

Bull Selection

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- Establish Marketing Objectives
- Choose a breed to fit your cow herd considering your marketing plan
- Considerations prior to selecting individual bulls
 - Most important decision
 - Who you buy bull from?
 - Similar production system
 - Forage-based
 - Tight breeding season
 - Emphasis on female efficiency
 - Reproductive soundness and longevity
 - Primarily producing sires for value-based marketing programs.
 - Honesty and integrity
 - Will not sell you a bull that is not of sound breeding potential.
 - Will make adjustments without hesitation.
- Individual traits
 - Balanced EPDs
 - All positive carcass traits as measured by ultrasound
 - Negative back fat, acceptable REAs
 - Growth criteria most important
 - Carcass weight EPD
 - Weight gain on feeding trial
 - Muscle indicators
 - Ribeye EPD
 - Quality grade EPD
- Never decide that any individual is a must have!
- Never take your trailer to a bull sale!

NOTES: