

ABBA National Carcass Evaluation Program

Purpose:

1. Collect needed Carcass Data for future promotion and merit evaluation.
2. Provide cooperative activity available to all members for gathering information on individual production merit.
3. Provide positive perception of our desire to “Prove – Up” our product within the industry.
4. Identify superior genetic strains with potential of refining our gene pool.

Entry Fee: **\$50/head** (This fee can be deducted from the proceeds of your cattle)

Nominations Must Be Received by December 15th for Spring Calves

Requirements:

- All Steers Must Be Able To Be Registered By ABBA (Application for Registration)
- All steers must be born between January - May for Spring Delivery (January 2-6).
- All steers **MUST** be Parent Verified before being nominated. (Copy of the results **MUST** be submitted)
- All steers must be weaned and have completed the following health program 45-60 days prior to delivery:
 - Four Way Virus Vaccine for IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV (MLV) – Administer at weaning and 14-21 days later.*
 - Pasturella Vaccine at weaning*
 - Clostridial 7 way + Hemophilus Somnus (Blackleg + Somnus) Administer at weaning & 14-21 days later.*
 - Deworm at weaning*
 - Steers should be knife cut and dehorned at weaning if not before.*
- Steers will be harvested when the pen has reached the average weight and condition regarded as acceptable by the industry (approx. 1150 with .3 BF). The decision will be made by the feedyard operator.
- Steers will be fed at Graham Land & Cattle Company in Gonzales, Texas.

Divisions:

Individual Overall Champion Carcass (20% ADG, 30% REA, 30% Marbling, 20% Tenderness). Any steers with a WBSF over 10 lbs. and a USDA YG of 4-5 will be eliminated from the contest ranking.

Premier Sire Group: 3 Steers by one Sire

Brahman Breeders need to determine how their cattle fit the current and future needs of the beef industry. The ABBA National Carcass Evaluation Contest is designed to provide feedback to producers on how their cattle perform in the feedyard and the type of carcasses they produce. Assessment of this information will allow producers to determine whether or not they are on target or if they need to alter the genetics of their herd. The purpose of this program is to provide feedback to help make those decisions.

1. All cattle must be identified by a brand.
2. Steers will be individually identified, weighed and processed upon arrival. It is strongly recommended that all steers be vaccinated in accordance with one of the options listed in the Value Added Calf Vaccination Management Programs. These vaccinations help enhance immunity so that the steers have increased resistance to viruses and bacteria upon arrival at the feedyard. The vaccines given upon arrival boost that immunity so that respiratory problems are reduced. All steers will be given a modified live virus vaccine, vaccinated against clostridial organisms and dewormed upon arrival. All injections must be given in accordance set forth by the Beef Quality Assurance Audit.
3. Each steer will be assigned a per hundredweight value based upon current market conditions in the feedyard trade area at time of arrival at the feedyard. This figure will be used to calculate theoretical breakevens and the financial outcome of the feeding program.
4. The cattle will be sorted into an appropriate number of expected outcome groups.
5. Animals that require treatment for any illness will be treated according to guidelines established by the feedyard veterinarian. Costs of treatment will be charged to the owner. Cattle who get sick twice will be removed from the program and railed. The feedyard management and ABBA will make every effort to safeguard the health of all animals, but will assume no responsibility for death loss or sickness.
6. After an acceptable length of time, steers that are not achieving an economic rate of gain will be sold as realizers and the proceeds will be placed in escrow for disbursement at the end of the program. Owners will be notified when such steers are salvaged and when one of their steers dies.
7. Feed consumption for each pen will be determined at the conclusion of the feeding period. Individual steer consumption will be dependent upon the proportional share of pounds based upon head days.
8. Charges to be assessed each entry at the end of the feeding period include:
 - a. Processing fee
 - b. Medicine costs
 - c. Feed costs
 - d. Trucking costs (feedyard to packing plant)
 - e. The above items will be financed at the prevailing interest rate
 - f. Texas Cattle Feeders Association Dues (40 cents)
 - g. Beef Checkoff (\$1.00/head)
9. Entries will be marketed when the pen average reaches the weight and condition regarded as acceptable by the industry. This decision will be made by the feedyard manager.

10. The steers will be weighed individually at the conclusion of the feeding period and a 4% pencil shrink will be applied to the final weight to determine live sale weight for calculation of feed yard performance.
11. The cattle will be sold on the live animal value. Fair market value for all sales will be attained, but neither the feedyard or ABBA guarantee the profitability of participation in the program. All proceeds will be mailed directly to the consignor after the expenses listed in item 8 are deducted. Disbursement of all funds will be approximately two weeks after the group is marketed. Cattle will be harvested at Sam Kane Beef Packers.
12. Feed yard performance & carcass information to be collected

- Average Daily Gain
- Dressing Percentage
- Carcass Weight
- Ribeye Area
- % Kidney, Pelvic and Heart Fat
- Quality Grade
- Yield Grade
- Marbling Score
- USDA Yield Grade
- USDA Quality Grade
- Warner Bratzler Shear Tenderness Test

13. Producers will be sent a report after re-implant at the feedyard with information on arrival weight, steer value, re-implant weight, muscle score, frame score and pen assignment.
14. At the conclusion of the feeding period, feedyard performance data and carcass information will be provided on each consignment. The information will be kept confidential for consignors to use in evaluating the cattle they are producing.

**ABBA National Carcass Evaluation Program
Nomination Form**

Ranch _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Town, State, Zip _____

Phone No. Day - () _____

Night - () _____

Head Entered ____ x \$50 Per Head = \$ _____

OR

_____ Please deduct my nomination fees from my sale proceeds.

I request assistance in shipping steers to the feedyard. Yes/No

Make Check Payable to ABBA Carcass Program. Mail Entries to:

American Brahman Breeders Association
3003 South Loop West, Ste. 500
Houston, TX 77054

Phone: (713) 349 – 0854

Fax: (713) 349 – 9795