

LASATER BEEFMASTERS

FOUNDATION HERD OF THE BEEFMASTER BREED

Dale or Alex Lasater

Phone: 719.541.BULL

www.lasater ranch.com e-mail: Alex@LasaterRanch.com

"The Pedigree
is in the Name"

The 6 Essentials

DISPOSITION
FERTILITY
WEIGHT
CONFORMATION
HARDINESS
MILK PRODUCTION

Summer 2012
NEWSLETTER

We select cattle to work for us, so we know they will work for you.

Come to the Sale!!

**September 7: Cow Contract Selection and
Field Day - Featuring Dr. Tommy Perkins
Executive V.P. - B.B.U.**

September 8: 10:00 am - Selling 120 Bulls

**We will send the 2012 bull sale video Mid - August.
Private Treaty Foundation Females available at the Sale.**

In this edition:

**The Replacement Heifer
2012 Sale Information
Breds and Pairs for Sale
Musings from the Prairie
Featured AI Sire: 4290**



Replacement Heifers : Keep; or Sell and later Buy

Replacement Heifers: Keep; or Sell and Buy Later.

There are several aspects of the replacement heifer issue which have been overlooked in the recent articles. The first is how to decide which ones to keep and the other is the hidden costs of buying your replacements after having sold the heifers you raised.

The first issue - choosing the ones to stay or go. On the Lasater Ranch, we keep practically all of our replacements, irrespective of size. I hear folks say they just keep the top half or the top third of their heifers and I think to myself how did you know which ones are the ones which are going to breed.....

I think for a second that I want that person to pick stocks for me; then I come back to earth and remember that the heifers were most probably chosen on a visual appraisal.

Here is the interesting part: we keep all of them.... as we want fertility to decide whether they stay or go.

After pregchecking, we sort, the complete group by weight and then divide into three groups - heavy, medium and light. What is most striking is that have a similar breedup in each of the sub- groups - heavy middle and light, as we had for the entire group.

If your breed up is 76% on yearlings, and from visual appraisal you kept 50 heifers - then after pregging you will take a hit on 12 of them. Had you kept 100 then you could have chosen the 76 which bred at the beginning of the season and not taken an initial culling hit after breeding.

One article talks about the 50% body weight rule - replacements kept only out of cows who wean 50% of their body weight. What about only keeping those which breed? Tom Lasater said - ranching is simple the hard part is to keep it simple.

The hidden costs of selling your replacements:

It is surprising that folks who claim to have a good breeding program would sell their replacements and later buy outside cattle as their replacements.

Replacement heifers are a critical part of any breeding program, they are the future. On the Lasater Ranch, given our culling criteria, we expect to replace 20-25 percent of our cows every year. When one decides to ship a yearling heifer and then later buy replacements, are the following costs fully calculated?

a. Your program vs the program your replacements will come out of. Is that program as stringent regarding the six essentials? Are they of a same mind as you?

b. Your heifers are out of cows which are adapted to your range conditions.

c. Your heifers are adapted to your range conditions.

d. You will be mixing genetics - will these new genetics move you sideways or backwards. Do they have traits you are not expecting or wanting.



The above is a bit of food for thought. The single most important item is to let mother nature and the selection program decide who stays and who goes.



63rd Annual Production Sale Friday and Saturday September 7 and 8, 2012

Please join us for our 63rd annual production sale September 7 and 8. We will be selling 100 2 year old bulls out of the foundation herd as well as 30 or so private treaty yearling Bulls. Plan on coming in on Thursday night for the field day on Friday.

Motel Information: 16 miles from the Ranch
Comfort Inn, Limon Colorado - (719) 775-2572
Holiday Inn, Limon Colorado - (719)775-9033

60 Young Pairs

Now Available Private Treaty. Priced to Sell!

Contact Dale or Alex for more details.

**Semen Available from Lasater 0192, 3705, 4290,
4211, and our new semen bull - 8208.**



Musings from the Short Grass Prairie

Greetings from Matheson. I hope this newsletter finds you all well. We are hot and dry...critical. We have not grown any grass this summer, our winter pastures look exactly like we left them. Ten days ago we received one inch of rain - we are hopeful we might be able to grow a bit of grass before the season ends.

Otherwise, it has been a good summer with visitors from all over the U.S. and several other countries. The news and the weatherman have kept us guessing - drought, commodity prices, cattle prices,

We have an excellent set of bulls to sell this

September. Their hardiness is further exemplified by the fact that they have had very little forage and continue to gain and look excellent. We will be sending out the data sheet as well as the DVD in mid August. Please call or write to be added to our DVD mailing list.

At our field day, Dr. Tommy Perkins, Executive V.P. of BBU will be giving a presentation titled, "Beefmasters - The answer from Pasture to Plate".

We look forward to seeing you all here in September. If you cannot make the sale, we will gladly buy bulls to your specifications

Lasater Beefmasters

P.O. Box 38
Matheson, CO 80830

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Phone 1.719.541.BULL
www.lasaterranch.com

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Lasater Beefmaster 4290



Lasater 4290 is proving to be one of the best herd sires that we've raised in quite a while. As a two-year-old, he was the most prolific among his multiple-sire group, leaving 13 sons. Those 13 sons had an average weaning weight ratio of 107 and yearling weight ratio of 103. And then he did it again as a three-year-old, leaving 12 sons with an average weaning weight ratio of 109 and yearling weight ratio of 106. He sold as a Retired Herd Sire in our September 2010 sale to Simon Creek Beefmasters. **Semen Available.**

<u>WN</u>	<u>Wn-Yr</u>	<u>YR</u>	<u>2 YR</u>	<u>3YR</u>	<u>SC</u>	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>
<u>WT</u>	<u>Gain</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>WT</u>			
771	138	909	1353	1605	45	9516	6230