

BEGGER'S Angus (

# **BANK SCIENCE BANGKON RANCH** Wednesday, February 4, 2015 // 12:30 PM

At the Ranch // Wibaux, MT Selling 152 Simmental, SimAngus & Angus Bulls

Big Sky Genetic Source Bull Sale

# WELCOME

This year proved to be one that every one in the cattle business should be happy with. We planned to weigh the bulls in late August when we preconditioned, but Murphy's Law came into play and the scale had problems so we weighed them on October 8th when we weaned them. So some were over 240 days of age. This does not help 205 wt. adjustments to go over that far. I listed both their 205 and actual weights. As you can see they were heavy. They are an excellent set of bulls. We had a great wean off and the bulls settled right in.

We were hard on them and culled for any little problem that we saw. So only the best made the sale. We have taken the stand that you the cow/calf man comes first. No EPD or any other segment of the industry will come before you the man that spends the most time with them, and owns them the longest. You will find cattle with calving ease, easy keeping, fertility and maternal is our main focus. These cattle will be sensible sized with the ability to produce payweight you will find them to be easy fleshing and easy to handle.

We believe that these cattle will work throughout the beef chain, but not at your expense. Please take the time to read through my food for thought on page 28.

As always we stand behind these cattle if you have a problem we want to know and we will take care of you. We want to thank each and everyone for their interest and past purchases. If you are a first time customer welcome and thanks for choosing us. Buy knowing that we are here to service your needs.

Sale day is busy and we want to meet you, take time to get acquainted and meet us. If you have questions come ask us about our opinion on your picks if you would. We will be glad to advise the best we can. Come hungry, as we will have dinner and refreshments available.

After the sale we will serve you a steak sandwich and have some beverages around for your enjoyment. If you can stick around and socialize this is our easiest time to take the time and get to know you better. If you must get going right away grab a sandwich and refreshment for the road.

Thank you so much for choosing us for your cattle needs. We hope that we are able to meet your needs and expectations.

From all of us here at Begger's Diamond V

## **BEGGER'S DIAMOND V RANCH** February 4, 2015 // 12:30 PM MST // At the Ranch, Wibaux, MT

#### **MOTFLS**

### **SALE DAY PHONES**

406-796-2326 // 406-796-2380 // 406-796-2327	
Bill Begger, darbegger@yahoo.com	
482 Custer Trail Rd, Wibaux, MT 59353	
John Begger	
Bob Begger	)
Harry Begger	

### AUCTIONEER

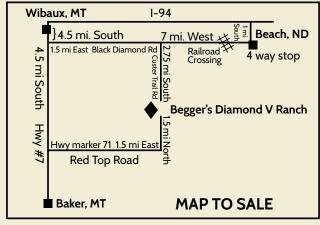
### **REPRESENTATIVES AND RINGMEN**

Jeff Thomas, Prairie Star	406-581-8859
Kirby Goettschd, Farm and Ranch Guide	605-380-3939
John Goggins, Western Livestock Reporter	406-373-5000
Mason Lautenschlager, ASA	
Marty Ropp, Allied Genetic Resources	406-581-7835
Shane Whitman, Pelton Livestock Representative.	406-366-0788

### RANCH LOCATION

The sale will be held at the ranch located south of Wibaux, Montana, go 4 1/2 miles south of the Wibaux County Fair Grounds on Highway #7, then turn left on Black Diamond Road (east) go 11/2 miles, then turn right (south) on Custer Trial Road, go 2 3/4 miles, sale location is on the left hand side of the road. **From Beach, North Dakota**, take Exit One, turn left, go past both Truck Stops, approximately 1 mile to the first stop sign (please note the 4 way stop), turn right at 4 way stop, go 7 miles west, then turn left on Custer Trial Road and go 2 3/4 miles, sale location is on the left hand side of the road.

From Baker, Montana, take Highway #7 north, approximately 35 miles, turn right on Red Top Road at mile marker 71, watch for big yellow Ranch sign, go 1 1/2 miles east (Custer Trail), turn left, go 1 1/4 miles, sale location is on the right hand side of the road.



#### **CATTLE VIEWING**

We welcome your visit anytime that you are in the area. Please call before you come, so that we are here to show you around.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

As recommended by the American Angus and American Simmental Associations. Cattle will only be released from the sale after they have been settled for. In no instance, will any cattle be allowed to be loaded for shipping without full settlement. EPD's listed in catalog are new Spring 2015 numbers, please note that EPD's may change from time sale catalog is printed, until registration papers are transferred.

#### ULTRASOUND

Please Note: The spring born bulls will be ultrasounded and data will be available sale day, or as soon as available.

### FEEDING ARRANGEMENTS AND DELIVERY

For bulls selling for \$2,500 or more, we will offer free keep of your bull until the first of April. At that time we will semen test and give your bulls a breeding exam and deliver them free of charge up to 500 miles. For bulls that sell for less than \$2,500 we will feed them and have them semen tested for \$150 due on sale day. We will help in delivery arrangements. The bulls will be delivered to your ranch or in some cases when there are multiple owners of cattle on the truck and there is a need to unload and sort cattle, we may ask that you meet us at a central location that is convenient to both parties. For cattle selling over 500 miles away, we may have to hire a trucking firm to help with delivery, if so, we will guarantee delivery cost not to exceed \$300 per bull. In most cases, we will deliver them ourselves, but occasionally we will put the bull on a commercial truck that is reputable and conscientious. For purchases of cattle a long distance away, we ask that you be flexible on delivery dates in case we have the opportunity to send your bull your direction earlier than April 1st. When purchasing a bull from Begger's Diamond V Ranch, we take responsibility in delivering a healthy, breeding bull. We will take responsibility of injury or death loss while the bull is on our ranch. Responsibility of your bull purchase begins when he reaches your ranch or delivery point. We guarantee buyer satisfaction. If you have any problems with your bulls ability to breed and settle cows, let us know so we can make it right. We suggest that you insure your bull against death or injury. We cannot guarantee them against an act of God or sickness that develops while he is in your control. We do guarantee our cattle to be healthy sale day.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements made sale day and from the auction block during the sale take precedence over printed material associated with this sale. Anyone attending this sale attends at their own risk. Begger's Diamond V Ranch or any of the sale force will not be responsible for any personal injury or loss while attending this sale.

