



ARBA National Carcass Evaluation Program

Purpose:

1. Collect needed Carcass Data for future promotion and merit evaluation.
2. Provide cooperative activity available to all members for gathering information on individual production merit.
3. Provide positive perception of our desire to “Prove – Up” our product within the industry.
4. Identify superior genetic strains with potential of refining our gene pool.

Nominations Must Be Received by December 15th for Spring Calves

Requirements:

- All Steers Must Be Able To Be Registered By ARBA (Application for Registration) OR out of a Registered Red Brangus Parent that can be identified.
- All steers must be born between September 2019- May 2020 for Spring Delivery (January 11-15).
- All steers must be weaned and have completed the following health program 45-60 days prior to delivery:

-Four Way Virus Vaccine for IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV (MLV) – Administer at weaning and 14-21 days later.

-Pasturella Vaccine at weaning

-Clostridial 7 way + Hemophilus Somnus (Blackleg + Somnus) Administer at weaning & 14-21 days later.

-Deworm at weaning

-Steers should be knife cut and dehorned at weaning if not before.

- Steers will be harvested when the pen has reached the average weight and condition regarded as acceptable by the industry (approx. 1200 with .3 BF). The decision will be made by the feedyard operator.
- Steers will be fed at Graham Land & Cattle Company in Gonzales, Texas.

Red Brangus Breeders need to determine how their cattle fit the current and future needs of the beef industry. The ARBA National Carcass Evaluation Contest is designed to provide feedback to producers on how their cattle perform in the feedyard and the type of carcasses they produce. Assessment of this information will allow producers to determine whether or not they are on target or if they need to alter the genetics of their herd. The purpose of this program is to provide feedback to help make those decisions. To participate steers must meet the following guidelines:

1. All cattle must be identified (brands are preferred).
2. Steers will be individually identified, weighed and processed upon arrival. It is strongly recommended that all steers be vaccinated in accordance with one of the options listed in the Value Added Calf Vaccination Management Programs. These vaccinations help enhance immunity so that the steers have increased resistance to viruses and bacteria upon arrival at the feedyard. The vaccines given upon arrival boost that immunity so that respiratory problems are reduced. All steers will be given a modified live virus vaccine, vaccinated against clostridial organisms and dewormed upon arrival. All injections must be given in accordance set forth by the Beef Quality Assurance Audit.
3. The cattle will be sorted into an appropriate number of expected outcome groups.
4. Animals that require treatment for any illness will be treated according to guidelines established by the feedyard veterinarian. Costs of treatment will be charged to the owner. Cattle who get sick twice will be removed from the program and railed. The feedyard management and ARBA will make every effort to safeguard the health of all animals, but will assume no responsibility for death loss or sickness.
5. After an acceptable length of time, steers that are not achieving an economic rate of gain will be sold as realizers and the proceeds will be placed in escrow for disbursement at the end of the program. Owners will be notified when such steers are salvaged and when one of their steers dies.
6. Feed consumption for each pen will be determined at the conclusion of the feeding period. Individual steer consumption will be dependent upon the proportional share of pounds based upon days.
7. Charges to be assessed each entry at the end of the feeding period include:
 - a. Processing fee
 - b. Medicine costs
 - c. Feed costs
 - d. Trucking costs (feedyard to packing plant)
 - e. The above items will be financed at the prevailing interest rate
 - f. Texas Cattle Feeders Association Dues
 - g. Beef Checkoff
8. Entries will be marketed when the pen average reaches the weight and condition regarded as acceptable by the industry. This decision will be made by the feedyard manager.
9. The steers will be weighed individually at the conclusion of the feeding period and a 4% pencil shrink will be applied to the final weight to determine live sale weight for calculation of feed yard performance.
10. The cattle will be sold on the live animal value. Fair market value for all sales will be attained, but neither the feedyard nor ARBA guarantee the profitability of participation in the program. All proceeds will be mailed directly to the consignor after the expenses listed in item 7 are deducted. Disbursement of all funds will be approximately two weeks after the group is marketed. Cattle will be harvested at Sam Kane Beef Packers.

11. Feed yard performance & carcass information to be collected

Average Daily Gain

Dressing Percentage

Carcass Weight

Ribeye Area

% Kidney, Pelvic and Heart Fat

Quality Grade

Yield Grade

Marbling Score

USDA Yield Grade

USDA Quality Grade

Warner Bratzler Shear Tenderness Test

12. Producers will be sent a report after re-implant at the feedyard with information on arrival weight, steer value, re-implant weight, muscle score, frame score and pen assignment.

13. At the conclusion of the feeding period, feedyard performance data and carcass information will be provided on each consignment. The information will be kept confidential for consignors to use in evaluating the cattle they are producing.

**ARBA National Carcass Evaluation Program
Nomination Form**

Ranch _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Town, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____

Head Entered _____

Make Check Payable to American Red Brangus Association

Mail Entries to:

American Red Brangus Association

3995 East Highway 290

Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Phone: 512-858-7285