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We would like to invite you to our **20th Annual Manzano Angus Bull Sale, Tuesday, March 15th at 1pm** at the ranch near Estancia, NM. This will be our largest offering to date with around 130 yearling and 20 two year old bulls, all raised at Manzano Angus Ranches. Attached is birth and weaning weight information on the sale bulls plus their initial EPDs.

While cattle prices go up and down and environmental conditions vary year to year, the importance for ranches to select for moderate sized, low maintenance, maternal cattle remains a constant. A University of Wyoming study on native rangeland showed the calf crop weight from a cow herd weighing 1000 to 1100 pounds will be 25 percent higher as compared to cows weighing 1300 to 1400 pounds. Our Manzano Angus mature cows (4 years old and older) averaged 1171 pounds when we weaned in September 2015. The calves averaged 587 pounds at weaning, which calculates to 50.1 percent of their dams' weight.

It's clear to us, both from our experience and many studies such as the one cited above, that moderate sized cows are more efficient. However, the average Angus cow in the industry weighs nearly 1400 pounds. The average Angus bull has a yearling weight EPD of +92 and mature weight EPD of +31. So, even using Angus cattle that are only average in size in the industry will inevitably result in bigger, less efficient cows.

The yearling bulls in the sale were analyzed with a HD50K DNA test. The test results will provide a more complete, accurate set of EPDs for the bulls. Because the HD50K test provides carcass EPDs with comparable accuracies to ultrasound, we opted to not ultrasound the bulls. A more comprehensive set of EPDs will be available at our website, www.manzanoangus.com later in February, or you can go to www.angus.org and search by bull registration number. We also plan to mail out sale catalogs the first week in March which will provide more information on the bulls. All of the bulls will be fertility, Trich, and PI-BVD tested prior to the sale. For your convenience, we will feed sale bulls until Tuesday, March 22nd at our risk and cost. Bulls can be picked up sale day or anytime between then and the 22nd.

Currently, the bulls are on feed near Conchas, NM at the Cuervo Creek Ranch. The bulls are being fed a high forage, low concentrate ration in large traps, but they are still easy to access and lookers are welcome anytime. The bulls will be back in Estancia a few days prior to the sale.

We would like to thank Larry and Jennifer Webb and Scott and Brooke Bidegain for consigning bulls in our past sales. Due to the larger number of Manzano Angus bulls offered and our limited facility space, they will not have bulls in this year's sale. Both Scott and Larry will have bulls for sale private treaty.

We sincerely appreciate your interest in our program. Please call if you have any questions about the information or any of the individual bulls. We are happy to assist you in your bull buying decisions.

Bill, Cole and Clayton Gardner

"Producing Practical Angus Cattle for the Southwest"