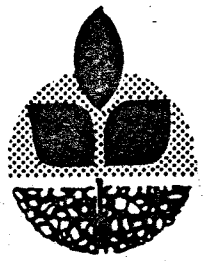
Beef Progeny Testing Report 1977-78

Special Report 523
November 1978



Agricultural Experiment Station
Oregon State University, Corvallis

AUTHORS

A. T. Ralston is professor of animal nutrition and T. P. Davidson is assistant professor of horticulture at the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center station at Hermiston, Oregon State University, Corvallis.

BEEF PROGENY TESTING REPORT 1977-1978

A. T. Ralston and T. P. Davidson

Although the reduction in numbers of progeny tested continued, the quality of the cattle continued to improve. A more closely controlled minimum weight combined with multiple acceptance dates greatly reduced the health problems of the past.

A summary of the test gains made over the past nine years appears in table 1.

Table 1. Summary of nine years progeny test average daily gains

Year	Average daily gain, lb	
	Heifers	Steers
1969	2.39	2.60
1970	2.42	2.67
1971	2.69	2.76
1972	2.38	2.56
1973	2.15	2.79
1974	2.46	2.76
1975	2.50	2.81
1976	2.68	2.84
1977	3.08	3.14

Not all breeders continued to test progeny for a variety of reasons. The progress that one breeder has made is shown in table 2.

Table 2. Summary of one breeder's progress

Year	Average daily gain, lb.	lb. feed/ lb. gain
1974	2.43	7.43
1976	2.54	7.87
1977	3.04	6.87
1978	3.21	5.84

This .8 of a pound per day improvement was made with a substantial feed saving. These differences are magnified several times for a seed stock producer. Assuming that average daily gain is 45 percent heritable and that during a herd bull's lifetime he produces 100 range bulls and each of these produces only 50 steer calves the difference in gains amounts to about 175,000 pounds during normal finishing period. There is also an accompanying improvement in the heifer replacements left in the herd.

It was quite apparent that heifers marketed at the proper weights were as acceptable as steers. There was no difference in kidney fat or back fat. Weight corrected rib eye areas were comparable and the estimated yield of trimmed cuts were the same.

Both the steers and heifers were the most efficient of any progeny cattle we have tested. This, of course, was due to several things such as healthy cattle, good feeding weather and the genetic potential of the progeny tested.

Pen No.	Breeder's Name and Address
1	Doris White, Burns, OR
2	Doris White, Burns, OR
3	Leonard Lorenzen, Pendleton, OR Larry Rew, Pendleton, OR
4	Brent Horn, Hermiston, OR
5	Brent Horn, Hermiston, OR
6	Brent Horn, Hermiston, OR
7	Brent Horn, Hermiston, OR

Ration as fed: 25% corn silage (ca 30% DM)
70% steam rolled barley
5% OSU (40% CP) supplement

PROGENY TEST 1977-78

PEN 1. White - Steers

Animal No.	Initial wt. lbs.	Final wt.	Days on feed	ADG lb.	Warm carcass wt.	Marble score[1]	USDA grade[2]	Backfat (in)	Sq. in. ribeye	Kidney fat %	Est. yield grade %	Wt/day age (lb)	Carcass wt/day of age
M13	635	1139	177	2.85	672	10	15	.50	9.6	2.5	48.2		
M16	640	1098	149	3.07	648	12	16	.70	9.9	3.0	47.3		
M16	505	997	197	2.50	588	11	16	.40	9.2	2.5	49.3		
Total	1780	3234	523	8.42	1908	33	47	1.60	28.7	8.0	144.8		
Average	593	1078	174	2.80	636	11	15.7	.50	9.6	2.7	48.3		

PEN 2. White - Heifers

M14	670	1051	120	3.18	620	12	16	.50	9.8	3.0	48.7		
M15	600	1034	149	2.91	610	12	16	.60	9.6	2.5	48.7		
M12	575	966	149	2.62	570	10	15	.50	9.9	3.0	49.1		
Total	1845	3051	418	8.71	1800	34	47	1.60	29.3	8.5	146.5		
Average	615	1017	139	2.90	600	11	15.7	.50	9.8	2.8	48.8		

[1]Marbling score 12 = average small, 15 = average modest, 18 = average moderate.
[2]USDA grade 14 = average good, 17 = average choice.

PEN 3. Lorenzen and Row - Steers

Animal No.	Initial wt. lbs.	Final wt.	Days on feed	ADG lb.	Warm carcass wt.	Marble score[1]	USDA grade[2]	Backfat (in)	Sq. in. ribeye	Kidney fat %	Est. yield grade %	Wt/day age (lb)	Carcass wt/day of age
66	580	1159	204	2.84	684	12	16	.40	12.3	2.5	50.7		
62J	580	1271	177	3.90	750	12	16	.40	10.6	2.5	49.3		
63J	560	1205	197	3.27	711	12	16	.50	10.9	3.0	48.7		
63	500	1115	219	2.81	658	15	17	.25	10.7	3.5	50.0		
135J	530	1225	219	3.17	723	13	16	.35	10.9	3.0	49.6		
*6	530	1285	215	3.51	758	13	15	.30	11.7	3.0	50.0		
7512	530	1214	232	2.95	716	11	16	.70	11.4	2.5	48.6		
741/774	430	988	215	2.60	583	12	16	.50	8.2	3.0	47.8		
731/773	420	1156	219	3.36	682	24	20	.50	10.4	3.0	48.7		
69	610	1188	232	2.49	701	15	17	.30	11.8	2.5	50.9		
Total	5270	11806	2129	30.90	6966	139	165	4.20	108.9	28.5	494.3		
Average	527	1181	213	3.09	697	14	16.5	.40	10.9	2.9	49.4		

*Dark cutter

PEN 4. Horn - Steers

D6	780	1231	177	2.55	726	12	16	.50	10.1	2.5	48.2	2.98	1.75
D36	640	1173	170	3.14	692	15	17	.40	10.6	2.5	49.7	2.63	1.55
D732	630	1242	160	3.33	733	10	15	.50	10.4	2.5	48.5	2.72	1.61
D63	630	1308	184	4.24	772	11	16	.50	12.1	2.0	49.6	2.84	1.68
D8	655	1212	160	3.48	715	11	16	.50	11.5	2.5	49.8	2.70	1.59
D711	600	1156	170	3.27	682	12	16	.30	9.6	2.0	49.6	2.22	1.31
D13	600	1161	142	3.95	685	10	15	.50	10.9	2.5	49.2	2.65	1.56
D80	575	1175	160	3.75	693	10	15	.40	10.9	2.0	49.9	2.76	1.63
D725	555	1178	184	3.39	695	8	14	.70	11.7	3.0	48.3	2.39	1.41
D712	545	1117	184	3.11	659	10	15	.40	9.9	2.0	49.6	2.10	1.24
Total	6210	11953	1691	34.21	7052	109	15.5	4.70	107.7	23.5	492.4	25.99	15.33
Average	621	1195	169	3.42	705	11	15.5	.50	10.8	2.4	49.2	2.60	1.53

[1]Marbling score 12 = average small, 15 = average modest, 18 = average moderate.
[2]USDA grade 14 = average good, 17 = average choice.

PROGENY TEST 1977-78

PEN 5. Horn - Steers

Animal No.	Initial wt. lbs.	Final wt.	Days on feed	ADG lb.	Warm carcass wt.	Marble score[1]	USDA grade[2]	Backfat (in)	Sq. in. ribeye	Kidney fat %	Est. yield grade %	Wt/day age (lb)	Carcass wt/day of age
D136	550	1036	184	2.64	611	10	15	.50	9.8	2.5	49.1	2.39	1.41
D103	530	1110	184	3.15	655	9	15	.50	10.1	2.5	48.9	2.49	1.47
D148	505	1186	184	3.70	700	9	15	.50	10.8	2.5	48.9	2.78	1.64
D135	495	1136	160	4.01	670	11	16	.45	11.1	2.0	50.0	2.76	1.63
D45	510	1002	205	2.40	591	12	16	.40	10.5	2.0	50.5	2.08	1.23
D145	450	1078	205	3.06	636	12	16	.50	9.5	1.5	49.0	2.39	1.41
D165	440	1010	205	2.78	596	12	16	.70	8.4	1.5	47.4	2.33	1.38
D183	395	808	177	2.33	477	9	15	.40	8.2	2.0	49.8	2.12	1.25
D175	395	963	205	2.77	568	12	16	.60	9.1	1.5	48.9	2.29	1.35
Total	4270	9329	1709	26.84	5504	96	140	4.55	87.5	18.0	442.5	21.63	12.77
Average	474	1037	190	2.98	612	10.7	15.5	.50	9.7	2.0	49.2	2.40	1.42

