



Wye Angus Newsletter

Wye Research and Education Center

Winter 2023

Wye Angus would like to announce that after 36 years of service to the Wye Angus program Eddie Draper retired July 1, 2022. Eddie started with the Wye program in 1987 as herd manager and moved into the program manager position in 1996 and held this position until he retired.

Eddie has said many times “I am a true supporter of the Wye cattle and will continue to support the program”.

We all miss seeing him every day, but wish him well on his retirement.

2023 Sale

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 1, 2023 for the 45th Annual Wye Angus Sale, 12 PM EST. We are excited to welcome you again to the farm to enjoy our annual sale.

We anticipate selling 5 cow/calf pairs, 11 sexed pregnant recipients, and 23 yearling bulls. Visit our website for sale information and updates at www.go.umd.edu/wyeangus.

The cow/calf pairs include one daughter of each of these sires, Balgain of Wye UMF 10405, Alap of Wye UMF 8329, Cymore of Wye UMF 10806, Larkspur of Wye UMF 10530 and Leelo of Wye UMF 10689.

The pregnant recipients will be from embryo transfers that we did with our Favour of Wye daughter, Blackbird of Wye UMF 9626. We flushed her to these bulls, Laveron of Wye and Freeholder of Wye. We

are offering seven embryos from these matings.

We also flushed Lottie of Wye UMF 11007 who is a Balgain of Wye UMF 10405 daughter to Qualton of Wye and four embryos from this mating will be offered for sale.

The final data on the cows and embryos will be included in our 2023 sale catalog.

Bulls

We currently have 31 bulls on test. Their 112-day data is included in this newsletter. The 15 bulls in Barn 2 are averaging 3.6 pounds of gain per day thru 112 days and the 16 bulls in Barn 3 are averaging 3.4 pounds per day.

Our heaviest bull Lanin of Wye UMF 11670 weighs 1075 pounds with a 32.5 cm scrotal and a 3.6 ADG thru 112-days. The second-best performer so far is Leam of Wye UMF 11695 who weighs 1000 pounds with a 32.5 cm scrotal and is gaining 3.5 pounds thru 112-days.

The complete 140-day test results as well as the carcass ultrasound data will be included in the 2023 sale catalog.

Visit our website at www.go.umd.edu/wyeangus to view our online sale catalog.

Research

The following paragraph was provided by Dr. Zhengguo Xiao, University of Maryland, Animal Science Department. This gives a summary of his ongoing research project at Wye Angus.

Infections cost the cattle industry billions of dollars each year, and many of the commercially available vaccines are only partially effective. Immune systems can be educated and trained through vaccinations to develop immunity and safeguard animals against infections. By analyzing changes in immune parameters in cattle and in culture, we can better understand how the bovine immune system functions and develop vaccines that are more effective. The significant variation between individual cattle in herds is one of the biggest obstacles these studies must overcome. The Wye Angus herd has been closed since 1959, and the similar genetic background is ideal for bovine immunology experiments. The Xiao lab has been able to produce a lot of high-quality data over the last five years thanks to easy access to the Wye Angus herd. This has resulted in more than five publications, several grants from public and private foundations, and several seed grants funded by the University of Maryland. The Wye Angus farm and the Xiao lab are eager to work together in the future to advance the field of bovine immunology.

Additional Information

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