

AMERICAN BLUE CATTLE



2017 JOURNAL

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American Blue Cattle



SRD Alex's Dagger ET



SRD Dagger Too ET



SRD Black Sargent



SRD Black Success ET



SRD Black Major



SRD Black Ice

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July 24, 2017

Dear Fellow Blue Enthusiasts:

In some sections of the U.S. it is either scorching hot and dry or an over abundance of water. It sure would be nice if we could take the excess rain and help the excess dry areas.

Life is always a surprise and we have to deal with what we receive. Our years seem to fly by faster as the years pile up. Would you believe it is getting to be time for our National Show in Tulsa 2017?

More and more individuals are asking questions about the American Blue Cattle. Our web site contains a lot of information from Wye Blue , "How to Raise Blues".

Our annual meeting has had a number of guest speakers which keeps all of us up to date on new techniques and how we need to move our breed forward. That's why if you want to succeed you need to be up to date and attend our annual meeting and discuss with other breeders your personal plans and goals. Networking is the way to success.

Well I have rambled on to long so have a happy day and remember, " *Put a little BLUE in everything you do.*"

Sincerely,

Harold Brubaker
President

HJB/pg

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Cover photos by Erin Patterson

American Blue Cattle

BREED: American Blue Cattle

COLOR: White, blue roan, or black.

ANCESTRY: The American Blue began as the Belgian Blue, which originated in central and upper Belgium when the local red-pied and black-pied cattle were crossed with Durham Shorthorn in the late 1800s. Some Charolais influence during the 19th century is also suggested.

HISTORY: Originally a dual purpose breed, beef production became the focus following World War II, when Europe's economy demanded increased beef quality and quantity. During the 1950s, the Belgian cattle underwent a selective genetic breeding and development program conducted by Professor Hanset at the AI Center in the Province of Liege. This program created their unusually heavy muscling.

The first Belgian Blues were imported to the United States in 1978. Today, American Blue Cattle are their own fullblood registered breed, independent from their Belgian relatives after years of

breeding for easier calving, lower birth weights, and improved structural soundness.

BREED CHARACTERISTICS: Large framed cattle with exceptional muscling due to an inactive myostatin gene, and therefore high-yielding carcasses. They are known for quiet temperament, early maturity, short gestation, hardy calves, adaptability, excellent feed conversion, and tender lean meat.

QUALITY AND YIELD: Yield mostly 1s, grade 80% Select due to lack of marbling, but tenderness overrides the lower grade in taste tests.

WEIGHT: Mature fullblood bulls can average up to 2750 lbs., and fullblood mature cows to 1650 lbs. Average birthweight for fullblood Blues is 96.8 lbs. and 79.9 lbs. for a crossbreed.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND REGISTRY: The American Blue Cattle Association located in Nacogdoches, Texas. For more information: Visit the association website at www.america bluecattle.org or call 936-652-2550.

Feeding the Blues

The Blues are very unique. Feeding and breeding is the most important concept to keep in mind. From a birth of a full blood calf to raising the young stock is very important. The new born calf must have colostrum within the first few hours of life either from the mother or a commercial mix in a bottle.

As the calf is growing up feeding is important. Free choices of a 16% protein feed and good hay is essential. The normal formula is 3% of body weight would be required. When the calf is weaned, maintain the 3% of body weight rule up until the animal is 24 months of age.

Do not breed the full blood heifers until they are 24 months of age. Full blood bulls are not ready for breeding until they are 24 months of age. The full blood animals do not mature until they are 5 years of age. That is why most breeders breed the heifer to a small out cross ie angus

for the first two calves and then the 3rd calf the cow will be 5 years old.

Feeding the mature animals is very important. Feeding silage or grain up until they are 4 months pregnant is OK. After 4 months only hay, grains and minerals are all you can feed the pregnant full blood. With this program you should avoid any calving difficulties unless a breech birth or a twisted leg. Selenium is important to maintain in their diets.

Half breeds and low percentage can be cared for like any other animal.

Knowing your genetics is extremely important in full bloods and high percentage animals. Make sure you use low birth weight bulls at all times. Some of the old genetics produce large calves so one must stay with proven genetics and low birth weight. There is always the possibility of a genetic mix up that could produce a larger calf.

Blue Profitability

Editorial by Kyle Kehrli

For cattle producers here in the U.S. one of the hottest topics that will, hopefully, never go out of style is profitability. The average cattle producer today is close to 58 years old, and when you sort out the retirees being counted among the ranks of beginning farmer you see that young people are not coming back to the farm in numbers large enough to replace those leaving. To attract young producers to the beef industry we need to focus heavily on making beef production sustainably profitable. Profitability looks different depending on what level of our segmented industry you focus on.

The average cow-calf producer is dedicated to putting “pounds on the ground” and is not overly concerned with factors beyond dropping a live, healthy calf that grows well up to the point of being weaned and sold. Calves are typically sold on a live-weight basis to feedlots that specialize in feeding out large amounts of cattle very efficiently. From here on, the feedlot managers have a few options for marketing their fat cattle to bring back the most return possible for their feedlot enterprise.

Assuming all things being equal (residual feed intake, health, etc.) the selling “avenue” that results in a premium is the option that catches my eye the most as a cattle breeder. Grid marketing allows a producer/feeder to sell their animals based on individual merit-which in turn is based largely on intermuscular fat. Fat is what gives our meat its taste, and the animals that have the most fat interspersed throughout their carcass return the most dollars in a grid-marketing system.