### **HEALTH AND VACCINATIONS**

The Bulls were vaccinated at branding with Pyramid 4, with Presponse and Vision 7 with Somnus, and again at weaning, they were poured with Ivermectin on September 3 and again in December. They were tested free of BVD and to be best of our knowledge are free from all genetic defects.

### SALE ORDER

We will sell lots 1 through 20, then fall bulls, then go back to lot 21 following catalog order, selling Angus bulls last.

### SIGHT UNSEEN PURCHASES

We guarantee all sight unseen purchases. Call ahead and we will go over the bulls and try and match you up with a bull that meets your needs. You can leave a bid with us or any Sales Rep, or by phone, whichever is convenient for you. We know our cattle and strongly recommend that you call and visit with us on all sight unseen purchases. Sight unseen purchase policy does not apply if you are selecting your own bulls without our consultation or the help of our sales reps.

### INTERNET

Our sale will be broadcast over the Internet on DV Auctions. If you cannot attend the sale in person we have set up this method so you can view the sale and make a purchase. Make sure you pre-register with DV Auctions before sale day. We likewise will offer phone service sale day for those who prefer making their purchase that way.



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# ABOUT API & TI INDEXES

When I was on the ASA Board Jerry Lippsey came to the board with an idea, the first he called the All Purpose Index (API Index). He presented it to us like this; we need to make things simpler there are so many EPD's that it is confusing.

He went on to say; this index is for the man that works in town, runs 20-30 head of cattle and breeds his yearling Angus heifers to the same bull as his mature cows, So extreme calving ease is important. This bull will also need to serve the packing industry well so high carcass traits are a must. Milk numbers need to be good because we want to keep replacements. This will be the Total Package, easy calving, great carcass, and daughters that milk. As a board we all thought, it sounds great and easy to sell. One size fits all.

Today after over a decade of use there is some differences of opinion on what is best. What I soon came to realize working with a large cowherd is this; I don't breed my mature cows to the same type of bull as my Angus heifers. I expect them to produce 85-95lb calves, enabling them to produce more pay weight and more value at sale time.

There are breeders out there that make their entire breeding decisions off this index, and claim it is the way to go. I am somewhat concerned; it seems these cattle are more fragile with less ability to produce fleshing ability and pay weight then the cattle that are in the 20-50 percentile range. It is no secret that the higher the API the better the carcass EPD's are, but I notice that the pay weight and weaning performance will suffer. I have and will continue to use some of the elite API cattle but I likewise will not dwell solely on this index or any single trait EPD at the expense of our cowherds ability to stay easy fleshing, easy keeping, maternal, and wean heavy.

There is no right or wrong but we feel that if you desire extreme carcass or calving ease the higher the better. If you desire cattle with more fleshing ability, safe calving ease, with more pay weight, ability to gain weight, and stay in condition then back off this number somewhat and you will like the results better.

#### The TI index is Terminal Index

This index was designed for use on mature cows only. It is for the cattleman that sells all of his calves and buys his replacements. This index is not to be used with the API Index or used if you keep replacements.

This EPD still puts a lot of emphasis on carcass traits and a little more on payweight. I find this EPD to be of value to a cattleman that retains ownership otherwise it has little value to most cattlemen.

### **RETAINED SEMEN INTEREST IN BULLS**

You will notice that we are selling 3/4 interest and full possession in all bulls in this offering. This means we are retaining a 1/4 revenue sharing semen interest in all the bulls. This semen interest is a royalty interest that entitles Begger's Diamond V Ranch to 1/4 of the revenues of any semen sold. It means the bull is in your control and possession unless otherwise stated or for a mutually agreed upon handling of the bull for promotional purposes. You get 100% of the salvage value of the bull. Begger's Diamond V Ranch retained semen interest remains even if the bull, or any interest in the bull, is sold to a third party. It is the buyer's responsibility to ensure that Begger's Diamond V Ranch's interest is upheld if semen is ever sold. The buyer must also inform any third party of Begger's Diamond V Ranch's interest if the bull is ever sold. Any semen you choose to collect as an 'insurance policy' on your bull for your own in herd use, is 100% yours. Begger's Diamond V Ranch will not be responsible for expenses related to semen collection or promotion of any bull purchased. Unless a mutual agreement is reached for these expenses prior to promotion and semen collection. Cost incurred in collecting semen for Begger's Diamond V Ranch within herd use will be the responsibility of Begger's Diamond V Ranch. Any semen collection will be arranged at the convenience of the new owner of the possession interest in the bull. If you the buyer decides that you would like to own 100% of the semen rights, simply add 25% of the bulls purchase price to your settlement. This will entitle you to 100% of the bull's future semen sales. Begger's Diamond V Ranch will still retain the right to collect 200 units of semen for within herd use at our expense.

Can't make the sale? Watch & bid online for FREE at www.dvauction.com !



#### Buying online is as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Create an account at www.dvauction.com under the "register" tab

2. Apply for bidding approval by clicking on the "details" tab at least 24 hours prior to the auction-a DV representative will notify you once you have been approved

3. Tune in for the sale and make you purchases!

After the sale, contact the sale manager or owner to arrange transportation and payment. **High speed internet** is required for successful bidding-be sure to check the lag-time monitor in the top left corner to ensure real-time broadcasts.

**Proxy Bidding**-if you can't make time to watch the sale, register a proxy bid and let our system represent your bid while you're away. Look for the "proxy bid" tab on the auction listing, and fill in your maximum bids. We'll handle the rest!

#### Having troubles?

During the auction, you can type a message to the operator at any time for assistance. Our full-time support team can also always be reached at (402) 474-5557.

### Sale Day Conference Call

Our goal is to have you in the seats but if you can't make it on sale day ,we're fixin' to get you "On the line!"

Easy as 1~2~3 Call Bill Pelton in advance to...