PEN 6. Horn - Heifers

D26	555	1008	164	2.76	595	15	17	.60	10.2	3.5	48.4	2.26	1.33
D118	560	1008	144	3.11	595	11	16	.30	9.7	2.5	50.3	2.42	1.43
D85	515	1025	164	3.11	605	15	17	.50	10.3	3.0	49.2	2.39	1.41
D173	515	1058	160	3.39	624	10	15	.70	10.8	3.0	48.3	2.81	1.66
D40	500	1059	160	3.49	625	11	16	.70	8.9	2.5	47.0	2.42	1.43
Total	2645	5158	792	15.86	3044	62	81	2.80	49.9	15.5	243.2	12.30	7.26
Average	529	1032	158	3.17	609	12.4	16.2	.60	10.0	3.1	48.6	2.46	1.45

[1]Marbling score 12 = average small, 15 = average modest, 18 = average moderate.
[2]USDA grade 14 = average good, 17 = average choice.

PROGENY TEST 1977-78

PEN 7. Horn - Heifers

Animal No.	Initial wt. lbs.	Final wt.	Days on feed	ADG lb.	Warn carcass wt.	Marble score[1]	USDA grade[2]	Backfat (in)	Sq. in. ribeye	Kidney fat %	Est. yield grade %	Wt/day age (lb)	Carcass wt/day of age
D82	490	985	170	2.91	581	12	16	.40	8.4	2.0	49.0	2.26	1.34
D125	480	993	170	3.02	586	12	16	.45	9.3	1.5	49.6	2.34	1.38
D158	485	1053	170	3.34	621	12	16	.50	10.0	1.5	49.6	2.60	1.53
D186	465	1010	170	3.21	596	9	15	.40	9.7	1.5	50.0	2.77	1.64
D28	455	978	177	2.95	577	11	16	.40	10.0	2.5	49.1	2.14	1.26
D169	455	1001	177	3.08	591	10	15	.40	11.0	2.5	50.7	2.51	1.48
Total	2830	6020	1034	18.51	3552	66	94	2.55	58.4	11.5	298.0	14.62	8.63
Average	472	1003	172	3.09	592	11	15.7	.40	9.7	2.0	49.7	2.44	1.44

[1]Marbling score 12 = average small, 15 = average modest, 18 = average moderate.
[2]USDA grade 14 = average good, 17 = average choice.

SUMMARY OF PROGENY TESTING 1978-79

Owner	No. of head	Initial wt. lbs.	Final wt.	Days on feed	ADG lb.	Warm carcass wt.	Marble score[1]	USDA grade[2]	Backfat (in)	Sq. In. ribeye	Kidney fat %	Est. yield grade %	Daily intake lb.	lb. feed/ lb. gain	Wt/day age (lb)	Carcass wt/day of age
								Steers								
White	3	593	1078	174	2.80	636	11	15.7	.5	9.6	2.7	48.3	18.5	6.65		
Lorenzen	6	560	1194	208	3.08	705	13	16.3	.4	11.2	2.4	49.9	19.0	6.19		
Rew	4	478	1161	220	3.11	685	15	16.8	.5	10.4	2.9	48.8				
Horn	10	621	1195	169	3.42	705	11	15.5	.5	10.8	2.4	49.2	18.9	5.55	2.60	1.53
Horn	9	474	1037	190	2.98	612	11	15.5	.5	9.7	2.0	49.2	18.2	6.13	2.40	1.42
Average	32	548	1135	189	3.14	670	12	15.8	.5	10.4	2.4	49.2	18.7	6.01		
								Heifers								
White	3	615	1017	139	2.90	600	11	15.7	.5	9.8	2.8	48.8	17.8	6.16		
Horn	5	529	1032	158	3.17	609	12	16.2	.6	10.0	3.1	48.6	18.8	5.93	2.46	1.45
Horn	6	472	1003	172	3.09	592	11	15.7	.4	9.7	2.0	49.7	17.0	5.52	2.44	1.44
Average	14	523	1016	160	3.08	600	12	15.9	.5	9.8	2.5	49.1	17.8	5.78		

[1]Marbling score 12 = average small, 15 = average modest, 18 = average moderate.
[2]Grade 14 = average good, 17 = average choice.