

APPLICATION FORM
MONROE COUNTY H.E.R.D. PROGRAM

Rules and Regulations for 2011-2012
Monroe County H.E.R.D. Program

BASIC SCHEDULE DATES:

Birth Dates: Spring Sale Sept 1, 2010-Jan 31, 2011
Entry Deadline: Monroe Co. Dec 1, 2011
On Test Date: Dec 1, 2011
Open House Private Treaty Sale May 12, 2012

Name or Farm Name _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

No. Entries Requested: Spring Sale _____
BQA Number (if available) _____

Premise ID (if available) _____

Check one:
_____ I plan to develop my heifers on my farm.
Minimum of 10 per farm. Working facilities must meet approval of steering committee.

_____ I wish to contract with another Monroe County producer to develop my heifers. Producers with fewer than 10 heifers in the program will need to contract with an approved MCCA Farm.

Send application to: John H. Pope (478-994-7014)
P.O. Box 70
Forsyth, GA 31029

(Application fee of \$40 per hd for sale eligible heifers.
\$5 per hd for sale eligible substitutes (limit to 20% of sale heifers). Make check payable to MCCA)

No. Sale _____ x \$40 = _____
No. Subs Sale _____ x \$5 = _____

Total _____

I have read the rules and intend to comply with them. Signature _____

Eligibility for Entry and Nomination

Nominations are made by filling out and sending in the application form in this brochure. A \$35 nomination fee for each heifer must accompany this application form. The nomination fee will be applied toward the cost of evaluation. **Nominations must be received by the entry deadline.**

Heifers must also meet the following requirements:

- A. Heifers may be registered or commercial. Registered heifers must furnish a copy (not original) of registration.
- B. Heifers must be home-grown.
- C. Registered heifers must furnish a copy (not original) of registration papers at the beginning of the test program.
- D. Heifers must have known breed of sire. Actual sire (with registration number) is preferred, but not required.
- E. Actual birth dates are preferred. If actual birth date is not known, then month of birth is required (birth date will be listed as the 15th; e.g. heifers born in November will be listed as November 15 if actual birth date is not known).
- F. Heifers must weigh a minimum of 1.75 pounds per day of age at the beginning of the program.
- G. Heifers must be **double ear-tagged** with one visible ear tag and **one electronic (EID) tag**.
- H. Heifers must be structurally sound and show evidence of good growth potential. The committee reserves the right to disqualify

heifers that don't meet quality or other standards.

- I. A maximum of twenty heifers per consignor will be accepted unless additional slots are available to reach the goal of 100 head in the program for the sale.
- J. Priority for space will be given to Monroe County residents. Heifers from other counties will be accepted if space is available.
- K. **NEW!** To be sale eligible heifers must weigh at least 850 pounds by April 1, 2012 with a 2-lbs./day allowance for earlier weigh date.

Health

- A. Georgia is brucellosis-free and tuberculosis-free; therefore, brucellosis and tuberculosis tests are no longer necessary. However, all heifers must be in good health. Producers may require health certificates before cattle are brought onto their farms and be tested free of PI-BVD.
- B. The following preconditioning should be done at least four (4) weeks prior to beginning the program:
 - (1) Dehorned and healed
 - (2) Dewormed
 - (3) Weaned and started on feed
 - (4) Vaccinated for
 - *IBR/BVD/P13/BRSV
 - *7-Way Blackleg
 - *5-Way Lepto
- C. Pasteurella Bacterin Toxoid should be given at the beginning of the program in early December.

The health program is extremely important. Immunity is established only if calves are vaccinated with minimum stress. For best protection, the above series of vaccinations is given 30-60 days prior to weaning and repeated at weaning.

- D. Program heifers will be tested for Persistently infected-BVD at the beginning of the program. Any heifers found to be positive will be removed from the program.
- E. A Veterinarian will be available the day of the sale to provide health certificates if needed.

Enrollment Form

Soon after the entry deadline you will receive an enrollment form on which you must summarize the heifer's date of birth, performance, pedigree and health information. The enrollment form must be sent to John Pope by December 1, 2011. Heifers will not be accepted without the enrollment form.

Feeding

The ration will consist of hay plus a supplement designed for optimum growth and development. This is not a gain test. Heifers will be fed to gain 1.5 – 1.75 pounds per day.

