

To: All UT Bull Test Consignors

Dear Breeders:

Time is quickly approaching to make decisions for the 2023-2024 class of prospective herd sires for entry into the UT Bull Development and Evaluation program here in Spring Hill. I know many have and are currently weaning and making selection decisions for entrees. We would like to take this opportunity to provide some useful information and reminders concerning your consignments.

We were extremely honored to host the outstanding set of young sires last year and are very excited to see your programs' progress in this years' class of consignments. As you all are aware many benefits are yield from this unique program. First, is the value each seed stock producers gains from competition and comparison. Second, is the tremendous genetic value obtained by the commercial producers purchasing these outstanding prospects. Third is our states' agricultural economy that yields the benefit of improved feeder cattle production and reputation due to this program and your efforts.

As you are beginning to make selections for nominations please note a listing of important dates for this upcoming class of bulls. This and additional information can be found at the Bull Testing Program

Birthdates 9/1/ 2022 - 12/15/2022

Nomination July 15, 2023

Deadline

Delivery August 8, 2023

On Test August 21 & 22, 2023

28 Day Weight September 19, 2023

56 Day Weight October 17, 2023

Ultrasounds November 2, 2023

Off Test November 13 & 14, 2023

Sale January 11, 2024

Website - <https://ag.tennessee.edu/AnimalScience/Pages/BullTestProgram.aspx>

In addition to the above important dates please note the **hoof scoring diagram** included. I would ask that each of you inspect your prospective consignments hooves as this is one factor that can result in your bull not being accepted on the day of delivery. Ideally your bulls' feet should present between a **4 and 6 for both foot angle and claw set** upon delivery. It should also be understood that hoof growth can continue in a negative manner and the bull may be disqualified at a later point during the test period and even on sale day. If you have any questions or concern regarding your bulls' hooves I will be glad to inspect prior to delivery through a series of photos.

Foot Angle: 5 is ideal



Claw Set: 5 is ideal



We have a great team assembled to provide detailed care, evaluation and marketing of your programs herd sire prospects. Please do not hesitate to contact us with question or concerns throughout this process, as we desire this to be a meaningful and positive part of your operation.

Respectfully submitted,

Saulo Zoca
Department of Animal Science
PO Box 160
Spring Hill, TN 37174
931-486-2129