### **Inside This Issue:**

# Beef Showerse Edition 2023

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# ROUNDUP

January 2023

Josslynn and Jett Johnson. (Photo submittd)

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### Pasture To Plate Beef In Your Own Back Yard

By Robyn Heck

Mark Voll and Teresa Tescher Voll own Dakota Badlands Beef, located in the Squaw Gap (Homesteaders Gap) area. This family owned and operated ranch is located 20 miles southeast of Sidney. Mark and Teresa were asked how long they've been selling beef. "Selling our own beef has been a part of our operation for many years. A highlight of raising cattle is having repeat customers come back and tell you how much they enjoy consuming our beef". Mark has been part of several cattle industry associations and is currently the ND Beef Commission chairperson. "Being involved and listening to other cattle producers leads me to believe that diversification, could lead to benefits to our operation. As our son, Tom, works his way into the ranch, this allows him another avenue to pursue down the road, if he so chooses," said Mark.

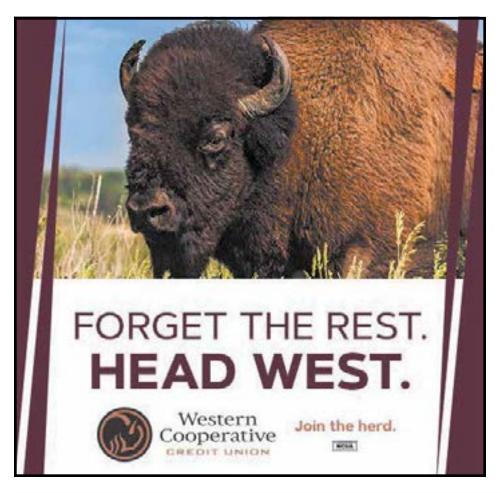
Dakota Badlands Beef is here to meet your individual beef needs. They are taking orders for future processing dates and have beef available in their State Health Department licensed freezer, located at the ranch near Sidney, MT, in McKenzie County, ND. They raise, feed, process, and market their own beef. All Beef comes from the cattle raised

and fed on the ranch, and finished at custom feedlots in the area. All of this is done locally from pasture to plate! Owner Mark Voll states, "We take pride in offering locally raised, high quality, beef". Dakota Badlands Beef is processed at their USDA inspected facility located in New Salem, ND, called 6-IN-1 Meats. Mark and Teresa own this processing plant along with 5 other North Dakota livestock producers. "Ownership in the plant quarantees processing dates on a consistent basis". After purchasing in 2019, we obtained a USDA inspection status allowing us to sell beef across state lines. Beef can be picked up in New Salem, however most of the beef purchased in the Mon-Dak area has coordinated delivery options available by contacting us. For orders or questions, call Mark at 406-480-0080 or Teresa Tescher Voll at 406-480-1777.





(L-R) Riley Hagler (son in law), Mary Hagler (daughter). Teresa Tescher-Voll, Mark Voll, Tom Voll (son). (Photo submitted)





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# Begger's Diamond V Ranch

Begger's Diamond V Ranch is located 9 miles south of Wibaux, MT, or 9 miles southwest of Beach, ND. They are a family-owned outfit that was started by Harry and Elaine over 75 years ago. In 1973, they're sons Bob and Bill decided that they needed to add value to the ranch if all 3 families could survive. They began Aling their Angus baldy and shorthorn cross cows to Simmental, when the first calves came they were very impressive. They were born unassisted even though many ranches used sires that didn't have that calving ease. The Beggers feel they choose the right genetics and had a strong cow base that calved easily. In 1975 they hosted their first sale only 13 head, it set a precedence right from the start. The black bulls had more value and were in demand. To survive they knew that they needed their Simmental cattle to be solid colored either black or red, although they did raise some traditional red and whites, they dispersed them after a few years. At that time mostly solid black and polled cattle were the focus in 2010 the ranch dispersed all the red cattle, and has focused on homozygous black and polled cattle. Today the ranch runs 600 mother cows all are black and polled. It consists of 525 black Simmental and SIm-Angus cows and 75 Angus cows. Everyone is registered and used to produce their 180 bulls they sell annually.

Today the ranch is operated by Bill and Darlene along with their son and daughter-in-law John and Alicia along with their children, twin daughters Maggie and Charlotte, and sons Harrison and Gabe, the 4th generation.

Their cowherd calves twice a year; 400 in the spring and 200 in the fall. By calving both spring and fall they offer 50 age advantaged 18 month old bulls, along with 130 spring born yearlings. 150 will sell in their production sale the first Wednesday in February and 30 will be sold privately. Their cattle are run rough and tough, meaning they winter- graze them as long as possible with little or no inputs until the snow gets deep. The breeding goal is to produce cattle that work for the commercial cowman and woman. They have to be gentle in nature, easy keeping, big volumed, and sensible sized. They need to calve unassisted and have an udder that their calf can nurse without assistance. They need to raise a stout calf that weans 50% of their body weight, breed back early, and survive on what mother nature throws at them. The ranch headquarters is open and lacks the deep wooded draws that would provide protection. Beggers breed cattle that can survive when the winter gets tough and the wind chills are harsh, only man-made protection and telephone poles offer protection. The Diamond V Ranch offers cattle that work for the cow calf-man and then go onto be profitable for the feeder and packer and then offers a great eating experience to the consumer that has



no idea what it takes for that tender flavorful steak to hit their dinner plate. The goal at Begger's Diamond V Ranch is to provide a breeding opportunity that is profit driven, they offer genetics that will produce the perfect cross bred calf. Bill states, "Cross breeding is the most value added tool every cowman has access to. Don't over look it. It makes sense, dollars and cents, don't leave it on the table."

