

# HELPFUL HINTS When Submitting ARBA Performance Data

*The American Red Brangus Association provides a breed specific data collection program.*

- This program provides breeders the opportunity to submit measurements and in turn useful information is returned to the breeder for use in their program.
- This informational piece will provide some of the basic information to submit performance data to the association to enroll in the ARBA Herd Improvement Program.

## Birth Weight

The first measurement that will be taken is a birth weight. This measurement needs to be taken within 24 hours of the calf being born. Ideally, the weight will be taken with a scale but alternative measuring systems such as a birthweight tape can be used.

## Calving Ease/Calv EZ

Calving ease is a one digit code that reports performance during calving. Report calving ease by entering one of the following codes:

1. No assistance
2. Some assistance
3. Mechanical assistance
4. Cesarean section
5. Abnormal presentation

## Dam Udder Score

Udder suspension scores are numerical values that reflect differences in udder quality. Udder suspension scores are subjective assessments of udder support and range from 9 (very tight) to 1 (very pendulous). Udder scores should be taken within 24 hours after calving, preferably by one person and on the weakest quarter.

## Weaning Weight

The next measurement that will be taken will be at weaning time. It is important for you to properly group calves for the maximum effectiveness of the information. To assist with this consider the following:

- At a minimum two calves of the same sex and same management should be weighed on the same date (single weights DO NOT contribute to EPDs or accuracies).
- Weigh as many calves as possible that are 120-300 days old (preferably calves 120-210, 211-300 days old in two groups)

## UDDER SUSPENSION

**9** VERY Tight



**7** Tight



**5** Intermediate



- A Weaning Management Group code MUST be submitted:

### MANAGEMENT CODES

*Tells how calves were handled prior to weaning:*

1. Natural dam, no creep
  2. Natural dam, with creep feed
  3. Raised on a foster dam (i.e. recip cow, nurse cow, etc.)
  4. On show feed ration
- A Group Code should be submitted as animals need to be evaluated separately due to a difference in environment, forage, season or any other differences. It is recommended that these be as simple as 1,2,3, etc.
  - If any calves are the result of embryo transfer a recipient age, and breed composition must be submitted. If a breed is not known XX can be submitted for crossbred. The analysis groups the calves based on the recipient code so be sure that codes are consistent for the same “breed type” of recipient.

Once the Application for Registration that includes the performance measurements is submitted the association will enter this data and send the breeder reports and a Yearling Worksheet.

### Yearly Weights

The Yearling Weight information should be submitted on the Yearling Worksheet for animals between 301-500 days old along with a weigh date and a management code.

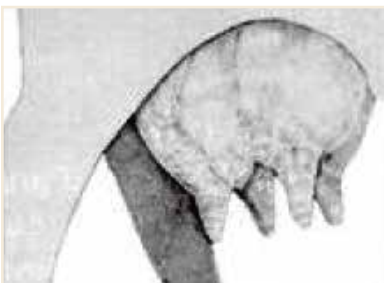
### Yearling Management Codes

Enter one of the following codes indicating how the calves were handled from weaning to yearling age.

1. Pasture with supplement feed
2. Pasture with no supplement feed
3. Dry lot – full feed and no pasture
4. On show ration



### 3 Pendulous



### 1 VERY Pendulous

