

Tri County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative  
 Darrell Busby, Manager  
 53020 Hitchcock Avenue  
 Lewis, Iowa 51544  
 Phone: 712-769-2600  
 FAX: 712-769-2610  
 Website: TCSCF.com  
 E-mail: dbusby@iastate.edu

August 23, 2011

Dear TCSCF Consignors and Veterinarians,

**Projections**

What a year it has been for cattle producers! Changes in the cattle market have made it pretty interesting! Why not let us help you through this volatile time? Last year TCSCF fed 8,176 head of retained ownership cattle and producers received, on the average, a profit of \$142.88 per head. That means TCSCF returned \$1,168,186.88 to the hands of their producers. Why would you sell your cattle to someone else and give them your gain? By running projections, TCSCF can estimate what kind of profit/loss you could receive. A projection (free of charge with no commitment) takes minutes and can tell you a lot. You can get one simply by calling our office at 712-769-2600.

As of today, April live cattle futures are \$123.40 and June are \$121.75. Corn at \$7.10/bu. produces a total cost of gain at \$106.44 for 600 lbs. gain on spring born Iowa steer calves. Gross income is \$1500/head, minus the \$640 gain cost residual equals \$860/head or \$143.33/cwt. which is close to what calves are today. But beefbasis.com is projecting 600 lb. steers on October 19 to be \$127/cwt. You would not sell a used pick up without checking the blue book, why would you sell a calf crop without running a projection.

It's that time of year to think about entering your calves. We would like the opportunity to feed your cattle. Rules, regulations, health requirements and an entry forms are enclosed.

If you have friends or neighbors who would be interested in this program, please let us know and we will add them to our mail/email list and be sure to send them the materials. Feel free to make copies of any of our information to share with them.

If you have enough cattle for your own pen (70 head or more), you can select which feedlot you would like your cattle to be fed at and we can discuss a delivery date that works best for you and the feedlot.

**Iowa Steer and Heifer Tests**

Iowa Tests	Sex	Health Completed	Entries Due	Delivery Date
October Delivery	Steers and Heifers	September 19	September 21	October 19
November Delivery	Steers and Heifers	October 17	October 19	November 16
November Delivery	Cull cows		November 1	November 22
December Delivery	Steers and Heifers	November 14	November 16	December 14
January Delivery	Steers and Heifers	December 19	December 21	January 18

We will offer four delivery dates for Iowa steers and heifers. They will be October 19, November 16, December 14 and January 18. Iowa tests will be for calves weaned a minimum of 30 days – 45 days

preferable. We are recommending using a MLV at weaning or a cow safe MLV two weeks prior to weaning. If killed vaccine is your only option, repeat at three weeks. We have dropped the Haemophilus Somnus vaccine from our recommended list. You and your veterinarian can decide if you should use pasteurized vaccine.

You may deliver cattle on more than one date. Please contact any of the TCSCF board members or myself if you have questions concerning the TCSCF program. Entries should be returned to us along with a \$20 per head pen reservation deposit by the dates in the above table.

### **Source and Age Verification**

The age verification program under TCSCF's QSA program was doing very well until the disaster in Japan. What will happen as Japan recovers, I am not sure, but several producers indicate the high cost of maintaining age verification through other programs is causing them to rethink whether they will continue age verification. It appears TCSCF can hold our costs to \$4/head, which is about half the cost of other AV programs. Participation in our AV program is very simple. Training can be done through our office, we need a copy of the first page of your calving book and we will help you fill out a farm profile. **This training must be completed before your cattle are delivered.** We will assist you in filling out the forms necessary (Form 1A, Form 2 and birthdates). After we have those, you will be added to our select supplier list. You will only need to take the training once. From there we will need forms and birthdates for each pen of cattle you send in the future.

Since March 19, 2007 TCSCF consignors have netted \$783,320.93 for age verification. The average net was \$23.09/head but dropped to \$12.79/head this past year.

### **Sire Profit Comparison**

We will again offer the Sire Profit Comparison to all sire groups of five or more head consigned. We would ask you use sire registration numbers to identify sires. If the sires are identified, they will be included in the profit comparison regardless of which group they are fed in. The Sire Profit Comparison will be mailed in October.