The Simmental cross are without a doubt some of the most sought after feeder cattle, they just work, they offer excellent feed efficiency and gainability, they offer the opportunity to sell more uniformity with less small light weight cut backs and the packers pay premiums for their excellent carcass values more of them hit the specs for carcass premiums. They hardly ever produce those 4 and 5 yield grade discounts. The best part is the daughters make super cows, they are easy keeping, breed back better, raise more pounds efficiently, black Sim-Angus cattle add value. The Begger's would like to invite you to their production sale Feb. 1, 2023, at the ranch, come take a look, you'll like what you see.

# Western Montana Grazing & Agriculture Conference Scheduled For Jan. 19-20 In Missoula

From the MSU News Service

Bozeman - The annual Western Montana Grazing and Agriculture Conference, scheduled for Jan. 19-20 in Missoula, will focus on opportunities in agriculture in western Montana. The two-day conference is hosted by Montana State University Extension in Missoula County, the Missoula Conservation District and the Lake County Conservation District.

The conference will highlight innovative strategies and marketing options that producers use to manage land and create viable land stewardship models for increasingly fractured plot sizes and uses of agricultural lands in western Montana, according to Patrick Mangan, MSU Extension horticulture agent in Missoula County.

Presentations will cover value-added agricultural opportunities; weed and rodent management on farms; grazing and pasture management for horses, cows and other ruminants; irrigation management; and other topics of interest to

landowners, regardless of the size of their property.

Cory Miller, owner of Grass Valley Farms, Missoula, is the keynote speaker. He will present the methods he uses to support soil health, grazing management and an ecosystems approach to land management. Grass Valley Farms integrates fungal communities into its soils, uses virtual fencing systems to manage cattle and other strategies to improve land and soil health.

The conference will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton Missoula Edgewater Hotel, 100 Madison St. The \$50 registration fee includes lunch Thursday, a social hour that evening and breakfast Friday morning. Participants may register online at missoulaeduplace.org/event/23735 and find more details at lakecountyconservationdistrict.org/2023-western-montana-grazing-and-ag-conference/.

For additional information, contact Mangan at 406-258-4205 or patrick.mangan@montana.edu.

### Wednesday, February 1, 2023 • 12:30 PM − At the Ranch − Wibaux, MT



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- \* Every bull walks through the sale ring enabling you to see what you are buying. Some pictures and videos just don't represent cattle as they should.

Raising cattle that work for the cow-calf man, the feeder, and the Packer, while providing an enjoyable eating experience for the consumer should be every cattleman's goal. Ranchers work hard and should expect their cattle to do the same. There are no shortcuts with today's high inputs, your cattle have to be profitable and efficient. Blending EPD and Genomics Traits requires discipline, common sense, and patience. It doesn't matter how impressive the EPD are or the size of call at weaning. Cattle that lack efficiency and require extra labor and costly inputs are not desirable. This is why common sense and an experienced eye still play a major role in every breeding decision we make.

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# Pleasant Valley Angus

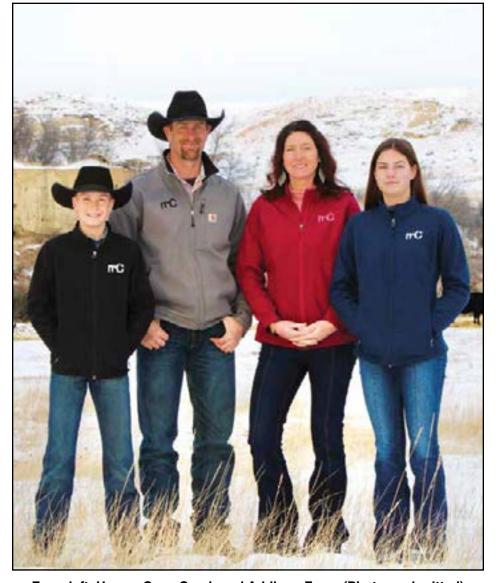
Pleasant Valley Angus is owned and operated by Cory and Sarah Foss, along with their kids, Addison and Hazen, and Cory's parents, Jerry and Judy. Cory is the third generation to run cattle on the ranch, which headquarters six miles west of Sidney, MT and summers their cattle on his grandfather's homestead in the Mona/Elmdale area. Foss' started Al'ing extensively in the 90s on their commercial cattle. Cory and Sarah added registered females in 2008 and that portion of the herd has steadily grown since then.



"Currently we market a select group of yearling bulls and heifers in the spring. Our goal is to raise an elite set of females that produce powerful, functional, maternally-based cattle. The cow herd is run on native grass and salt/mineral as long as the weather allows. The cows are brought back home for the winter and spring months, where the calving and Al'ing take place. We require our cows to be structurally sound, fertile, easy fleshing with a good udder and disposition. The registered cows run with the commercial cows and are managed the same way. We try to breed cattle that hold up to the extremes this country throws at us. If they can't breed back, hold their condition, and have good feet to travel to water, all while raising a quality calf, then they leave; no second chances. We feel these kinds of genetics are what will keep not only us, but most importantly our customers, in the cattle business; it's not something we take lightly. After all, this isn't just a cattle business, it's a people business. We are surrounded by some of the best family, friends and neighbors anyone could hope for and we feel very blessed to live where we do and raise our kids here.

We market 50 bulls via private treaty starting mid-March, on a first come, first serve basis. Please feel free to follow us and look for ranch updates on our Pleasant Valley Angus facebook page."