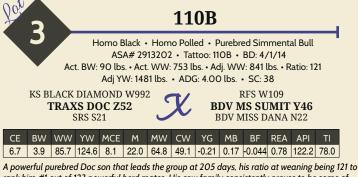
- 1.Pre-register for your buyer number
- 2. Receive the toll free call in number and pin
- 3.Get last minute instructions for the call



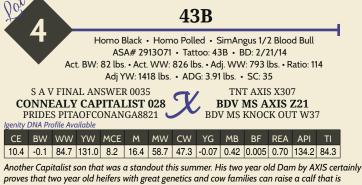


1	2		55 <b>D</b>										
	Homo Black • Homo Polled • Purebred Simmental Bull												
ASA# 2913186 • Tattoo: 99B • BD: 3/27/14													
Act. BW: 95 lbs. • Act. WW: 790 lbs. • Adj. WW: 827 lbs. • Ratio: 119													
Adj YW: 1470 lbs. • ADG: 4.02 lbs. • SC: 35.5													
KS BLACK DIAMOND W992 👝 🖉 LRS WCS MASTER DESIGN 58													
TRAXS DOC Z52 BDV MS MASTER DESIGN W23													
SRS S21 BDV MISS SARA R45													
Igenity DNA Profile Available													
CE	BW	ww	YW	MCE	м	MW	CW	YG	MB	BF	REA	API	TI

6.5 3.3 70.9 111.2 8.3 23.5 59.0 41.0 -0.26 0.15 0.049 0.81 123.1 70.2 Absolutely a herd bull prospect. If you are looking for a deep-sided thick butted herd sire take the time to come look at this out cross Doc son. This bull is out of a dam that consistently weans in the extreme top of our herd. His ratio was 119 at weaning to rank #2 out of 123 contemporaries. He not only looks good he has proved himself to be one of the top performers of this powerful calf crop.



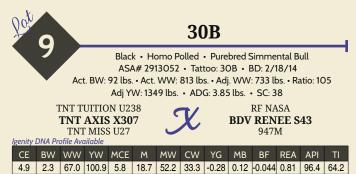
A powerful purebred Doc son that leads the group at 205 days, his ratio at weaning being 121 to rank him #1 out of 123 powerful herd mates. His cow family consistently proves to be some of our finest. This bull will certainly blow you away when you analyze him. He is clean made with a big sweeping rib cage. When you get behind him you will find a big wide butted bull that carries down deep into his hock. Not very many times do you find the Top indexing calves to be so complete. I look at Lots 2 & 3 and sometimes wonder who will own them and which one they will pick, There is no doubt that if I didn't own their sire one would be staying here. Excellent quality, performance, and balance make these bulls stand out as some of the best to sell this spring. Excellent disposition and offering real outcross genetics to the Simmental breed.



Another Capitalist son that was a standout this summer. His two year old pain by AXIS certainly proves that two year old heifers with great genetics and cow families can raise a calf that is breed leading. This bull is a real out cross that offers the best. Low birth weight, high weaning, top performance on test, and the style and look to be in the elite class. Never before have I been so excited about a group of bulls from the beginning to end. These bulls in the front pen have never been this powerful or has there been so many herd sire prospects for seed stock and top commercial cattlemen alike. This bull deserves a serious look. He has great disposition to boot. One of this bulls best assets is his cow family is stacked with out best. He also is a top growth curve bender that will be moderately framed as a mature herd sire. His actual weaning weight on October 8th was 826lbs; he indexed 114 to rank #3 out of 123 contemporaries.



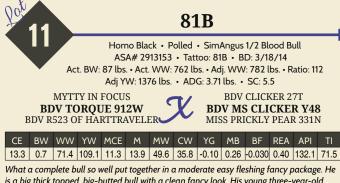




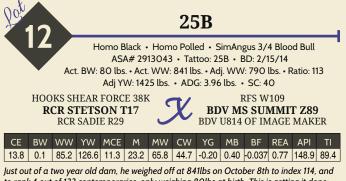
Here is a thick topped, thick-butted bull with loads of rib. His dam is a consistently good producer; she raised a full brother to this bull that was the lead off bull in our sale a few years ago. The AXIS cattle certainly draw attention when you see them. They are always some of the heaviest and thickest calves in the pen. There is no guesswork here; he comes from proven hard working genetics.



This bull is out of one of Mytty In Focuses best sons, BDV Torque. His is very stout and well made. Fancy, thick and well put together describes him best. His dam is a top producing preferred stock cow, which has proven to be an excellent top producer. If you like cattle that have big stout rib cages and are extra fancy don't miss this bull.



is a big thick topped, big-butted bull with a clean fancy look. His young three-year-old dam certainly did her work with this powerful Torque son. He indexed 112 at weaning to rank 6 out of 123.



Just out of a two year old dam, he weighed off at 841lbs on October 8th to index 114, and to rank 4 out of 123 contemporaries, only weighing 80lbs at birth. This is getting it done; use this bull to add some frame and length. He should really work on a set of Angus or baldy cows. He comes from a cow line that consistently weans at the top. Proven hard working genetics here.









RCR STETSON T17 - Sire of Lot 12





Certainly one of the top performing bulls at the sale, absolutely a stout high-octane bull that will put pounds on the scale at weaning. His dam raised our highest ever weaning call last year and this year she weaned at 806lbs on October 8th. This guys ratio was 110 at 205 days, I would recommend using him for mature cows and except him to sire calves that crush the scales on payday.



weight never even showed other than the extra length he had. If you like cattle that wean heavy, take this bull home. Use him on mature cows and I doubt you will ever have a problem. There is so much good in this bull. He is super long and easy on the eye, your calf buyer will love his kind.



is no doubt he will sire extra pay weight. Use him on mature cows to capitalize on high weaning performance cattle. He indexed 107 at 205 days.



A Flex out of a Final Answer, what a combination this guy is packed full of performance and pay weight with an actual weaning weight of 751lbs. His dam is a moderate sized cow that puts her all into her calves. Use this bull to ad style and pay weight.







 CE
 BW
 WW
 YW
 MCE
 M
 MW
 CW
 YG
 MB
 BF
 REA
 API
 TI

 7.8
 3.2
 74.3
 118.9
 7.6
 20.2
 57.3
 45.6
 -0.14
 0.42
 -0.021
 0.72
 116.4
 74.5

 I really like this bull. He is well made with exceptional performance. He is one of the younger bulls but still made the big high performance pen. Look at his depth and his eye appealing body type. Use him to ad performance and to sire those extra fancy calves at weaning.









