

**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
BULL TESTING PROGRAM - FALL 2024**

PLEASE READ.....Some changes and additions have been made.

Bull Eligibility Requirements:

1. **Senior Division:** Calves must have been born on or after 09/16/2023 (Exception: Charolais – 09/26/2023 & Gelbvieh – 10/16/2023) and on or before December 31, 2023. **Junior Division:** Calves must have been born on or after 01/01/2024 and on or before 03/15/2024.
2. The calf must be owned by the person entering the bull.
3. All bulls must have a legible ear tattoo upon delivery to the station. Station personnel will place ear tags into each bull's ear.
4. All bull calves must meet registration requirements set forth by their respective breed associations.
5. Calves must have an initial weight of at least 2.4 pounds each day of age when delivered to the station. All cattle will be allowed a 4% shrinkage when weighed at the station. Any calf not meeting the above weight requirement will not be placed on the test.
6. Consignors must be enrolled in an official performance testing program. Records of calves that have completed the weaning phase of such a program should be submitted at the time of delivery or when completed. The following information must be supplied by delivery:
 - Tattoo number of calves, Sire name and registration #, Birth date of calf, Birth weight of calf and Calf registration # (if already assigned)
 - Adjusted 205-day weaning weight per the association of which the bull is registered, if available.
7. Calves should be weaned at least three (3) weeks before delivery to the station. It is beneficial for calves to be creep-fed for 3 to 4 weeks before delivery or at least be accustomed to eating grain. It is recommended that calves eat a minimum of 5-8 lbs. of grain/starter with *ad libitum* access to grass hay or pasture before delivery to the station.
8. The calf must be dehorned before being delivered to the station.
9. Estimated progeny differences (**EPDs**) **are mandatory** on all bulls. EPDs are to be calculated and supplied by registering breed associations. Before entering your bull, check with your breed association and ensure EPD information is available.
10. The health form must be filled out by your veterinarian and turned in when the bull is delivered to the station. Bulls from IL, IN, KY, or MO do not need Tuberculin testing. **Any bull with warts** on delivery day **will NOT** be allowed into the Bull Test Station and must be hauled back home.
11. **All bulls must be genetic free!** However, a bull with positive confirmation DD may participate in the test but must be identified in the catalog. If the pedigree suggests that your bull is a carrier of any genetic disorder, it must be tested; if the pedigree suggests that it is genetic free, then that is acceptable. If you have questions, please contact your breed association.

Upon Arrival at the Test Station:

1. All health paperwork and fees will be due to the station personnel.
2. Each bull must remain at the test station for the entire 84-day testing period unless the station personnel agree that the bull should be removed.

Number of Entries:

1. Entries will be accepted until **October 25, 2024**. If one bull from each consignor has not filled the station, those consignors who have indicated that they would like to enter two or more bulls can do so.
2. **At the end of the test, a performance index will be utilized, and up to the bottom 25% of bulls will be cut and not eligible for sale. This index will only pertain to ADG and F:G. If there is a tie, then the bull's \$Beef, according to the association on the day that cuts are made, will be used to break any ties.**
3. **If the test station is not full, a consignor may "only test" their bull, but you must indicate that on your application!!! NOTE: All bulls that start testing MUST finish testing whether you sell them or not. Also, data on bulls that don't sell will be given to the owner after the sale is over.**

Facilities:

1. Bulls will be penned according to weight and breed as much as possible. Groups of up to 12 calves will be placed in 27' x 104' pens with 27' x 24' shelters open to the south end. Six pens can handle a maximum of 72 bulls per test period.
2. Bulls will be fed using the automated SmartFeed system. Each pen will also contain an automatic watering system.

Feed:

1. The feed will be a total mixed ration (TMR) mixed at the farm. There will be a starter, test, and post-test ration. The TMR will comprise grass hay, dry rolled corn, DDGS and/or SBM, and a vitamin-mineral supplement. The starter ration will contain Purina Stress Care 5 during the receiving period. Bulls will be stepped up from 0.50 Mcal/lb. NEg to 0.54 Mcal/lb. NEg during the test while maintaining at least 30% hay in the diet at any stage to make diets less hot.
2. The TMR has been designed so that if the bull's genetics allow, they should have an ADG of >3.0 lbs/d.

Costs:

1. A testing fee of \$200 per bull will be charged for the care, management, and husbandry of the animals and the maintenance of the facilities. The testing fee will be charged at the time of application.
2. Consignors will be charged only for the feed fed to their bulls at the actual cost.
3. Any professional veterinary services required during the test period will be charged to the owner.
4. Consignors will be charged for transferring registration papers to the new owner.
5. All expenses (feed, bedding, veterinary, etc.) must be paid within 30 days of receiving the billed invoice.
6. A \$50 fee for clipping the bulls before the sale will be charged.
7. The auctioneer is Brian Curless, and the standard auctioneer rate is 1% commission

across the block, with a \$1,500 minimum plus travel expenses (approximately 400 miles at the reimbursement rate).