From left, Hazen, Cory, Sarah and Addison Foss. (Photos submitted)

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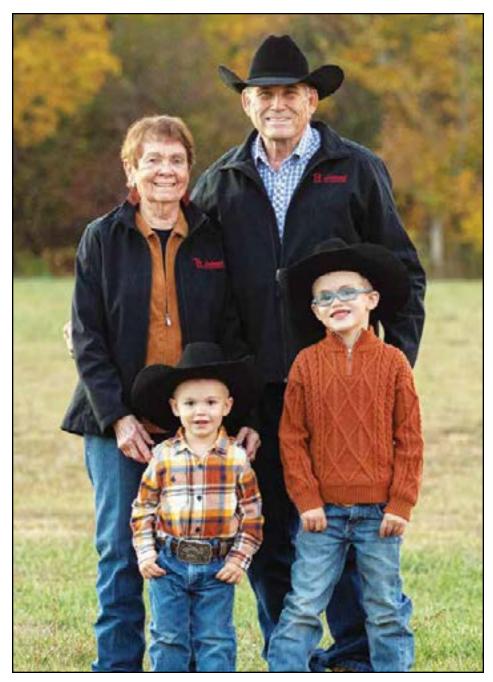
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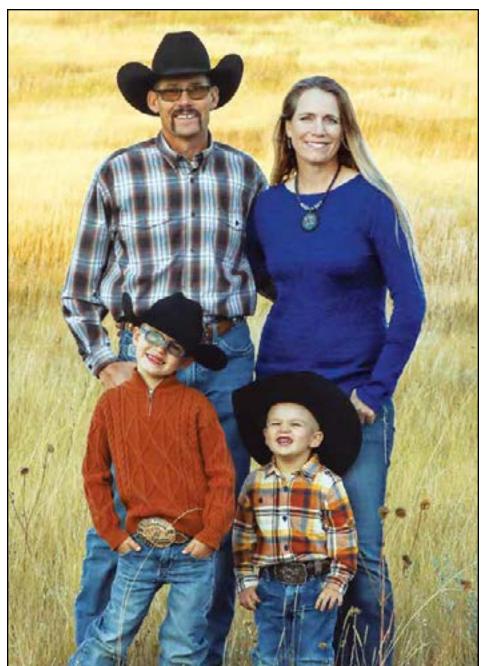
# **Leland Red Angus**



Luella & Melvin Leland with grandsons, Tripp & Trey. (Photo submitted)

Leland Red Angus will be hosting their 40th annual production sale on Friday, March 10 at the ranch located in SW McKenzie County, 35 miles SE of Sidney in the Squaw Gap Community. The ranch, which has raised registered Red Angus for over 50 years, is operated by Melvin and Luella Leland and their son and daughter-in-law Todd and Carla Leland. Homesteaded in 1911 by Melvin's father, Leland Red Angus breeds over 500 registered Red Angus females per year and will market 200 bulls and 50 yearling heifers, including about 60 fall-born, 18-month-old bulls from daughter Tracey Koester and her family in Steele, ND. They also offer bred females by private treaty every fall.

The ranch operates on a combination of deeded, leased, and permitted National Grasslands land and is regularly involved in national, state-wide, and local



Todd & Carla, Trey & Tripp Leland. (Photo submitted)

breed and beef industry organizations. Though the cowherd is managed on the range year-round, the sale bulls are developed in the ranch feedlot, with most of the feed being produced on 1200 acres of hay and cropland.

The Lelands utilize the breed's top genetics. "Much of the herd is bred by artificial insemination and features genomic verification by DNA and ultrasound testing for economically relevant traits and carcass values, a service provided by our son-in-law Dr. J.J. Hovde," commented Melvin Leland, noting that they use as much technology as is applicable. "We are dedicated to the values of rural and family lifestyle, and the 112-year legacy of the ranch is expected to continue with Todd, Carla, and their sons, Trey & Tripp, continuing as the fourth generation of Leland ownership." For more information, call 701-565-2347.

# Northern Pulse Growers Association Convention

**Submitted by Erin Becker, Northern Pulse Growers Association Marketing/Communications Specialist** 

Bismarck, ND - The Northern Pulse Growers Association (NPGA) will host the annual NPGA Convention Jan. 24 at the Sleep Inn & Suites, Minot, ND. This event is a premier gathering place for industry representatives and producers of dry peas, lentils, chickpeas, and fava beans.

"This is an exciting event for the pulse industry in North Dakota, Montana and the United States, where many ideas and experiences will be shared," said Executive Director Shannon Berndt. "We also have a variety of industry representatives in attendance that will be a valuable resource for producers."

The NPGA Convention will kick-off at 8:30 a.m., Monday. Jan. 24 with breakfast and business followed by Jacob L. Shapiro, Geopolitical Analysis at Cognitive Investments Partner & Director discussing geopolitics and agriculture. Dr. Joe Outlaw, Texas A&M University Economist & Professor, is next on the agenda and will present an ag policy and the upcoming farm bill. The NPGA Awards Luncheon will take place at noon and will recognize this years' NPGA Excellence Award recipient. The afternoon will begin with a pulse crop research panel discussion, followed by a presentation on weather risk by Andrew Pritchard, Nutrien Ag Solutions Senior Meteorologist. A representative from the National Agriculture Genotyping Center will present on a pulse research project, and the day will wrap up with a presentation on the opportunities for pulse crops by Shaun Haney, RealAgriculture founder. At approximately 4:30, attendees are invited to a Meet & Greet Social featuring Shaun Haney while browsing the latest research projects during the research poster session.

"We have a great program for the NPGA convention in Minot on Jan.24. Make sure to attend so you can hear the latest happenings in the pulse industry and connect with fellow growers and industry," stated Sam Arnson, NPGA president.

Registration is open for the 2023 convention. To register and/or view a detailed agenda listing all speakers, please visit our website www.northernpulse.com.

