



School of Agriculture
College of Business and Technology
Knoblauch Hall 145
Macomb, IL 61455-1390

WESTERN
ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

July 12 2017

Dear Beef Producer,

Entries are now open for the 2017-2018 Western Illinois University Performance Bull Test.

The index (and resulting sale order) this year will be calculated as follows:

Index = 70% ADG ratio + 15% Marbling ratio + 15% REA ratio.

Please note the changes that are new this year:

1. Only bulls tested NEGATIVE for anaplasmosis will be allowed to enter the test

Also keep in mind changes implemented last year that will continue in place:

- 1-Bulls must weigh a minimum of 550 pounds at delivery
- 2- The sale will be limited to the top 50 indexing bulls that meet qualifications

Health Requirements:

1. **Completed Health Affidavit signed by BOTH the producer and the veterinarian**
 - a. The health requirements are not complicated to implement, but do require some planning ahead in order to meet the requirements and get certified in a timely manner
2. **Weaned by August 14, 2017**
3. **Tested NEGATIVE for anaplasmosis**
4. Bulls will be tested for **BVD** upon arrival. If positive, the bull will need to be removed from the test immediately.
5. To address the concern about **Johne's Disease**, bulls must meet **one** of the following requirements:
 - a. The birth mother of the bull must test negative for Johne's, **or**
 - b. If the herd is 30 cows or less, then all 30 cows must test negative, **or**
 - c. If the herd is greater than 30 cows, at least 30 must be sampled and all of those tested must be negative.
* In the case of ET calves, the recipient cow will be considered the dam of the bull in regard to testing, NOT the donor cow.
4. Pedigree proven free or tested free of known **genetic defects** including, but not limited to, arthrogryposis multiplex (AM), neuropathic hydrocephalus (NH), and osteopetrosis (OS). Provide test results or pedigree documentation from your breed association. Bulls that are known (tested or

pedigree) carriers of the developmental duplication (DD) condition will be allowed to participate in the test, and they will be marked as carriers of the condition in the sale catalog and any reports prior to sale.

5. Any bulls coming in at delivery with **ringworm** will be charged an additional \$100.

Ultrasound:

Ultrasound data will be submitted for bulls that meet the age requirements listed below from the respective breed associations. ALL bulls will be scanned on one day, by one technician, and reported whether or not your data can be included in your breed's database. **In order for your bull to be listed on the ultrasound barn sheet, he must have had a weaning weight submitted to the association. Please be sure to have submitted this information to the association, if you have not already done so prior to delivery.**

To be included in the database, the following requirements must be met:

1. For all breeds, there must be two bulls from the same contemporary weaning group
2. Bulls must be born in the following timeframe to meet the age requirement when scanned on approximately January 18, 2018. If the breed is not listed below, the information can be obtained from the appropriate breed association.

Breed	Age in Days at Scan
Angus	320-440
Charolais	320-430
Hereford	301-530
Red Angus	320-440
Simmental	300-440

Keep in mind, we do not submit yearling weights and scrotal measurements to the breed associations, but we will provide it to you so that you may do so.

The enclosed agreement form lists the rules and regulations for this year's test. Also enclosed is an Reservation and Entry form for the upcoming test. **The application deadline is September, 1 2017.** If you have any questions or comments about the guidelines or testing program in general, please feel free to contact Dr. Keela Trennepohl. Contact information can be found at the end of the agreement form. You will need to bring a completed Health Affidavit signed by BOTH the producer and the herd veterinarian when the bulls are delivered as well as a completed entry form. This form is also enclosed. **Delivery dates are September 26 and 27, 2017.**

We want to make the WIU bull testing program the premier bull testing program in the United States and can do so with your help as partners in this program. Please be sure to enter your bulls by the September 1 deadline. Again, feel free to contact me anytime.

Sincerely,

Keela Trennepohl
Email KM-Trennepohl@wiu.edu
Website http://wiu.edu/cbt/agriculture/bull_test/

Summary of entry requirements

1. Reservation Form received by September 1, 2017
2. Born between January 1 and March 31, 2017 (bulls born later than March 15 tend to be less competitive)
3. Weaned by August 14, 2017
4. Weigh a minimum of 550 pounds at delivery on September 26 or 27, 2017
5. Health Affidavit signed by BOTH the producer and the veterinarian
6. Tested NEGATIVE for anaplasmosis – send or bring test results
7. Birth mother tested for Johnes or come from certified Johnes free herd
8. Free of known genetic defects (read the guidelines regarding DD)
9. Completed Entry form at delivery or earlier

Other

1. Bulls with **ringworm** at delivery will be charged an additional \$100
2. Please prescreen your bulls for disposition, scrotal adequacy, structural correctness and overall quality (we have found that any of those issues, even minor ones, never improve but only get worse as the bulls develop). Remember that quality bulls make for a quality sale.
3. Insurance on bulls, if desired, is the responsibility of the breeder -- none is carried on them by WIU.

