How can I order the test?
Members will be able to order the Angus GS™ test through their AAA Login account. Ordering the Angus GS test is exactly the same process as ordering any other DNA test.

What’s the cost of the test?
The cost is $37 per test, which includes parentage markers. The Angus GS test includes genetic conditions acknowledged by the American Angus Association® that can be conveniently run on the same DNA sample as is used for Angus GS at a lower add-on cost than stand-alone tests. With that, the recent genetic condition bundle, which includes all conditions monitored by the American Angus Association plus coat color, can be added to the Angus GS for just $18.

What are the advantages of Angus GS for Angus breeders?
- Core set of 40,000 SNPs for single-step genetic evaluation are genotyped directly, not imputed.
- It’s built by Angus for Angus cattle.
- Genetic markers selected for Angus genetics could lead to future refinement of more traits.
- High-density profile is priced for whole-herd genomic selection.
- Capture the increased accuracy on genetic potential equivalent to a lifetime of production before you select replacement females.

Should I upgrade animals previously tested on another platform to the Angus GS?
Generally, no. Angus GS is a high-density genotyping platform. Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) policy only allows upgrades from low-density to high-density platforms. In some cases, such as A.I. sires or donor dams with high herd or breed impact, a breeder may prefer to upgrade to Angus GS. However, it is recommended that producers invest in the genomic profiling of new animals rather than profiling animals that have already been tested.

What is the expected turnaround time for results?
Once received at AGI, samples are processed within 24 hrs and overnighted to Neogen to begin the genotyping process. On average, producers can expect Angus GS results be reported within 14 business days of sample reception; however, producers should allot an additional week for these results to get included into Association’s weekly genetic evaluation. To ensure this process is completed as quickly as possible, producers should make sure good samples are collected and the necessary order confirmation and data recording accompanies samples upon arrival at AGI.

What does GS in Angus GS mean?
Angus GS stands for Angus Genomic Selection. This name reflects the aim of the test to give Angus breeders and their customers a tool designed to guide whole-herd selection, mating management and breed-improvement decisions, as well as denoting the value of seedstock cattle.

Is this an Angus product or Neogen?
This is the first Angus brand genomic test specifically built by the American Angus Association and AGI for the membership. While this is the Angus genomic test, Neogen GeneSeek Operations collaborated with AGI scientists in the chip content design and provides the genotyping service at its labs.
Can I run Angus GS and get GeneMax Advantage results?
No.

Is the product more accurate than previous tests?
Current accuracy upgrades are similar to upgrading animals from a low-density test to a high-density test. Further development will lead to more accuracy as new markers and traits are evaluated. The AGI team has worked to saturate Angus GS with gene markers targeting specific regions of influence in the Angus genome. This insight will enhance future accuracy as more animals are tested with Angus GS. Some markers such as Calpain and Calpastatin, known to be influential for tenderness, are built into Angus GS. New markers for traits like fertility, feed efficiency and environmental adaptability will advance with research. Transferring knowledge from small- to moderate-size research populations to the entire breed is what AGI does well. Before new markers are included in the Angus weekly genetic evaluation, a larger set of animals will be tested with Angus GS to determine the best way to include the marker information.

What about add-ons, such as genetic conditions?
All genetic conditions currently monitored by the Association can be added onto Angus GS for small charge. Also, parentage markers are designed into the Angus GS test and are compatible with the previously reported parentage results in the Association's database.

How do I store tissue samples?
Tissue sampling units (TSU’s) should be stored out of direct sunlight at room temperature for anything you plan to test within the next six months. If producers are planning on keeping the samples, TSUs should be placed in the freezer. These samples do not need to be sent on ice into the Association. When sending TSUs into the Association, producers must remember to complete ordering of specific tests and upload the TSU electronic worksheet marrying barcode samples to tag/tattoo IDs.

If I’m not sending them in immediately, how do I keep the tissue sample?
If producers are keeping the sample for more than a year, it is recommended that producers freeze samples to maintain integrity.