NPGA would like to thank their platinum sponsors Croplan, Dakota Ingredients, BASF, AGT Foods, Western Ag Network, Northern Ag Network, Columbia Grain, Great Northern Ag, and Legume Matrix.



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# Prewitt & Company & Sidney Livestock

# Cattle Marketing Headquarters

Prewitt & Company LLC has been the area's cattle marketing headquarters since 1996. The company has been involved in all avenues of the cattle industry including cattle buying, selling, and relocating. "We buy and sell cattle all over. We buy cattle off a lot of ranches in Montana and North Dakota and relocate them to feedlots in the Midwest," said Tim Larson, Prewitt & Company cattle buyer/seller and Sidney Livestock manager.

The company also feeds their own cattle at feedlots throughout Colorado and the Midwest. Their customer base includes producers and feedlots from California to Minnesota and 11 buyers covering Montana, North Dakota, Wyoming and Idaho. "Our goal is to build relationships with the rancher - make both ends meet - we want everyone to find the best market and best value for their cattle," added Tim. The company also produces cattle by leasing acreage for a cow/calf/yearling operation.

Tim has been working for Prewitt & Company since its inception. He said, "I was raised in it. My dad bought cattle for Rod during my teenage years, so I was exposed to it and traveled with him and helped him. So after a couple of years of college, I came back and have been here ever since."

In August 2012, Prewitt & Company purchased Yellowstone Livestock and renamed it Sidney Livestock Market Center. Since this time, there have been many upgrades and changes to the sale barn. "We have been working

Rod Prewitt is one of the owners of Sidney Livestock, and is partial owner of Prewitt & Company along with his two partners Tim Larson and Mike Yore.

hard to grow a competitive marketplace - we have improved the yard so that the cattle are handled in a very cattle friendly way. We have also had to adjust some of our sale dates just to accommodate those numbers. For example. we have cattle sales every Wednesday, and then from the last Saturday of October to the first Saturday in December we have Saturday sales every week," stated Prewitt & Company marketing and advertising specialist Kristin Larson.

Kristin explained that a good-working sale barn is an important part of the vitality of the community. The Sidney Livestock sale barn has been serving ranchers from all over the MonDak region for many years. "We strive to produce a safe and healthy environment for cattle and for our youth to grow up in it and experience this business and this industry," added Tim.

For more information on Prewitt & Company and Sidney Livestock, visit www. prewittandco.com and sidneylivestock.com.



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# Best Angus & Quarter Horses

Best Angus will be hosting their 9th Annual Best Angus & Quarter Horses Production Sale at 2 p.m., Monday, March 6, at the ranch southeast of Watford City. The sale will offer 60-registered yearling Angus bulls and 20 coming two-year-old registered Angus bulls and excellent home raised heifer calves. For more information, visit the ranch website, http://www.bestangusandguarterhorses.com.

What started in 1987 as a 4-H and FFA project of Pete's has grown into a registered Angus cowherd known for efficient, profitable, maternal cattle that serve

the cattlemen of today's beef industry well.

In 2006, Bests had the opportunity to move themselves and their 30-registered Angus cows home to the ranch that Vawnita grew up on in the Badlands of south central McKenzie County. Through intense AI and ET, today the entire brood cowherd at Elkhorn Creek Ranch is registered, AHIR tested, Maternal Plus enrolled, and carcass ultra-sounded since 1995. Of the 300 cows, approximately half are synchronized in the spring and AI'ed and about 100 are used as recipient

cows in the ET program.

Best Angus believes it is their responsibility to breed cattle that will provide profitability for their customers' cowherds, as well as their quality of life through focusing on economic and problem free trait selection that is balanced with nature. To be able to do so, selection pressure is applied in their harsh Badland's environment. Bests have extended their grazing season over the last decade and have focused on the type and kind of mother cow who thrives in a harsh environment, while producing calves that efficiently gain in the feedlot, grade on the rail.

In addition to their Best Angus & Quarter Horses Production Sale the first Monday of March at the ranch, Best Angus has also partnered with Strommen Ranch and Talkington Angus Ranch to form the Badlands Angus Alliance registered coming two-year-old bull and bred female sale.

The Badlands Angus Alliance on the first Tuesday of December offered registered Angus coming two-year-old bulls from the three programs and bred females from customers of Badlands Angus Alliance. Badlands Angus Alliance will be supporting Best customers with a Badland's Angus Alliance Replacement Heifer Calf Special, on Feb. 2, 2023. "We see this new sale as an ideal way for our customers to add value for their maternal genetics and a great way for new customers and heifer development projects to buy into the Badlands Angus Alliance Bred Female Sale," stated Pete Best.

For more information on Best Angus and Quarter Horses or Badlands Angus Alliance, contact Pete at 701-570-6959 or visit http://www.bestangusandquarterhorses.com.



Vawnita, Kyle and Pete Best. (Photo submitted)



# 55th Annual **GDAR Bull Sale Scheduled For** March 23

Gartner-Denowh Angus Ranch (GDAR) is located just on the outskirts of Sidney, a close-knit family run ranch that focuses on raising efficient and functional cattle bred for the commercial cattle operation. GDAR began in 1957 when Joe Gartner and Russell Denowh bought 20 head of registered Angus cows from a dispersion sale in Montana. In 1974, Russ and his son, Micky, bought out Joe Gartner but kept the corporate name. At this time,

they were calving about 150 cows and selling around 60 bulls per year. Russell's other son, Paul, joined the operation in 1984.

Micky, Paul, Casey and Chad Denowh all run the ranch together along with their families. GDAR is proud to be a family run operation. Chad and Jennifer's children make the 6th generation to live and work at the ranch headguarters. Lots of technological advances have been incorporated into the operation over the years including performance testing, carcass testing, artificial insemination, embryo transfer, and DNA testing, but the core principle of raising functional and profitable Angus cows remains the same.

