

## High quality cattle perform

### Profit Tip

Cattle need to grow fast and efficiently convert feed into the kind of beef consumers want for them to make a profit in the feedlot. That's not as difficult as some people think, but it takes a balanced approach. Research shows you don't have to choose between carcass merit and performance when planning for maximum profit.

#### Effect of CAB acceptance rates on feedlot performance and carcass traits in Angus-influenced cattle

	CAB Acceptance Rate			
	0-9.9%	10.0-19.9%	20.0-29.9%	>30%
Arrival Weight (lbs.)	726.8	708.5	671.7	669.0
Final Weight (lbs.)	1235.8	1245.9	1242.4	1223.2
Average Daily Gain (lbs./d)	3.28	3.23	3.36	3.33
Feed: Gain (lbs.)	6.15	6.19	6.17	6.43
<b>Cost of Gain* (\$/cwt.)</b>	<b>50.65<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>50.08<sup>ab</sup></b>	<b>48.59<sup>ab</sup></b>	<b>47.56<sup>b</sup></b>
Days on Feed	159	168	174	177
Hot Carcass Weight (lbs.)	781	791	782	772
Dressing Percent	63.2	63.2	63.0	63.1
Fat Thickness (in.)	0.51 <sup>a</sup>	0.52 <sup>a</sup>	0.60 <sup>b</sup>	0.56 <sup>ab</sup>
Ribeye Area (sq. in.)	13.17 <sup>a</sup>	13.10 <sup>ab</sup>	12.90 <sup>ab</sup>	12.78 <sup>b</sup>
Marbling Score**	1000 <sup>a</sup>	1030 <sup>b</sup>	1063 <sup>c</sup>	1102 <sup>d</sup>
Yield Grade 4 & 5 (%)	11.3	9.9	19.1	11.0

\*Includes feed, medications, mortality, etc.

\*\*900 = Slight<sup>e</sup>, 1000 = Small<sup>e</sup>, 1100 = Modest<sup>e</sup>, 1200 = Moderate<sup>e</sup>, etc.

<sup>a</sup>Means with unlike superscripts differ (P<0.10).

### Materials & Methods

- Data represent 12,000 head of cattle with detailed carcass and performance data fed in the Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) Feedlot Licensing Program in 2005.
- Cattle were sorted into four CAB acceptance rate groups: low (0-9.9%); medium (10.0-19.9%); high (20.0-29.9%), and very high (more than 30.0%).



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Data Sources: Certified Angus Beef LLC.

### The Facts

- Cattle with more than 30% *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB) acceptance had the lowest cost of gain among all groups.
- No other measures of feedlot performance differed significantly among CAB acceptance rate groups.
- Hot carcass weight and dressing percent were not influenced by CAB acceptance rates.
- Ribeye area was slightly smaller among high acceptance cattle.
- Average Yield Grade (YG) did not differ significantly among the groups.
- Carcass quality premiums may have been sacrificed in a quest for more pounds: 61% of the YG 4 and YG 5 carcasses in the more-than-30% CAB pens had enough marbling to qualify for the brand.

### Action steps

- Work with your Angus genetic supplier and use the American Angus Association database to find sires that meet herd goals.
- Work with a CAB licensed feedlot or value discovery program to document progeny results.
- Make breeding and culling decisions on how calves perform in the feedlot and packing plant.
- Market calves by selling direct to a feedlot, retaining ownership or partnering with the feedlot to maximize return on investment before harvest.
- Improve CAB acceptance rates by marketing cattle of known, high-percentage Angus genetics at their optimum endpoint to avoid YG and overweight discounts.

Visit [www.CABpartners.com](http://www.CABpartners.com) for more information affecting your bottom line.

#### Questions?

Call Steve Suther at (877) 241-0717.

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