



Alabama Beef Cattle Improvement Association

40 County Road 756 • Clanton, AL 35045 • 205-646-0115

September 12, 2023

Dear Alabama BCIA Members:

Alabama BCIA is issuing a call for nominations for the 2023 North Alabama BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale to be held on Saturday, December 9, 2023, along with the 2023 North Alabama Bull Evaluation Sale in Cullman. The North Alabama BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale will target **open heifers born on or before January 31, 2023**, and **bred heifers calving from January-June 1, 2024** with genetic documentation, group age, and source information. Alabama BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sales provide Alabama cattle producers an avenue to expand marketing of replacement heifers with genetic verification. A complete list of nomination guidelines and forms are included in this packet.

Heifers must be sired by a properly registered bull that is transferred to the owner of the heifers. **The registration number of the bull (or bulls) must be provided at consignment to the sale and must have current EPDs from their respective breed association.** Allowance for breeding systems using artificial insemination, leased bulls, and heifer calves resulting from the purchase of a bred heifer will be permissible with documentation. Groups of heifers are encouraged for consignment, but singles will not be excluded. Heifers should be vaccinated and boosted for 7-way blackleg (Clostridial diseases), 5-way Leptospirosis + Vibriosis, and IBR-PI3-BVD-BRSV (respiratory complex). All open heifers must also be weaned at least 30 days prior to the sale and must have an average minimum weight per day of age (WDA) of 1.75 lbs. Bred heifers must weigh at least 850 lbs at delivery. Open heifers will be guaranteed open. Bred heifers will be guaranteed bred (at a minimum of 60 days) at sale time with documentation from a veterinarian at delivery. All heifers must have never been implanted with any growth stimulants. **For any registered heifers**, consignors must be aware and address any potential genetic defects. No potential carriers of genetic defects will be sold in the sale event. Please review the guidelines enclosed for more details and requirements.

Enclosed are the guidelines for this sale opportunity with a nomination form to complete to participate. **Please return the completed nomination form and a \$15.00 per heifer refundable nomination fee by October 20, 2023.** Please mail completed nominations to Michelle Elmore, 40 County Rd 756, Clanton, AL 35045. For more information, please contact Michelle Elmore, by phone (205) 646-0115 or by email elmormf@auburn.edu.

Sincerely,

Michelle F. Elmore
Extension Animal Scientist/Beef Cattle Improvement

2023 Alabama BCIA North Alabama Genetic Verified Heifer Sale Guidelines

1. Consignors must be an active member of Alabama BCIA. All heifers will be visually evaluated and screened by the sale committee for overall quality, structural soundness, conformation, muscling, growth and disposition. Heifers that are found to be unsound, of bad disposition or do not meet BCIA standards for conformation or growth will not sell in the best interest of the sale event.
2. Heifers must be sired by a properly registered bull that is transferred to the owner of the heifers. **The registration number of the bull or bulls must be provided at consignment to the sale and the sire or sires must have current EPDs from their respective breed association.**
 - a. For AI sires, a receipt from the purchase of the semen and the registration # of the sire is required. If semen resulted from collection of a bull owned by the consignor, proof of semen collection of the bull is required.
 - b. For a leased herd sire, a statement for the owner of the bull including the dates of lease and the registration # of the bull is required.
 - c. Heifer calves resulting from the purchase of bred heifers will require a statement from the original owner or breeder of the bred heifer that will include the service sires registration #, breeding dates, and proof of sale to the consignor.
 - d. **For any registered heifers, PLEASE NOTE, consignors must also be aware and address any potential genetic defects of their nominated registered heifers. Potential carriers of any genetic defects should be tested.** No potential carriers of any genetic defects will be cataloged or sold in BCIA sales, unless a potential genetic defect status has arisen since nomination to the BCIA program. Any known carriers of a genetic defect may be sold in the sale with full disclosed information as noted by announcement in the sale catalog.
3. Heifers must be born on the consignor's farm as the initial point of origin.
4. Heifers must have never, at any time, been implanted with any growth stimulant.
5. Heifers must be weaned at least 30 days prior to delivery for the sale.
6. **Open heifers must be born on or before January 31, 2023.** Group age must be documented (age of the oldest and youngest heifer in the sale group must be provided.) Groups of heifers are encouraged for consignment. Heifers will be arranged in pens of 3 to 5 head as uniformly as possible by weight, size, breed type, sire or service sire and projected calving dates for bred heifers.
7. A **minimum** weight per day of age (WDA) of 1.75 lbs. is required at sale delivery for open heifers and will be calculated on pen average with no pen of heifers having over a 90 day age span.
8. Vaccinations and best management practices recommended will be the following: (all vaccinations must be administered at least 3 weeks before sale delivery)
 - a. 7-way Blackleg (Clostridial diseases)
 - b. 5-way Leptospirosis - Vibriosis
 - c. IBR-PI3-BVD-BRSV
 - d. Heifers must be treated for internal and external parasites prior to the sale as a best management practice.