GDAR operates mainly on grazing land, but they also have some farmland on which they raise feed. GDAR's cows are fed a low cost and low energy diet to weed out any inefficient cows, which means cows that can't function on a low input system in their environment are culled from the herd. A majority of GDAR's bulls go to commercial operations in a similar environment to their own, and their goal is to make sure their bulls surpass their expectations.

Gartner-Denowh Angus Ranch has been family run for over 60 years, and they are proud of the business and cattle they have established in the community. Learn more about GDAR on their website at http://www.gdar-angus.com or stop by and visit anytime.





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# Rambur Charolais: Unique Opportunities Keep Sidney Ranch Thriving



#### By Rebecca Colnar

Howard Rambur started his herd as a youngster with two crossbred Charolais heifers and a purebred Charolais bull. "I got a small loan from the local bank and was on my way to having my purebred business. Of course, I've been borrowing money ever since," said Rambur, who raises purebred Charolais cattle near Sidney, MT.

Even though his father was primarily a sugar beet farmer, young Rambur's interest in livestock was piqued when he began working with cattle as 4-H projects. He wanted to own something different than Angus, and the powerful, white Charolais cattle caught his eye. In the late 1960s, the breed, which originated in eastern France, arrived on the scene in Montana. Rambur decided to make the Charolais breed his life's work as he admired their outstanding performance and especially found that crossbreeding created a superior bovine.

The rancher raised four daughters, with some involved in 4-H, successfully showing cattle at the Richland County Fair as well as helping on the ranch. His grandkids are now being successful showing steers at the same fair, which continues to thrive. While his daughters were growing up, Rambur continued breed improvement.

Rambur cows and bulls are raised on the western side of Sidney in some rough country. "You need a good horse and dogs to move cattle out there," said Rambur. "I find that Charolais have better bone and feet, which causes them to have longevity. I have a lot of customers who are using our bulls up to six years of age, which is double the longevity of other breeds."

Although he credits the Angus breed for their "tremendous job marketing their meat," Rambur pointed out that crossbred cattle provide hybrid vigor and have been bringing an extra 10% in sale weight. Because of that, not only does he have Charolais bulls, but also an Angus herd.

Their bull sale the second Saturday of April is generally well-attended with 80-100 head of Charolais and Angus bulls seeing their way across the auction block.

He is curious where the beef prices are going to go. "I don't know where this is all going to transition. It will be interesting. Everyone is the cattle business needs to start making money. It shocks me that we are still selling fat cattle the way we are when we need to be moving our meat and product better. With COVID, many of the restaurants are half empty and those were the restaurants that were buying high-end steaks. Even before COVID, but even more so now, people want to know where their meat comes from. More people are looking closer to home, so we are seeing a real shortage of small packing houses to handle the increasing number of ranchers wanting to have cattle locally processed. There are only a few large packers now and you have to play their game as many are foreign-owned."

Rambur livestock has expanded their sale opportunities, selling cattle and meat to foreign countries; breeding stock has been shipped to Turkey while fat cattle have been shipped to JBS in Greeley, CO, to be processed for the Chinese market.

Rambur talks about how the international connections happened. The Turkish connection started when an exporter driving through Virginia spotted some "buckskin" (Charolais/Red Angus cross) in a field and asked what they were and their origin. Howard Rambur was contacted, and the Turkish exporters visited three times to develop a plan.

"The Turkish visitors told me that Montana looked like Turkey. We talked about agricultural production, and it turns out they are very modern," said Rambur. "They farm with center pivots and John Deere tractors. At the time we were working out the details, war with Syria was going on and Turkey had an influx of refugees. They realized the need for producing food for an expanding population."

Rambur coordinated the shipment of 700 buckskin calves and 900 silvers (Charolais x Angus) with the balance of the load Red Angus and Angus for a total of 2,400. Numerous tests, blood work, papers, and various quarantine sites later, the cattle shipped in early February 2017. The boat ride took 30-plus days. The cattle were dispersed into different areas of Turkey and are being used for breeding stock to help boost the country's meat industry in future years.

As for beef to China, Rambur had been dealing with JBS and they asked him to sign up to send some of his cattle/beef to China..

Although exporting provides another option for cattle marketing, Rambur

#### **AG ROUNDUP JANUARY 2023 17**

explained, "I get exporters calling me all the time, but the money exchange rate is horrid. Keep in mind when you deal with foreign counties, it's good to deal with the same exporter."

In addition to raising purebred bulls and sending their livestock across the ocean, a unique service provided by the ranch is feeding bulls in the feedlot. Many custom yards won't accept bulls because they're, well, bulls.

"You need to understand the bull mentality," Rambur said. "Our RC Feedlot has always fed purebred bulls, performance breeds as well as cull bulls. Rambur Charolais offers a bull buy back. When a customer is ready to change bulls out, we will purchase the culls at a premium, feed them at the RC Feedlot, then send them on to the processors."

Rambur explained that feeding bulls as a business happened because of the contacts he had at American Foods where he had previously been a buyer. The RC Feedlot already had experience feeding purebred bulls for production sales, so when he was talking to the people at American Foods, the idea developed for Rambur to feed cull bulls. The ranch is able to put quick weight on bulls, and there is a constant market for them.

"Bulls are better than feeder cattle because there is a quick turnaround. You feed them for 30 days and they're gone. I know bulls and I can put quick weight on them. Plus, it's a constant market even in the winter and it works well because I have my own trucks. When the processor needs a full load of bulls to kill, I can fill those spots quickly instead of their buyers going to many sale barns."

