

For Immediate Release  
FAIR PLAY, SC  
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## **Calving Ease Bulls And Curve Bender Bulls Take Center Stage**

Do you need Calving Ease (CE) bulls to use on heifers? Is it economically important to your ranching operation to emphasize low birth weights while continuing to place demands on bulls that sire fast gaining calves? If so you are encouraged to check out the bulls on the 2011 Spitzer Ranch Professional Cattlemen's Bull Development Program. For starters, 60% of the bulls being developed for the February 2012 Bull Sale are true CE bulls. To achieve the Spitzer Ranch "CE Flag", a bull must have a BW EPD less than breed average with an actual birth weight not over 79 pounds. The average birth weight all of this year's CE bulls is only 69 pounds with the majority actually posting negative BW EPDs.

The Spitzers have always placed emphasis on reducing birth weights and increasing growth. Years ago they developed the Curve Bender Index (CBI) which concurrently evaluates lower BW EPDs and higher growth EPDs with one numerical score. You can find out more about the Spitzer Ranch Exclusive Curve Bender Index by going to [www.srbulls.com](http://www.srbulls.com) or contacting them directly. The entire group of bulls in the 2011 program has an average birth weight of 77 pounds with an average BW EPD of minus 0.7 pounds and an average YW EPD of 48 pounds. Compare those figures with the 2011 Spring Brangus Non-Parent Average EPDs of 0.8 pounds for BW and 42 pounds for YW, respectively. Those of you who search for curve bender bulls know how difficult it is to find a set of bulls with BW EPDs 1.5 pounds less than breed average and yet YW EPDs above breed average. The genetic benefits to you from using curve bender bulls are having calves born easier (associated with more vigor and quicker nursing

for the calf and less stress and higher rebreeding rates for their dams) and faster growth to weaning and yearling ages.

Contact Spitzer Ranch soon if you want to be added to their mailing list prior to publication of their SUMMER 2011 Newsletter. It will contain a complete performance report on bulls being developed for their sale the last Saturday in February; including current EPDs, birth and weaning data as well as current rates of gain on the growth and development program. These Newsletters also provide educational tips, inspiration and insights into a wide variety of timely topics of interest to those cattlemen whose goal is increased profitability. Call 864/972-9140, write SPITZER RANCH, 1511 HWY 59, Fair Play, SC, 29643 or send an email to [spitzeranch@mindspring.com](mailto:spitzeranch@mindspring.com). And you're invited to visit them at [www.srbulls.com](http://www.srbulls.com) and follow their posts on Facebook. Whether you sell all your calves at weaning or are interested in profit potential beyond your farm gate they can assist you with the right genetics. The 2012 SPITZER RANCH PROFESSIONAL CATTLEMEN'S BRANGUS BULL SALE will be **Saturday, February 25, 2012**. Hope to see you there!

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