

# **Influence of Varying Amounts of Brahman Breeding on Carcass Merit**

**R.L. West, M.A. Elzo and D. L. Wakeman**

Animal Science Department,  
University of Florida

As part of the Angus–Brahman multibreed, steers are fed and slaughtered to evaluate the effect of mating regimen on carcass and meat traits. Steer calves generated in the project are wintered on a nutritional experiment and then placed in the feedlot. Yearlings are fed to either .35 inches or to .55 inches of outside fatness, as determined ultrasonically. The two levels of fatness (.35 versus .55) will be used to evaluate the relationship of fatness

to carcass traits—particularly marbling deposition and tenderness—and growth traits. After steers reach their predetermined fatness endpoint, they are harvested and typical carcass data are collected. Samples are taken for palatability and chemical determinations.

Results of the first five years of this study will be discussed as cattle in the feedlot are viewed.