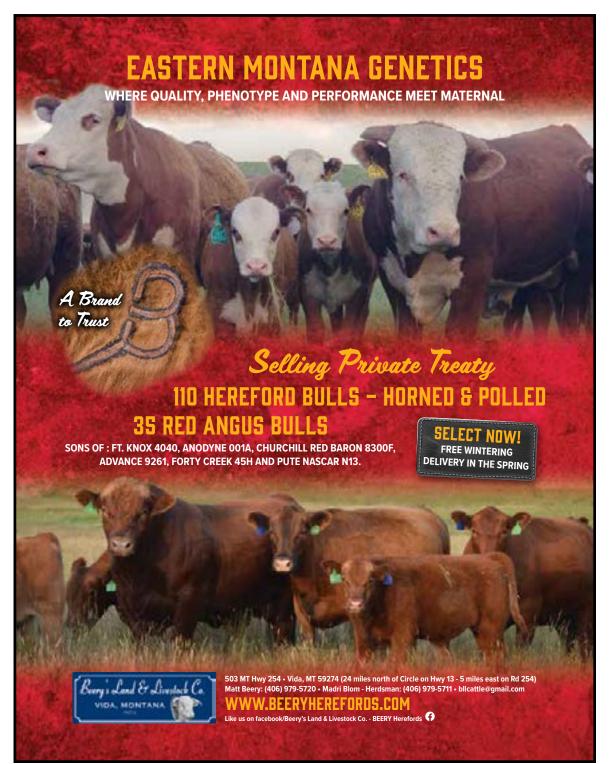




The hard-working rancher hopes his grandkids will continue to appreciate ranch life; they help with various aspects of the ranch, and all have horses to ride when help is needed. "We try to get them involved as much as we can. One of my grandsons is 14 and this year he hasn't been in school much due to COVID closings, so he has assisted with calving and wants to learn more from me. He received a beginning rancher loan from Community Bank in Dickinson, ND to purchase five purebred bred heifers. I applaud that bank for doing that," said Rambur.

Despite the challenges of juggling the purebred business, running a feedlot, and keeping up with the markets, Rambur said he wouldn't trade ranching for anything.

"Whether I'm working with the cattle, watching my dogs working or having my grandkids join me on the ranch, you can't beat it. We have a fantastic lifestyle."



# Bar JV Angus

The Bar JV Angus annual production sale will be held on Tuesday, March 28. They will be selling 100 commercial heifers and 100 bulls on location in their sale barn. Many of these bulls are out of their senior sire, Sitz Resilient, a complete herd sire that ranks in the top of the breed in multiple traits.

Visitors are always welcome to come to the ranch to view the bulls, heifers, or cows, and the family is happy to discuss any questions. They are also dedicated to finding the right bulls or heifers to match the needs of their customers.

Three generations of Vitts currently run the operation. Jim and Loretta Vitt founded the registered herd in the 1970s. In 2006, they were joined by Dale and Jill Vitt. Cody and Sierra Vitt became the third generation working on the ranch in 2017.

"This area has such a great legacy of agriculture and we feel blessed to be a part of it."

The year 2023 marks 48 years of breeding quality Angus genetics at Bar JV. With nearly five decades in the business, the Vitt family's vision has remained the same: to raise cattle that add value to your operation. Bar JV Angus is committed to breeding elite Angus females who produce high performance bulls, with the profitability of the commercial producer at the forefront.

Bar JV Angus emphasizes breeding bone, capacity, and length into their cattle, which enables them to handle the amount of growth that is found in today's genetics. This ensures optimal pounds at weaning and will transmit to feedlot performance.

Along with length of body, Bar JV Angus also looks for a long neck and smooth shoulders, which ensures calving ease. Calving ease goes far beyond birthweight; it has intentionally been bred into the cowherd.

Find Bar JV Angus on Facebook or visit http://www.barjvangus.com to learn more about our ranch, our herd, and our spring sale.



Loretta and Jim Vitt





Sitz Resilient. (Photos submitted)



Dale and Jill Vitt Family: Kendal, Dale, Owen, Emily, Jill, Sierra, Brooks and Cody Vitt,

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# Stroh Hereford Ranch 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ranch Ready Production Sale

Thurs, Feb 2nd • 1pm (MST) At The Ranch

1.5 miles east of Killdeer Roundabout on Hwy 200 or 5 miles west of Dunn Center, ND

#### Selling Will Be

50 Coming 2 Year Old Bulls

10 Commercial Hereford Heifers (Bred to Black Angus Bulls) 10 Registered Hereford Heifers (Bred to Black Angus Bulls) 22 F1 Baldy Yearling Heifers

### Sires Represented:

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- CL1 DOMINO 432B
- H5 0945 DOMINO 7208
- SR SCOPE 117E
- BR 69D GRANDSLAM 118G
- KB L1 Domino 952G ET
- CL1 DOMINO 3146 A
- CL1 DOMINO 878F
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# Sandhill Red Angus

Andrew and McKenzie Johnson have been raising registered Red Angus in Northeastern Montana since 2006. Andrew's father, Floyd, had a registered Angus herd and when Andrew was able to attain some red cows from his father, they were able to begin raising Registered Red Angus near Froid, MT.

The Johnsons focus on producing strong maternal females and believe that's what makes them successful. Every year, they look to buy customers' heifer calves back to breed them. They breed around 1000 heifers every year. Some go back



This calf had size and vigor or they may not have got to him in time before freezing.



into the commercial herd, and some are sold as bred heifers and pairs.

Females at Sandhill Red Angus are bred and raised to be hard working cows. The cows are in an open pasture, calve on their own with no assistance and run like a commercial ranch. They believe the registered females should be able to calve on their own, get their calf up and get them going. The Montana conditions are brutal at times, but their cows strive to birth hardy calves with vigor, that natural instinct to get up and go.

