



# 2012 County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP) Investment Area Guidelines: CATTLE GENETICS IMPROVEMENT

## Introduction

This document provides eligible investments and is considered to be the standard by which this investment area is to be implemented, in addition to the **EPD requirements**, which are **standard** statewide. Visit [http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/documents/epd\\_standards.doc](http://agpolicy.ky.gov/funds/documents/epd_standards.doc) for the most up-to-date EPD guidelines.

Funded participants shall adhere to all local, state, and federal rules and regulations.

Questions concerning these guidelines should be directed to the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 564-4627. Applications to administer CAIP must be directed through the local County Agricultural Development Council(s).

## A. Bull purchase or lease and semen purchases

**Ownership Requirements:** Ownership of bulls must be maintained for a minimum of two (2) successive breeding seasons, not in the same year. The only exception is listed below:

**Early Emergency Release Clause:** The local administrator shall reserve the right to approve an early release, if it is determined that an animal due to physical or disposition problems, is no longer considered sound for breeding purposes. The local program administrator can require the animal to undergo an examination by a licensed veterinarian to assist in determination.

**Buyer/Seller Clause:** A producer shall not participate as a buyer and seller (of that sex of breeding livestock) within the same program year.

Meaning – if one producer sells Bulls to producers that participate in CAIP, they shall not receive cost-share on the purchase of Bulls within the same program year – this statement also applies to Heifers.

**Bull leases** – producer-to-producer or leasing company to producer *[This program is not intended for funding the development of leasing programs that include utilizing funds to purchase a group of bulls for lease to local producers.]*

We require that a bull lease includes possession of the bull and that it not be moved from farm to farm, in an attempt to alleviate any potential herd health problems.

### Prerequisites:

- Applicant must become Kentucky Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certified before funding is received
- Expected progeny differences (EPDs) must be certified to meet the requirements set forth in the state EPD guidelines posted on the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy website. EPDs shall be certified by documentation from a breed association before funds may be reimbursed.

- A bull/semen/lease must qualify within one of the two bull type categories, selected by the producer at the time of application.
- All bulls purchased or leased through this program must pass a **Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BSE)** prior to receiving cost-share funds. The cost of a BSE should be negotiated between the buyer and seller and can be included in the total cost of the bull purchase.

**Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BSE)** must be completed no longer than 6-months prior to the purchase of the cost-shared animal

- Ownership of bulls must be maintained for a minimum of two (2) successive breeding seasons, not in the same year.
  - A limit of two straws per cow.
1. When selecting bulls/semen/lease for each of the six bull type categories, the following traits must be met to qualify:
    1. **Balanced Trait Bulls**, the EPD requirements must be met for calving ease, milking ability, and either weaning weight or yearling weight guidelines.
    2. **Carcass Merit Bulls** must meet minimum calving ease and carcass traits that are breed specific.
    3. **Heifer Acceptable Bulls** will have to meet minimum calving ease and either weaning weight or yearling weight guidelines.
    4. **High Productivity Bulls** must meet EPD requirements for minimum calving ease and milking ability, and minimum weaning weight or yearling weight guidelines.
    5. **Low Maintenance Bulls** must meet minimum calving ease and maximum yearling weight and milking ability guidelines.
    6. **Terminal Bulls**, the EPDs shall meet the calving ease and either weaning weight or yearling weight guidelines, depending on the targeted market.
  2. When selecting for **dairy breeds**, use the Lifetime Net Merit Index (<http://aipl.arsusda.gov/reference/nmcalc.htm>). This score is an economic index based on milk, fat, protein, somatic cell score, productive life, daughter pregnancy rate, calving ability, udder, feet and legs, and body size. Semen purchased from artificial insemination (AI) organizations must be from bulls in the upper 20% (80<sup>th</sup> percentile) for their respective breeds. Natural service bulls must have sires that are in the upper 20% and dams in the uppers 30% (70<sup>th</sup> percentile) for their respective breeds for the Net Merit Index.
  3. DNA testing

## B. Artificial Insemination

1. Estrus synchronization
2. AI Procedure
3. AI School
4. AI Equipment (excluding liquid nitrogen, gloves, sheaths, and other consumables)

## C. Heifer Purchases (Beef/Dairy)

**Ownership Requirements:** Ownership of heifers must be maintained for a minimum of two (2) successive breeding seasons, not in the same year. The only exception is listed below:

**Early Emergency Release Clause** – The local administrator shall reserve the right to approve an early release, if it is determined that an animal due to physical or disposition problems, is no longer considered sound for breeding purposes. The local program administrator can *(Heifer Purchases continued.)*

require the animal to undergo an examination by a licensed veterinarian to assist in determination.

**Buyer/Seller Clause:** A producer shall not participate as a buyer and seller (of that sex of breeding livestock) within the same program year.

Meaning – if one producer sells Bulls to producers that participate in CAIP, they shall not receive cost-share on the purchase of Bulls within the same program year – this statement also applies to Heifers.

