



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

To: Interested Purebred Breeders

From: Steve Meadows, Director Clemson Bull Test Program

Subject: 2018 Clemson Bull Test Nominations

You are receiving this letter because you have consigned bulls to the Clemson Bull Test within the past 2 years. This is your first opportunity to reserve slots for your bulls this year before we advertise to the general public. Early nominations are due before **Friday June 16, 2017**. You may still nominate bulls after this date, and slots will be awarded based on the selection process outlined below. The 2018 Clemson University Bull Test is just around the corner and we are very excited. We will again be utilizing our GrowSafe 6000 system to measure individual feed intake and calculate relative efficiency of individual bulls. Enclosed are the calendar, requirements, nomination form and health certificate for the 2018 Clemson Bull Test. Nomination deadlines are set early enough to give consignors time to receive official notification of pre-test acceptance or rejection of their bulls before going to the expense of, persistent BVD test (all bulls) and health papers (CVI, out of state bulls).

Early Nomination Deadline – Friday **June 16, 2017 (offered to anyone who has consigned bulls to the Clemson test in the past 2 years)**

2018 Clemson Bull Test-Nominations Due-July 17,2017

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| Test Manager | Gary Burns |
| Station Capacity | 80 bulls |
| Birth Dates | Senior Bulls -September 1 -October 31, 2016 Junior Bulls – November 1- December 31, 2016 |
| Birth Weights | Actual birth weights -required |
| Weaning Deadline | July 24, 2017 |
| Min. Adj. 205 Wean Weight | Angus, Hereford, Red Angus, Shorthorn - 575 lbs All Other Breeds - 625 lbs |
| Min. Adj. 205 Wean Weight Ratio | 93 within weaning contemporary group – ET bulls accepted with birth date of recip |
| Horned, Polled or Polled/Scurs | Bulls of all breeds must be polled or dehorned and healed before delivery |
| Pre-Delivery Vaccinations Deadline | August 1, 2017 |
| Pre-Delivery (Weaning) Herd Health Requirements | Vaccinations -IBR, PI3, BVD, BRSV [Modified Live Virus vaccine] -5-way Leptospirosis -7-way Blackleg (Clostridials) - Pasteurella haemolytica Dewormed & Treated for grub and lice control |
| Nomination Form & Fee Due | July 17, 2017 |
| Nomination Fee | \$100 per bull (NON REFUNDABLE IF BULL/S ARE PRELIMINARY ACCEPTED) |
| Nominations Accepted Priority | Early Nomination Period (Consigned bulls in previous 2 yrs) then, 1st -South Carolina breeders -by date received 2nd -Out-of-State breeders by date received, if space available |
| Signed Registration Certificates Due | October 2, 2017 |
| Delivery Day | August 8,2017 |
| Delivery Day -Entry Fee | \$150 per bull |
| Delivery Day -Minimum WDA | 2.50 lbs/day |
| Delivery Day -Health Papers | 1 -Clemson Bull Testing Program Health Certificate 2 -State Certificate of Veterinary Inspection for out of state bulls 3 –All bulls must have negative persistent BVD test |
| Warm-up Period | 14 days |
| 0-days Weight -(On-Test) | August 22, 2017 |
| 28-days Weight | September 19, 2017 |
| 56-days Weight | October 17, 2017 - <i>Seniors –Ultrasound & Scrotal</i> |
| 84-days Weight | November 14, 2017 |
| 112-days Weight (Off-Test) | December 12, 2017 - <i>Juniors – Ultrasound & Scrotal</i> |
| Adjusted Yearling Weight | 365-Days |
| Minimum Sale Requirements -within breed-age group | Average Daily Gain Ratio -85 Weight per Day of Age Ratio -90 Adjusted Yearling Weight Ratio -90 Adjusted 365-Day Yearling Scrotal Circumference 30 cm. Pass Screening Committee Evaluation Pass Breeding Soundness Exam |
| Sale Order | Index (combination of feed efficiency and gain) |
| Sale Day | February 3, 2018 |

Other Bull Test Information

I. Entry Requirements

1. All consignors must be members of the South Carolina Cattlemen's Association.
2. Breeders' herds must be enrolled in their respective breed association performance records program.
3. Breeders may consign as many bulls as desired – provided space is available.
4. All bulls must have a performance registration certificate.
5. All bulls must be registered purebreds or registered hybrids (Balancer, SimAngus, etc.).
6. Bulls with a wart or ringworm on delivery day will be rejected.
7. All bulls must have a legible tattoo or brand before delivery.
8. All bulls must pass age verification by mouthing upon an official challenge.
9. Recommended -Not Required -minimum Adjusted 205-Day Weaning Hip Height: Angus, Hereford, Polled Hereford, Senepol and Shorthorn -44.0 in. (5.1 Frame Score) All Other Breeds -46.0 in. (6.1 Frame Score)

10. Suggested -bulls should NOT be vaccinated for Haemophilus somnus unless you currently have a problem with this disease in your herd and your veterinarian recommends you should vaccinate for it.

II. Sale Requirements

1. If signed registration certificates are not provided to the Bull Testing Program Coordinator on time, a consignor's bulls will be sold at the end of the sale regardless of Index ranking.
2. All bulls must pass an independent Screening Committee's evaluation of muscling, structural soundness, disposition, frame size, genetic defects and sheath health.
3. All bulls must pass a breeding soundness exam within 30 days of the sale.
4. Bulls failing to meet any of the requirements will not sell.
5. All bulls sell under their respective breed association guarantees.

III. General Rules

1. All bulls must complete the test unless removed by the test manager for sickness, injury or bad disposition.
2. Consignors may not withdraw bulls before completion of the test for any reason.
3. Upon completion of the test, a breeder may withhold bulls from his consignment to take home. Notification of withholding must be given by the off-test date.
4. If a consignor withdraws a cataloged bull on sale day, consignor will still be charged all sale expenses for that bull.
5. Liability -Each bull is the property and responsibility of the consignor until sold, at which time the new owner shall assume full responsibility and liability for said bull. While all reasonable care will be taken, neither the management, Clemson University nor its Board of Trustees, officers, agents, employees, volunteers or representatives assume responsibility for any injury, damage or loss of bulls.
6. Insurance -If consignors want their bulls insured while at the test station, they must do so on their own and at their own expense. The test station and Clemson University DO NOT insure bulls.
7. Minimum Sale Price – **A minimum sale price of \$1500 has been set on each bull.** Bulls that do not bring the minimum price will be “no sales”. Consignors must pick up their “no sale” bulls after the sale or pay to have the test manager maintain and ship the bulls directly to slaughter the following week. This sale policy will be included in the sale catalog and announced at the start of the sale.

IV. Fees & Costs

1. Nomination Fee -This fee will be applied toward test costs. **If a breeder fails to deliver a consigned bull, the nomination fee will be forfeited.** If a bull is rejected prior to or at delivery, the nomination fee will be refunded. Nomination fee checks should be made payable to: **Clemson University.**
2. Entry Fee -This will be applied toward test costs. Entry fee checks should be made payable to: **Clemson University.**
3. Test Costs -Test costs are prorated equally among bulls.
4. Sale Expenses -Actual costs (ads, catalog postage, ring service, arena rent, etc.) will be prorated equally among the

For additional information, contact:

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