



E-Newsletter

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Help our marketing efforts meet YOUR needs. Any suggestions to the Facebook page or E-Newsletter should be sent to mollie@txbrangus.org

Texas Brangus

Letter from the President

Dear TBBA Members,

I've been to a couple of Brangus Sales so far and the end results are very good. Bulls are averaging about \$4000.00 and females are averaging between \$3000.00 and \$4000.00. In my opinion, this is just the beginning to a very strong sales year and a very good time to own Brangus Cattle. It's about time! I certainly am glad I hung on to my good ones through the drought.

Some important dates are coming up. The National Show of Merit at the State Fair of Louisiana is taking place on 3 November and the Gene Trust Sale at Chimney Rock in Concord, La. on 2 and 3 November. The Hill Country Brangus Bull Sale is on 10 November in San Angelo, TX. The Branch Ranch Brangus Bull Internet Sale in Mansfield, LA is on 13 November and 101 Ranch and Indian Hills are putting on their first World Series Sale on 16 and 17 November. Good Brangus animals are being offered at all these sales and the Show of Merit in Shreveport is a chance to see some the best in the breed.

Breeding season is rapidly approaching and I'm going to express some of my thoughts on bull selection. I'll get some criticism for my thinking here, but I don't have a lot of confidence in the EPD's that are issued to our animals. The problem I have is that an animal does not have much of a chance to correct invalid reporting. I put more emphasis on correct phenotype than on EPD's. We have all seen or had cows that had an unfavorable milk number but raises great calves and cannot correct her own numbers. Then there are cows that have the best EPD's in the breed and don't perform. My own technique is to find the areas of the cow that need improvement and then select a bull or bulls that have proven to improve those defects then look at the EPD's. I also put a lot of emphases on cattle that keep themselves in good condition while raising a calf. To sum up my thoughts on bull selection:

Breeders Association

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1. Know your market. This is most important.
2. Keep good records
3. Study the animals that are topping the sales and winning in the show ring.
4. Know your cows, their strong points and their weaknesses.
5. Cull the animals that are not performing (the market is great for this now).
6. All you can...(there is not a bull that will work on every cow).
7. Get a good herd sire. If your herd sire doesn't give you the calves you want, there is not a better time to sell him.
8. Don't try to build your herd from within. Sell your best and establish a reputation of raising great cattle and sell the calves that are not that good as commercial (that market is real good now).

Hey, I'm no expert at this and some will say that I don't know what I'm talking about. Most of my opinions are because I have made those mistakes myself. I have lots of experience as a pilot and know that you are only on course for a moment. There are many factors that can take you off course and you must continually monitor and make corrections to stay on course. This is true in all businesses.

Your TBBA has several good sales coming up. Give us a chance to help you get the most for your hard work and nominate you best for those sales

Sincerely,

Russ Williamson, President

TJBBA Connection: State Fair Report

The Texas Junior Brangus Breeders Show 2013 is currently under construction and developing into what may be one of the best ever. The second official meeting of the TJBBA Board of Directors took place on October 6, 2012 at the State Fair of Texas held in Dallas, Texas.

The meeting began with a call to order and a welcoming word by President Kacie Wallace dually opening the annual meeting for the transaction of business. Our first items of official business were the Secretary's Report given by Kourtney Gardner followed by the breakup into committees for detailed show planning. Theme for the 2013 State Show is "Let the Celebrities be Seen in 2013" to be held in Brenham, Texas.

The next morning was filled with anticipation and high hopes in everyone's heart, for it was show day. Mr. Carl Muntean was our judge for the day accompanied by the

ring assistance of Brangus Directors ready to work. The show ran smoothly with Grand Champion Heifer Honors going to Rachel McConnel followed by Reserve Champion Honors going to Katelyn Gardner.

Members and Exhibitors loaded out and left the fairgrounds with rosy cheeks and frozen hands as well as a sense of accomplishment and joy with the long wait for their next show. Until next time, good luck in all of your future endeavors and may they lead you to success.

-Contributed by Adrian Whipple, TJBBA Reporter

Board Candidates Announced

Candidates for the IBBA Board of Directors positions have been announced. Voting ballots will be sent by mail November 15, and biographies for each of the following candidates will be printed in the November/December Brangus Journal.

Area 1- Joy Reznicek, Chuck Sword

Area 2- Ginger Pritchard, Mike Vorel

Area 7- Buck Thomason, Russ Williamson

Area 9- Steve Densmore, Danny Farris

Area 10- Larry Parker

-Release by International Brangus Breeders Association

U.S.-Panama Trade Agreement

WASHINGTON- The United States Trade Representative (USTR) announced today that the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement, also known as the Free Trade Agreement (FTA), will enter into force on Oct. 31, 2012. The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), the oldest and largest national organization representing the cattle industry, is greatly encouraged by this news and the ultimate removal of tariffs and other barriers to U.S. exports, including U.S. agricultural exports.

"The cattle industry has been waiting on implementation of this agreement for a long time and we're looking forward to increased trade opportunities with Panama," said Bob McCan, NCBA vice president and a Texas cattleman. "The U.S.-Panama Free Trade Agreement immediately eliminates the 30 percent tariff on prime and choice beef cuts and all other duties will be phased out over the next 15 years. This is a positive step forward for American cattlemen and women."

Panama is one of the fastest growing economies in Latin America with forecasts of between five to eight percent annual growth through 2012. This agreement provides U.S. ranchers access to this valuable market. Similar to the FTA with Colombia, the agreement with Panama provides assurances for a stable export market through plant inspection equivalency. Additionally, Panama modified its import requirements related to bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) to be consistent with international standards. With these agreements in place, the United States will have free trade for U.S. beef with approximately two-thirds of the population in the Western Hemisphere.

"NCBA has been an outspoken supporter of this agreement and others like it because they increase market access and provide stable export markets based on internationally recognized scientific standards," McCan said. "We are encouraged by today's news and we appreciate Ambassador Kirk and the USTR's leadership in moving these agreements forward."

-Release by National Cattlemen's Beef Association

Nov./Dec. Calendar of Events

November:

2nd:

GENETRUST at Chimney Rock Registered Brangus Bull & Commercial Female Sale- Concord, AR

3rd:

Indian Nations Fall Sale
National Show of Merit- Shreveport, LA

10th:

Hill Country Brangus Breeders Sale- San Angelo, TX
The Stockman Kind's Bull Sale, Blackwater Cattle Co.-
Lake Park, GA

16th:

101 Ranch and Indian Hills Ranch World Series of
Brangus Consignment Sale- Palo Pinto, TX
RRR Ranch Annual Production Female Sale

17th:

ABBA Heart of Alabama Brangus Bull Sale-
Uniontown, AL
RRR Ranch Annual Production Bull Sale

December:

1st:

GENETRUST at Cavender Ranches Registered Brangus
Bull Sale- Jacksonville, TX

3rd:

Cain Farms Angus & Brangus Dispersal Sale- Pickens

6th:

TBBA San Saba Bull Sale- San Angelo, TX

Sincerely,
Texas Brangus Breeders Association

Serving and promoting the interest of its members specific to the breeding, raising, and marketing of Brangus cattle.