving ease direct are listed in Table 1.
 - Sires used for AI must have accuracy values of 0.6 or higher on a 0 to 1 scale.
- Pregnancy diagnosis must be performed within two weeks (14 days) of the sale by a licensed veterinarian or use of a commercial blood pregnancy test.
 - Utilization of ultrasound for fetal aging and pregnancy determination is strongly encouraged to determine AI versus natural breeding.
- Heifers enrolled in the Common Sents Bred Heifer Classic will be given a specific ear tag after passing inspection but prior to recording for DVAuction. Although heifers may be videoed and advertised, it is possible that they may not be sold due to pregnancy status or the committee inspecting the cattle the day of sale due to disposition, skeletal soundness, or inadequate body condition score.
- An enrollment fee of \$100 is required at submission of enrollment form. See below for further information regarding fee structure.

If you have any additional questions feel free to contact me at (618) 695-4917.

Best regards,



Dr. Teresa L. Steckler
Extension Specialist, Animal Systems/Beef



ENROLLMENT FORM – PLEASE PRINT

Consignor Name _____ County _____

Address _____ Email _____

City _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Number of heifers enrolled _____ Number of lots (minimum of 2 heifers per lot) _____

Return this form to:

Dr. Teresa Steckler, Extension Specialist, Dixon Springs Ag Center, 354 State HWY 145 N, Simpson, IL 62985

Common Sents Bred Heifer Classic

Program Objectives

- Increase marketing opportunities for and add value to Illinois-raised heifers
- Provide a reliable source of quality replacements (genetics and management)

2016 Bred Heifer Requirements

Enrollment:

In order to qualify a completed a heifer enrollment form must be submitted by September 14, 2016.

Ownership:

Enrolled heifers may be home-raised or alliance-verified. Alliance-verified heifers enrolled in the program must be owned a minimum of 90 days prior to the breeding season and be accompanied with an affidavit indicating the original breeder's name, address, and approximate heifer birth dates.

Physical requirements:

Animal identification: Heifers must be individually identified with a visual ear tag and legible tattoo.

Blemishes and surgery: Heifers with active cases of Pinkeye or scars resulting from Pinkeye are not eligible. Horns and scurs must be removed and heifers must be completely healed prior to certification.

Implants & MGA: It is recommended heifers not be implanted. If heifers are implanted, it is required that only FDA approved products for replacement heifers be used and administered according to label guidelines. Long-term use of MGA is prohibited. Use of MGA for periods of up to 14 days to synchronize estrus is permitted.

Health requirements:

A comprehensive herd health vaccination program starting at weaning age or before should be administered under the advice and guidance of your veterinarian in the context of a valid veterinary-client-patient relationship.

1. Calfhood vaccination against Brucellosis (Bangs) is **optional**.
2. Testing heifers for BVD-PI (persistent infection) is **recommended**.

Weaning

3. Heifers must be vaccinated for IBR, BVD, PI₃, BRSV, Clostridal (7-way), Leptospirosis (5-way), Haemophilus Somnus, and Pasteurella H&M. Heifers must be 5 months of age or older at vaccination. Various products may be used provided label directions concerning initial and booster vaccinations are followed.

Prebreeding

4. To maximize protection against reproductive loss, vaccinations against Leptospirosis (5-way) and Vibriosis must be given between 60 and 30 days prior to beginning of breeding. Vaccination against Leptospirosis *hardjo-bovis* is recommended but not required. Products used must follow label directions concerning initial and booster vaccinations. A booster vaccination against IBR, PI₃, BRSV and BVD is also required between 60 and 30 days prior to beginning of breeding. Modified live viral vaccines for IBR and BVD are recommended.

Pregnancy Examination

5. Booster vaccinations against Leptospirosis (5-way), Vibriosis, Clostridal (7-way), IBR, PI₃, BVD and BRSV (4-way) are required at pregnancy check.

Parasite control

6. Heifers must be treated for internal and external parasites within 30 days of sale. Internal parasite control products must have label claim for immature parasite life cycle stages.