8. The auctioneer and other related “ring” expenses will be split among the bulls and heifers that are consigned.
9. Sale day expenses (advertising and catalog expenses) will be divided equally amongst each lot in the catalog.
10. The average costs for 2016-2017 were \$1024 for Jr bulls and \$1104 for Sr. bulls.
11. **BUYERS:** if a bull is left at the test station for more than 5 days post-sale, then a \$15/day fee will be charged at the time of pickup.

Liability:

1. Southern Illinois University Carbondale is not responsible for loss by fire, theft, sickness, injury, or death. The bulls will be under the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) protocol 23-018 for care and management during the bull test, and every effort will be made to safeguard the animals' health and safety.
2. The University will not insure the bull. The station encourages each breeder to purchase mortality insurance on each bull. If insurance is desired, contact local insurance companies for a policy on your bull.

Reports/Catalog:

1. After each weigh period, Official reports will be e-mailed to consignors (hard copy available upon request). Upon request, bull test reports will be sent to interested persons. Reports will also be available online at **bulltest.siu.edu**
2. The name of each consignor will be published in the sale catalog and provided on the bull test website. Information about the bull will also be published. It will include the bull's sire, registration number, date of birth, birth weight, adjusted weaning weight, adjusted yearling weight, average daily gain (ADG), feed to gain (F:G) and ratios, RFI rank, sale index, frame score, scrotal circumference, pelvic measurement, ultrasound measurements and the CED, BW, WW, Milk, RE, Marb, Doc, and \$B or API EPDs.

Sale:

1. The sale will be held on **March 7, 2025, at 6:30 PM.**
2. The bulls will be indexed within a breed and based on the following calculation:
Index = 20% EPDs (CED%, BW%, WW%, YW%, and MM%) + 10% ADG ratio + 20% Feed Efficiency ratio + 20% RFI + 20% REA + 10% IMF
Therefore, based on 20% EPDs, 50% performance, and 30% carcass characteristics.

3. The bulls will be run through the ring. The cost of DVAuction was very high, so alternatives are being sought to decrease costs.
5. Bulls will be sold under guarantees used by the respective breed associations.
6. The sale catalog will identify low birth weight EPD bulls that would be considered a Heifer Bull (HB).
7. A CUP-certified technician will measure bulls for ribeye area, back fat thickness, and marbling and report the results in the sale catalog.
9. **Your bull will not SELL and MUST BE PICKED UP by the owner if:**
 - Minimum scrotal circumference of 32 centimeters at one year of age
 - Minimum adjusted pelvic area of 140 sq. cm. at one year of age

- Does not pass the breeding soundness exam
- Structurally unsound or has a foot score of 1 or 9 based on third-party verification
- Poor disposition
- Performed in the bottom 25% of his division and breed

ATTENTION:

- All consigned bulls will be parentage, and i50K tested once delivered to the test station.
 - IF the bull also needs to be tested for a genetic defect that will also occur at the same time.
- The Bull Test Advisory Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action if there is a discrepancy between the stated age and apparent age or any other information provided.

IMPORTANT DATES
2024-2025

September 06, 2024	Send applications out
September 27, 2024	Applications due
October 03 - 04, 2024	Call consignors about acceptance of bull(s)
October 25, 2024	Delivery of bulls to Test Station
November 07 - 08, 2024	Test period begins – Weigh on 07 & 08 – start test Nov 08, 2024
November 29, 2024	Ultrasound Senior Division bulls
December 06, 2024	28-day weights taken
January 03, 2025	56-day weights taken
January 29, 2025	Ultrasound Junior Division bulls
January 30 - 31, 2025	Test period ends – Weigh on 30 and 31 – end test January 31, 2025
February 04, 2025	Adjusted 205-d and 365-d WTs due – must have all weights turned into the association and then contact the test station with those adjusted weights ASAP
TBD	BSE exams with scrotal & pelvic measurements taken
TBD	Brucellosis testing
March 7, 2025	43rd SIU Performance Tested Bull Sale @ 6:30 pm

Contact Information:
Advisory committee

- Glenn Brammeier – 618-246-3974
- Matt Gajewski – 618-314-0435
- Tom Perjak – 618-214-8911
- Erik Meier – 618-267-9670
- Dr. Jay Nair – 618-453-7105
- Ryder Flener – 618-841-1075

Also contact jay.nair@siu.edu with any questions!