WHEATLAND BULL 680S KS BLACK DIAMOND W992 KS KAYLA J497 BDV P404 OF 878

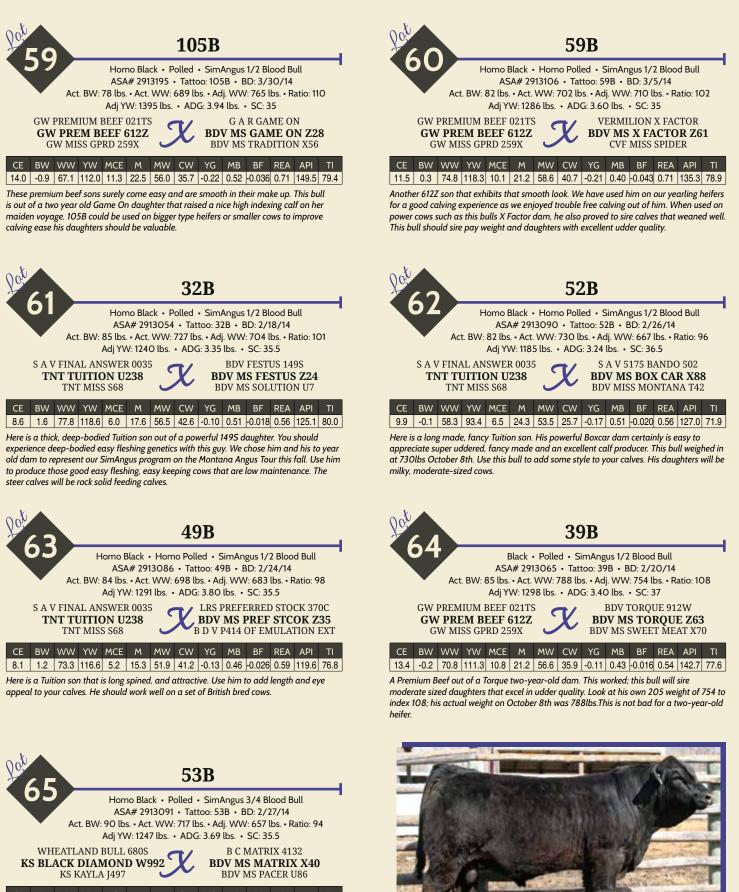
 CE
 BW
 WW
 YW
 MCE
 M
 MW
 CW
 YG
 MB
 BF
 REA
 API
 TI

 6.2
 1.8
 53.8
 83.6
 5.5
 19.9
 46.8
 22.7
 -0.24
 0.17
 -0.022
 0.74
 93.1
 57.5

This bull gets the award of being the thickest, deepest, easiest keeping bull in the offering. His dam gets the award for being the most efficient cow when it comes to high percentage of body weight weaned. She is not a big cow and it was eye opening watching this calf nurse. If you want to add capacity to your cows this bull is a great place to start. Cattle like this look like they could survive on little or no feed.







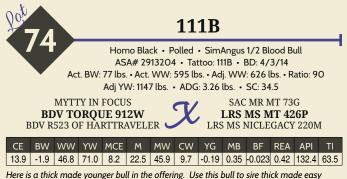
 CE
 BW
 WW
 YW
 MCE
 M
 MW
 CW
 YG
 MB
 BF
 REA
 API
 TI

 6.9
 2.4
 61.1
 97.0
 6.1
 22.1
 52.7
 31.5
 -0.37
 -0.04
 -0.059
 0.96
 91.1
 58.1

This Black Diamond son is a good-looking Terminal sire prospect. Use him to add performance and style. His cow family is deep sided and do well raising calves. I think they could be a little wetter, but by adding Black Diamond to the mix maybe his heifers might be exceptional as this is Black Diamond claim to fame.

> KS BLACK DIAMOND W992 Sire of Trax Doc & Lots 5, 18, 32, 42, 65





Here is a thick made younger bull in the offering. Use this bull to sire thick made easy fleshing calves. Another Torque son that is heavy muscled and moderate framed.

### Fall Bulls\_

This is a set of bulls have been some of the easiest trouble free calves we have ever worked with. They were born out on the range, checked once a day to be weighed and tagged. They were all born unassisted and raised on the range with no extra care. Usually when the winter gets cold and the grass freezes up we offer creep feed to the Fall bulls, however this set has never seen a creep feeder. They were raised solely on mothers milk and the same feed we feed to the cows.

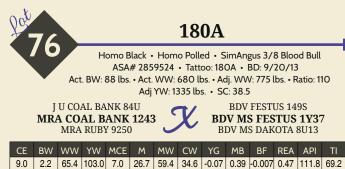
I think that they are a suburb group with all things considered. They weaned a little lighter than some years. But remember how harsh and cold last winter was. Winter was brutal. These calves were weaned in March and then put on a short test when mid May rolled around they went to grass and summered out on just grass and Crystalix Lic Tubs, no supplemental feed until November. At that time we brought them in, worked them, and put them on chopped hay silage and 8lbs of whole corn, 2lbs of pea screenings and 1lb of pellet ration. These bulls are sound and hard, not fat and soft. You will enjoy a more mature bull that should breed more cows and last for several years. You will notice this set of bulls to be the most uniform set of bulls we have ever offered. We found it very hard to pick catalog order and to choose which bulls would lead off the sale. Quality runs deep in this group of 18 month old bulls.



This is a big stout SimAngus Tuition son. If you are looking to add length and performance, here is a good place to start. He is just out of a two-year-old dam. She certainly gave her all on her maiden voyage. Ratioed 121 weaning.







Here is a 3/8 Sim 5/8 Angus bull that is out of the high ultra sounding Coal Bank bull. This calf did exceptionally well. He is a long clean made bull that is a real eye pleaser only out of a two-year-old dam. He will sire excellent feeder calves and his daughters will make great cows. Ratioed 110 at weaning.