Sandhill Red Angus's Annual Production Sale will be held Tuesday, March 7 at Sidney Livestock Auction, featuring 70 Red Angus yearling bulls, 100 commercial Red Angus bred heifers, and 100 Red Angus 3-year-old cows. Buy with confidence with a 1-year breeding guarantee on bulls. Bulls are delivered free in USA and Canada and fed free until April 1.



(Back L-R) Andrew, Jayna and McKenzie Johnson. (Front L-R) Joslynn and Jett Johnson. (Photos submitted)

# Sy Carda Placed Second In Steer Of Merit Competition



#### By Meagan Dotson

Ten-year-old Lambert student Sy Carda of the 3-Buttes 4-H Club recently took second place in the Steer of Merit Competition held in Billings, MT at the Northern Hotel.

"4-H is fun and teaches me hard work and dedication, and the hard work pays off," Sy commented.

This is the fifth grader's third year in the 3-Buttes 4-H Club. He is additionally involved in shooting sports, woodworking, welding, and quilting and was awarded Best of Fair for his quilt in 2022.

"Steer of Merit is solely based on the carcass, so the judge can't really 'see' any of that," Sy's mom, Jodi Carda, explained, noting that an ultrasound was used. "Sy's steer did so well because it had a huge ribeye and intramuscular fat, or marbling. It made a prime grade cut."

There is a lot of hard work that goes into raising and readying a steer including feeding, watering, and tagging. Sy chose his steer, affectionately named Rip, in November 2021 and put a halter on him in May 2022. Initially, he began teaching the steer to lead by tying him to a post so he learned not to pull away. Then he started taking small steps, leading the animal around the corral.

"Rip and Charlie, my sister's steer, stay in the corral all winter and get fed twice a day or even more on cold days. They get used to us coming in and out of the corrals and once my dad is done in the fields in the spring, we put a halter on them and the work begins! I work with my steer morning and evening, halter breaking him and teaching him to lead. I work hours and hours with my dad in the corrals with my steer," Sy said. "It was awesome to place second in the Steer of Merit Competition because it was a steer we picked out from my dad's calves! It shows we are doing a great job on our farm."



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### SALE SCHEDULE

Wed, Jan 4th	Feeder Calf Special 9:00
Wed, Jan 11th	All Class Cattle Sale 9:00
Wed, Jan 18th	Replacement Heifer Special & ACCS 9:00
Wed, Jan 25th	All Class Cattle Sale 9:00
Wed, Feb 1st	Feeder Special 8:00
	Stock Cows & Bred Heifer Special 12:00
Wed, Feb 8th	All Class Cattle Sale 9:00
Wed, Feb 15th	All Class Cattle Sale 9:00
Wed, Feb 22nd	All Class Cattle Sale 9:00

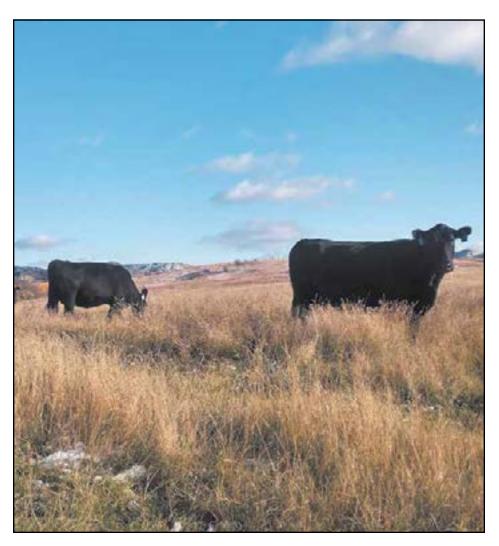
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# Stortz Angus Ranch 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Production Sale Feb. 22





Stortz Angus Ranch has been in the cattle business since the early 1900s. Located against the rugged Big Horn Sheep Mountains in Lindsay, MT, the ranch has withstood the test of time through consistent breeding and prioritized selection decisions. With over 30 years of utilizing the top genetics in the Angus breed through artificial insemination, the cattle you see today are as good as they come.

"We focus our efforts in making functional cattle that prosper in the rough terrain and extreme weather that we see here in eastern Montana," commented Ted Stortz. "Disposition, mothering ability and longevity are the most important," Ted explained when describing what traits they focus on when selecting females. Stortz Angus cows are turned out on grass around May 1. The calves are then weaned the first week of October. Both cows and calves are expected to be low maintenance – cows must be able to raise a calf on their own and calves do not see any creep feed before being weaned.

The bulls you see in the Stortz Angus Ranch Annual Bull Sale are a product of years of experience and industry knowledge. Stortz Angus strives to produce bulls with growth traits that will pay for commercial producers while still maintaining "sleep

at night" birthweights. But cookie-cutter bulls are not their thing. "We like to offer a selection of bulls and genetics to our customers. We always have a group of good calving ease and maternal bulls but also offer high weaning weight, more growth bulls," Ted commented. Ted also explained they select bulls heavily on docility.

The Stortz family invites you to their 32nd Annual Production Sale held Feb. 22, 2023 at the Glendive Livestock Exchange beginning at 1 p.m. New this year, the sale will also be broadcast online through DV Auctions if you are unable to make it to Glendive. Seventy Registered Angus Bulls and 70 commercial Angus heifers will sell.

You can view the bulls and females along with their dams prior to the sale anytime at the ranch north of Lindsay. Bulls will also be on display at the Beef Breeders Show in Miles City Feb. 3. Feel free to contact Ted at 406-584-7585 with any questions or if you would like a catalog mailed to you. You can also keep up with Stortz Angus Ranch on Facebook! Stortz Ranch wishes you Peace and Joy throughout the holiday season and the New Year! See you in February!