The above vaccines should be given twice (a primary and booster) in accordance with the specific vaccine label directions or within a veterinarian-client relationship in accordance with Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) guidelines. Suggested vaccination protocols include either by: Program A: Primary vaccination 3-4 weeks before weaning and a Booster vaccination at weaning or Program B: Primary vaccination at weaning and a Booster vaccination prior to the sale.

9. Open heifers will be guaranteed to be open. If any open heifers sold are found to be bred, it will be the responsibility of the buyer to notify the breeder at the first sign of pregnancy, so that the heifer can be returned to the breeder. The breeder will only consider refunding the purchase price of the heifers if they are in good condition and returned prior to calving.
10. Open heifers purchased in this sale or other BCIA Heifer Sales may be consigned to this sale as bred heifers the following year, per meeting the requirements for bred heifers.

Additional Requirements for Bred Heifers:

1. Bred heifers will be guaranteed bred (at a minimum of 60 days) at sale time with documentation from a veterinarian at delivery.
 2. A breeding date or date range and the resulting projected calving date range will be required for each bred heifer. The specific breeding and calving date range will be set for each sale date. For the December 2023 sale, bred heifers should calve after January 1 to June 1, 2024 with breeding dates of March 22 to August 20, 2023.
 3. A properly registered service sire that is transferred to the owner of the heifers and the registration number of the sire (or sires) of the bred heifer (s) must be provided at consignment to the sale and the sire or sires of the bred heifers must have current EPDs from their respective breed association. Any service sire (s) must also have EPDs available from their respective breed association. For a leased service sire, a statement for the owner of the bull including the dates of lease and the registration # of the bull is required. Low birth weight, calving ease service sires are highly recommended.
 4. A **minimum** average weight of 850 lbs. is required at delivery for all bred heifers. This average weight will be collected on all the bred heifer consignments by each consignor.
- Sale(s) are invited to be held in conjunction with existing BCIA bull sales. The respective bull sale committees may add additional requirements but may not remove any of these respective guidelines; however, the bull sale committees may omit the addition of bred heifers to fit their sales and sale dates.
 - Sale will have a 2% commission for BCIA. The total commission will be 5%, which will also include 1% for auctioneer expenses and 2% for sales expenses.
 - A nomination fee of \$15.00/head will be required at consignment, which will be refunded provided the heifers arrive and are sold in the respective sale.
 - All heifers will be delivered to the sale site at Cullman Stockyards on Friday, December 8 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Cullman Stockyards is located at 75 County Rd 1339, Cullman, AL 35058.

Sale Order: Sale order will be determined using the following information. Heifers should be arranged in pens of 3 to 5 head as uniformly as possible by weight, size, breed type, sire or service sire and projected calving dates for bred heifers to be presented by pen group. Overall quality, structural soundness, conformation, muscling, growth and disposition will factor into sale order in the best interest of the sale event. Heifers that are found to be unsound, of bad disposition or do not meet BCIA standards for conformation or growth will not sell. The sale coordinator will develop the sale order based on these factors and to allow for rotation of lots from each consignor.

Alabama BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale Nomination Form –Page 2

- Are these heifers sired by natural (or pasture exposed) or an AI breeding program?

If AI sired, please include a receipt of the semen purchase or semen collection with this form.

- Are these heifers sired or bred by a bull(s) you leased? _____
If so, please include a statement from the owner of the bull detailing the dates of your lease and the registration # of the bull(s) in question.

- Did these heifers result from purchasing a bred heifer? _____
If so, please include a statement from the original owner of the bred heifer that includes the service sire(s) registration number, breeding dates, and proof of sale.

- Have the heifers been treated for internal/external parasites & vaccinated and boosted for 7-Way Blackleg, 5-way Leptospirosis + Vibriosis & the respiratory complex IBR-PI3-BVD-BRSV? _____

- Have the open heifers been weaned 30 days or longer? _____

- Please confirm that none of the heifers have ever been implanted with any growth stimulants. _____

- **Note: Documentation of pregnancy status from a veterinarian is required for bred heifers at sale delivery! Heifers must be at least 60 days bred & projected to calve from January 1-June 1, 2024.**

- Please provide any additional information for your nominated heifers or for your operation to be listed in the catalog. **Please note: The EPDs of the sire (or sires) and service sire (or sires) will be listed in the catalog.**

I have read and understand all the rules of the Alabama BCIA Genetic Verified Heifer Sale, and I agree to abide by these rules. All the data that I have provided to the sale management for this sale is accurate. I understand that a copy of my cattle records needs to be available upon request.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please mail completed nomination forms and fees by October 20, 2023 to:
Michelle Elmore, 40 County Rd 756, Clanton, AL 35045