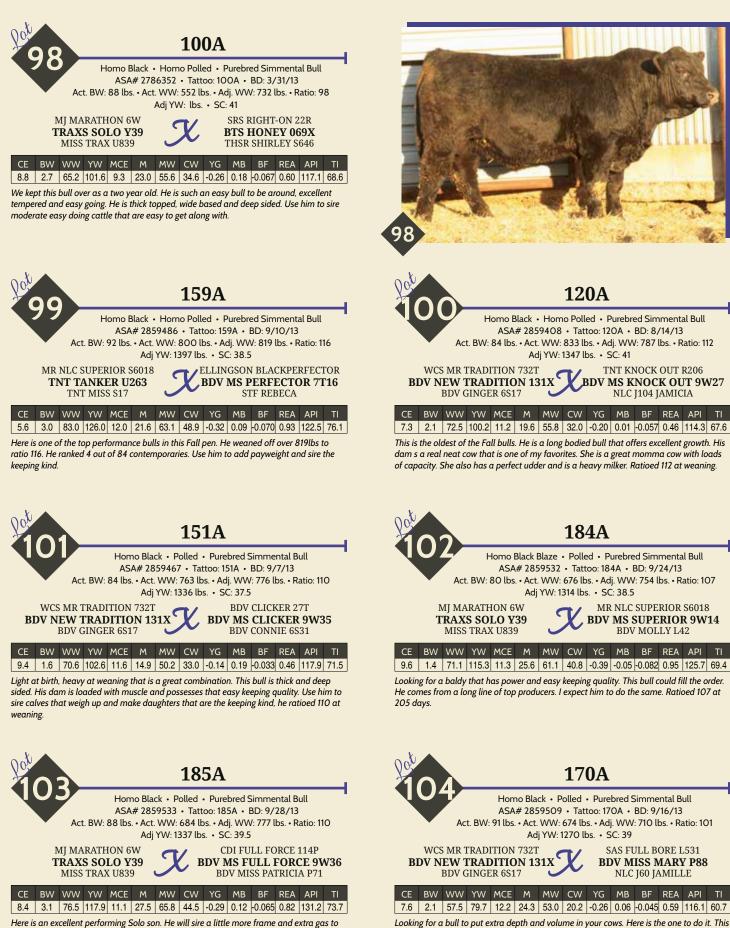






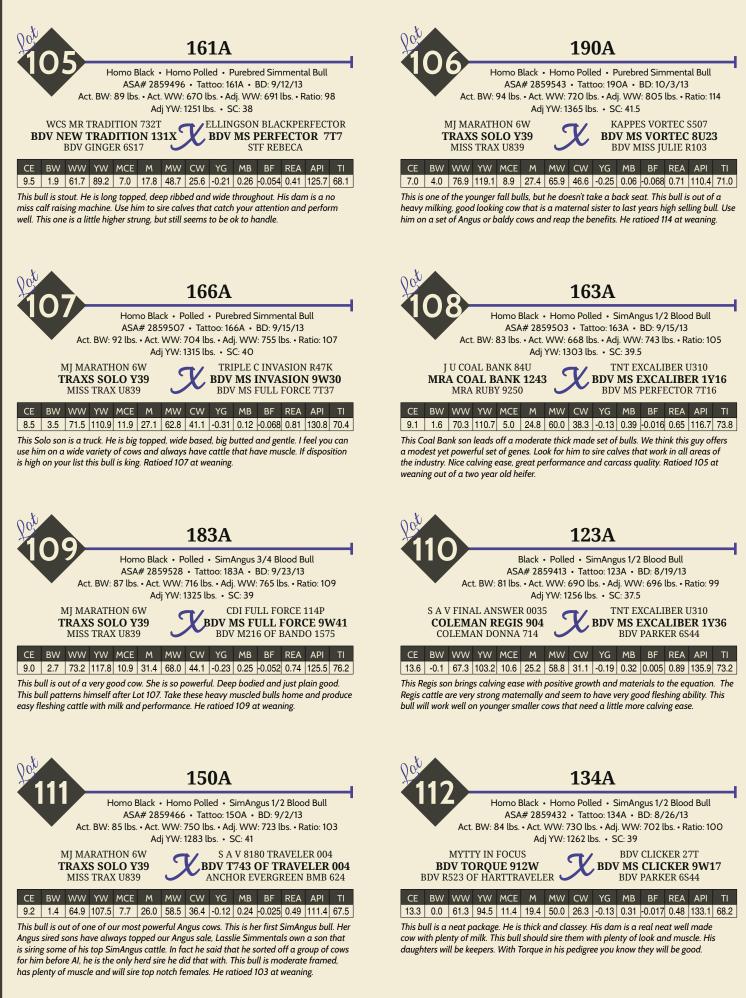


sided dam that is the disposition queen. These Masterpiece cattle always seem to be at the top when it comes to performance. His daughters are nice easy keepers with excellent udder quality. Ratioed 105 at weaning.



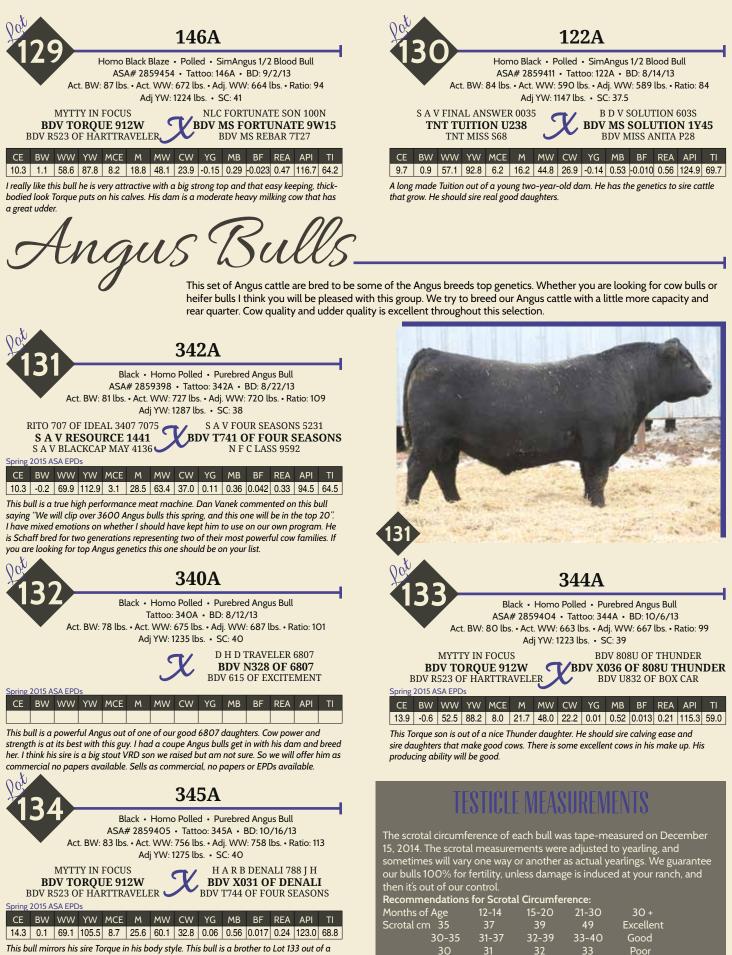
Here is an excellent performing Solo son. He will sire a little more frame and extra gas to produce calves with payweight. His cow family is a high octane bunch that produce well. He ratioed 110 at weaning.

bull is absolutely a chunk. You will find his daughters to be the best.





