



July 19 2018

Dear WIU Bull Test Consignors,

**WESTERN  
ILLINOIS  
UNIVERSITY**

I am excited to inform you that entries are now open for the 2018-2019 Western Illinois University Performance Bull Test. We averaged \$3,000 on 47 bulls in last year's sale. We had numerous compliments regarding the improved body condition and foot structure on last year's bulls. I credit these improvements to two things: 1) continued genetic progress and selection in your herds and 2) a ration update that uses fiber instead of starch (corn) as an energy source. The ration was presented as a complete pellet with chelated minerals, vitamins including biotin, and yeast. These additions were all new and have been shown to improve reproductive soundness, foot health, and diet digestibility. Fiber also served as the intake limiter in the diet. This will assist in developing yearling bulls to an adequate condition, allowing them to grow without over-fattening, making them more successful as herd sires on pasture. The updated catalog was also well received. Top ranked bulls will continue to be pictured and all bulls will be videoed and displayed for DV Auction bidding.

I am happy to announce that the pen size will be expanded to over twice the current size for this year's test. This expansion will provide more outdoor space for bulls to exercise and rest. This will help to keep bulls athletic and with any luck, cleaner! Bulls will be housed in three groups (~25 head each) having access to two self-feeders and free choice grass hay. This along with the change in diet were the two major updates that I wanted to implement by the 2018-2019 bull test. These feed and environment improvements will benefit bulls consigned to bull test greatly. Facility improvements will continue each year to provide the best possible environment for your bulls and to best represent your quality livestock: including painting, upgrading existing fencing, and scales. We are currently working on getting quotes for the intake monitoring system that I would like to have in place in the next five years.

**Please note the changes that are new this year and have been approved by the committee:**

1. Bulls will be indexed within breed. A bull must have a within breed index of 96 or higher to qualify for the sale. There is a 3 bull requirement to form a breed. If the three bull requirement is not met, those individuals will be indexed overall breeds and will need an overall breed index of 96 or higher to qualify for the sale. Sale order will be by breed with highest averaging breed group from the previous year's sale selling first. Bull order within breed will be determined by the within breed index. Bulls from a breed that does not meet the three bull requirement will still be sold based on the previous year's average for that particular breed. The top 2 indexing bulls from each respective breed will sell first and then breeds will be sold out in entirety before moving to the next breed in the sale order.
2. NEGATIVE PI-BVD test provided prior to entry.
3. Accepted bull age range is 12/15/17 – 3/15/18.
4. The bull test will be 90 days long.
5. Bulls must be free of all known genetic defects.
6. Bulls should be slick sheared prior to arrival or will be sheared by WIU staff at a rate of \$20/bull.
7. Focus to be placed on increasing buyer base through personal communication and marketing strategies highlighting the many unique testing and performance measures taken on WIU consigned bulls.

We all want to see the WIU Bull Test and Sale reach its full potential. Please know that any changes or updates that are made are done so with the success of the bull test in mind. This year will be my 7<sup>th</sup> year as a bull test manager with five sales at Cal Poly University and this year will make two at WIU. I have been in the cattle business my entire life so I fully understand the highs and lows you all face. Cattle, cattle nutrition, and teaching are my passion. We all need one another to make this sale successful and can agree the world can always benefit from kindness and consideration especially during times of change. Please know that I am always doing my best to serve you and the WIU students. Please call or email with any further questions. I hope the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual WIU Bull Test and Sale is the best yet!

Regards,

Keela Trennepohl  
[Km-trennepohl@wiu.edu](mailto:Km-trennepohl@wiu.edu)

805-440-8421

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

### Ultrasound and Data Submission:

Ultrasound data will be submitted for bulls that meet the age requirements listed below from the respective breed associations. ALL bulls will be scanned on one day, by one technician, and reported whether or not your data can be included in your breed's database. **In order for your bull to be listed on the ultrasound barn sheet, you must submit a weaning weight to the respective association. Please be sure to have submitted this information to the association, if you have not already done so prior to delivery.**

To be included in the database, the following requirements must be met:

1. For all breeds, there must be two bulls from the same contemporary weaning group
2. Bulls must be born in the following timeframe to meet the age requirement when scanned on approximately January 18, 2019. If the breed is not listed below, the information can be obtained from the appropriate breed association.

