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2009 - 10 Tifton HERD Program – Report 2

November 11, 2009

To: Tifton HERD Consignors and Other Interested Persons

From: 

Robert L. Stewart, Extension Animal Scientist – Beef Cattle

Enclosed is Report 2 on the HERD heifers at Irwinville. The heifers were worked on November 11. Thanks to Dr. Roger Ellis, UGA College of Veterinary Medicine, for doing the reproductive tract maturity scores and pelvic area measurements. Thanks, also, to Deron Rehberg and Tim Smith, County Extension Agents, for their help. Seven heifers had actual pelvic measurements of less than 140 sq. cm., while ten heifers had a Reproductive Tract Maturity Score of 1. One heifer was found to be a freemartin. These heifers are not sale eligible. CIDRs were also inserted at this time.

Weights on the heifers Wednesday ranged from 602 to 1,060 pounds. The actual pelvic measurements ranged from 117.00 to 239.25 sq. cm., and the reproductive tract maturity scores ranged from 1 to 5. Performance has been good as indicated by the overall 37-day ADG of 2.45 lbs. Health has been good with two exceptions: one heifer died on October 29 as a result of pneumonia; another died on November 8 from cancer of the lymph nodes.

Our synchronization program will continue as follows:

- November 25 – CIDRS are removed.
- December 4 – GnRH is injected.
- December 11 – Lutalyse is injected; heat detection patches are applied.
- December 14 – Time breed all heifers not already AI'd; inject GnRH at breeding.
- December 22 – Cleanup bulls are placed with the heifers (52 days).

NOTE: If you plan to furnish your own semen, it must be delivered to Irwinville ASAP!

- Events:**
- December 10 – Delivery Date for Calhoun HERD Program*
 - December 11 – Calhoun Performance Tested Bull Sale*
 - March 2 – Tifton Beef Cattle Short Course*
 - March 3 – Tifton Performance Tested Bull Sale*
 - April 20 – Tifton HERD Sale*
 - June 2 – Calhoun HERD Sale*

The Evaluation Center is open for visitors during the week between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you wish to visit on the weekends, please contact Mike Keeler at 229/831-5416. Feel free to visit our website (www.tifton.uga.edu/pc-web) for early posting of reports and a complete schedule of activities planned for the program.