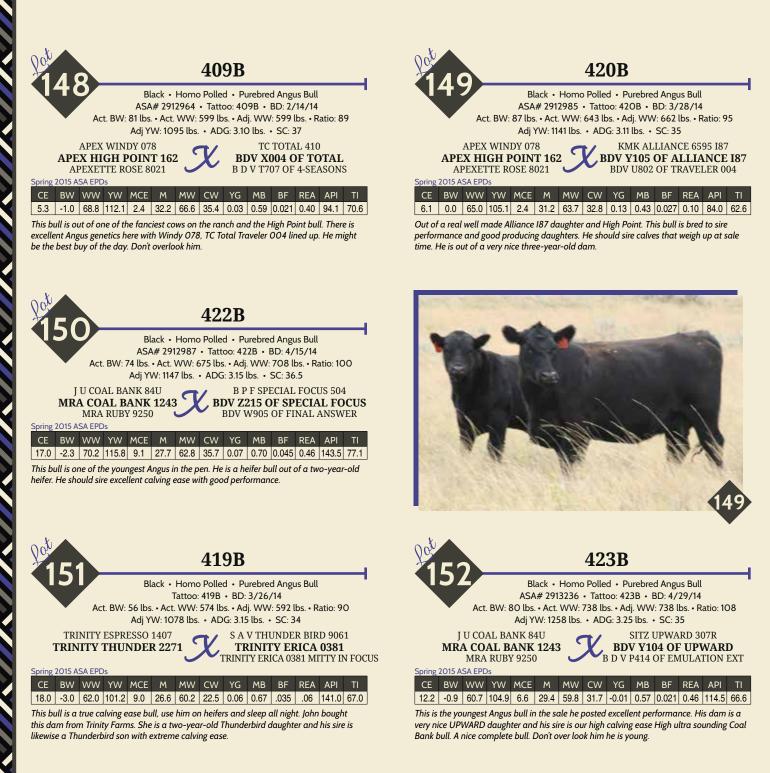




This bull mirrors his sire Torque in his body style. This bull is a brother to Lot 133 out of a good young cow that is proving to be a well-made cow with calving ease and maternal qualities. This bull was born with a full tail, but lost it as a young calf. I don't know if a cow stepped on it or a coyote had lunch. But today he is short tailed.







# **THANK YOU!**

I would like to say thanks to all our present, past, and new customers. We don't take your choice of doing business with us lightly. In today's fast paced world it is at times hard to make all the contacts we should. Always remember, if you ever have a problem with your purchase, call, we need to know. As always we will have a bite to eat and some refreshment after the sale. Please stay around a while if you can. It is a time that we can get to know each other better. Thanks so much for taking the time and choosing us to be your seedstock supplier. It means a lot.

Bill, Darlene, Bob, Virginia, John and Alicia, Harry and Elaine

# REFERENCE SIRES

### SIMMENTAL BULL REFERENCE SIRES

### TRAX DOC

This is a power bull he offers excellent performance in his progeny. His dam has been a top producer that always produced in the top percentile. His sire is a pound maker that sires top-notch daughters with excellent udder quality. Use his sons to deliver pay weight and daughters you will want to keep.

### TRAX SOLO

We purchased Solo as a true out cross to our herd and much of the Simmental breed. He has not disappointed us in his ability to sire calves that perform. We think his greatest asset is his ability to sire cattle with thick tops and rear quarters. He works best on Angus cows making exceptional SimAngus Cattle.

### KS BLACK DIAMOND

Is the sire of Doc. We used him on a group of cows that could handle a little more power. We really think a couple of his sons are home runs. They are thick deep and heavy muscled. There is a little more birth weight in them so he is definitely a cow bull.

### **RCS STETSON**

This is a true heifer bull and his EPD's and API numbers state that. We used him successfully on some heifers. I believe he is best used that way on cattle that need more calving ease. You will give up some performance at weaning.

### **BDV MASTER PIECE**

Was the top selling bull in our production sale a few years ago, selling to Rock Creek Simmentals in Kansas. He is a true power bull. His calves are stout at weaning time and perform in the top percentile on test. His daughters are powerful full-bodied cows that milk well. His dam is one of our best. We recommend using him to add fleshing ability and performance; his calves weigh in the 90's at birth.

### LRS FLEX

Flex is a big-bodied thick make half blood SimAngus bull. He was the top selling SimAngus in Clay's sale. His calves are top performance cattle that will pay the bills. Expect his sons to sire calves that weigh heavy in the fall eye appeal & style is evident in their make-up.

### **BDV FESTUS 149S**

A super stout SimAngus that is very consistent his calves are thick and easy fleshing. 149S will keep mature cow size in line. His daughters are very easy keepers that have nice udders, use him to add thickness on those frailer type cattle.

#### TNT TUITION

This SimAngus bull certainly is a pleaser. Early on his calves will catch your eye. They just have that look. We have used him on heifers with some success. I recommend him more to use on cows but with supervision. Heifers can be bred to him. His calves are long bodied eye appealing performance cattle. His daughters raise big calves and stay in medium condition.

