

To: All UT Bull Test Consignors

Dear Breeders:

Time is quickly approaching to make decisions for the 2022-2023 class of prospective herd sire to enter the UT Bull Development and Evaluation program here in Spring Hill. I know many have and are currently weaning and making selection decisions for entrees. We would like to take this opportunity to provide some useful information and reminders concerning your consignments.

We were extremely honored to host an outstanding set of young sires last year and are very excited to see your programs' progress in this years' class of consignments. As you all are aware many benefits are yield from this unique program. First, is the value each seed stock producers gains from competition and comparison. Second, is the tremendous genetic value obtained by the commercial producers purchasing these outstanding prospects. Third is our states agricultural economy that yields the benefit of improved feeder cattle production and reputation due to this program and your efforts.

I do want to be upfront as this year's testing cost will likely be higher than past years due to an increase in feed cost and other associated developmental inputs. We will be diligent in bidding the feed as to receive the most optimum cost on a quality ration. The fact that we bid our ration at a high quantity should at least ensure we receive a more economical pricing than each of you on your own. The same can be assumed for animal health products etc.

As you are beginning to make selections for nominations please note a listing of important dates for this upcoming class of bulls. This and additional information can be found at the Bull Testing Program Website - <https://ag.tennessee.edu/AnimalScience/Pages/BullTestProgram.aspx>

Birthdates 9/1/ 2021 - 12/15/2021

Nomination
July 15, 2022

Deadline

Delivery August 9, 2022

On Test August 22 & 23, 2022

28 Day Weight September 23, 2022

56 Day Weight October 18, 2022

Ultrasounds November 3, 2022

Off Test November 14 & 14, 2022

Sale January 12, 2022

In addition to the above important dates please note the **hoof scoring diagram** included. I would ask that each of you inspect your prospective consignments hooves as this is one factor that can result in your bull not being accepted on the day of delivery. Ideally your bulls' feet should present between a **4 and 6 for both foot angle and claw set** upon delivery. It should also be understood that hoof growth can continue in a negative manner and the bull may be disqualified at a later point during the test period and even on sale day. If you have any questions or concern regarding your bulls' hooves I will be glad to inspect prior to delivery either through a series of photos or a farm visit.

Foot Angle: 5 is ideal



Claw Set: 5 is ideal



We have a great team assembled to provide detailed care, evaluation and marketing of your programs herd sire prospects. Please do not hesitate to contact us with question or concerns throughout this process, as we desire this to be a meaningful and positive part of your operation.

Respectfully submitted,



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