Breed	Age in Days at Scan
Angus	320-440
Charolais	320-430
Hereford	301-530
Red Angus	320-440
Simmental	300-440

Keep in mind, we do not submit yearling weights and scrotal measurements to the breed associations, but we will provide it to you so that you may do so.

### Summary of entry requirements

1. Born between December 15, 2017 and March 15, 2018
2. Weaned 45 days prior to delivery
3. Weigh a minimum of 550 pounds at delivery
4. Health Affidavit signed by BOTH the producer and the veterinarian
5. Individual tested NEGATIVE for anaplasmosis and PI BVD
6. Birth mother tested free for Johnes or come from certified Johnes free herd
7. Free of all known genetic defects
8. Three bulls need to be entered per breed to qualify for within breed indexing
9. Bulls are slick sheared
10. \$100/bull entry fee and signed, completed reservation form postmarked by September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### Delivery Checklist:

- October 11 or 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 9 AM to 4 PM
- Registration certificates or copy of registration
- Test results: Johnes, Anaplasmosis, PI-BVD
- Completed Entry Form and Consignor Questionnaire
- Signed Health Affidavit by Veterinarian and Producer
- \$200/bull feed deposit
- Bulls slick sheared

## **CONSIGNORS PLEASE SHARE THE FOLLOWING WITH YOUR VETERINARIAN ASAP**

The information below is provided to assist veterinarians working with producers that are consigning a bull(s) to the 2018-19 Western Illinois Performance Bull Test. Please follow these instructions carefully. **Cattle work can be done by producer if approved by veterinarian, but the paperwork must be SIGNED by both the producer and the veterinarian.**

Preconditioning beef cattle has been proven, and we have taken this step to reduce respiratory problems and to reduce the cost billed to breeders if bulls become sick with respiratory disease within the first 21 days of reaching the test facility. The results of requiring preconditioning for the WIU Bull Test have been both a saving to the producers and greatly improved the overall health of the bulls.

*Note: There is NO product manufacturer/brand specification to the protocol. Products used are at the discretion of the producer's veterinarian and must be listed on the Health Affidavit.*

All bulls must arrive at the test with a Health Affidavit signed by the producer and his/her veterinarian

- Bulls must be weaned for 45 days

### **HEALTH REQUIRMENTS:**

- Calves must be weaned 45 days prior to entry
- Calves must be treated for internal and external parasites
- Calves must receive 2 doses of Cattle Respiratory Vaccine (IBR, BVD (types 1 & 2), BRSV, PI-3)
- Calves must have 2 doses of 7-Way Clostridial/Blackleg
- Calves must have 1 dose of Pasteurella Vaccine
- Calves must have 2 doses of Haemophilus Somnus (often in combination with 7-way)
- Calves must be bunk and water broke
- Horned cattle must be tipped or dehorned

