

For Immediate Release
FAIR PLAY, SC
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Final Performance Report For 2012 SPITZER RANCH Professional Cattlemen's Bull Development Program

This year's bulls have now completed the post-weaning growth and development program at Spitzer Ranch. Calves were weighed after a 168-day period since weaning with a 3.16 pound ADG and averaging just shy of 1100 pounds at 380 days of age. While this group of bulls has slightly lower final weight than in years past, it's because they weaned about 75 pounds lighter than normal due to the severe drought ravaging most of South Carolina. Rainfall has not been any more generous through the fall and winter as the Greenville, SC weather station indicates "over 11 inches behind normal" for 2012 and that weather station has had far more rain than the far NW corner of the state.

The ADG of 3.16 pounds over the 168-day testing period is exactly where the Spitzers believe their experiences and the vast majority of University Research data would indicate that bulls have enough gain to separate growth performance among bulls and yet not get bulls fat. A high fiber diet consisting mainly of Soy Hulls and Corn Gluten Feed is fed while bulls are on grass (when there is enough water to grow grass) and free-choice excellent quality hay. This ration calculates a projected ADG of 3.10-3.25 pounds. Since bulls will remain on Rye/Rye Grass with that ration plus hay they will still be the 1300-1400 pound 14-17 month old bulls their repeat buyers have come to expect seeing on sale day. Additionally Spitzer Ranch bulls typically carry only one-quarter inch of outside fat and are athletically sound. They ask you to take a look at the outside fat typically seen with other bull testing programs where many bulls carry one-half inch of outside fat, or even more. That much fat is certainly not conducive to fertility or breeding ability in the pasture and may be detrimental to a long life as a breeding bull.

The Spitzers would please ask you to compare the average EPDs of all their Brangus Bulls with the average EPDs for Non-parents for the entire Brangus breed available on the WEB at www.gobrangus.com. **The average Spitzer Ranch Brangus bull is significantly better than Non-parent Brangus breed average bull in all EPDs but one, and that is virtually a tie.** Especially significant with this comparison is the average Spitzer Ranch Brangus bull birth weight EPD being a full pound lighter while yearling weight EPD is 12 pounds heavier than breed average. Additionally, total maternal EPD for Spitzer Ranch bulls is 8 pounds greater and for carcass traits both rib eye area and percent intramuscular fat EPDs are far better than Brangus breed average. BOTTOM LINE - across the board Spitzer Ranch Brangus bulls will sire lighter calves at birth that grow faster and have more muscle and better carcass quality than the breed average Brangus bull. As “icing on the cake” the total maternal EPD would say daughters of these bulls will shine as the ultimate mother cow.

If you desire more detail and a complete performance report on these bulls, please call 864/972-9140, write SPITZER RANCH, 1511 HWY 59, Fair Play, SC, 29643 or send an email note to spitzeranch@mindspring.com. Better than just getting this current performance report, ask to be added to their mailing list to receive their biannual NEWSLETTER which contains not only information on bulls but a wealth of pertinent beef industry information and tips on becoming a more profitable Professional Cattleman. (Their Winter 2013 Newsletter with a full listing of sires and complete and total performance data on all bulls being offered for sale is scheduled to go in the mail right after Christmas.) These newsletters will give you a better appreciation for the Spitzer Ranch Program, their cooperators and customers, and learn how SPITZER RANCH BRANGUS GENETICS can increase the financial success of your cattle operation.

The **2013 SPITZER RANCH PROFESSIONAL CATTLEMEN'S BRANGUS BULL SALE** is scheduled for **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2013** at the ranch near Fair Play, SC. Be sure to learn more about their program by visiting their website at www.srbulls.com and you might also enjoy following their posts and QUOTE OF THE WEEK on Facebook.

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