Prebreeding evaluation:

A pelvic evaluation is not required of heifers, but is recommended at either prebreeding or preg-check processing. Heifers should be 150 cm² of pelvic area prior to breeding. Heifers with pelvic areas of less than 150 cm² can be remeasured at pregnancy determination and must have a minimum of 180 cm² at this examination. The BTSC encourages producers to conduct prebreeding evaluations 30-60

days prior to the breeding season to facilitate pelvic evaluation as well as prebreeding vaccinations.

Reproductive management:

Natural service breeding season cannot exceed 65 days. Estrus synchronization and artificial insemination (AI) are encouraged. Producers utilizing artificial insemination must report breeding dates. Heifers marketed as AI bred cannot be exposed for natural service for 14 days following AI to allow for distinction between AI and natural service. Heifers must be managed to have their first calf prior to attaining 27 months of age.

Sire requirements:

Heifers must be serviced by bulls of known ID and breed with complete EPD's. There are no breed restrictions for natural or AI sires as long as EPD's for BW or calving ease direct meet Table 1 requirements. Accuracy values for bulls used in conjunction with AI must be a minimum of 0.6 on a 0 to 1 scale.

Table 1. Acceptable sire birth weight and calving ease direct EPDs for breeding to heifers.

Service sire breed	Maximum birth weight EPD	Minimum calving ease EPD
Angus		7
Charolais		8.2
Gelbvieh		13
Limousin		10
Polled & Horned Hereford		2.7
Red Angus		9
Shorthorn		6
Simmental		12.6
Simm/Angus (SimmAssoc)		14.6

Accuracy values for AI bulls must be a minimum of 0.6

Active Sire Percentile Rank Requirement for breeds not listed
 American Breed – Upper 20% Continental – Upper 15%
 British – Upper 30% Composite Hybrid – Upper 20%

Pregnancy examination:

A pregnancy exam should be performed prior to 120 days of gestation to determine fetal age and group heifers accordingly at the time of sale. A 65-day breeding season allows producers to palpate heifers 55 days after the end of breeding. Individual animal identification, pregnancy status and fetal age are required.

Certification:

Heifers meeting requirements as outlined will receive a Common Sents Bred Heifer Classic ear tag. Misrepresentation or false advertisement will result in exclusion from future program participation.

Sale Eligibility Requirements

Weight and body condition:

Bred heifers must weigh a minimum of 800 pounds on sale day and body condition score between 5 to 7 on the 9 point scale. Heifers will be sold on a lot basis; with a preference of 2 or more heifers per lot.

Heifer inspection:

Heifers will be screened on October 10 or 11 for frame, muscle, structural soundness, disposition, and general sale acceptability. All heifers must meet a minimum projected frame score of Medium using the USDA system for grades for cows (Medium = mature weight of 900 to 1,100 pounds with 0.2 inch of backfat at the 12th rib). Heifers must meet a muscle score of 1 using the USDA feeder cattle scoring system. The screening committee reserves the right to refuse any heifer not meeting minimum criteria for frame, muscle, body condition, or any heifer deemed to have an undesirable disposition.

Pregnancy:

The consignor guarantees bred heifers to be safe in calf. A confirmatory pregnancy exam must be performed within 14 days of the sale.

If a heifer is proven by veterinary exam within 30 days after sale to be open, the consignor will replace the heifer or make a financial settlement with the buyer.