## Contract Agreement for the W.I.U. Bull Testing Program

1. The purposes of the WIU Bull Test are to provide reliable, unbiased performance information on bulls entered into the program and to provide a source of performance tested seedstock to the beef industry.
2. Bulls must have been born between December 15, 2017 and March 15, 2018, have a recorded birth weight, and weigh a minimum of 550 pounds at delivery on October 11 or 12, 2018.
3. The testing fee is \$100 per bull which is due with the reservation application.
4. The testing capacity of the station is 70 bulls -- 3 pens with 20-25 bulls each.
5. **The entry deadline is a postmark of September 7th, 2018.** Entries postmarked after September 7 will be accepted by a drawing if room is still available after acceptance of all entries received by the deadline.
6. The entry fee will be refunded only if the bull is not accepted due to reaching capacity of the station, or, in the case of illness to a bull, a replacement entry can be found from another breeder, but needs to be approved by test station manager prior to doing so.
7. At delivery, each consignor must present the Health Affidavit form completed by their veterinarian signed by BOTH the producer and the veterinarian. Documentation regarding Johnes, PI-BVD, and anaplasmosis negative statuses also needs to be provided. Official registration paper or copy of registration as well as consignor questionnaire and entry form should also be turned in at this time.
8. Horned bulls should be healed from dehorning.
9. **Bulls with ringworm at delivery will be charged an extra \$100.**
10. Delivery is Thursday, October 11 or Friday October 12, 2018 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. A \$200 per bull feed/health deposit is due upon delivery.
11. Bulls must be free of known **genetic defects**.
12. Owners of the tested bulls must be members of the Illinois Beef Association or National Cattlemen's Beef Association.
13. Daily rate charges including feed, hay, bedding, and yardage will be applied to each individual bull. The yardage fee will be \$0.50/head/day for this year. A health maintenance fee will be assessed per bull (~\$50/bull). Other health treatment/veterinary costs may apply if needed. Please know that we will make every effort to make the bull test affordable but quality of care and preparation is of utmost importance.
14. All costs must be paid before any bull can be removed from the station. Bulls may be removed only by permission of test station manager. All costs will be taken from individual bull sale proceeds or due at pick-up at the end of the test.
15. The 47th Annual Sale will be at the WIU Livestock Center on Friday evening, March 9, 2019. All bulls that go through the sale will be charged a prorated share of the sale expenses and sale preparation fees.
16. Bulls will be fed free choice long hay at arrival. During the preliminary period, they will receive a receiving ration which will be gradually substituted by the testing ration so that only the testing ration will be fed at the time bulls officially begin test.

17. The testing period will last 90 days. The official on-test weight will be the averages of weights taken on November 1, and November 2, 2018. The official off-test weight will be the averages of weights taken on January 31 and February 1, 2019. Progress report interim weights will be taken ~ every 30 days: 11/29/18 and 1/2/19. All bulls will be ultrasounded on approximately January 18.
18. At the conclusion of the testing period, bulls will be fed the testing ration, plus free choice long hay.
19. Bulls will be indexed within breed. A bull must have a within breed index of 96 or higher to qualify for the sale. This index requirement will not go up during the 2018-2019 bull test, but could be lowered at the discretion of the WIU Bull Test Manager if in the best interest of the sale. There is a 3 bull requirement to form a breed. If the three bull requirement is not met, those individuals will be indexed overall breeds and will need an overall breed index of 96 or higher to qualify for the sale. **Index is based on 70% ADG ratio + 15% ADJ Marbling ratio + 15% ADJ REA ratio.**
20. Bulls also need a minimum adjusted scrotal circumference of 32 cm, be screened for **disposition**, pass a **soundness exam** based on the University of Missouri scoring system, and pass a **reproductive exam**. Retests for the reproductive exam will be performed during the week prior to the sale.
21. Sale order will be by breed with highest averaging breed group from the previous year's sale selling first. Bull order within breed will be determined by the within breed index. Bulls from a breed that does not meet the three bull requirement will still be sold based on the previous year's average for that particular breed. The top 2 indexing bulls from each respective breed will sell first and then breeds will be sold out in entirety before moving to the next breed in the sale order.
22. All bulls selected for the sale must go through the sale unless excused for health reasons. At least 1/3 interest must be offered for sale. If full interest is not to be sold, 30-day advance notice of the sale date is required.
23. All data will be public information and the Western Illinois University School of Agriculture has the right to use the records for research purposes.
24. Neither Western Illinois University, nor its employees are liable for loss, injury or reduced value of bulls entered on test.
25. Insurance on bulls, if desired, is the responsibility of the breeder -- none is carried on them by WIU.
26. Progress reports will be sent out via email after each weigh day and posted on our website. Email is the main form of communication for the test and an email must be provided. If this is problematic for you, please make the WIU Test Station manager aware ASAP.
27. The sale catalog will include relevant performance information, pedigree information, and EPDs.
28. Footnotes for the catalog will need to be submitted by consignors by January 15<sup>th</sup> via the official permission process which will be provided to consignors via email in December. If footnotes are not submitted, WIU reserves the right to either write footnotes or leave the footnote section blank on that individual.
29. Only top ranked bulls will be pictured in the catalog (~20 bulls) at the discretion of WIU Bull Test staff in order to best represent the WIU bull test. All sale bulls will have a video. Charges will apply for pictures, videos, and preparation to individual consignors with bulls receiving those services.

