## Genetic markers for beef quality traits

Steven Shackelford

USDA-ARS,

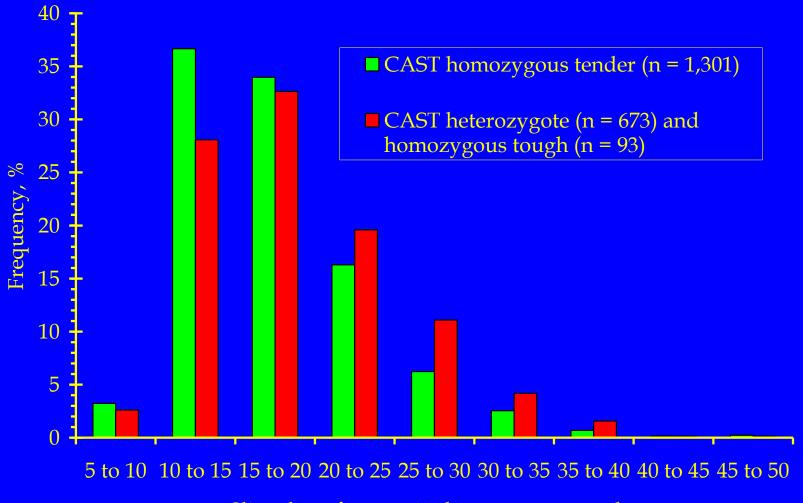
U.S. Meat Animal Research Center

#### U.S. Meat Animal Research Center

- USDA-ARS in-house research agency
- USMARC
  - South central Nebraska
  - 7,000 brood cows closed herd only way in is a semen tank
  - 2,800 ewes
  - 1,000 litters of pigs/year
  - 35,000 acres
    - Pasture
    - Irrigated forage
    - Irrigated row crops
    - Feedlot

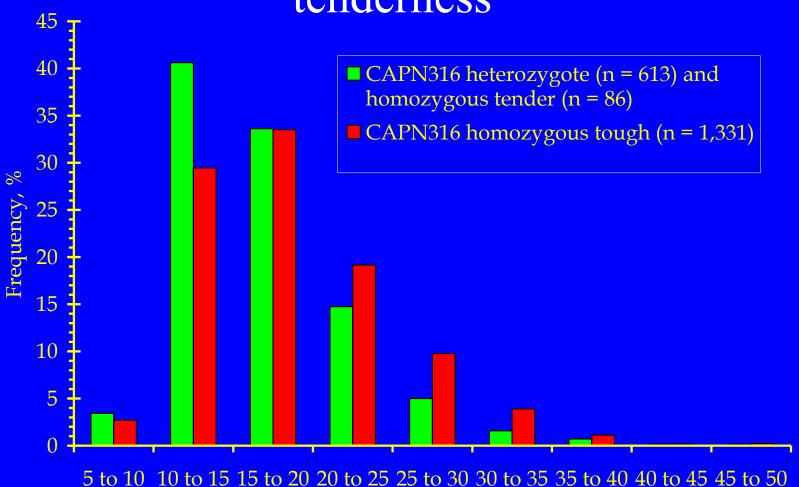
# Test of tenderness SNP's in random test of U.S. Select carcasses

#### Effect of calpastatin genotype on beef tenderness



Slice shear force at 14 days postmortem, kg

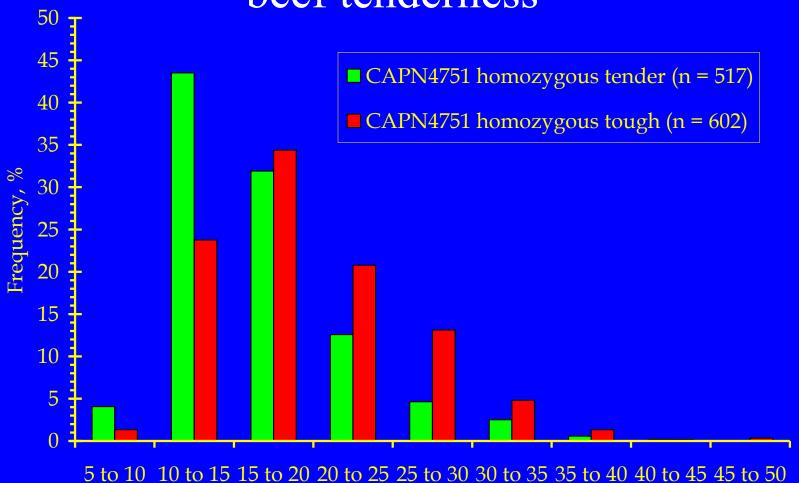
# Effect of μ-calpain (CAPN316) genotype on beef tenderness



15 15 16 26 26 16 25 25 16 56 56 16 55 55 16 46 46 16 45 45 16 56

Slice shear force at 14 days postmortem, kg

# Effect of μ-calpain (CAPN4751) genotype on beef tenderness



13 13 10 20 20 10 23 23 10 30 30 10 33 33 10 40 40 10 43 43 10 30

Slice shear force at 14 days postmortem, kg

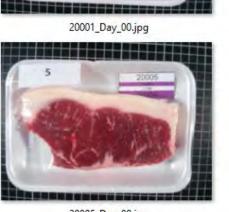
# Dark cutting condition

























20009\_Day\_00.jpg







#### