



Angus GS™ - Commonly Asked Questions

When can members expect the new test to be released? How can I order the test?

As of Monday, Nov. 4, members will be able to order the Angus GS™ test through their AAA Login account. Ordering the new Angus GS test is exactly the same process as ordering any other DNA test.

What's the cost of the new test?

The new test will cost \$37 per test, which includes parentage markers. Additional add-on tests for things like coat color and genetic conditions are available for an additional cost.

Is this simply the GGP-LD with a different skin?

No, this is a brand-new design, specifically for Angus. Angus GS will not be sold to other organizations without express permission of AGI. We have the opportunity to license to our international partners. Finally, this test contains custom markers selected for Angus, which are not found on other tests.

What are the advantages of Angus GS for Angus breeders?

- Core set of SNPs are genotyped directly, not imputed
- It's built by Angus for the Angus breed making it more useful and complete
- Genes selected for Angus Genetics could lead to future refinement of more traits
- Priced for whole-herd genomic selection
- It's more than a chip – it's phase one of a new plan for the Angus business

Does this mean anything I have tested previously is now obsolete?

No. The current genomic markers used in the Angus weekly genetic evaluation will still be utilized for prediction of GE-EPDs. No difference in published EPD accuracy will immediately show up due to Angus GS testing.

Can and should I invest in upgrading previously tested animals?

If you have previously tested animals on a low density platform (GGP-LD, i50k), you can re-test your animals on Angus GS to upgrade to the high density platform. Producers will see no change in EPD accuracy and little to no change in the EPDs themselves. The team at Angus Genetics recommends producers invest dollars in testing animals which have not been tested rather than re-testing something already genotyped.

What does GS in Angus GS mean?

This stands for Angus Genomic Selection. Angus breeders now benefit from genomic selection with our genomic enhanced EPD. The name signifies this as the product of choice for genomic enhanced EPDs. It is designed for that specifically in Angus.

Is this an Angus product or Neogen?

This is the only Angus genomic test specifically branded and built by the American Angus Association and Angus Genetics, Inc. for the membership. While this is the Angus genomic test, Geneseek, an operating entity of Neogen, collaborated with AGI scientists in the chip design and will provide the genotyping services at their labs.

Is the new product more accurate than previous tests?

The AGI team has worked to saturate the new genomic test with markers targeting specific genomic regions of influence in Angus cattle. This means future test accuracy improvement once a subset of animals has been tested with Angus GS. Additional markers for traits like fertility, feed efficiency and tenderness, including Calpastatin, have been included to advance research for future trait selection. Angus-specific markers added to Angus GS were found to possibly have effects in small to moderately sized research populations for traits including meat quality, carcass, feed efficiency, and fertility. Before new markers can be added to Angus's weekly genetic evaluation for increased prediction accuracy and selection for additional traits, a subset of animals must be tested with Angus GS to determine the ultimate value of these additional markers. Initial accuracy upgrades: Initial utilization of Angus GS will be similar to upgrading all newly tested animals from a low-density test to a high-density test available through AGI.

What about for commercial producers?

Zoetis has agreed to lower the price of Genemax Advantage to \$28 per test. Seedstock producers wanting to make sure their commercial customers can take advantage of the GeneMax Sire Match function should feel comfortable using Angus GS to test bulls to be used for this year's breeding season. A commercial test compatible with Angus GS will be available for commercial producers to access.

What about add-ons, such as genetic conditions?

All genetic conditions currently monitored by the Association will be available for inclusion in the new test with an add-on fee. In addition, parentage markers also will be included. Angus GS parentage markers are included in the test design and are compatible with previously reported parentage results in the Association's database.

Please contact the AGI team with any questions at (816) 383-5100.