**Reservation Form**  
**2018 – 2019 WIU Performance Bull Test**

**Postmarked September 7th 2018**

I have read and agree to the terms in the "Contract Agreement for the W.I.U. Bull Testing Program" and would like to enter bulls in the program as indicated below:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the box beside the name you want used

In sale catalog      On your check  
And on reports

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IBA or NCBA Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

	<u>Breed</u>	<u>Birthdate</u>	<u>Estimated Weight at delivery</u>
Bull #1	_____	_____	_____
Bull #2	_____	_____	_____
Bull #3	_____	_____	_____
Bull #4	_____	_____	_____

Please send this sheet, along with \$100 per bull entered to:

WIU BULL TEST  
School of Agriculture  
Attn: Keela Trennepohl  
145 Knoblauch Hall  
Macomb, IL 61455

# 18-19 WIU Bull Test ENTRY FORM

Breed(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Ranch Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

*~Please fill out Health Affidavit on the back*

TEST ID**	TATTOO #	EARTAG #	BIRTHDATE	ACT BIRTH WT	POLLED/ Horned	DAM'S* AGE OR ET	NAME OF ANIMAL	NAME OF SIRE	NAME OF DAM'S SIRE	WEANING DATE	ADJ WEANING WT	Owner Member Code
							REGISTRATION #					

*\*If calf raised by other than his mother, please note.*

*\*\* To be filled in by WIU Bull Test*

Please return completed form when bulls are delivered.

## 2018-2019 WIU Bull Test Health Affidavit

Vaccination	Animal ID(s)	Vaccine & Manufacturer	Lot No.	Vaccination Date	Booster Date	Comments
<b>Cattle Respiratory</b> (IBR, BVD types 1 & 2, BRSV, PI-3)						
<b>7-way Clostridial/Blackleg</b>						
<b>Haemophilus Somnus</b>						
<b>Pasturella</b>						
<b>Internal &amp; External Parasite Control</b>						

I hereby certify that the above products have been administered to the listed animals by myself, or under my direction.

Veterinarian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Veterinarian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that I the above products have been administered to the listed animals by my herd veterinarian, or by myself under his/her direction and that all animals listed have been weaned for a minimum of 45 days prior to delivery to WIU.

Producer name: \_\_\_\_\_

Producer signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## WIU Bull Test Consignor Questionnaire

*We are here to create the best possible experience for our consignors, buyers, and students. We cannot do this without gathering your thoughts and opinions. Everyone's suggestions will not be able to be implemented but I assure you that they will be heard and considered.*

*Regards, Keela Trennepohl*

Please circle your response at area i and provide any additional written feedback in the space provided.

1. The qualifying index is currently: 70% ADG Ratio + 15% ADJ IMF Ratio + 15% ADJ REA ratio.
  - a. Are you satisfied that the current index is a good tool to qualify and rank bulls for the sale?
    - i. YES or NO
  - b. If no, please provide your specific recommendations for updating the index.
  
2. A Premise ID number is unique identification number given to a livestock producer through the USDA. It serves as a way to reach producers if there is a disease outbreak nearby they should be concerned about and to track the source of diseases. It is free through your state vet office.
  - a. If it was required that you get and/or provide a premise ID number for your farm to qualify for entry into the test, would you still consign?
    - i. YES or NO
  
3. Genomic enhanced EPDs can add selection and marketability value for many buyers.
  - a. Would you be more or less willing to consign bulls if it was required to DNA test and genomically enhance EPDs?
    - i. MORE or LESS
  
4. Where would you like to see the WIU bull test sale advertised? Please provide specific sources.
  
5. Would you be interested in having an industry relevant speaker give an educational presentation prior to sale at 4 or 5 PM? Any speaker suggestions?
  
6. Do you have any other suggestions or thoughts to provide?