

American Hereford Association National Reference Sire Program

Responsibilities of Test Herd:

- Select from nominated bulls
- Contact bull owner for semen shipping instructions
- Breed 55-60 cows at a random mating across genotypes
- Breed 30 cows to one reference sire that has been tested in previous years (at the cost of the test herd, semen and shipping at a commercial rate)
- Provide complete data on NRSP forms
- Breeding data: Cow ID, specific breed makeup (based on percent), age of cow at breeding time, date bred and sire used
- Birth data: Calf ID, date of birth, weight and calving ease score
- Weaning data: Calf ID, date weaned and weight
- Interim data: Calf ID, date, weight
- Carcass data: Calf ID, carcass weight, marbling score, fat thickness, ribeye area, internal fat and yield grade
- Test herd must provide at least 55% conception rate
- Test herd must retain ownership or partnership at 50% or greater on cattle until they have been harvested

Test Herd Cost:

- All costs will be covered by test herd
- Test herd will pay for the reference sire semen for the 30 cows, and shipping semen will be priced at a commercial rate, data collection will be paid by test herd on all cattle

Responsibilities of Bull Owner:

- Nominate bulls for test sire
- Nominate bulls to AHA by March 1
- Furnish 60 straws of semen and pay shipping cost to test herds
- Pay fees as required

Bull Owner Cost:

- Semen and shipment of semen
- Pay the test herd fee per bull tested when semen is shipped — contact Jack for details

Responsibilities of American Hereford Association:

- Receive data and report all data back to bull owner and to test herd

American Hereford Association Cost:

There will be no cost to the test herd or the bull owner for the data reporting done by the American Hereford Association

2009 National Reference Sire Feedlot and Carcass Testing Program

Benefits of Test Sires:

1. Obtaining high accuracy carcass EPDs
2. Obtaining performance data compared to other sires tested in herd contemporaries
3. Opportunity to market semen as a reference sire in the National Reference Sire Feedlot and Carcass Testing Program, after nominated and selected
4. Opportunity to test sires next to the top Hereford genetics in the breed

Sire Nomination Form

Ranch name _____ Contact person _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Test Bull Information:

Name and registration No. _____

Name and registration No. _____

Name and registration No. _____

Sire Nomination Deadline: March 1

* I acknowledge that any information or samples I provide to the AHA or through AHA programs may be used by the AHA for any purpose.

Signature _____

Send completed nomination form to:

American Hereford Association • Jack Ward • P.O. Box 014059 • Kansas City, MO 64101
(816) 842-3757 • jward@hereford.org