

For Immediate Release
FAIR PLAY, SC
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Curve Bender Genetics See Tremendous Demand At Professional Cattlemen's Performance Tested Brangus Bull Sale Held At Spitzer Ranch, Fair Play, SC

The Spitzer Family and the Hunt Families hosted cattlemen from around the Southeast at the twenty-third annual sale held at Spitzer Ranch, Fair Play, SC. Bidders and buyers strongly represented the states of AL, FL, GA, LA, NC, SC and TN. Extremely intense bidding resulted in a sale average of \$4,711 for the ideal combination of low birth weight and high growth Curve Bender bulls. The Spitzers recognized over 34 years ago that they must supply bulls that sire calves born alive, small and vigorous which instantly take off and quickly put on the pounds to weaning and yearling ages if their customers were to be profitable. They never wavered from a disciplined breeding strategy structured around using proven sires in a line-breeding program to increase genetic consistency. The Spitzer Ranch program is different from most others in that it is "Bull-Centric" and builds performance through stacking generations of high accuracy sire lines proven to be Curve Benders. This year's sale partners, Hunts H+ Brangus, Calhoun, GA, adopted an identical philosophy when they first became cooperators in 2010. Sires in the Hunt Families' program and their entire genetic selection recipe are identical to those used at Spitzer Ranch.

SR Apache Warrior B471 garnered the top spot selling for \$7,600 to long time repeat customer Ralph Pelaez, Pelaez and Son, Inc., Okeechobee, FL. Competition was intense as many admirers tried to buy the most complete bull in the sale. Flagged as a Calving Ease specialist, B471 started with a -1.0 # BW EPD (Top 10% Rank) and yet ranked in the Top 20% for YW EPD at 61 #. Posting EPDs ranking him in the Top 20% or greater for 6 traits, including a Top

3% rank for %IMF, along with Ultrasound Scans of a 12.9” REA and 3.56% IMF at only 2/10” outside FAT rounded out this nicely packaged powerhouse genetic performer.

High Tension Ranch, the Callahan Family from York, SC, just were not going to be outbid on the second-high selling bull, H+ Mohican Warrior B414, selling for \$6,400. Sired by the tremendously popular and proven TCB Catawba Warrior R532, B414 was again flagged a calving ease bull with a YW EPD of 84 # (Top 2% Rank) and posted an amazing 6 EPDs ranking in the Top 4% or greater. An absolutely muscular rascal, he Ultrasound scanned a 14.8” REA and 3.31% IMF at 2/10” outside FAT with a REA EPD in the Top 1% rank. A truly attractive genetic package with lots of bidding action.

Selling in the third spot at \$6,300 to Double R Brangus, Winter Haven, FL was another flagged Calving Ease specialist, SR Mohican Warrior B458 who posted a -2.1 # BW EPD (Top 3% Rank), and ranked in the Top 4% for CEM, along with a total of 5 EPDs ranking him in the Top 20% or better. Another TCB Catawba Warrior R532 son, his picture perfect phenotype and breed character exemplified why R532 has almost 900 calves reported in the Brangus Database and has additionally been used extensively in Australia, Brazil, Columbia and Mexico.

Two additional bulls sold at \$6,200 each. Another R532 sired bull, H+ Mohican Warrior B405; who had a stunning array of EPDs ranking in the Top 15% or better for 8 traits along with a Calving Ease flag, went to new Brangus Breeder, Jared Figley, Okeechobee, FL. Additionally, cooperator Hibberts Brangus sent the Right Tool for Calving Ease bull, HB Plainview Diablo B494 (sired by the Spitzer’s SR Apache Warrior Z275) to Double R Brangus, Winter Haven, FL. Volume buyer was the Callahan Family at High Tension Ranch who took home six bulls in all. Buyers from Florida seemed to really appreciate this year’s offering as many of the bulls found a new home in the Sunshine State.

In 2004 the Spitzers began a program to express appreciation to their customers, especially those who have been repeat customers over many years. In a lot of ways this is a small attempt to say thank you to all customers by honoring ranching operations which have been loyal to Spitzer Ranch. Those identified have given support by buying bulls and females, recommending bulls to others, attending sales, cheering for success and giving honest and sincere feedback on the Spitzer Ranch genetic program.

This year's addition to the Customer Honor Roll are **Brady and Pat Pfeil, Arcadia, FL**. The Pfeils certainly need no introduction to many in the Southeast as they once managed the registered program at Carlton's Bar A Brangus, Wauchula, FL. During those years they also established the famed 2 X 4 Ranch Commercial Brangus operation in Arcadia, FL which they ran for many years. They still consult with the Carltons on a much smaller scale with only hundreds and not thousands of cows, maintain their own commercial cattle operation near Arcadia and manage a hunting preserve in Warthen, GA. Brady and Pat are super people whom the Spitzers got to know over 30 years ago and then became re-acquainted when he Pfeils began buying bulls from the Spitzer Ranch program about a dozen years ago. The Spitzer Family is proud to call them customers and even more so to count them among their friends.

If you have been following press releases, newsletters and read their sale catalog it should come as no surprise that this was the last sale in South Carolina for the Spitzers. Their entire mature cow herd was dispersed to Hunts H+ Brangus (Dad Michael and Sons Jamey, Wesley and Seth along with their families) who reside in the Red Bud Community near Calhoun in NW Georgia. Their operation is built almost entirely around the Spitzer Ranch program and they will now have a few over 100 Registered Brangus Females and have already signed on additional cooperators for bull development and sales. Doc and Ben will consult with them for a time to get

everything transitioned.

They also inherited the Spitzer's Mail List so you will still receive about everything as before. **They will be moving the sale to the Northwest Georgia Livestock Pavilion near Calhoun Georgia, but will still have the sale on the Last Saturday in February or Saturday, February 25, 2017.** The folks at Spitzer Ranch will turn you over to the folks at Hunts H+ Brangus with your contact being Wesley Hunt at pastorhunt@bethesdabaptistcalhoun.com for email, 770/548-7950 by phone and their website is www.huntsbrangus.com.

At least for now Doc and Patricia will be staying in SC but they, along with Ben and Dr. Brian and his family, have established Spitzer Ranch, LLC, Preston, KS. This spring they will be calving around 50 recipient calves from their very best cows. They also are moving the best 25 of the 2015 heifer calves to Kansas for spring breeding and have four cows in an intensive embryo donor program. Those embryos will also go into recipient cows in Kansas this spring. They can still be reached by calling 864/972-9140, sending an email note to info@srbulls.com or writing to 1511 HWY 59, Fair Play, SC, 29643. You can reach Dr. Brian and Loretta at SPITZER RANCH, LLC, 60043 NE 50TH Street, Preston, KS 67583 or hiplainsvet@yahoo.com or 620/672-1890. You can reach Ben at SPITZER RANCH, LLC, P. O. Box 759, Justin, TX or spitzeranch@gmail.com or 864/723-3779.

The Spitzers will also be keeping their friends in the ranching community up to date with their plans and would ask you to check for the most current information by visiting their WEB SITE at www.srbulls.com. Additionally, the SPITZER RANCH Facebook page now has almost 2000 followers of their posts and QUOTE OF THE WEEK. Please "LIKE" them on FB.

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