## TUESDAY, MARCH 7<sup>th</sup> 2023

Sidney Livestock Auction, Sidney, Montana 1:00 PM(MT)

# March 7<sup>TH</sup> 2023



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# MonDak Ag Research Summit Returns Jan. 19

### Features Grasshopper Workshop, and Crop, Disease and Weed Studies

#### By Beth Redlin

Are you worried about grasshoppers or wheat stem sawfly this coming year? Are you interested in intercropping and disease management in dryland pulses and irrigated sugarbeet? How about adding new soybean varieties and cereals to your irrigated rotations? What about weed management in row crops and rangeland, and soil health measures?

All those topics and more will be featured in the 2023 MonDak Ag Research Summit returning this Jan. 19. The summit is coordinated by North Dakota State University's Williston Research Extension Center (WREC), Montana State University's Eastern Agricultural Research Center (EARC) and U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Northern Plains Agricultural Research Lab, Sidney. The three facilities are partnering once again to showcase agricultural research underway in eastern Montana and western North Dakota of interest to local producers.

The MonDak Ag Research Summit will be held on Thursday, Jan. 19, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. MT at the Richland County Fairgrounds Event Center, Sidney.

The summit is a collaborative effort among the three research stations to encourage interaction between farmers and researchers. It features scientists from all three facilities reporting on current research projects of interest to producers and residents of the MonDak.

In addition to the research talks, the event allows for one-on-one discussions with scientists, providing producers the opportunity to share their questions and research needs and ideas directly with the scientists. A morning poster session will also give attendees time to browse additional research projects underway at the local research facilities and speak with the scientists doing the work.

The summit is free and lunch is provided courtesy of the Northern Pulse Growers Association. Other sponsors for the event include the City of Williston, Sustainable Oils, Sidney Sugars, Incorporated, Agri-Industries, and the Montana-Dakota Beet Growers Association.

Pesticide points for Montana applicators are pending. More information coming soon.

This year's speakers and topics are listed below. Please note that the morning Irrigated and Dryland sessions are concurrent unless otherwise indicated.

Morning DRYLAND Session, Part 1:

- Chickpea & Flax Intercropping for Disease Management: Chengci Chen, MSU EARC Superintendent
- Managing Root Rot Disease in Peas/Lentils: Audrey Kalil, NDSU Plant Pathologist
  - · No-Till Yields and Water Use Efficiency: Jim Starika, NDSU Soil Scientist
- A Simple, Rapid, Reliable, and Inexpensive Method of Measuring Soil Health: Upendra Sainju, USDA-ARS Research Soil Scientist

Morning IRRIGATED Session, Part 1:

- Introduction to the NDSU Soybean Breeding Program: Carrie Miranda, Asst. Prof, NDSU-Fargo, Soybean Breeding Program
  - Intercropping Study Data: Justin Jacobs, NDSU Irrigation Research Specialist
- Selecting Cereal Varieties for Irrigation: Chengci Chen, MSU EARC Super-intendent
- Overhead sprinkler-irrigated cropping systems with different levels of rotation diversity and tillage intensity: Bart Stevens, USDA-ARS Research Agronomist Morning JOINT Session:
- Weed Control in Row Crops: Charlemagne Lim, NDSU Extension Weed Scientist
  - · Poster Session I Break



Morning DRYLAND Session, Part 2:

- Influence of Native and Introduced Grasses on the Performance of Wheat Stem Sawfly and its Biocontrol Parasitoids: Tatyana Rand, USDA-ARS Research Ecologist
  - High Protein Peas: Bill Franck, MSU EARC Research Scientist
- Durum Yield Following Bioenergy Feedstocks, Fallow, and a Cover Crop Mix: Brett Allen, USDA-ARS Research Agronomist
- Does Russian olive (Elaeagnus angustifolia) depend on insects for seed production? Josh Campbell, USDA-ARS Research Entomologist, Pollination Specialist IRRIGATED Session, Part 2:
- Safflower Production Under Irrigation: Jerry Bergman, recently retired WREC Director
- Managing Cercospora and Fungicide Resistance: Frankie Crutcher, MSU EARC Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology
- Crop Water Use and Water Use Efficiency: Jay Jabro, USDA-ARS Research Soil Scientist
- Irrigation Scheduling: Why is it important, how do we utilize it in our operation, and is water, just water? Tyler Tjelde, NDSU Research Agronomist

Lunch

Afternoon RANGELAND Session (all joint talks):

- Palmer Amaranth: Weed to be Aware of: Charlemagne Lim, NDSU Extension Weed Specialist
- Leafy Spurge and Russian Olive Research: Natalie West, USDA-ARS Research Ecologist
- Crested Wheatgrass Response to Combined Fire and Grazing: Carissa Wonkka, USDA-ARS Research Ecologist
  - GRASSHOPPER WORKSHOP:
- 1. Rangeland Grasshopper Biology and Management: Dave Branson, US-DA-ARS Research Entomologist
- 2. Best Pest Management of Cropland Grasshoppers: Janet Knodel, NDSU Professor and Extension Entomologist and Travis Prochaska, NDSU Extension Crop Protection Specialist

Everyone interested is encouraged to attend. Again, the summit is free, but preregistration is encouraged for determining a meal count. You can preregister by calling or emailing Beth Redlin at 406-433-2020, beth.redlin@usda.gov, or Violeta Hobbes at 701-774-4315, violeta.hobbs@ndsu.edu. You can also register online at https://tinyurl.com/2023agsummit.

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