October 9, 2019

RE: 56 Day Test Results

Dear Consignor,

On October 8 and 9 the bulls were weighed, concluding the first half of the test and the Feed Efficiency portion of the test. This is the test period during which the bulls were confined to the Feed Efficiency Facility. The bulls were turned out to their paddocks and they will remain in their pastures for the remainder of the test. The bulls have gained well in comparison with previous years at the same point in the test (ADG were 3.18, 3.05, 3.32, and 3.23 lb/d for 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 tests, respectively). Overall, the bulls are consuming 23.99 lb of feed per day on a dry matter basis. At the end of the first 56 days of test, the bulls had an average daily gain of 3.23 lb/day, but ranged from 1.34 to 5.05 lb/day.

The enclosures are the results presented in two formats: 1) the whole group ranked on the test index; and 2) based on feed efficiency. The test index is simply the average daily gain (ADG) and the weight per day of age (WDA) added together. The index ratio is a comparison of each individual bull to the average index for the group. A ratio of 100 is average. This index will be used for the final rankings at the end of the test. On the second sheet, three forms of feed efficiency are represented: feed to gain (F:G), gain to feed (G:F), and residual feed intake (RFI). The bulls are ranked by RFI, where a negative RFI represents a more efficient bull, and a positive RFI represents a less efficient bull. The rankings will likely change significantly during the next 28 days. I will be sending you another update after the bulls are weighed on November 6 representing their first 84 days on test. Please start marketing your bulls and informing potential buyers that the bull test sale will be on January 18, 2020.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact myself, Don Jones, or David Thomas at 850-526-1621. Additional Bull Test Information, as well as past test results, can be seen at our website: https://nfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/florida-bull-test/

Sincerely,

Dr. Nicolas DiLorenzo
Associate Professor
Florida Bull Test Coordinator