

THE DATA DIVE

by Esther Tarpoff, director of performance programs

You Submitted Data. Now What?

If we start at the beginning, getting an animal from conception to its end goal is no small feat; and it doesn't happen by chance.

From proper nutrition for dams, to quality semen from a bull, to a live and healthy calf, to developing that calf to be a replacement or having success on the rail, there is an incredible number of factors that can change the outcome.

As a registered Angus producer, part of the responsibility of raising cattle is to keep records of what happens throughout your animals' lifetime. Whether it is breeding records for the dams, calving information, weaning and yearling records, or continuing to collect measures on the females in your herd, there are opportunities throughout every major event to collect phenotypes. Although, after those phenotypes are collected and

submitted to the Association for your database, then what?

Reports

After information is submitted to Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®), what happens with that information? There are several reports at your fingertips for any member to view once you have submitted records.

After phenotypes are submitted, AHIR reports are generated and either mailed to you as a member and/or are available electronically in your AAA Login account. These reports summarize the data you submitted for your herd. For example, in a weaning report, you can view animals by contemporary

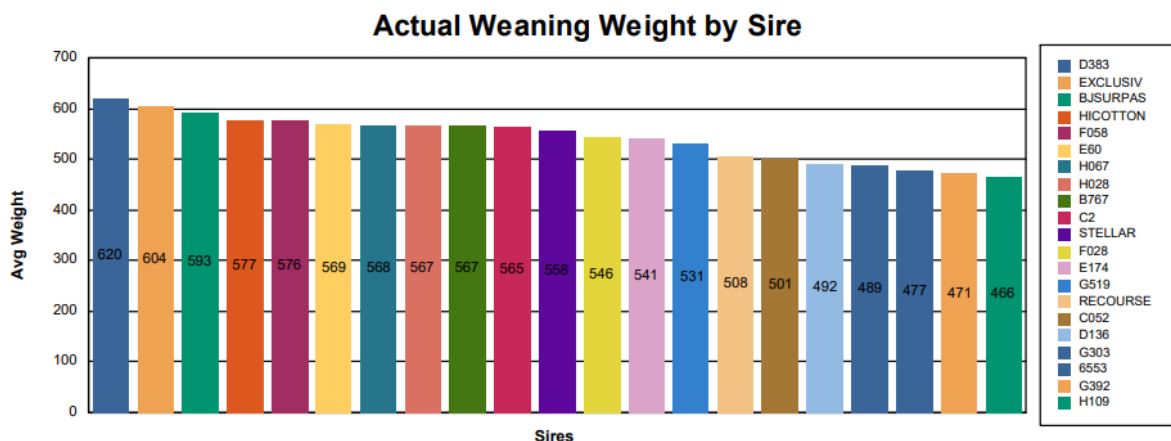
group and see their actual weights, adjusted weights and ratios by sire group. This report can provide insight into individual calves in a contemporary group and for the sires you used in that group.

A calving calendar report is generated from breeding records submitted. This report will use the information from breeding records to create a calving calendar with sire information ordered by calving date or dam tag.

Reports for Inventory Reporting

For members participating in Inventory Reporting, there are additional reports generated. These reports are based on required records

Figure 1: Weaning Sire Summary report available for members earning MaternalPlus.



for dams enrolled in the program.

One of the requirements of the program is to record production for every female in the herd. These events could include reporting a calf born, a reason for why she did not have a calf or a disposal code if she left your herd.

Inventory Reporting members can access expected progeny difference (EPD) and \$Value (dollar value index) trends for females in their herd compared to breed average. There is also a report for breakdown of dam age within the herd.

Members who earn the coveted MaternalPlus® distinction receive additional reports. One of the requirements to earn MaternalPlus is to submit weaning weights on all calves and to provide birth codes for calves that died preweaning and do not have a weaning weight to report. These additional reports are based on the data required for the program.

The Weaning Sire Summary report


compiles weaning weights by each sire used in your herd (Figure 1). This allows you to compare how each sires' progeny performed in your herd. In the report, below the graph, there is additional information for each sire, such as number of bulls or heifer calves, average birth weights, and ratios.

Also for MaternalPlus members, there is a Production Performance report (Figure 2). This is a robust report based on your first calving date for the season, breaking down how many females calve in 21-day increments. It also divides females by age and 21-day increments, and provides average birth weights, weaning weights and adjusted weaning weights. This information takes an in-depth look at calving distributions in your herd.

Another report summarizes why females were culled during the last 12 months, divided out by disposal category. This report will also divide

out by age of your females why females left the herd.

This can be incredibly insightful to learn what issues are causing females to be culled. Is there an issue with getting 2- or 3-year-old females bred back? Are you seeing a breakdown of feet when females reach 5 or 6 years of age?

While this is not a complete list of reports available after data are submitted, it starts the question of what else comes after records are submitted? We take a dive into the data to help you get additional value from the information. These records allow you, as an active participant of AHIR, and your database to be able to glean more information to help make management decisions, backed by your data, for your herd. 

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Figure 2: Production Performance Report available for members earning MaternalPlus.

Calving Distribution		Percent	
First Due Date	01/18/22		
Beginning Calving Date	01/01/22		
Calves Born During 21 Day Periods		For Period	Cumulative
Early		4.2 %	4.2 %
1st 21	02/08/22	44.9 %	49.1 %
2nd 21	03/01/22	33.3 %	82.5 %
3rd 21	03/22/22	14.0 %	96.5 %
4th 21	04/12/22	3.2 %	99.6 %
Late		0.4 %	100.0 %
Ending Calving Date	04/16/22		

Age of Dam Summary		Calving Distribution by 21-Day Period						Average Production Records						
Age	Calves	Early	1st 21	2nd 21	3rd 21	4th 21	Late	Avg Calving Date	Num Birth Wts	Avg Birth Wt	Num Wn Wts	Avg Age	Avg Wn Wt	Avg Adj Wn Wt
2	94	10	64	14	5	1		01/29/22	93	62	87	203	529	596
3	63		31	22	8	2		02/14/22	63	76	59	187	548	620
4	36	1	16	11	7		1	02/14/22	35	80	34	185	563	622
5	27	1	8	13	3	2		02/17/22	25	75	24	183	567	619
6	29		5	13	10	1		02/21/22	29	80	29	180	556	614
7	14		4	8		2		02/20/22	14	81	14	181	567	639
8	12			6	6			02/25/22	12	81	12	176	543	607
9	6			5		1		02/22/22	6	79	6	179	561	623
10	4			3	1			02/21/22	4	76	4	180	488	554
11+														
Total:	285	12	128	95	40	9	1		281		269			