### Prerequisites

- Applicant must become Kentucky Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certified before funding is received
- Applicant must submit Heifer Affidavit – Producer Report for Heifer Purchases (Appendix A) and include documentation of veterinary examination.
- All heifers purchased shall have been developed following the minimum guidelines outlined by the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's "Herd Builders" replacement heifer program -

<http://www.kyagr.com/marketing/animalmktg/documents/00000HBSaleRequirements.doc>

### COST SHARE ITEMS

1. Herd pregnancy checks
2. DNA testing

**Appendix A: Cattle Genetic Improvement Program:  
Producer Report – Heifer Purchases**

General Information

Producer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Project Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost-share Requesting: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Information

Which did you purchase? (Circle one)    Beef                  Dairy

Breed of Purchase: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Purchase: \_\_\_\_\_

Age of Animal(s) at Purchase: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Identification: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Breed reg. number, tattoo, brand, ear tag, EID, etc. – list ID and note type)

**I hereby certify that the animals listed above meet the requirements for heifers purchased through the Heifer Purchase Program.**

Seller \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Requirements for Heifer Purchases Program - Beef**

**Bred Heifers:**

1. All bred heifers must be bred to calving ease bulls based on their EPDs (see Beef Sire Selection for Cattle Genetics Improvement Program). The EPD's of the service sire must be provided at the time of sale.
2. All bred heifers must be owned by the consignor at the time of breeding.

**Open Heifers:**

1. All open heifers must be owned a minimum of 60 days prior to consignment and be a minimum of 12 months of age on sale day.

**Vaccination:**

Heifers must be vaccinated for IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV, Leptospirosis, Vibriosis, (Campylobacter Fetus), and 7-Way Blackleg. Various products may be used on the heifers. Label directions concerning booster vaccinations must be followed. Initial vaccinations and boosters must be administered to all heifers and cannot be given within two weeks prior to sale day. Any intramuscular vaccines should be given in the neck. A veterinarian and/or a signed statement from the producer must validate vaccinations.

**Parasite Control:**

All heifers must be treated for internal and external parasites within 45 days of sale. Products for internal parasite control must have a label claim for all stages of the parasite life cycle.

**Bred Heifers:**

Consignors guarantee heifers to be safe in calf. If a heifer is proven open by veterinary exam within 30 days after sale, the consignor will replace the heifer or make financial settlement with the buyer. All heifers must have had a yearling pelvic measurement of 150 square centimeters or greater, and/or 18 months old heifers must have a pelvic measurement of 180 square centimeters or greater. Tract score and pelvic measurement work should be done by local vet and statement brought to the sale.

**Open Heifers (ready to breed):**

Open heifers that are 15 months of age or less must have a reproductive tract score of 2 or greater on sale day. Heifers that are older than 15 months of age must have a reproductive tract score of 4 or 5 on sale day. Open heifers must be pregnancy checked and certified open. Tract score and pelvic measurement work should be done by local vet and statement brought to the sale. All consignors guarantee that animals are sold as represented. If not then settlement must be made with the buyer.

**Blemishes:**

Heifers with active cases of Pinkeye or scars resulting from Pinkeye will not be eligible for sale. Heifers must be polled or dehorned and healed completely by sale day.

**Body Condition:**

All heifers must have a minimum body condition score of 5 on sale day. Open heifers must weigh 700 pounds or greater upon check in at the sale.

**Sire Requirements:**

Bulls of known ID and breed must service heifers. All service sires must have complete EPD information, with emphasis placed on birth weight and calving ease.

## *Requirements for Heifer Purchases Program - Dairy*

### **Heifers:**

1. All bred heifers should be bred AI to bulls that are considered acceptable to use on heifers based upon scoring <10% on percentage of difficult births in heifers (%DBH).
2. All bred heifers must be owned by the consignor at the time of breeding.
3. All open heifers must be owned a minimum of 60 days prior to consignment and be a minimum of 12 months of age on sale day.

### **Vaccination:**

Heifers must be vaccinated for IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV, Leptospirosis, and 7-Way Blackleg. Various products may be used on the heifers. Label directions concerning booster vaccinations must be followed. Initial vaccinations and boosters must be administered to all heifers and cannot be given within two weeks prior to sale day. A veterinarian and/or a signed statement from the producer must validate vaccinations. All vaccinations must meet BQA certification and must include a list of all products used.

### **Parasite Control:**

All heifers must be treated for internal and external parasites within 45 days of sale. Products for internal parasite control must have a label claim for all stages of the parasite life cycle and brands must be listed.

### **Bred Heifers:**

Consignors guarantee heifers to be safe in calf. If a heifer is proven open by veterinary exam within 30 days after sale, the consignor will replace the heifer or make financial settlement with the buyer. All heifers must have had a yearling pelvic measurement of 150 square centimeters or greater, and/or 18 months old heifers must have a pelvic measurement of 180 square centimeters or greater. Tract score and pelvic measurement work should be done by local vet and statement brought to the sale.

### **Open Heifers (ready to breed):**

Open heifers must be certified to not be a freemartin. Open heifers must be pregnancy checked and certified open. All consignors guarantee that animals are sold as represented. If not then settlement must be made with the buyer.

### **Blemishes:**

Heifers with active cases of Pinkeye or scars resulting from Pinkeye will not be eligible for sale. Heifers with active cases of ringworm or heel warts will not be eligible for sale. Heifers with unsound udders or udders showing evidence of mastitis will not be eligible for sale. Heifers must be polled or dehorned and healed completely by sale day.

### **Body Condition:**

All heifers must have a body condition score between 2.5-3.5 on sale day. Dairy heifers must be between the median and 95<sup>th</sup> Percentile for wither height based upon the Penn State guidelines for their respective breed.

### **Sire Requirements:**

Bulls of known ID and breed must service heifers. See item no. 1 in section on Heifers. All service sires must have complete Net Merit Index information.