Bohaty Farm Bulletin

June 2009

2009 Open House & Sale Review

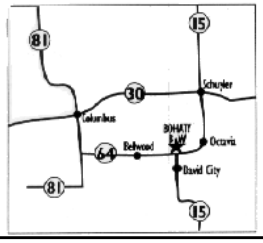
Friends & Customers at Bohaty's Open House

Phillip Conway and Norm Andrews checking out the bulls

We'd like to thank all our customers who came to our sale April 18, 2009. All had a good time visiting with other British White enthusiasts over meals and while checking out the cattle for sale.

The top selling bull, B&B Boseman 20T a 2-year, sold for $3250.00, while the top yearling, B&B Brodrick 84U, sold for $2550.00. B&B Darlene 9U was the top selling open heifer who sold for $2150.00. While B&B Myra 40T was the top selling bred heifer and sold for $2550.00.

We were very happy with the beginning of our sale season. We hope those of you who couldn't come will check out those animals still available for sale on our web site at www.britishcattle.com or come to the farm to look them over. We always enjoy visiting with you about British Whites and will gladly show you our herd.



Directions from junction 15 and 64 (★) 1/2 mile west to a white church. 1 mile north, 3/4 mile east, south side.

Bohaty's British Whites
Walter & Nancy Bohaty
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Bellwood, NE 68624
402-367-4741
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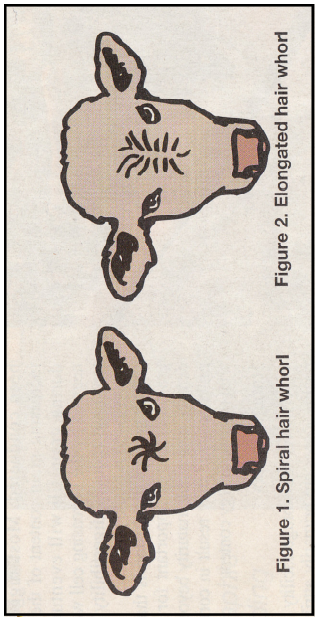
Bohaty Farm Bulletin

A New Spin on Fertility

Excerpts from article by Temple Grandin



Article from the July 2002 ***Beef*** *magazine by Temple Grandin*

Research indicates that the configuration of the whorl—a spiral center opposed to a straight-line center—is indicative of a bull's fertility.

Colorado State University graduate student Melissa Meola found that Black Angus bulls bearing a spiral hair whorl with a round epicenter (see fig.1) had a higher percentage of normal sperm than bulls with an elongated hair whorl pattern (see fig. 2).

Bulls with a normal spiral hair whorl with a round epicenter averaged 77.6% normal sperm. But bulls with the elongated abnormal pattern had only 69.4% normal sperm. To pass a Bull Soundness Evaluation, a bull must have a minimum of 70% normal sperm.

The next group was sorted into all bulls that had a round epicenter compared to bulls that had an elongated epicenter that varied from barely noticeable to an extreme like in Figure 2. Bulls that had no hair whorls were not used.

A total of 79% of the sperm cells were normal in bulls with round whorls and only 71% of sperm cells were normal in bulls with non-round centers. Of bulls with round epicenters, 82% passed the BSE , while only 57% of the bulls with elongated epicenters passed.

How could a hair whorl be related to semen quality? Hair whorl patterns and gonad development occur at about the same time in the fetus. In humans, abnormal hair whorl patterns occur in children with Down's syndrome and Prader-Willi syndrome.

Temple Grandin is a Colorado State University assistant professor of animal science.

We Get Mail

Stuart & Wanda Blevins—relating info about their calves sired by B&B Silver Star 50T, a bull purchased from us in 2007

We just had our 1st calf born from B&B Silver Star 50 T
He was delivered by a 1st calving heifer (2 yr 5 mo old) with no difficulty!!!!
It was very exciting just watching the entire delivery.
He has Star's head & his wide front leg placement as well as beautiful standard markings.
We are expecting 3 more heifers to deliver within 3 weeks & then the older girls

Weigh Pros & Cons of Fall vs Spring Calving—Part 1

By Darrell Rankins, PhD, Alabama Cooperative Ext. System Animal Scientist.

A common topic among cattlemen is fall vs spring calving.

Fall Calving—Most cattlemen who utilize a fall calving season calve during the months of September through November. The 2 main disadvantages of this system are that during calving season an adequate supply of good quality forage is not available. Warm season forages have dramatically declined in quality by this time & cool season forages have not yet produced appreciable growth. The 2nd factor that makes fall calving unattractive for some is that feeding a lactating cow over winter requires more feed than a pregnant non-lactating cow.

The advantages of a fall calving season include: 1. The weather is generally mild during this time so calves will be born when days are warm and nights cool which is good for survivability and health. 2. In the spring when forages are abundant calves will be old enough to have excellent weight gains, therefore heavier weaning weight. 3. A fall born calf is generally weaned as a feeder calf in August of the following year. Historically, calf prices tend to be relatively good during that time of the year.