CONSIGNORS PLEASE SHARE THE FOLLOWING WITH YOUR VETERINARIAN ASAP

The information below is provided to assist veterinarians working with producers that are consigning a bull(s) to the 2017-18 Western Illinois Performance Bull Test. Please follow these instructions carefully. **Cattle work can be done by producer if approved by veterinarian, but the paperwork must be SIGNED by both the producer and the veterinarian.**

Preconditioning beef cattle has been proven, and we have taken this step to reduce respiratory problems and to reduce the cost billed to breeders if bulls become sick with respiratory disease within the first 21 days of reaching the test facility. The results of requiring preconditioning for the WIU Bull Test have been both a saving to the producers and greatly improved the overall health of the bulls.

Note: There is NO product manufacturer/brand specification to the protocol. Products used are at the discretion of the producer's veterinarian and must be listed on the Health Affidavit.

All bulls must arrive at the test with a Health Affidavit signed by the producer and his/her veterinarian

- Bulls must be weaned for 45 days, on or before August 14

HEALTH REQUIRMENTS:

- Calves must be weaned by August 14 (45 days required)
- Calves must be treated for internal and external parasites
- Calves must receive 2 doses of Cattle Respiratory Vaccine (IBR, BVD (types 1 & 2), BRSV, PI-3)
- Calves must have 2 doses of 7-Way Clostridial/Blackleg
- Calves must have 1 dose of Pasteurella Vaccine
- Calves must have 2 doses of Haemophilus Somnus (often in combination with 7-way)
- Calves must be bunk and water broke
- Horned cattle must be tipped or dehorned

2017-2018 WIU Bull Test Calendar

July 31, 2017	Last Date for First Vaccinations
August 14, 2017	Last Weaning Date and Booster Vaccinations
September 1, 2017	Entries Due
September 26-27, 2017	Deliver Bulls
October 18-19, 2017	Start Test
November 15, 2017	28-Day Weights
December 13, 2017	56-day Weights
January 10, 2018	84-Day Weights
January 18, 2018	Scan Bulls (tentative)
February 4, 2018	WIU Bull Test Open House during WIU Farm Expo @ WIU Bull Test Facility; Time TBD (tentative event)
February 7-8, 2018	Complete Test 112-days
March 9, 2018	46th Annual Sale @ WIU Livestock Center @ 7 PM 1 mile west of Highway 67 on Tower Road; Macomb, IL

Agreement for the W.I.U. Bull Testing Program

1. The purposes of the WIU Bull Test are to provide reliable, unbiased performance information on bulls entered into the program and to provide a source of performance tested seedstock to the beef industry.
2. Bulls must have been born between January 1 and March 31, 2017, have a recorded birth weight, and weigh a minimum of 550 pounds at delivery on September 26 or 27, 2017.
3. The testing fee is \$175 per bull -- \$100 per bull is due with the reservation application, with the additional \$75 payable at delivery of the bull. Consignors with two bulls accepted will receive a \$10 per head discount from the \$75 per head delivery payment. Consignors with three or more bulls accepted will receive a \$15 per head discount from the \$75 per head delivery payment.
4. The testing capacity of the station is 70 bulls -- 5 pens with 12 bulls each, and one pen with a 10 head capacity, as it is a smaller pen.
5. **The entry deadline is a postmark of September 1st, 2017.** Entries postmarked after September 1 will be accepted by a drawing if room is still available after acceptance of all entries received by the deadline.
6. The entry fee will be refunded only if the bull is not accepted due to reaching capacity of the station, or, in the case of illness to a bull, a replacement entry can be found from another breeder.
7. At delivery, each consignor must present the Health Affidavit form completed by their veterinarian signed by BOTH the producer and the veterinarian. Each bull will be tested for persistent BVD within one week of delivery. Any bull testing positive will be removed from the station.
8. Bulls must be delivered to the test station with veterinarian completed health forms, blood test results, registration papers, entry form, remaining test fees and a \$200 per bull feed/health deposit on either Tuesday, September 26 or Wednesday, September 27, 2017 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Horned bulls should be healed from dehorning. **Bulls with ringworm at delivery will be charged an extra \$100.**
9. Bulls must be free of known **genetic defects** including but not limited to arthrogyrosis multiplex (AM), neuropathic hydrocephalus (NH), and osteopetrosis (OS). Provide either DNA test results or pedigree documentation from your breed association. Bulls that are known (tested or pedigree) carriers of the developmental duplication (DD) condition will be allowed to participate in the test, and they will be marked as carriers of the condition in the sale catalog and any mailings prior to sale.
10. Feed and health costs during the testing period will be based on the individual. Preliminary and post-test period feed and health costs, plus all other costs not attributable to an individual will be pro-rated per head.
11. Owners of the tested bulls must be members of the Illinois Beef Association or National Cattlemen's Beef Association.
12. All costs must be paid before any bull can be removed from the station. Bulls may be removed only by permission of test station personnel.
13. Bulls will be fed free choice long hay at arrival. During the preliminary period, they will receive a receiving ration which will be gradually substituted by the testing ration so that only the testing ration will be fed at the time bulls officially begin test.
14. The testing period will last 112 days. The official on-test weight will be the averages of weights taken on Tuesday, October 18, and Wednesday, October 19, 2017. The official off-test weight will be the averages of weights taken on

Tuesday, February 7 and Wednesday, February 8, 2018. Progress report weights will be taken every 28 days on November 15, December 13 and January 10. All bulls will be ultrasounded on approximately January 18.