The packer makes money by providing the consumer with a product that tastes good and is affordable/competitive with other proteins. Animals that have more meat than the average animal (compared to a live-weight basis) result in better plant utilization and better profits. If the consumer is willing to pay a premium for a better than average eating experience, and enough volume exists to make it worth the effort, the packer will reward producers for bringing in fat animals that fit the parameters for this market.

Now, what does this all mean for the blues?

At some point in the near future, consumer demand for a lean beef product, providing a good eating experience, and available at a competitive price will take hold at the packer level. We have seen this happen in the past in the hog industry when packers rewarded producers for bringing lean animals to market. When this happens in the cattle industry, we as a breed will need to have placed ourselves in a position to satisfy the industry at many different levels by marketing our strengths, which lie in high dressing percentages, meat tenderness and temperament.

Starting at the packer level, we need to provide a blue-sired carcass, which yields more tender, red meat than all other competing breeds. We also need to be sure these animals have at least ¼” of back fat at the time of harvest to limit the amount of drying and toughening happening during the aging process in the cooler. A blue-sired animal will put more meat in the cooler than a standard

fat animal will-putting more dollars in the packer's pocket.

Taking it a step further, that blue-sired meat sitting in the cooler is also more tender than average. Research done by Dr. Cundiff at the Market Animal Research Center in Nebraska found that round steak from a blue-sired animal is comparable in tenderness to the average sirloin, and a blue-sired sirloin is comparable to the average tenderloin in tenderness. This makes for a better eating experience for a better price at the consumer level, and helps the beef industry in general remain competitive with other sources of protein.

At the feedlot level we need to provide a calm animal that will grow well, and ultimately meet the expectations of the packer and consumer, which we talked about before. Taking it down another level to the cow-calf sector, we need to provide producers with a terminal cross sire which will be able to cover large groups of cows, and thrive in a variety of climates. We need to be sure we are producing sires that have a skeletal structure that adequately supports the muscle hanging from it, and also allows the bull to move freely over the terrain while he searches for cows to breed. This sire must be able to throw vigorous, healthy, and robust calves, and these calves not only need to be tough enough to make the transition from weaning to feedlot, they need to be able to excel when they get there.

Temperament is a little tougher to put a value on but anyone who has dealt with flighty cattle knows how tough they can be on equipment, the human body, and the nerves of anyone who has to work with them. Flighty cattle take longer to finish out, and meat quality is negatively affected when these animals are

exposed to stressful situations (i.e. loading out prior to a trailer ride to a harvest facility). Although this trait is tough to put a dollar amount on, and the chance of ever having a grid that pays out directly for calm cattle is pretty slim- I believe this will truly be a trait that separates the Blues from the other terminal breeds available in our industry.

Taking it to the breeder level we need to be focusing on our strengths, and we need to collect more data than we have in the past to be able to validate these strengths to all segments of the industry. In addition to birth weights we need to focus diligently on recording weaning and harvest weights. Getting carcass information from the packer, which shows back fat, dressing percentage, and some sort of shear (tenderness) data is also very valuable. If this information isn't available we will need to find a way to ultrasound our blue-sired animals at, or immediately prior to harvest to come up with these numbers. We also need to come up with a scale for scoring temperament that is as straightforward as our scale for evaluating calving ease.

To get our name out there as a breed we need to focus on identifying sires that exemplify our strengths, and develop a plan to breed a set of crossbred calves from these sires to be entered into nationally recognized feedlot tests. Focusing on tests, which gather the information listed above in the previous paragraph will help us maximize the time we invest in this project. The time will come when the rules of the existing market and grading system will change to benefit the American Blue breed...we need to make sure we have done everything possible to put ourselves in a position to capitalize on that change when it comes.

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MNP Blue Axel



MNP Blue Axel's Epic Image

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MNP Dafydd's Metallic Confetti

2016 Reserve Grand Champion High Percentage Bull
Tulsa State Fair



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MNP Blue Lollipop
& Heifer Calf



MNP Foxy Roxie

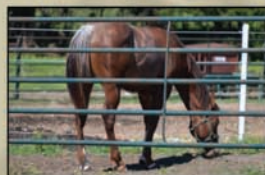


Percentage Heifers



Lenas Playin Jazcat

*Lenas Playin Jazcat
Available for the 2018
Breeding Season!*



Roostin on a Jazcat Lena
(Jazzy Foal)



2016 National Show Results



2016 TULSA STATE FAIR SHOW RESULTS October 02, 2016

STEERS

Market Low % Steer: Halfblood or under- over 900 lbs

1. ECG Cool Cruze
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK

GRAND CHAMPION

Market Low % Steer

ECG Cool Cruze
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK

Market High % Steers Over 1/2 Blood under 15/16 - Over 900 lbs.

1. Skipper Swagger II Model
Mitchel Taake, Elkader, IA
2. SKSL Cristal and Then Somme
Steve Kinser, Hugoton, KS

GRAND CHAMPION

Market High % Steers

Skipper Swagger II Model
Mitchel Taake, Elkader, IA

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Market High % Steers

SKSL Cristal and Then Somme
Steve Kinser, Hugoton, KS

FEMALES

Halfblood Females - February 1, 2016 & After

1. 2/S Suade, Chris Sutton, La Jara, CO

Halfblood Females –

October 1, 2015 - January 31, 2016

1. Half Pint,
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK
2. WCM Cedar Crest,
R. Wayne Matlock, Bixby, OK

CHAMPION

Halfblood Calf

2/S Suade, Chris Sutton, La Jara, CO

RESERVE CHAMPION

Halfblood Calf

Half Pint,
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK

Halfblood Females –

February 1 - May 31, 2015

1. Meg Willow,
Megan Elder, Miami, OK

CHAMPION

Halfblood Yearling Female

Meg Willow,
Megan Elder, Miami, OK

GRAND CHAMPION

Halfblood Female

Meg Willow,
Megan Elder, Miami, OK

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Halfblood Female

2/S Suade, Chris Sutton, La Jara, CO

High % Females -

February 1, 2016 & After

1. SRD Black Autumn
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK

*High % Females: October 1, 2015 - *
January 31, 2016

1. Sunshine's Image,
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
2. WCM Cleo,
R. Wayne Matlock, Bixby, OK

CHAMPION

High % Calf

Sunshine's Image,
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA

2016 National Show Results

RESERVE CHAMPION

High % Calf

SRD Black Autumn,
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK

High % Females -

February 1 - May 31, 2015

1. SKSL Myea Azure 35C
Erin Patterson, Gilman, IA
2. CCW Miss Okie Thunder
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK
3. MMP Superman's Lois Lane
Erin Patterson, Gilman, IA
4. BGB Tequila Sunrise
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK
5. MMP Superman's Sheza Flyer
Erin Patterson, Gilman, IA

CHAMPION

High % Yearling Female

SKSL Myea Azure 35C
Erin Patterson, Gilman, IA

RESERVE CHAMPION

High % Yearling Female

CCW Miss Okie Thunder
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK

High % Females -

October 1, 2013 - September 30, 2014

1. BGB JC Grace
Justin Campbell, Miami, OK

CHAMPION

High % Senior Female

BGB JC Grace
Justin Campbell, Miami, OK

High % Females: Cow/Calf

1. Ruby Red, Chris Sutton,
La Jara, CO

CHAMPION

High % Cow/Calf

Ruby Red, Chris Sutton, La Jara, CO

GRAND CHAMPION

High % Female

SKSL Myea Azure 35C
Erin Patterson, Gilman, IA

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

High % Female

CCW Miss Okie Thunder
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK

Purebred/Fullblood Female -

February 1, 2016 & After

1. 2/S Jazzy Jasmine
Chris Sutton, La Jara, CO
2. BGB Sunny Dee
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK
3. Denali, Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
4. Destiny, Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
5. BGB Rachels Cherry Limeade
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK
6. Jones' Dolly, Stanley Jones,
Nacogdoches, TX

Purebred/Fullblood Female -

October 1, 2015- January 31, 2016

1. SRD Blue Ice Too
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK
2. Swagger's Peach,
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
3. Star Struck
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK
4. SRD Ralgro's Star ET
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK

CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Calf

SRD Blue Ice Too
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK

Purebred/Fullblood Female -

June 1 - September 30, 2015

1. Annie's Star, Mitchel Taake,
Elkader, IA
2. Skipper's Swagger Uncanny
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA

2016 National Show Results

3. MNP Blue DAFYDD'S Dancer
Connie Brooks, Fair Grove, MO
4. SRD Black Stormy
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK
5. MNP Blue Reformer's Dollie
Connie Brooks, Fair Grove, MO

Purebred/Fullblood Females - February 1 - May 31, 2015

1. MNP Blue Reformer Charmer
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK
2. SRD Black Passion ET
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK
3. Rosebud LKM3C
Erin Patterson, Gilman, IA
4. SRD Black Success ET
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK

Purebred/Fullblood Female – October 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015

1. SRD Jyllian
Abby Schieltz, Holy Cross, IA
2. BGB Allie Kat
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK

CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Yearling Female
Annie's Star, Mitchel Taake, Elkader, IA

RESERVE CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Yearling Female
MNP Blue Reformer Charmer
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK

Purebred/Fullblood Females: Cow/Calf –

1. SRD Black Cherry
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK
2. Jones' Xenia
Stanley Jones, Nacogdoches, TX

CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Cow/Calf Pair
SRD Black Cherry
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK

RESERVE CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Cow/Calf Pair
Jones' Xenia
Stanley Jones, Nacogdoches, TX

GRAND CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Female
Annie's Star, Mitchel Taake, Elkader, IA

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Female
SRD Blue Ice Too
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK

BULLS

Halfblood Bulls
February 1, 2016 & After
1. BGB Double Trouble
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK

CHAMPION

Halfblood Bull Calf
BGB Double Trouble
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK

Halfblood Bulls

June 1 - September 30, 2015
1. BGB Just Chillin
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK

Halfblood Bulls

February 1 - May 31, 2015
1. SKSL Increda Bull
Steve Kinser, Hugoton, KS

CHAMPION

Halfblood Yearling Bull
SKSL Increda Bull
Steve Kinser, Hugoton, KS

RESERVE CHAMPION

Halfblood Yearling Bull
BGB Just Chillin
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK

2016 National Show Results

GRAND CHAMPION

Halfblood Bull

SKSL Increda Bull

Steve Kinser, Hugoton, KS

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Halfblood Bull

BGB Just Chillin

Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK

Percentage Bulls –

February 1, 2016 and after

1. Swagger's Image
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
2. BGB Casino
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK
3. 2/S Top Contender
Chris Sutton, la Jara, CO

Percentage Bulls –

October 1, 2015 - January 31, 2016

1. MNP Blue Metallic Confetti
Connie Brooks, Fair Grove, MO
2. BGB Chaos
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK

CHAMPION

Percentage Bull Calf

Swagger's Image

Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA

RESERVE CHAMPION

Percentage Bull Calf

MNP Blue Metallic Confetti

Connie Brooks, Fair Grove, MO

Percentage Bulls –

February 1- May 31, 2015

1. 2/S Redman
Chris Sutton, La Jara, CO
2. Arnold, Jacob Patterson, Gilman, IA

CHAMPION

Percentage Yearling Bull

2/S Redman

Chris Sutton, La Jara, CO

American Blue Cattle - 10

RESERVE CHAMPION

Percentage Yearling Bull

Arnold, Jacob Patterson, Gilman, IA

GRAND CHAMPION

Percentage Bull

Swagger's Image

Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Percentage Bull

MNP Blue Metallic Confetti

Connie Brooks, Fair Grove, MO

Purebred/Fullblood Bulls –

February 1, 2016 & After

1. Troubadour
Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK
2. RCR Dbeast
Lloyd Capps, Oologah, OK

Purebred/Fullblood Bulls –

October 1, 2015 - January 31, 2016

1. Skipper Swagger BB
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
2. LOIC POB
Abby Schieltz, Holy Cross, IA
3. SRD Poppin Natural ET
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK

CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Bull Calf

Skipper Swagger BB

Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA

RESERVE CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Bull Calf

Troubadour

Cedar Creek Farms, Edmond, OK

Purebred/Fullblood Bulls –

February 1 – May 31, 2015

1. SSXSS Kentucky Love
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
2. Jones' Chewbacca ET
Stanley Jones, Nacogdoches, TX

2016 National Show Results

3. RCR Casper
Lloyd Capps, Oologah, OK
4. Jones' Colton ET,
Stanley Jones, Nacogdoches, TX

Purebred/Fullblood Bulls - October 1, 2014 - January 31, 2015

1. EGKK Swagger's Perfection
Lloyd Capps, Oologah, OK

CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Yearling Bull
SSXSS Kentucky Love
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA

RESERVE CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Yearling Bull
Jones' Chewbacca ET
Stanley Jones, Nacogdoches, TX

Purebred/Fullblood Bulls – Oct. 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014

1. EGKK Swagger's Raindrop
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
2. Buford, Jacob S. Patterson,
Gilman, IA

CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Bulls – Senior Bull
EGKK Swagger's Raindrop
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA

RESERVE CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Bulls – Senior Bull
Buford, Jacob S. Patterson, Gilman, IA

GRAND CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Bull
Skipper Swagger BB
Wilbur Kehrli

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION

Purebred/Fullblood Bull

EGKK Swagger's Raindrop
Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA

Best Pair of Females

1. MMP Superman's Lois Lane
Erin Patterson, Gilman, IA
2. 2/S Jazzy Jasmine
Chris Sutton, La Jara, CO
3. SRD Black Success ET
Steve Dollarhide, Haworth, OK
4. SRD Black Cherry
Lane Hull, Ardmore, OK
5. Wilbur, Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
6. Jones's Claire,
Stanley Jones, Nacogdoches, TX

Best Pair of Bulls

1. Wilbur, Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
2. Buford, Jacob Patterson, Gilman, IA
3. Jones' Chewbacca,
Stanley Jones, Nacogdoches, TX

Get - Of – Sire

1. Wilbur, Wilbur Kehrli
Manchester, IA

Produce of Dam

1. 2/S Redman, Chris Sutton,
La Jara, CO
2. Jones' Cait ET, Stanley Jones,
Nacogdoches, TX

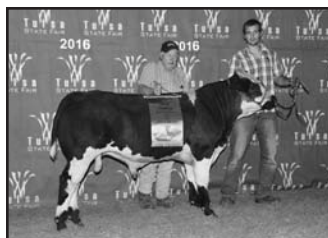
Best of 5 Head

1. Wilbur, Wilbur Kehrli, Manchester, IA
2. MMP Superman's Lois Lane,
Erin Patterson, Gilman, IA

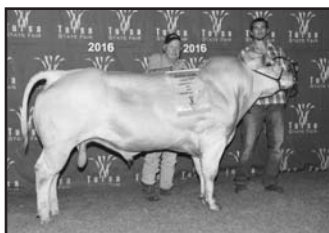
2016 National Show Results



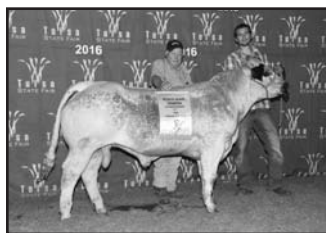
**2016 Fullblood winner
Tulsa State Fair
Cattle Owned by
Elmcrest Genetics**



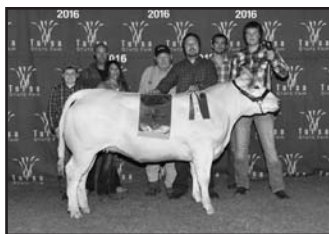
**2016 Fullblood winner
Tulsa State Fair
Cattle Owned by
Elmcrest Genetics**



**2016 Fullblood winner
Tulsa State Fair
Cattle Owned by
Elmcrest Genetics**



**2016 Fullblood winner
Tulsa State Fair
Cattle Owned by
Elmcrest Genetics**



**2016 Fullblood winner
Tulsa State Fair
Cattle Owned by
Elmcrest Genetics**



**2016 Fullblood winner
Tulsa State Fair
Cattle Owned by
Elmcrest Genetics**

2016 National Show Results



**2016 Fullblood winner
Tulsa State Fair
Cattle Owned by
Elmcrest Genetics**



**2016 Fullblood winner
Tulsa State Fair
Cattle Owned by
Elmcrest Genetics**



Grand Champion low% Bull



Reserve Champion high% Steer



**Grand Champion High percent
female shown by Steve Kinser
and owned by Patterson Farms.**

Raising American Blue Cattle

Recommendations from experienced breeders:

American Blue bulls for a cross breeding program: we do not recommend putting them on first calf heifers. If you are using them on mature animals you will not see any calving issues that you would not see in any other breed. We have many breeders crossing the blues on multiple other breeds with no calving issues other than the obvious ie: foot back, head turned back, backwards, etc. Raising Fullblood American Blue Cattle tends to take a little more time and care. Below is some of the things that have been successful for experienced breeders.