Costs and fee structures:

1. An initial fee of \$100 for the first lot (\$50 for sale expenses and \$50 for administrative fees) and \$60 per additional lot (\$50 for sale expenses and \$10 for administrative fees) is due at the time of application.
 - a. The fee will not be returned if the cattle are sold private treaty prior to the bull sale and consignors will result in exclusion from future program participation.
2. Auctioneer expenses will be a % of the sale price for each lot. Last year it was 1.736% of the sale price. We will be using DVAuction services for the video sale and their fees will be included in the costs. Thus, auctioneer and DVAuction expenses will be split among the bulls and heifers that are consigned.
3. Sale day expenses (advertising and catalogue expenses) will be divided equally bulls and heifers in the catalogue.
4. The 2015-16 average cost was \$283.26/lot. However, that was with a total of 41 lots. We anticipate an increase in the number of lots such that average cost will range from \$120 - \$180 per lot of 2 heifers.
5. **BUYERS:** if a heifer is left at the test station for more than 2 days post sale then a \$15/ head/day fee will be charged at time of pickup.

Common Sents Bred Heifer Classic

Timeline and Data Collection

The recommended timeline of procedures and required data collection for heifers enrolled in the Common Sents Bred Heifer Classic.

Weaning	Pre-Breeding	Breeding	Pregnancy Exam	Pre-Sale
<p>Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vaccination - IBR, BVD, PI₃, BRSV, Clostridial (7-way), Leptospirosis (5-way), Haemophilus Somnus, & Pasteurella H&M, (<i>Brucellosis is optional</i>). ➤ Evaluate for structural soundness and blemishes ➤ Remove horns/scurs ➤ Parasite control <p>Required Data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual Animal ID (tattoo required) <p>Optional Data: <i>Record if Available</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Birth date, birth weight ➤ Weaning weight ➤ Weaning date <p>Optional testing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ BVD-PI (persistent infection) 	<p>Procedures: (30-60 days prior to breeding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vaccinations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBR, PI₃, BRSV, & BVD booster • Vibriosis, & Leptospirosis (5-way) • Leptospirosis harjo-bovis (recommended) ➤ Pelvic Measure - height, width, area – 150 square centimeters or greater. ➤ Weigh – 600 lbs British, 700 lbs. X-breds. ➤ Evaluate for structural soundness and blemishes ➤ Parasite control ➤ Service Sire Selection - confirm EPD's meet program requirements <p>Required Data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual Animal ID ➤ Breed or breed cross ➤ Color/description 	<p>Procedures:</p> <p><u>Breeding Program:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Natural Service ➤ AI <p><u>Synchronization Method:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ None <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates bulls in and bulls out (max 65 days) ➤ Prostaglandin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates injected ➤ MGA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates MGA fed ➤ MGA + Prostaglandin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates MGA fed and prostaglandin injected ➤ CIDR + Prostaglandin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates CIDR present and prostaglandin injected <p><u>Heat Expression:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Observed standing heat ➤ Secondary signs of heat ➤ Fixed - time AI <p><u>Insemination:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual ID ➤ Breeding date (mo/day) ➤ Breeding time (am/pm) ➤ Inseminator initials 	<p>Procedures: (maximum of 120 days after start of breeding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vaccination – Vibriosis, Leptospirosis (5-way), Clostridial (7-way), IBR, PI₃, BVD, & BRSV. ➤ Pregnancy exam ➤ Body Condition Score ➤ Re-measure pelvis on heifers less than 150 cm² at pre-breeding. Must be 180 sq. centimeters. ➤ Evaluate for structural soundness and blemishes ➤ Parasite control <p>Required Data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual Animal ID ➤ Number of days pregnant ➤ Body Condition Score ➤ Pelvic measurements if re-measured ➤ Blemishes/Unsoundness 	<p>Procedures: (within 30 days of sale)</p> <p>Applies only to heifers consigned to a Heifer Development Sale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Treat for internal and external parasites ➤ Evaluate for structural soundness, scarred eyes, and injuries ➤ Body Condition Score ➤ Cross reference animal ID. ➤ Pregnancy exam ➤ Certificate of Veterinary inspection

All products listed must be used according to label directions. Consult your veterinarian regarding any questions on health procedures. Forms for data collection are available. All data should be forwarded to:

Dr. Teresa Steckler, Extension Specialist, Dixon Springs Ag Center, 354 State HWY 145 N, Simpson, IL 62985; 618-685-4917