### **Iowa Beef Futurity Contest**

We are offering the Iowa Beef Futurity Contest this next year to determine what county in Iowa has the best cattle. See the enclosed sheet and get your neighbors involved!

We would appreciate the opportunity to work with you in 2011-2012 and thank you for your continued support of the TCSCF program.

Darrell Busby  
TCSCF Management Team

Leann Tibken

Meg Groves

Lacey Sleep

Matt Groves

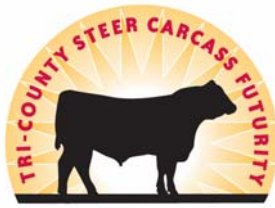
CC: TCSCF Board

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[www.tcscf.com](http://www.tcscf.com)



## Iowa Beef Futurity Contest

1. Provide performance information to increase future marketing potential for producers.
2. Provide added value potential information for producers.
3. Have some fun and make some money
4. Provide genetic selection needs to increase profits for producers.

**Who can participate?** Any Iowa cattle producer that would like to put together a pen of their own cattle or a group of cattle from several producers in their county to compete against other Iowa county cattlemen to determine winners in several categories. Top pen and individual performance producers will be recognized at the 2012 Iowa State Fair. County Cattlemen's Associations will contribute \$100 per county. Proceeds will be donated to the Iowa Cattlemen's Foundation in the winning county's name. Performance will be ranked on Retail Value per Day on Feed (RVDOF) and Retail Value per Day of Age (RVDOA). RVDOF combines carcass gain, percent retail product and quality grade to determine the value per day of beef produced in the feedlot. RVDOF's correlation to profit in the feedlot is .88. RVDOA uses hot carcass weight times the percent retail product times the carcass price divided by the days of age. Sire groups of five or more progeny will be ranked.

**What is TCSCF?** The TCSCF Cooperative provides information beef producers can use in managing and marketing their product. The program provides cow-calf producers information on feedlot performance, and carcass data on one or more steers/heifers entered. Producers use TCSCF data to produce calmer, faster gaining, healthier cattle with higher quality grades and that are more profitable.

**What this is?** The Iowa Beef Futurity will require one or more pens of 80 to 120 head of one owner or multi owner steers and/or heifers to feed through the TCSCF program from counties in Iowa. Steers and heifers within each pen will be ranked separately. The Iowa Beef Futurity Contest will be a competition between beef producers and county Cattlemen's Associations in Iowa.

**Where will cattle be fed?** Cattle will be fed with a TCSCF selected feedlot located in SW Iowa.

**When will cattle be delivered?** Delivery dates will be established with county groups and producers from October 1, 2011 through January 15, 2012. Calves should be born from February 1 to May 15. Calves should be vaccinated twice and weaned a minimum of 30 days, 45 days is recommended.

## **Rules & Regulations**

1. Open to cow-calf producers in Iowa. Sire or sire breed groups will be identified. Individual steer/heifer entries will be accepted which may be either home-raised or purchased. A farm may make as many entries as they would like.
2. A \$300 per head advance is available for a ten head minimum. Interest incurred will be the responsibility of the consignor. The TCSCF administrative office will need to be notified if an advance is requested by a consignor and the advance can be issued any time after the cattle are delivered.
3. At delivery, all steers/heifers will be double tagged. The original owner's ear tag will be documented and removed.
4. No bulls or stags allowed. No horns allowed.
5. Ownership will be transferred to TCSCF for \$5 per animal. All ownership rights are thus conveyed to, and steers/heifers become the property of TCSCF. This eliminates the need for a feed deposit. Death will be a loss to TCSCF and the former owner. Upon close out the \$5 fee will be returned to TCSCF and \$20 pen reservation fee will be returned to the producer along with all proceeds from sale of the calf less expenses.
6. Steers/heifers will be fed a warm-up ration for 28 days. They will be weighed on test at the end of warm-up. Steers/heifers will be placed on approximately 80% concentrate ration as soon as possible.
7. Steers/heifers will be weighed individually at least 4 times: upon delivery, start of test period, time of re-implant, and prior to harvest.
8. Steers/heifers will be harvested on at least two different dates five weeks apart, determined by the TCSCF Board.
9. The TCSCF Board reserves the right to disqualify any animal at any time if a problem arises with a steer/heifer entered in the program. Animals may be sold or returned to original owner upon reimbursement for expenses.
10. Calves should be born Feb 1 to May 15
11. TCSCF would like to document birthdates, sire registration numbers, breed of sire and breed of dam.
12. TCSCF maintains their own age and source verified program with USDA and premiums are available to producers. All paperwork must be completed before the cattle are delivered to the feedlot. Please contact our office if you would be interested in this program.
13. Calves will be frame and muscle scored by USDA Market Reporter upon delivery
14. The weight, sex, USDA muscle score & USDA frame score will be used to establish a beginning value of the calf.
15. Risk management is available upon request.

