

# INDIANA BEEF EVALUATION AND ECONOMICS FEEDING PROGRAM IBEEF 2011-2012 GUIDELINES

Welcome to the 2011-2012 Indiana Beef Evaluation and Economics Feeding Program (IBEEF). IBEEF is a steer and heifer feed-out program through Purdue University Extension. It provides Indiana producers with a way to place cattle on feed and gather performance, carcass, and economic information to make genetic and management improvements in their herd. Cooperators receive individual and group feedlot performance, feedlot costs, individual and group carcass information, including quality and yield grade, ribeye area, fat thickness, carcass weight, etc. IBEEF also allows producers to compare sires, as well as evaluate alternative marketing strategies and their impact upon profitability. The program also helps to improve the reputation of producer's cattle by establishing a database of feedlot performance and carcass merit on their calves.

Breeding and management programs as well as other factors that influence feedlot performance and carcass productivity and value must be critically evaluated. Participating in the IBEEF program will provide you the information for critical decision making in your operation.

Since the beginning of IBEEF in the fall of 1997, over 150 cooperators have entered over 8,100 steers and heifers into the program. Cooperators have received feedlot performance, health, carcass quality, and yield grade as well as economic information on each individual animal entered. This information has helped cooperators identify the strong as well as weak points in their beef herd breeding and management programs. Cooperators have also gained experience and knowledge in value-based grid marketing. We look forward to hearing from you.

## **Objectives**

1. Provide an opportunity for beef cattle producers to determine if their breeding and management programs are producing cattle that fit current industry needs.
2. Improve the reputation and utilization of Indiana cattle by establishing a database of feedlot performance and carcass quality that would be used to inform producers and buyers of Indiana cattle.
3. Provide an opportunity for producers to evaluate the genetics of various sires for feedlot and carcass performance and value.
4. Provide an opportunity for beef producers to participate in an Age and Source Verification program.
5. Provide an opportunity for Indiana producers to learn about other segments of the cattle industry.

## **Nomination unit(s)**

1. A unit consists of a minimum of five head. However, where cow-herd size is limited, nominations of three head will be considered. Entries will be allocated according to pen space availability and truck load lots between G&D Smoker Farm Feedlot, Wanatah, Indiana, and Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity (TCSCF) Feedlots, Lewis, Iowa.
2. Administrators of the IBEEF Program reserve the right to adjust nominations in order to make complete load lots, thus reducing shipping costs per head.
3. Steers and heifers may be consigned.

4. Nomination forms are available from the Indiana Beef Evaluation Program (IBEP) office and from the IBEEF website: <http://www.ansc.purdue.edu/ibeef/>
5. To participate, all nomination forms and the \$40 per head nomination fee must be returned to the IBEP office no later than 30 days prior to the selected delivery date(s). The nomination fee will be used to pay for costs associated with delivery points, transportation to feedlots, mailing of reports to participants and other administrative costs.

## **Costs**

1. Producers are responsible for all feed, processing, veterinary, and yardage costs. Total costs will be deducted from the gross receipts at the conclusion of the feeding period. Because feed costs and animal selling prices are subject to normal market variation and may fluctuate up or down, no guarantee of profit is implied by Purdue University Extension, IBEP, or the cooperating IBEEF feedlot(s).
2. You will receive payment for your cattle once they are sold and feeding costs deducted. In recent years, all IBEEF cattle have been marketed through one of Tyson Fresh Meats Grid Marketing Systems. For cattle fed through the Iowa TCSCF program, payment is not made until all cattle from a pen have been sold. This usually occurs 35 days following the first sell group from a pen. Therefore payment is not made/received until approximately 10-14 days after the last cattle from a pen have been harvested.
3. Death loss or injury resulting in early removal of an animal from the program is the responsibility of the producer and not the liability of the feedlot(s).

## **Feeding Recommendations Pre- and Postweaning**

1. To reduce the incidence of problems at the feedlot and to enhance calf performance, it is important that calves be accustomed to eating from feed bunks/troughs and consuming water from a tank or fountain.
2. Where possible, start calves on creep feed prior to weaning. This will reduce weaning stress. The creep diet can be high quality hay and concentrate feed or concentrate feed only. What is important is, that calves get accustomed to feeds other than pasture forage.
3. Research has shown that following weaning, calves require 7 to 14 days on an average to regain weight lost after weaning. The following programs have been successful for calves after weaning.
  - Grass or mixed grass-legume hay fed free-choice plus 1 to 1.5 lbs. of 40% protein supplement or soybean meal and ground or cracked corn. Use the highest level of protein supplement if hay is mainly grass and the lower level if hay is 50% or more legume. Start with 2 - 3 lbs. of grain. Gradually increase grain level such that grain and protein source combined equal approximately 1% of the calf's body weight on a daily basis.
  - Commercial starter feeding programs can be fed according to manufacturers' recommendations. If this type of program is used, free-choice hay feeding is suggested.
  - Consideration should be given to getting calves to either of the above programs by at least two weeks prior delivery.
  - If corn silage is available follow one of the above programs for at least two weeks. Gradually begin silage feeding and work up to a full feed of silage in 7-10 days. Limit grain to 2-3 lbs. Provide 1.5 lbs. of 40% supplement or soybean meal.