- Blues need to be on a continuous very good mineral program that is high in selenium and other minerals if your area has poor nutrients.
- Young females need good nutrition (14-16% protein) for the season until they are old enough to breed for their first calf to a low birth weight breed. Some breeders breed them their first 2 calves to a low birth weight breed.
- Breed heifers at approximately 20 - 24mths depending on their size.
- When heifers have bred, taper them off of feed on to grass, hay, and mineral watching body condition until they calf.
- Good body condition is very important and if you need to feed mature animals make sure they are not feed past the 4th month of pregnancy. An occasional hand full just to keep them coming up maybe. If you have extremely high protein grass it may be necessary to dry lot them and feed hay and mineral the last 3 months, again watching their condition. (Don't try and starve)
- When calves are born under stress you can give Multi Min 90 or just selenium, and banamine, and LA 200 or Nuflur as a precaution for under developed lungs. For buckling legs give added vitamin A & D.
- When calf is born, make sure the calf gets either Mothers milk or commercial colostrum with in the first couple of hours even if you have to give it in a bottle.
- Most breeders feel it is important to feed calves as they are growing to make them reach their full potential.
- Bulls usually are not mature enough to breed until they are approximately 24 months old. American Blue animals do not mature until they are 5 years of age.
- Knowing your genetics is extremely important in full bloods and high percentage animals. Some of the old genetics can produce large calves so one must be selective for low birth weight bulls in their breeding. There is always the possibility of a genetic mix up that could produce a larger calf.
- Household sugar can be used to reduce swelling if a calf has a thick tongue.
- Get heifers or cows back on protein as soon as possible after calving to help with breed back time. Some also give cows a Multi Min 90 shot to help with vitamins and minerals.

Scenes from 2016 National Show



**President Harold Brubaker
presenting the 2016
Premier Breeder award to
Wilbur Kehrli**



**President Harold Brubaker
presenting the 2016
Premier Cow award to
Mitchell Taake**



**President Harold Brubaker
presenting the 2016
Premier Bull award to
Wilbur Kehrli**



**President Harold Brubaker
presenting the 2016
VIP award to Pam Lee**





2017 Tulsa National American Blue Show

Tulsa State Fair Grounds

Arrival: May begin arrival Wednesday, Sept. 27, 8:00 am

Must be in place by Thursday, Sept. 28, 12:00 noon

Show: Judging begins Friday, Sept. 29, 12:00 noon., in OK Ford Dealers Arena 1

Released: Staged Release on Sunday, Oct. 1. Must be out by 9:00 pm

Entry Deadline: Sept. 1, 2017. All entries must be submitted online at www.tulsastatefair.com

HOTEL INFORMATION

Courtyard Marriott Tulsa Central, 3340 S 79th E Ave, Tulsa, OK 74145, 918-660-0646. Please mention American Blue Cattle Association to get the special rate of \$ 79.00 plus tax per night - 15 Rooms booked for: Wed. Sept. 27 thru Sat. Sept. 30. Rooms will be held until Sept. 4th. All rooms are nonsmoking rooms.

ANNUAL MEETING, BANQUET AND AUCTION:

The annual meeting and banquet will be held at Oklahoma Joe's BBQ located at 6175 E 61st St. Information coming soon on times and menu.

2/S Belgian Blues

Fullblood * Purebred * Percentage * Halfblood * Club Calves



Mark And Chris Sutton
12480 County Rd W
La Jara, Colorado 81140
928-713-5260
belgianblues@yahoo.com
www.2sbelgianblues.com
on FB 2/S Belgian Blues





**Elmcrest
Genetics**

PALMER

15 years old and the final piece to the puzzle of Americanized Blue Cattle.



SWAGGER 1

**The American Blue 2014 Grand Champion
& premier bull**



SWAGGER BB

**2016 Grand Champion Fullblood Blue at Tulsa
Now owned by Liberty Cattle Company**

Elmcrest Genetics

Wilbur Kehrl (563) 920-8494

wilburkehrli@gmail.com



PALMER'S

8 generations of natural Swagger 1 and the 2015 & female. A great feat, thru at the Tulsa National Show Liberty Cattle Company has and bought a percentage of dedicated people like the Fullblood blue numbers to the blue breed to the promi



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2016 Reserve Grand

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EG
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Kehrli
Kattle

Customer Success



**PALMER'S PRINCESS NATIONAL
CHAMPION DAUGHTER**

**The American Blue 2016
Grand Champion female**

'S PRINCESS
atural calving & the mother of
15 & 2016 Fullblood champion
at, three national champions
Show. Jud & Connie Parker/
any have made a commitment
age of Palmer's Princess. With
like them to add high quality
rs to the breed, it will bring the
rominence that they deserve.



