

Angus Foundation Research Project

Project Name: Genetic evaluation of heat tolerance for growth traits in Angus cattle

Status: In progress

Timeline: 2016-2017

Angus Foundation Funding: \$4,500

Objective: Evaluate the effects of heat stress on Angus cattle growth.

Results, if any: Sire rankings will be compared between environments with differing levels of heat load to evaluate the need for environment-specific selection tools for Angus breeders and Angus genetics users. The genetic trend for heat tolerance will be evaluated to determine if this trait has changed over time to provide a better understanding of the effect of recent selection programs on heat tolerance.

Application: Better understanding of the seasonal impact of heat stress in different areas of the country. Genomic-enhanced breeding values for heat tolerance in growth traits. Selection tools to enable the identification of sire lines that excel for greater growth in areas of the country where heat stress is a concern.