



VPP Beef Niche Market Cull Cow earns a premium BCS #3

BEEF TRIM



Unworthy of selling into the VPP Beef Niche Market BCS #1

Sponsored by Pfizer Animal Health

Southwest Region

What's New!

Caviness Beef continues to be the leader in paying producers incentives for pre-harvest efforts that supply their beef customers safer beef.

Starting with dairies seeking to renew their certification for the Verified Premium Plus Beef (VPP) in June, milk producers will see an added emphasis on pathogen control prior to marketing VPP cull dairy cows to Caviness.

The concept being promoted is to lower the population of Salmonella on your entire dairy operation.

Details will be introduced to the certifying veterinarians during April and May. Check with your herd veterinarian for details.

Get the whole picture!

Some animals obviously need to be culled from your herd -- the thin, Johne's suspect-type cow has to go to the sale barn. But, a Verified Premium Plus herd has above average cow health.

A VPP herd strives to keep every heifer alive and normally almost all of them are available as pregnant springers. They will fill out part of your milking string - but which heifers are the best?

The dairy in this enviable position may have 20 to 50 replacement heifers to choose from. But you want to keep the best genetics in your herd. Which cows will you turn into Verified Premium Plus Beef? How good are your dairy replacements?

Genomics Testing

A valuable new tool is Genomic Testing. By pulling a hair sample and testing at the 3K SNP level you can obtain a positive return on your testing investment. The genomic test results will help you to judge how good your replacements are.

Learn 2 things

First, you will discover the correct parents of all heifers being considered as replacement animals. (You can compare purchased heifers with your home-raised heifers) You will also learn the parentage of any purchased replacement heifers.

Secondly, you will learn if the potential replacement heifers received a good or bad set of genes from her parents. You can then predict which heifers would provide you with the most milk and better "gene pool" to use as replacements

The future is now!

"No man talks about genomic testing in the future tense. It's here and here to stay. The growth of genomic testing has been accelerated with the introduction of the 3K SNP chip. This modern marvel is ready for your use; you just need to decide what your genomic testing plan is and get going" declares Tom Lawlor PhD of the Holstein Association USA.

Internal biosecurity isolates pathogens on the dairy. Your employees should not move between groups of animals without cleaning their boots and using a disinfectant. This applies to all parts of the dairy, but it is especially true when employees leave the hospital pen.



Animal Health

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