RESERVATION APPLICATION Southern Illinois University Performance-tested Bull Program
If you wish to enter more than one bull, fill out this form for each bull and then rank the priority of each bull next to the bull's name.

◇ Consignor's name _____

◇ Farm name _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone # _____

E-mail address _____ Cell Phone # _____

Fill in the diamond beside the name you want to be used in the reports and sale catalog.

Rank:

_____ Bull's name: _____ Registration # _____

Birth date: _____ Birth WT: _____ Tattoo _____

Sire's name: _____ Sire's registration # _____

Breed _____ If not purebred, what percentage(s) _____

_____ **Place an X in the blank on the left if you are ONLY testing this bull (NOT FOR SALE)**

Rank:

_____ Bull's name: _____ Registration # _____

Birth date: _____ Birth WT: _____ Tattoo _____

Sire's name: _____ Sire's registration # _____

Breed _____ If not purebred, what percentage(s) _____

_____ **Place an X in the blank on the left if you are ONLY testing this bull (NOT FOR SALE)**

Rank:

_____ Bull's name: _____ Registration # _____

Birth date: _____ Birth WT: _____ Tattoo _____

Sire's name: _____ Sire's registration # _____

Breed _____ If not purebred, what percentage(s) _____

_____ **Place an X in the blank on the left if you are ONLY testing this bull (NOT FOR SALE)**

Rank:

_____ Bull's name: _____ Registration # _____

Birth date: _____ Birth WT: _____ Tattoo _____

Sire's name: _____ Sire's registration # _____

Breed _____ If not purebred, what percentage(s) _____

_____ **Place an X in the blank on the left if you are ONLY testing this bull (NOT FOR SALE)**

Rank:

_____ Bull's name: _____ Registration # _____

Birth date: _____ Birth WT: _____ Tattoo _____

Sire's name: _____ Sire's registration # _____

Breed _____ If not purebred, what percentage(s) _____

_____ **Place an X in the blank on the left if you are ONLY testing this bull (NOT FOR SALE)**

I certify that this bull meets all eligibility requirements set forth in the rules and regulations of the Southern Illinois University Beef Evaluation Station. If selected, I will deliver the bull on October 25, 2024, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. I agree to pay the testing and reservation fee of \$200 at the time of application. I also agree to pay the cost of feed and veterinary services and other expenses associated with the testing and sale of the bull.

I also agree to hold the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University, its agents, and employees harmless of any loss I may suffer for whatever cause as a result of my participation in the Bull Test program; however, Southern Illinois University will make every effort to safeguard the health and safety of the bull.

Enclosed is a check for \$200 for each bull entered, made payable to **Southern Illinois University**.

Owner's signature _____ Date _____

Return this completed form and payment by **September 27, 2024**, to:

Beef Evaluation Station
Ag. Bldg. – MC 4417
Carbondale, IL 62901

**HEALTH CERTIFICATE
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BULL TEST STATION**

Bring the completed form when the bull is delivered to the station.

Please type or print legibly.

Owner _____ Phone No. _____

Address _____

Tattoo _____ Date Weaned _____ Weaning Weight _____

Adjusted 205-d WT according to association _____

The following must be accomplished before delivery to the station.

The **FIRST** series of vaccinations should be accomplished **6-4 weeks** before weaning.

Vaccinations	Serial Number	Brand	Date Given
Endovac-Beef	_____	_____	_____
IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV	_____	_____	_____
5-way Leptospirosis Bacterin	_____	_____	_____
Hemophilus somnus	_____	_____	_____
7-way Clostridia	_____	_____	_____

The **SECOND** series of vaccinations should be accomplished 1-2 weeks before weaning.

Vaccinations	Serial Number	Brand	Date Given
Endovac-Beef	_____	_____	_____
IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV	_____	_____	_____
5-way Leptospirosis Bacterin	_____	_____	_____
Hemophilus somnus	_____	_____	_____
7-way Clostridia	_____	_____	_____

If you do not dose Endovac-Beef:

Pasteurella Hamolytica/Multocida toxid _____

It is recommended that the vaccinated bull be kept isolated from the other animals in your herd.

Procedures/Date (Please fill in the blank.)

Worm Treatment _____ Method/Product _____

I hereby verify that the above procedures have been followed and that the above bull is, to the best of my judgment, free from infection and contagious diseases, including warts, ringworm, and mange, and external parasites.

Veterinarian Signature _____ Date _____

Veterinarian's Address/Phone No. _____

Owner may give the vaccines, but their veterinarian must confirm they were given.