## **Feeding Method**

Feeding method used is different than some programs testing feedlot performance. The program will not require a feed deposit upon delivery at the feedlot. Instead, the TCSCF Board will purchase steers/heifers for \$5 each, thus giving the Board title to animals and allowing them to borrow money to pay feed, veterinary, yardage, and other expenses related to feeding of the cattle. Total feed dry matter is a calculated value based on Net Energy system with adjustments for delivery and final weight and carcass composition. All of the cattle fed together must be harvested before we can accurately split the feed bill.

# Health Protocol for TCSF by Dr. Doug Swain, Lyman Vet Clinic:

Entries shall meet the following standards:

1. All calves shall be weaned a minimum of 30 days or more by the date of delivery
2. All bulls shall be castrated by knife or band (producers are encouraged to castrate pre-weaning)
3. All calves shall be treated for internal and external parasites (injectable anthelmintics are encouraged preferably after weaning to avoid re-infection)
4. All cattle shall have horns removed (producers are encouraged to dehorn pre-weaning)
5. All cattle should receive a total of two doses of modified live viral vaccine given preferably pre-weaning and at weaning, respectively.

Modified Live Virus

- IBR-(Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis)
- BVD-(Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus 2 types)
- PI3-(Parainfluenza) Not an important pathogen but always in virals)
- BRSV-(Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus)

Examples of viral vaccine are as follows: Express5, Bovishield Gold 5, Pyramid 5, Vista 5, etc.

**\*\*Please consult your veterinarian before using MLV vaccine on calves nursing pregnant cows\*\***

6. 7-way blackleg with histophilus (2 doses required)

Examples of Blackleg vaccine are as follows: Ultrabac7somubac, Barvac7somnus, or use hemophilus separate or in conjunction with virals (Express5HS) etc.

7. Pasteurella hemolytica (Mannheimia hemolytica) and Pasteurella multocida bacterin toxoid are optional. Pasteurella vaccine **should only be administered pre-weaning** if used.

Examples of Pasteurella vaccine are as follows: Pulmoguard PHM-1, One Shot, etc.

Adjunct procedures/Biologicals **\*\*Not required for entry\*\***

- BVD Persistent Infection Ear Notch-pen arrangements may be made prior to arrival of the cattle.
- Mycoplasma Bovis Vaccination. Example is Pulmoguard MPB
- Cut tails
- Tagging/futurity double tags
- Inforce 3 intranasal at weaning

**\*\*Please consult your veterinarian for recommendations on which products/procedures best fit your livestock operation\*\***

# TCSCF Entry Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

County Association \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to enter \_\_\_\_\_ Steers in the Iowa Beef Futurity Contest.

I plan to enter \_\_\_\_\_ Heifers in the Iowa Beef Futurity Contest.

Please enroll \_\_\_\_\_ steer(s)/heifer(s) in the Risk Management group.

If calves were implanted, list brand name and date of implanting:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please forward an advance of \$300 per head to me upon delivery.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Lenders signature

\_\_\_\_\_

(if cattle are included on a security agreement)

I prefer to deliver my cattle on this date:

October 19

November 16

December 14

January 18

Please mail entries to Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative.

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