**PALMER'S PRINCESS NATIONAL
CHAMPION DAUGHTER**

**The American Blue 2015
Grand Champion female**



INDROP

Grand Champion

estgenetics.com

Kehrli Kattle

Kyle Kehrli (319) 521-7135

kyle.kehrli@hotmail.com

**Elmcrest
Genetics**

EG
KK

**Kehrli
Kattle**



SWAGGER BB

**2016 Grand Champion Fullblood Blue at Tulsa
Now owned by Liberty Cattle Company**

Elmcrest Genetics and Kehrli Kattle would like to thank Jud and Connie Parker of Liberty Cattle Company for their purchase of Swagger BB. A great new organization to work in.

Elmcrest Genetics
Wilbur Kehrli
(563) 920-8494

Kehrli Kattle
Kyle Kehrli
(319) 521-7135

www.elmcrestgenetics.com

2016 Premier Breeder Elmcrest Genetics and Kehrli Kattle

It was a great honor in Tulsa in September 2016, when Elmcrest Genetics and Kehrli Kattle won the Premier Breeder Award. Thinking back on the many years in the purebred industry, we always have had a love for cattle, and we were also active in this industry. We feel that the cattle industry is going to experience the changes that were made in the swine industry over the past years. In 2014, I had this belief and I think in 2016 and 2017 we are seeing where the cattle breed is moving to a different and new plateau. Consumers are going to drive the race for lean, tasty, tender, healthy beef and are about to experience a big change in the way cattle are bred and what the carcasses need to show. With each year in the blue business, we get more excited and I think the thought that we had when we started still holds true.

The most important thing that a person can do is to make a plan on your your journey for the next 5 years. We have found sense buying Palmer, the bull that has done so many great things for us, that you kind of understand as you go along the possibilities and opportunities that are there. You also know that members of the blue organization are great, they've been very helpful in aiding us in in finding our way in the blue breed. Our advice to new members getting started in the breed find the very best females out of a great cow family and build from there. Don't wait; the opportunity train is leaving the station be sure to be on it. American blue cattle unlimited opportunities and a chance to help grow more beef forever increasing consumers customer satisfaction is our greatest drive and we hope to continue in this drive for years to come. Thanks again for all your support

2016 Premier Bull - Skipper Swagger BB

Elmcrest Genetics and Kehrli Kattle were very honored to win the 2016 Grand Champion Bull of Blue Breed with Skipper Swagger BB. Lining up Skipper Swagger and another Palmer daughter makes up the pedigree of this bull. His color, which is mainly black, will make a lot of people happy. We are not concerned with color patterns, we are just concerned with the product produced. Swagger BB is one more piece to the puzzle of making the American Blue Breed accepted by the

American cattlemen and the American consumer. We are happy to share this bull with Liberty Cattle Company and Judd Parker in the quest to scatter the genetics throughout the American beef industry. Consumer acceptance and producer acceptance will move this breed ahead in the quest for lean, healthy, tasty, tender beef. We want to thank all those who help Kyle and I be honored to use the genetics in this bull and we would like to share them with the American Blue Cattle Association. Thank you.

2016 Premier Cow - Annie's Star



The National Grand Champion Female is Annie's Star. Annie's Star comes from a long history of champion females. She is owned by Roger and Cindy Taake and family, owners of Dry Mill Blues, near Elkader, IA. She was shown by Mitchel Taake.

2016 Jr. High Point Exhibitor



Congratulations to our 2016 Jr. High Point Champion Lane Hull.

Lane is the son of Larry and Sandie Hull of Ardmore, Oklahoma.

Lane is a senior at Dickson High School, and he is currently taking college classes at MSU.

While helping out with the Blues, he

loves calving season.

He attends Hensley Jiu Jitsu and Kickboxing. In his spare time, he enjoys playing basketball, swimming and hanging out with his friends.



Breeding Up To Fullblood Status

In order to breed up to Fullblood status here are the requirements:

Fullblood bulls are those that are 96% American Blue and above and will be recorded as Fullblood.

Fullblood Females are those that are 93% American Blue and above and will be recorded as Fullblood.

To be recorded as fullblood the grade up animals must be DNA tested to have two copies of the myostatin gene. If the animal has only one copy they remain in the purebred status.


Purebred Bulls are those that are 15/16 or 93.75% up to 96% American Blue.

Purebred Females are those that are 7/8 or 87.5% up to 93% American Blue.


All Fullblood and Purebred cattle must be DNA tested. If the fullbloods are parent verified from birth by DNA testing, they will have an elite status. Those cattle that are bred up to fullblood status must have all generations of the American Blue lineage verified and have a parent verified status. All purebred cattle with parent and previous generations of American Blue testing will have the status of "Parent Verified".

Percentage animals must be registered in order to be shown, but it is up to the breeder if they want to DNA test these animals or opt out of the DNA testing on any percentage animal up to purebred status.

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Regards,
 American Blue Cattle Association
 936-652-2550
www.americanbluecattle.org

American Blue Beef

Healthy & Flavorful

The final judgment as to the success of a beef breed lies in the hands of you, the consumer. Today's beef consumer is more health conscious than ever before and is increasingly educated about the food and beef industry. American Blue Beef purebred meats have been repeatedly shown to contain less fat, less calories, and less cholesterol than skinless baked chicken breast, while still maintaining all the high nutritional elements for which beef is renowned.

The same genetic trait that results in a healthy meat item also creates a tender, moist, flavorful product as well. A cross-section of American Blue meat will contain more and shorter muscle fibers than traditional beef. This sig-

nificantly contributes to meat tenderness. Since there is minimal fat content, American Blue beef has greater moisture content. These two items together help establish a base for an exceptionally flavorful product.

