

2022 GROW SAFE

SUMMER BULLS: This is the second year for M Diamond to offer these 20 month old bulls. Our June calving herd is run as a completely separate herd from the spring calving herd. All 16 of these bulls are from our Embryo Transfer program. 11 of these bulls are maternal brothers out of the great Marcys 13 Ethelda E 15-3. Top end genetics here with the convenience offered by older bulls.

WHY FEED EFFICIENCY DATA? At M Diamond Angus we believe the most economically relevant trait in the beef industry is feed efficiency. Feed efficiency is described as being moderately heritable. It is expected to have a 25% to 30% chance of being passed on to the next generation. Therefore, we believe that we need to put selection pressure on this trait. By doing so we can create more feed efficient cattle. For this reason we decided that we needed to find a way to obtain feed efficiency data on the genetics that we are providing our customers.

THE FEED TEST EXPLAINED:

The summer bulls were tested using a GrowSafe testing facility for 60 days. A growing diet was fed, consisting of cracked corn, ground alfalfa hay, corn silage, and protein supplement. The ration was formulated for an estimated daily gain of 3.25 lb/day. Individual weight gain and feed intakes were collected on each bull. The following calculations were measured:

Average Daily Gain (ADG) – Total weight gain divided by 60 days.

RFI – Residual Feed Intake. RFI is the preferred method of evaluating efficiency in seedstock animals, because it is an efficiency measurement that adjusts for the size of the animal. Using traditional feed efficiency measurements (to select cattle) would cause you to indirectly select for larger animal size because larger frame animals tend to be more efficient. RFI is a feed efficiency index independent of animal size. RFI numbers refer to the comparison between actual feed intake vs. expected feed intake (based on the ration fed and animal size). A negative number is preferable, indicating a more efficient animal that consumed less feed than predicted. Positive RFI indicate a less efficient animal that consumed more feed than expected.

Feed:Gain – A measurement of feed efficiency, listed as the lbs of feed required to achieve 1 lb of weight gain for each bull. This is calculated using the daily feed intake and ADG for each bull. A lower number indicates a more efficient bull (less feed required to achieve weight gain).

SUMMER BULLS GROWSAFE TEST RESULTS:

LOT #	RANCH TAG	ADG	RFI	FEED TO 1 LB. OF GAIN	TEST RANK
12	2100	5.167	0.89	6.73	6
13	70-0	4.167	-1.31	7.73	7
14	2140	3.083	-3.11	9.49	11
15	2050	5.083	-2.01	5.94	1
16	68-0	5	4.96	7.72	7
17	73-0	3.417	0.31	9.7	14
18	81-0	3.083	4.04	11.61	16
19	2030	4.583	3.87	7.78	10
20	69-0	4.667	-3.29	6.35	2
21	79-0	4.333	2.63	7.98	13
22	2070	4.417	-3.23	6.32	3
23	76-0	4.583	-2.76	6.5	4
24	2080	3	-1.33	10.07	15
25	67-0	3.5	3.87	7.78	12
26	2090	3.833	-1.36	7.93	7
27	78-0	4.917	-0.47	6.34	5