Cost

Actual cost of heifer development will depend on price of feed. Individual producers are responsible for all veterinarian costs and feed costs associated with this program. Sales expenses will be deducted from sales proceeds.

Liability

Program personnel will not be responsible for loss by fire, theft, injury, sickness, or death in any other way.

Evaluation and Breeding

All heifers will be evaluated for pelvic area, frame score, reproductive tract score, disposition score, and structure. Cost of the above will be direct billed to the individual producer.

Heifers will be heat-synchronized and bred A.I. followed by at least 30 days with a cleanup bull. A.I. sire and cleanup bulls will be approved by the Monroe County H.E.R.D. Steering Committee. Calving ease will receive top priority in bulls.

Removal of Heifers

Heifers will be removed only after the end of the evaluation or if, as a result of chronic conditions, the usefulness of treated heifers is impaired. Unruly heifers also will be removed from the program.

SALE:

The Monroe County Cattlemen's Association H.E.R.D. Heifers will be offered for sale private treaty between buyer and seller beginning with an Open House/Field Day to be held Thursday, May 12, 2012. Any heifers not sold by May 20 will be grouped for sale by either truckload sale or other means by the H.E.R.D. Committee. Heifers will sell in order of AI sired and AI Bred followed by AI Bred followed by Natural Service Bred.

Eligibility

- A. Consignors must indicate by March 30, 2012 which heifers will be sold (assuming they meet eligibility).
- B. Unsound or unruly heifers will not be sale eligible.
- C. Heifers must have an ACTUAL pelvic measurement of at least 140 sq. cm. at the time reproductive tract maturity scores are taken in order to be sale eligible.
- D. Heifers must have a reproductive tract maturity score of at least 2 in order to be sale eligible.

- E. Heifers must be pregnant in order to sell.
- F. The cost to transfer fees for registered heifers will be paid by the seller. In addition, the cost of A.I. service certificates will be paid by the seller.
- G. Heifers are guaranteed to be pregnant the day of the sale. They will be palpated pregnant by a qualified veterinarian. Purchasers will have 30 days from the date of sale to observe for signs of non-pregnancy and report any open females to the sale management. If a qualified veterinarian determines that a heifer that was sold as pregnant is in fact open, then the purchaser will be eligible for a 25 percent refund of the purchase price from the consignor of the open heifer. The consignor and/or sale management reserves the right to retest any heifer in question for pregnancy.

Catalog

Information in the catalog will include weight per day of age, pelvic area, reproductive tract score, frame score, disposition score, sire EPDs (if available) and EPDs of service sires (A.I. and natural).

Sale Expenses

Sale expenses (i.e., advertising, beef check-off, catalog printing and postage, insurance, veterinarian, auctioneer, etc.) will be divided equally among heifers in the sale.

Preparation for Sale

No grooming, clipping, etc. will be permitted. The Monroe County H.E.R.D. Steering Committee will be responsible for getting heifers clean and presentable for sale.

Monroe County H.E.R.D. Program Steering Committee

Phil Ham, Chmn
Barry Peters, Vice-Chmn
Benny Bostick
Jeff Davis, DVM
Charles Floyd
Jim Lynch
John H. Pope, CEA

MONROE COUNTY H.E.R.D.

Heifer Evaluation and Reproductive Development Program

Sponsored by:
Monroe County Cattlemen's Association
Monroe County Cooperative Extension
Monroe County Farm Bureau
Forsyth Feed and Seed

The Monroe County H.E.R.D. program is designed to address the following objectives:

- (1) To serve and educate the beef industry in the Middle Georgia area.
- (2) To demonstrate feeding and health programs that result in replacement heifers reaching target weights required for successful breeding performance.
- (3) To provide a method of evaluating heifers including performance, reproductive traits, and disposition.
- (4) To develop heifers which are source identified and genetically verified.
- (5) To demonstrate the benefits of cooperative efforts involving cattle producers, animal health professionals, the Monroe County Cattlemen's Association and the Monroe County Cooperative Extension.

This is an on-farm producer program with several producers participating. Producers with smaller numbers of cattle may wish to contract with larger producers to develop their heifers. Note this on the application form.

Note: Any concerns or disputes need to be brought to the attention of the Monroe County H.E.R.D. Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will have final word in matters concerning the program.