Beef up your herd with American Blue Cattle the terminal sire of choice for commercial and dairy herds. Blue Cattle are bred for high yield lean meat with less fat and cholesterol than chicken. Their docile temperament makes them an excellent choice for club calves.

Membership Benefits

As a member of the American Blue Cattle organization, the following are some of the many services and programs we offer members.

- Complete Registry
- Youth Program
- Scholarship Program
- State Affiliates
- Listing in the Membership Directory
- Internet Advertisement in the Membership Directory
- Link your site to ABCA
- Listing on the ABCA Website Members Directory
- Free Newsletter and Classified Ads
- Breeder Referrals
- Parent Verification & DNA Testing
- Internet Updates
- Advertising on the Internet
- International Recognition and ABCA is a member of the American Blue International (BBI) Association



*Photos by
Erin Patterson*



American Blue Cattle Application For Membership

American Blue Cattle
Pam Lee
P.O. Box 633404
Nacogdoches, TX 75963
Telephone 936.652.2550
Fax 936.569.6641
info@americanbluecattle.org

Applicant Name: _____

Ranch Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Residence Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Web Site: _____

Signature Of Applicant: _____

Membership Choices

Please Choose One + RANCH REGISTRATION if you would like to register cattle

_____	Lifetime Membership	\$2,500.00	(No Annual Fees)
_____	Active Membership	\$60.00	(Owner of Cattle - Voting Privileges)
_____	Junior Membership	\$35.00	(Must Be Under 21)
	Birth date Required for Junior Membership		
_____	Ranch Registration	\$25.00	(One Time Fee – for members wishing to register cattle)
	Include 3 Choices for Ranch Prefix (3-4 letters)		
		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Remittance of \$ _____ is enclosed for Membership fee and/or Ranch Registration.
(** New members, please remember to include the **Ranch Registration** fee if you wish to register cattle.)

Return Completed Form and Payment to:

American Blue Cattle
Pam Lee
P.O. Box 633404
Nacogdoches, TX 75963

Application will not be processed until full payment is received.

2015 Officers

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Pin Oak Blues

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LLB Farm

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Debi Barns

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BGB Black Gold Blues

Lane Hull (Junior)
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BGB Black Gold Blues

Larry Don & Sandie Hull
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Cedar Creek Belgian

Blue Farm

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Matlock Farms
 Wayne & Cindi Matlock
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 Work: 918-694-8879
 Cell: 918-694-8879

Pampered Maiden Farm
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 Cell: 503-349-9053
 Fax: 503-628-1370

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Kenneth & Tamrah Ruth
 292 Wetherby Rd.
 Mountain Home, TX 78058
 kenneth4playcustoms@
 yahoo.com

Tall Tex Beef
 David or Christine Meyer
 1023 Denrock
 Dalhart, TX 79022
 Talltex@xit.net
 Phone: 806-241GRASS
 806-333-5847

VERMONT

Double Bow American Blues
 William Bricker
 8405 Route 113
 Vershire, VT 05079
 awtb.bricker@gmail.com
 Home: 802-685-0099

WISCONSIN

Ava & Eve
Gruetzmacher (Juniors)
 N1803 High Ridge Rd.
 Merrill, WI 54452
 Ava 715-212-5486
 Eve 715-218-4628

Troy Gruetzmacher
 N1803 High Ridge Rd.
 Merrill, WI 54452
 Ph. 715-218-5849

TJ Farms
 T. J. Selk
 N7627 County Rd. M
 Willard, WI 54493
 Phone: 715-743-3331

Thomas Selk (Junior)
 N 7627 County Rd. M
 Willard, WI 54493
 Phone: 715-743-3331

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 Pierre Mallieu
 Rue Des Champs Elysees
 4
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 pmhbbbbb@skynet.be
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 Fax: 328-321-6392

CANADA

La Gantoise
 Marie J. Goubau
 1489 Concession 1
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 Canada
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 Fax: 613-679-4061
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Junior Member Benefits

Cattle Registrations!



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Scholarship!**

**Junior High Point
Champion & Reserve
Champion awarded
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**To Join The
American Blue
Cattle Association
PLEASE FILL OUT THE
MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION**

**More information at
www.americanbluecattle.org**

Annual Scholarship Program

To register for our annual scholarship program, download the application from the website: www.americanbluecattle.org and mail to:

American Blue Cattle
Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 633404
Nacogdoches, TX 75963

Criteria for the Scholarship Program

- Enrolled in a 2 or 4 year college
- Age 18-22
- ABCA Junior Member for a minimum of one year
- Must be a U.S. citizen
- May only receive the scholarship once
- Be a ABCA Junior Member in good standing
- Youth or family own American Blue Cattle

Registering an Animal

To register an animal go to www.americanbluecattle.org and print the form and send it to American Blue Cattle at:

American Blue Cattle Association, Inc.
Phone: 936-652-2550
P.O. Box 633404
Nacogdoches, TX 75963

Your registration application will be processed and a blood kit will be mailed as soon as full payment is received. Prices subject to error and change without notice.

Tattoo Letters

2018 Tatoo Letter is "F"
2017 Tattoo Letter is "E"
2016 Tattoo Letter is "D"
2015 Tattoo Letter is "C"
2014 Tattoo Letter is "B"
2013 Tattoo Letter is "A"
2012 Tattoo Letter is "Z"
2011 Tattoo Letter is "Y"
2010 Tattoo Letter is "X"

Pay your animal registration fees online: You can now pay your animal registration fees online using PayPal. Use the Registration in Word format - Open the document and type in the information on the application, save it and attach it to an email to info@belgianblue.org. Total your registration fees, click on the pay now button and you will be prompted to enter the donation amount on the PayPal page. We will match the emailed registration with your payment.

