

Update
American Angus Association®
Contractural Arachnodactyly (CA) (07/26/10)

A.I. organizations requested that the American Angus Association provide to the membership the identity of and preliminary test results for Angus bulls tested by Dr. Jon Beever of the University of Illinois to determine whether they were carriers or free of the mutation identified for Contractural Arachnodactyly (FORMERLY REFERRED TO BY THE NAME OF “FAWN CALF SYNDROME”).

Dr. Beever provided us the registration numbers of and test results for the animals that he tested. The A.I. organizations that provided Dr. Beever the semen samples for those animals have asked the Association to provide that information to the membership. The Board has carefully considered this request and it has factored into its deliberations its understanding that the A.I. organizations have begun to inform their customers of how specific animals have tested. The Board’s decision to provide that information to the membership is subject to the following important qualifications:

1. We understand the test used here was run on a set of animals requested by Dr. Beever from the A.I. companies for research purposes and therefore remains preliminary in nature. The preliminary test has not been commercialized. Accordingly, until the Association can establish a protocol for the direct receipt of results of a commercialized test from a lab approved by the Association, it will not alter or amend any other animal’s Registration or Performance Pedigree Certificates.

2. THE AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCURACY OR RELIABILITY OF EITHER THE ANIMALS IDENTIFIED OR THE TEST RESULTS SHOWN FOR EACH AND HEREBY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, BOTH EXPRESS AND IMPLIED, OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

We will continue to keep the membership posted, including when a test becomes commercially available at laboratories approved by the Association.

For an update on the research by Dr. Beever, the list of the animals and their preliminary test results, please [click here](#).