### **BDV NEW TRADITION 131X**

This bull is a moderate sized purebred bull with extra body depth and thickness we retained him to use in our herd. His Dam is a no miss moderate size cow with a perfect udder. We used him on a wide group of cows and he seemed to work well on them all. He sires cattle that will work in even the toughest environments

### GW PREMIUM BEEF 612Z

I brought this SimAngus bull into our program to use on our heifers. He has proven to be an excellent choice to use on them. He likewise sires a more refined look that pleases us well. He has more muscle & shape then most high API bulls. We recommend using his sons to add calving ease & carcass values. His daughters will make nice cows. His EPD and API values are ranked in the top one percent of the SimAngus cattle.

### ANGUS BULL REFERENCE SIRES

### **CONEALY CAPITALIST**

This bull is one of the finest, his calves are easily born. It doesn't take long to notice them they are thick and deep. Our Capitalist SimAngus calves are exceptional they were standouts all summer. He sires more thickness depth of body and rear-end than about any Angus bull we have used. His Angus sons possess calving ease with fleshing ability. His calves weigh heavy at weaning, but have the ability to shut down and stop getting taller however they still posses the power to put on pounds on test. His daughters look exceptional.

### BDV TORQUE 912W

This Angus bull is one of the most predictable Angus sires we have ever owned or used. His calves are just exceptional small at birth weight and very easy to appreciate every day you own them. He does things right. His calves flesh easy, stay in shape and are loaded with muscle. They are moderate framed with lots of performance. I would take a pasture full of his kind. His daughters are the keeping kind moderate framed thick & broody, their udders are near perfect.

### APEX HIGH POINT

We purchased High Point as the sale feature and high seller out of the APEX Program. He is a son of Windy 078. His calves are performance cattle; they are high octane cattle that press the scale down at weaning. They also perform well on test. His daughters should make good cows.

### REGIS

This bull needs no introduction, He is a true heifer bull that offers a little extra shape. His dam comes from one of the Angus breeds most respected cow families. The Donna's are moderate framed cows with excellent fleshing ability and maternal qualities. Calving ease and neat made calves are his specialty.

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

What a year the last 12 months have proved to be. It seems that no matter what a cowman choose to do turned out positive. The biggest mistake we could have made was to contract our calves to early, but even then at the prices that were offered early there was more dollars than cattlemen were ever offered before.

Right now calves are a valuable commodity no matter how big or small, they are worth more than ever before. Some say that they are all worth the same. However, the heavy calves are still more valuable and will bring home more total dollars than flyweight calves.

For example a 400lb fly weight calf will bring approximately \$.100 per pound more than a 600lb calf. There were a lot of both sold this past year. Lets do the math

400	600
X 3.75	X 2.75
\$1,500	\$1,650

That's a difference of 150 dollars more earned per cow by proper management and better genetics. Often times the difference is only the genetics used. When you take that \$150 per head x 25 cows x four years use per bull, it comes to an extra \$15,000 per bull in his four year lifetime. In most cases a better bull won't cost you anything.

There are quite a few cattlemen that buy a heifer bull, use him for one to two years on their heifers and then use him on their cows after that. There are two things I would like for you to consider.

First most light birth weight calves 60-75lbs are certainly desirable for heifers but are usually lighter in the fall and many of them are those fly weight cut backs that don't fit the main calf loads. I don't see much wrong with that out of the heifers. However, when you go on and use these same small birth weight bulls on your cows you could be costing yourself \$150-\$200 per calf.

The other matter is when retaining replacement females, small birth weight calves usually turn into heifers that have a smaller pelvis and can only handle 75-80lb birth weight calves as mature cows.

I believe that by just adding 5lbs at birth weight to your heifer bulls will make a big difference in her ability to raise more dollars per calf weaned her whole life time. Heifers that can have a 80lb calf unassisted will wean a bigger calf her first year and will be the cow that raises a big stout calf as a mature cow.

I believe that a mature cow should be able to have a 85-95lb calf with no special attention. These calves will be top-notch feeder calves in the fall. The daughters will make better cows and become the best income-producing females you can own.

This year is one that makes raising cattle look easy. Every cattleman should have been

able to bank more dollars than ever before. It seems the later in the year we went the higher the cattle prices became. Where will it peak no one knows. The weak grain market is driving cattle prices higher a long with low cattle inventory.

Just a few years ago corn prices were over \$8/bushel, today it is around \$2.50/bushel. Not so long ago wheat prices roared all the way to \$20/bushel, not to many sold for that but a few did. It didn't stay long and today around \$4.50-5.0 seems to buy it.

The prediction is that cattle will stay positive for a few more years at least. My belief is that we will have a good run for a while, but we also have to realize that as grain prices and cattle inventories rise again (and they will) cattle prices will adjust accordingly. Now is the best time to own the best genetics you can afford. Get your cowherd shaped up, cull cows are worth a lot. Cull those poorer producers and replace them with heifers and cows that are able to raise calves that weigh and pay more.

The bulls you buy today will influence your cowherd for the next 20 years. Crossbreeding is not a new science it has been proven that a crossbred cow will make you more money and last longer than a straight bred. Crossbred calves have the ability to weigh more at weaning and are more feed efficient in the feedlots than straight bred cattle. To many times I see and hear some Breed Association and Breeders claim you don't need to crossbreed. This is not science it is greed. About every unbiased test or study out there shows that crossbred cattle are more profitable (there is a lot of research data that proves it).

We run Purebred Simmental, Purebred Angus, and Sim-Angus cows. There is no doubt that we have worked hard to design the best in each category, but the Sim-Angus cows are our best. They raise heavier calves, A higher percentage of them are bred early and have a higher percent of conception at preg check time. They also keep their condition better and are very eye appealing.

Our main breeding goal is to produce moderate framed easy keeping cattle that work for the cattleman He is the one that owns them the longest, does the hard work and seems to make the least profit. We design our program so you can profit more on each and every cow you own. If a cow doesn't calve easy, have a calf with vigor and get up and go, it won't matter he already is a loser. Then they must have the genetic ability to convert grass to beef (payweight). This calf needs to look good and become a sale topper not a cut back. The heifer calves you retain have one purpose, to be profitable. It costs a lot of money to raise replacements, So they need to have the ability to stay in the herd. Cattle that don't get pregnant every year are costly. I believe they need extra fleshing ability and capacity to keep them thriving (Hard doing

peaked assed cattle just don't cut it). Then and only then do we add the so-called carcass traits that seem to make packers more money than anyone else. It seems that by over selecting for the highest EPD's and carcass numbers can be at the cattleman's expense. Don't get me wrong we have to raise cattle that work in all segments of the industry and create a good eating experience for the consumer. But we need to use a common sense approach. So many times the Universities, AI companies, and genetic scientists tell us numbers are the way to go. However, you need to remember that the number game is how they make their living. How many of them are out calving, feeding, and working the land. There is a difference when you are out there every day keeping cattle alive and thriving. We find that extremes are harder to manage, and by using common sense approach, cattle and the bottom line are easier to please.