Animal Registration Fees

- * \$25.00 Registration of Fullbloods and Purebreds
- * \$40.00 DNA Kit
- * \$15.00 Registration of Percentage Grading-Up (50% To Purebred)
- * \$15.00 Certification of Percentage (Up To 50%)
- * \$15.00 Certification of Steers

Miscellaneous Fees

- * \$10.00 Duplicate Corrected / Additional Certificates
- * \$10.00 Animal Transfer of Ownership
- * \$10.00 Embryo Transfer of Ownership
- * \$10.00 Listing of Foreign Registered Animal in ABCA Herdbook
- * \$10.00 Entering Foreign Bloodtype or DNA Genotype at UC Davis
- * \$30.00 Rush charges for any paper work in addition to regular fees

ABCA American Blues Junior Awards

ABCA has developed an awards program for it's Junior exhibitors. The purpose of this program is to encourage development of our Junior cattle-men and women and to promote the American Blue breed.

To be eligible for the program the youth should not have reached his/her 21st birthday.

Awards will be given for the top Junior and the Reserve Junior. To be awarded the honor of top Junior, the young man or woman must be a Junior member of ABCA and accumulate points on the following scales. Open show sanctioned for youth points is: Tulsa State Fair - National Show. Cattle must be family or farm owned for at least 30 days prior to the show. Entry must be in juniors' name to qualify for class and overall points.

Showmanship points are only earned at sanctioned shows.

National Show Class Placings

- 30 points 1st Place
- 25 points 2nd Place
- 20 points 3rd Place
- 15 points 4th Place
- 10 points 5th Place
- Additional 30

points Overall
American Blue
Grand Champion

- Additional 20 points Overall
American Blue
Reserve Grand
Champion

Showmanship

- 25 points 1st Place
- 20 points 2nd Place
- 15 points 3rd Place
- 10 points 4th Place
- 5 points 5th Place

All other shows, including **county fairs, state fairs, 4-H & FFA, Expos and Open Show Class Placings:**

- 20 points 1st Place
- 15 points 2nd Place
- 10 points 3rd Place
- 5 points 4th Place
- 3 points 5th Place
- Additional 20 points Overall Grand Champion
- Additional 10 points Overall Reserve Grand Champion

Rate of Gain

- 20 points 1st Place
- 15 points 2nd Place
- 10 points 3rd Place
- 5 points 4th Place
- 3 points 5th Place

Presentations

Any display or speech (at least 10 minutes in length) that promotes the Blue breed.

- 1-10 people 20 points
- 11-50 people 30 points
- 51+ people 40 points

Presentations must be verified in writing by person in charge of event such as FFA Advisor or 4-H Leader. Displays/ presentations points can only be earned at one event at each fair.

Points are accumulated beginning in January and must be turned into the ABCA office by December 15.

Juniors may show any number of head at each show but points will only accumulate for four head.

Verification

To receive points the junior exhibitor must submit verification in the form of show results signed by the show superintendent or show results intended for public knowledge such as photos or articles in the media.

Send by December 15 to : American Blue Cattle Assoc., Pam Lee, P.O. Box 633404, Nacogdoches, TX 75963.

Why the American Blues?

- Extraordinary muscle development
- Great tenderness of the meat due to the thinness of the muscle fiber
- Extremely lean, tender and healthy beef
- Genetically tender beef without the fat cover and marbling
- Higher percentage of quality cuts
- More quality cuts in the forequarter
- Cattle have a docile temperament
- Short gestation length
- One of the highest yielding carcasses with dress out of 68%-72%
- Compliment to any crossbreeding program
- Great terminal sire breed

Benefits of Crossbreeding

Beef producers have been benefiting when using a Belgian Blue bull as a terminal cross sire. Belgian Blue crossbred calves result in increased carcass yield as compared to the dam. The Belgian Blue bull will put more weight and muscle on the calves' frames.

Butchers will also pay premium prices for both steers and heifers knowing there will be a high yield and more saleable.

Overall benefits of crossbreeding:

- High growth rates
- Early turnoff
- Outstanding feed conversion rates
- Outstanding dress percentages 60% +
- High yield
- Market preferred
- Butcher preferred
- Premium prices

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American Blue Cattle



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Jones Cattle Company

Belle Brook Farms



Photos by Andrew D. Brosig/The Daily Sentinel

Belle Brook Farm owner Stanley Jones watches some of his Belgian Blue cross cattle as they pass by in the feed lot on the farm Wednesday in Nacogdoches. Jones began raising the Belgian Blue cattle more than 20 years ago because they produce a leaner, healthier meat. He crosses them with a mix that includes Charolais and Brahman for hardiness, keeping a minimum of 50 percent Belgian to insure the lean breeds through, he said.

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Phone: 936-564-7889
Fax: 936-569-6641
Contact: Stanley Jones



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#X-5602 Noella De Remichampagne

Sire: B-20050683 Greystone Artic (SR)

#I-951414 Cyrano Du Stordeur

#B-951326 Greystone Magnolia

#B-870435 Greystone Emerald

#I-981252 Valide D' Al Gote

#B-20041302 Greystone Warrior

#B-980598 Greystone Plum

Dam: #H-20070644 Greystone Chanel

#I-990316 Adagio Du Stordeur

#H-20011114 Greystone Tamara

#H-980597 Greystone Parkie

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