



## Genetic Evaluation For Reproductive Traits

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## NBCEC Meeting Recap

- Candidate traits
  - Weaning success
  - First service conception rather than heifer pregnancy
  - Postpartum interval
- Limitations
  - Guidelines for recording phenotypes
    - Age windows
  - Collection of phenotypes
  - ROI



## Trait Review

- Days to Calving
  - Breeding attempt to calving
  - Censored
- Heifer Pregnancy
  - ECP
- First insemination success (calving to first insemination)
  - NS data—uncertainty
- Longevity
  - Reason for culling
- Age at puberty
- Indicators (i.e., AFC)
  - Cost of collection



## Molecular Technology

- Some commercial tests for reproduction traits (heifer pregnancy)
- No validation requested
- Several NBCEC projects focused on female reproduction
- Need phenotypes
- Need NCE in place



## Current Evaluations

- Stayability
  - Simmental
  - Red Angus
  - Gelbvieh
  - Red Angus
  - Hereford (LPL)
- Heifer pregnancy
  - Red Angus
  - Angus (under development)



## Current Limitations

- Contemporary groups
- Quality data
- Quantity of data turned in
  - Not quantity collected

## Suggestions--CG

- Yearling CG are not sufficient
- Need to know:
  - Breeding opportunity
  - When it occurred
  - Service sire
  - Breeding group

## Suggestions-Traits

- Heifer pregnancy
  - Have a calf
- Days to calving
  - Conceive and do so early

## Action Points—Breeds Associations

- Ask for information to correctly group females
- Whole-herd reporting
  - Required
  - Sufficient incentive/penalty

## Action Points--Breeders

- Collect and record:
  - Phenotypes
  - Correct contemporary groups
  - Specific reason for culling
  - Birth dates of all calves (live or dead)