Angus Australia Member c/o Angus Australia Armidale NSW 2350

31 May 2023

RE: An independent assessment of the leading seedstock producers in the country

Dear Angus Australia Member,

Bush AgriBusiness is a private advisory firm providing independent analysis and trusted insights to the Australian pastoral industry. One of our products is the Australian Beef Report, which we publish as a reference for profit focussed beef producers every three years. We will be publishing the third edition of the Australian Beef Report in 2023, which will include a new chapter that will help commercial beef producers identify potential seedstock sources.

In our experience in working with commercial beef producers, we find that it is often a challenge for producers to identify and assess potential genetics sources that will improve their bottom line. We regularly assist clients with this process, and in doing so we believe that there is a need for an objective and independent identification of studs that are at the top of their breeds.

The new chapter within Australian Beef Report is titled 'Top Studs' and it lists the highest indexing studs across all breeds. For a stud to be included in the reference in 2023, it must meet the following criteria.

- 1. Be an Australian based TansTasman Angus Cattle Evaluation (TACE) herd,
- 2. Record a minimum of 50 animals in the 2021 calving year,
- 3. The average of their 2021 drop must be in the top 50% of one or more of the published selection indices from Angus Australia's TACE (i.e. excluding the AngusPRO and Angus Terminal Sire indices)

These criteria are designed to include as many studs as possible that are focussed on producing commercially relevant genetics that are objectively quantified. The analysis will only include within breed results and will not attempt to make any cross-breed comparisons.

Along with the listing, for each stud that meets the criteria, we also plan to graph their genetic change over time relative to the breed average, for the index or indices they are in top 50% for, as well as including a bar graph of their genetic profile, i.e. primarily objective data. Please see below example. The chapter, and the list of top studs, will not be made publicly available; it will only be available to those who purchase a hard copy of the Australian Beef Report, of which we will be doing an initial print run of 500.

For Angus Australia members to take part we have an opt-in approach. If you would like for your stud to be included in this exciting new publication, please complete the online survey form to express your permission for access to the data needed for the analysis.

Online survey form can be found here.

Yours sincerely,

Ian McLean

Sally Finch

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Example page in Top Studs chapter