15. A \$0.60 per head per day yardage charge will be imposed on each animal from the time of arrival until it leaves the test station. All yardage charges collected will go toward Bull Test facility maintenance and improvements. This fee will be evaluated on an annual basis and is subject to change.
16. At the conclusion of the testing period, bulls will be fed the testing ration, plus free choice long hay.
17. Bulls will be indexed by breed group (if there are more than four of a breed) as well as against all bulls on test. **Both indexes are based on 70% ADG ratio + 15% Marbling ratio + 15% REA ratio.**
18. **Approximately 50 bulls will be selected for the sale**, based on their within-breed index. However, to be eligible for the sale, all bulls must have an across-breed index of at least 80, a minimum adjusted scrotal circumference of 32 cm, be screened for disposition, pass a soundness exam based on the University of Missouri scoring system, and pass a reproductive exam. Retests for the reproductive exam will be performed during the week prior to the sale. The 46th Annual Sale will be at the WIU Livestock Center on Friday evening, March 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. All bulls that go through the sale will be charged a prorated share of the sale expenses.
19. Sale order will be based strictly on index rank.
20. All bulls selected for the sale must go through the sale unless excused for health reasons. At least 1/3 interest must be offered for sale. If full interest is not to be sold, 60-day advance notice is required.
21. All data will be public information and the Western Illinois University School of Agriculture has the right to use the records for research purposes.
22. Neither Western Illinois University, nor its employees are liable for loss, injury or reduced value of bulls entered on test.
23. Insurance on bulls, if desired, is the responsibility of the breeder -- none is carried on them by WIU.
24. The sale catalog will include information on average daily gain, frame score, scrotal circumference, fat depth, ribeye area, birthweight, date of birth, color, horned/polled, beginning and ending test weights, and marbling, plus indexes where applicable. It will also include pedigree and EPD information for birthweight, weaning weight, yearling weight, milk and maternal weaning weight, with percentiles where applicable.
25. The test station supervisor is:
Dr. Keela Trennepohl
School of Agriculture
145 Knoblauch Hall
Western Illinois University
Macomb, IL 61455
Email: KM-Trennepohl@wiu.edu
Website http://wiu.edu/cbt/agriculture/bull_test/

Reservation Form
2017 – 2018 WIU Performance Bull Test

Due September 1st 2017

I have read and agree to the terms in the "Agreement for the W.I.U. Bull Testing Program" and would like to enter bulls in the program as indicated below (please print clearly):

Please check the box beside the name you want used

In sale catalog On your check
And on reports

Name _____

Farm Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Breed

Birthdate

Estimated Weight at delivery

Bull #1 _____ _____ _____

Bull #2 _____ _____ _____

Bull #3 _____ _____ _____

Bull #4 _____ _____ _____

Please send this sheet, along with \$100 per bull entered to:

Bull Testing Program
Attn: Keela Trennepohl
School of Agriculture
145 Knoblauch Hall
Western Illinois University
Macomb, IL 61455

KM-Trennepohl@wiu.edu

**17-18 WIU Bull Test
ENTRY FORM**

Breed(s) _____

Ranch Name _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____ - _____ Email _____

Contact Person _____ Home Phone (_____) _____ - _____ Fax (_____) _____ - _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

~Please fill out Health Affidavit on the back

TEST ID**	TATTOO #	EARTAG #	BIRTHDATE	ACT BIRTH WT	POLLED/ Horned	DAM'S* AGE OR ET	NAME OF ANIMAL	NAME OF SIRE	NAME OF DAM'S SIRE	WEANING DATE	ADJ WEANING WT	Owner Member Code
							REGISTRATION #					

**If calf raised by other than his mother, please note.
** To be filled in by WIU Bull Test*

Please return completed form when bulls are delivered.

2017-2018 WIU Bull Test Health Affidavit

Vaccination	Animal ID(s)	Vaccine & Manufacturer	Lot No.	Vaccination Date	Booster Date	Comments
Cattle Respiratory (IBR, BVD types 1 & 2, BRSV, PI-3)						
7-way Clostridial/Blackleg						
Haemophilus Somnus						
Pasturella						
Internal & External Parasite Control						

I hereby certify that the above products have been administered to the listed animals by myself, or under my direction.

Veterinarian name: _____

Veterinarian signature: _____ Date: _____

I hereby certify that I the above products have been administered to the listed animals by my herd veterinarian, or by myself under his/her direction and that all animals listed have been weaned for a minimum of 45 days prior to delivery to WIU.

Producer name: _____

Producer signature: _____ Date: _____