We believe that EPD's are just like keeping replacement heifers. We usually cull a few off the top (the bigger more extreme kind) and then the rest come off the bottom. The ones you keep are the ones out of the middle. EPD's are no different.

We find that cattle that are somewhere in the top 20 to 50-percentile rank make better cows than the extreme highs. EPD's are not very accurate on young breeding cattle, I say use them accordingly. Don't let them overtake your eye or common sense. I have never seen or heard a calf buyer ask you how are his EPD's. They buy on the calves own ability to look good, weigh heavy, and convert feed to beef. Yes they do have to work all the way through the chain but don't sacrifice your own ability to stay profitable with easy keeping cattle that stay in the herd.

Our cows work for us, not us for them. We run them out to forage on their own and make their own living without extra feed until Mother Nature covers it up or we run out of grass. This year it looks to be early January before we bring them home. They are still in excellent condition and have not been fed hay yet. Our cows are efficient easy keeping cows that wean heavy calves. The mature size in these cows is from 1250 to 1400lbs, not to many bigger or smaller, udder quality is a must. We do not tolerate helping calves get started and you shouldn't have to either. We expect our cows and heifers to calve unassisted and if we do help one it better not be her fault. Our program is to breed & raise moderate framed cattle that take care of themselves, have excellent temperaments, raise heavy calves, breed back on time, and convert grass to beef with fewer inputs. Their calves must go on to be feed efficient convertors and do well in the beef chain, all the way to an enjoyable eating experience for the consumer.

# QUICK GUIDE TO ASA EPDS AND \$ INDEXES

Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs): EPDs are the most accurate and effective tool available for comparing genetic levels. In using EPDs, the difference between two sires' EPDs represents the unit difference expected in the performance of their progeny. For example, if sires A and B have EPDs of +10 and -5, a 15-unit difference would be expected in their progeny (moving from -5 to +10 yields 15 units). Key to using EPDs is knowing what units they are expressed in. For example, if the above case referred to weaning weight EPDs, A would be expected to sire 15-pounds more weaning weight than B. If calving ease were the trait, A would be expected to sire 15-percent more unassisted births in first-calf heifers; in other words, if B sired 30 assists in a group of 100 heifers, we'd expect A to require 15 assists. A percentileranking chart is required to determine where a bull's EPDs rank him relative to other bulls in the breed. For percentile rankings or more detailed information about EPDs and \$ indexes visit www.simmental.org.

### Listed below are the units ASA EPDs are expressed in:

**All-Purpose Index (API)**: Dollars per cow exposed under an all-purpose-sire scenario. (See below for more details.)

Back Fat (BF): Inches of backfat.

Birth Weight (BW): Pounds of birth weight.

**Calving Ease (CE):** Percent of unassisted births when used on heifers.

**Carcass Weight (CW):** Pounds of carcass weight. **Maternal Calving Ease (MCE):** Percent of unassisted births in first-calving daughters.

Milk (MLK): Pounds of weaning weight due to milk. Marbling (MRB): Marbling score.

Maternal Weaning Weight (MWW): Pounds of weaning weight due to milk and growth.

Ribeye Area (REA): Square inches of ribeye.

Warner-Bratzler Shear Force (WBSF): Pounds of force required to shear a steak.

**Stayability (STAY):** Percent of daughters remaining in the cowherd at 6 years of age.

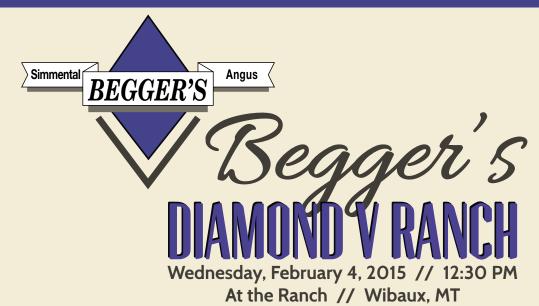
Terminal Index (TI): Dollars per cow exposed under a terminal-sire scenario. (See below for more details.) Weaning Weight (WW): Pounds of weaning weight. Yearling Weight (YW): Pounds of yearling weight. Yield Grade (YG): Yield grade score. \$ Indexes: Though EPDs allow for the comparison of genetic levels for many economically important traits, they only provide a piece of the economic puzzle. That's where \$ indexes come in. Through well-conceived, rigorous mathematical computation, \$ indexes blend EPDs and economics to estimate an animal's overall impact on your bottom line. The same technology that led to the dramatic progress in swine, poultry and dairy genetics over the last several decades was used to develop the following \$ indexes:

All-Purpose Index (API): Evaluates sires for use on the entire cow herd (bred to both Angus first-calf heifers and mature cows) with the portion of their daughters required to maintain herd size retained and the remaining heifers and steers put on feed and sold grade and yield. Terminal Index (TI): Evaluates sire for use on mature Angus cows with all offspring put on feed and sold grade and yield.

Using API and TI: First, determine which index to use; if you're keeping replacements use API, if not, TI. Then, just as with EPDs, zero in on the unit difference between bulls. (As described above, index units are in dollars per cow exposed.) The difference can be used to determine how much a bull is worth compared to another. Or, put another way, how much you can pay for one bull compared to another. For example, when buying an allpurpose-type sire, you can quickly figure a bull scoring +100 for API is worth an extra \$6,000 over a+50 bull if both are exposed to 30 cows over 4 years (\$50 diff. x 30 hd. x 4 yr. = \$6,000). A percentile-ranking chart is required to determine where a bull's index value ranks him relative to other bulls in the breed. For percentile rankings or more detailed information about EPDs and \$ indexes.

Begger's Diamond V Ranch 482 Custer Trail Road Wibaux, MT 59353

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