## Animal Requirements

1. Calves should have been born January 1 to May 31, 2011 and may be purebred or crossbred. It is suggested that calves be born prior to May 15. It is strongly recommended but not mandatory that only calves with a known birthdate be nominated. In cases where the actual birth date is not known, the month of birth or date when the oldest calf in the group was born should be used. All calves must be tagged with a farm identification tag at delivery. All calves will be re-tagged (both ears) at delivery.
2. Calves should weigh at least 450 pounds at delivery. It is suggested that all calves weigh between 500 and 700 lbs. Animals will be weighed individually at the delivery point and at the feedlot. Lightweight and excessively heavy calves may be rejected and sent back home from the delivery points.
3. Multiple sire groups are acceptable, but single sire groups are suggested. However, if 10 or more animals are consigned by a producer, multiple sire groups are recommended. It is also recommended that each sire group be represented by no fewer than five progeny.
4. Calves must be dehorned and free of active ringworm lesions and warts at delivery.
5. All cattle must conform to the 2011/2012 IBEEF health program, certified with the current IBEEF immunizations. The health requirements are as follows:
  - ◆ **Two weeks prior to weaning or at weaning**
    - ⇒ Four-way respiratory virus vaccine (IBR, BVD, PI3, and BRSV)
    - ⇒ Seven-way clostridial vaccine
    - ⇒ Pasteurella, hemolytica and multocida vaccine (Follow manufacturer's recommendations regarding re-vaccination.)
  - ◆ **Wean calves at least 30 days prior to delivery**

You may wish to implant and treat calves for parasites when you give initial vaccinations. This decision will be influenced by conditions on your farm and length of time from weaning to delivery. If you chose to implant, it is recommended that one of the lower potency products be used. Your calves will be treated for internal and external parasites and will be implanted at the feedlot.
  - ◆ **Two weeks prior to selected delivery date. This should fall two-four weeks after initial vaccination but not closer than two weeks prior to delivery.**
    - ⇒ Repeat four-way respiratory virus vaccine. For this vaccination, a **modified live** product is recommended.
    - ⇒ Check manufacturer recommendations regarding Pasteurella re-vaccination.

**DO NOT** repeat clostridial vaccine.

## Delivery

1. Delivery dates will be:
  - 1) Monday, October 24, 2011
  - 2) Monday, November 14, 2011
  - 3) Monday, December 5, 2011

### **You may deliver cattle on more than one date.**

2. Cattle must be delivered to selected points for pickup and shipment to the feedlot(s). Delivery points will be determined after nominations are received and will be chosen to be as convenient as possible. Notification as to time of delivery will be sent once nominations are received and delivery date confirmed.
3. **A Premise ID is required for Indiana cooperators.**
4. **IBEEF immunization forms must accompany calves to the delivery points in order for the calves to be accepted.** All information **including signatures** requested on the certificate must be completed for certificates to be acceptable. Groups without IBEEF

immunization forms or with unacceptable certificates may be rejected and not sent to the feedlot. An IBEEF immunization form is attached.

5. **All calves being fed out-of-state must also have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (Health Certificate). This certificate must accompany calves to the delivery point and to the feedlot.**

## **Evaluation**

1. Cattle will be individually weighed and double-tagged with IBEEF tags at the delivery point. In some cases where producers double-tag their calves or they are a member of an alliance, farm tags are not replaced with IBEEF tags. You will be provided a listing that allows you to match your farm tag with the IBEEF tag.
2. On delivery to the feedlot, cattle will be individually weighed, treated for parasites and implanted.
3. Cattle will be sold when feedlot management, IBEEF, and TCSCF personnel considers the animals to be ready for harvest. Cattle will be individually weighed approximately midway through the feeding period for individual performance data, at which time they will be re-implanted, and weighed again near the time when they are harvested. Cattle will be delivered to the packing plant and individual carcass data will be collected.
4. Individual animal and a summary of all performance and economic data will be distributed to all participants, as timely as possible. These data will provide information for producer evaluation of breeding, management and marketing alternatives.

## **Dates to Remember:**

1. Calves must be brought to delivery points at the assigned delivery site on the selected delivery date. Shipment to the feedlot will be that same day.
2. The last day to wean and begin processing of calves and be eligible for IBEEF is 30 days prior to delivery date.
3. Completed nomination forms with a check for \$40 per head are due no later than 30 days prior to delivery date. Please make checks payable to IBEP/IBEEF and mail to:

**Indiana Beef Evaluation Program  
Lilly Hall, Animal Sciences  
915 W State Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2054**

## **Nomination Fee Refund:**

1. If individual animals fail to meet IBEEF requirements and are rejected from being sent to the feedlot, \$15 per head rejected will be refunded to the producer.
2. If the producer fails to deliver calves to designated delivery points, \$15 per animal not delivered will be forfeited with the remainder refunded to the producer.

## **Program (IBEEF) Sponsors:**

This program is a joint effort of:

- ◆ Indiana Beef Evaluation Program (IBEP)
- ◆ Purdue University Extension
- ◆ G&D Smoker Farm, Wanatah, Indiana
- ◆ Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity, Lewis, Iowa

<http://www.tcscf.com/>