

ANGUS

THE BUSINESS BREED

Breeder Nomination of Sire(s) for Structured Sire Evaluation

The American Angus Association (Association) is expanding the Structured Sire Evaluation (SSE) program to include nominated sires from members. Members who are interested in having a sire included in the SSE should fill out the nomination form.

The SSE was reestablished in 2016 to collect carcass data on progeny generated from widely used Angus sires to strengthen the database. Since 2016, there have been more than 150 Angus test sires included in this program. Through collection of carcass data, along with genomic testing and ultrasound scanning of progeny in seedstock herds, Angus bulls can have higher accuracy EPDs for carcass traits at younger ages.

Benefits of the Program

- Obtaining high accuracy Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs) for carcass traits
- Collecting performance data on progeny
- Verify an unproven sire alongside proven, high accuracy Angus sires
- Further link actual phenotypes to genomic information to continuously increase genomic prediction accuracy
- Allow for continued validation of the Angus's national cattle evaluation through collection of performance data on progeny

Responsibilities of Bull Owner/Nominator

- Complete nomination form and initial fee for test sire(s) by January 28, 2022
- Pay nomination fee for test sire
- Provide 80 units of viable semen and pay shipping costs

Requirements for Nominated Sire

- Registered Angus Bull
- Must meet current requirements for “Out of Herd” AI Sires including
 - Parentage markers on file with the Association
 - Genetic condition bundle testing
- Genomically tested with *AngusGS*SM or *HD50K* for Angus
- Viable semen collected and froze

Responsibilities of Test Herds

- Select the sires to use from list provided by the Association
- Randomly mate females to sires selected
- Dams in project must be permanently identified, provide birth year, and approximate breed composition
- Record submission including breeding, calf ID, birth date, weaning weight, EID identification, DNA sample with testing materials provided, weaning weights, management group information, and carcass data
- Collect DNA samples on calves for sire verification
- Maintain complete or partial ownership of fed cattle to access carcass data
- Provide carcass data including a minimum of harvest date, hot carcass weight, backfat, ribeye area, and marbling score

Responsibilities of American Angus Association

- Communication between test herd and nominator
- Coordinate semen shipments to test herds
- Supply reference sire semen to test herds
- Ensure data and DNA sample submission
- Provide EID tags, TSU units for testing, and cover cost of genotyping
- Receive data and report results back to bull owner and test herd

For additional information, contact Esther McCabe, Director of Performance Programs, 816-383-5100 or emccabe@angus.org.

Note: For a sire to be included on the list, the initial nomination fee of \$100 must be paid on or before January 28, 2022. If the sire is selected by the test herd(s) for use in the program, the remaining nomination fee of \$2,900 must be paid in full prior to shipping semen. If a sire is not selected by the test herd(s) for use in the program, the initial \$100 fee will be returned to the nominator.