



**College of Agricultural &
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Georgia HERD Program

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TO: Georgia HERD Consignors

From:


Jacob Segers, Extension Animal Scientist – Beef


Jason Duggin, Extension Animal Scientist - Beef

Enclosed are the rules, and entry form for the 2017-18 Georgia Heifer Evaluation and Reproductive Development (HERD) programs. It is time to make plans for the coming year.

Once again, the September - November heifers will be evaluated in Tifton. The December - February heifers will be evaluated at Calhoun. **Our AI sire for 2016-17 will be MCR Horizon 081.** Heifers that are closely related to MCR Horizon 081 will be AI'd to SS Niagara Z29. Heifers at Tifton and at Calhoun will be heat-synchronized and bred AI (once at each location) followed by at least 45 days with a clean-up bull. If you wish to specify a different AI sire, you may do so, but you must furnish the semen at the time of delivery. CIDRs (Controlled Internal Drug Release devices) will again be used in both locations to synchronize heat in the heifers. We will also continue testing for Persistently Infected - BVD upon arrival. Any heifer found to be positive will be removed from the program.

There will again be an option for consignors to choose if they would like to have Zoetis Genomic testing performed on their heifers at their own expense: “Genomic testing will be conducted with consignors having the option to test their heifers at their own expense. Consignors may exercise an additional option to include genomic testing results in the sale supplement, provided that the consignor agrees to disclose results from all of their sale consignments.”

Reminders to note:

1. Heifers must be permanently identified with a readable tattoo or brand prior to delivery. Consignors are subject to a fee (\$25 per head) if heifers have to be tattooed upon arrival.
2. **Dates to remember:**
 - a. **September 1: Entries due** for Tifton HERD Program and Bull Test; the delivery date is October 2 for the heifers.
 - b. **November 1: Entries due** for Calhoun HERD Program; the delivery date is November 30.

Join us on August 30th for the HERD Field Day in Alapaha!

Enclosure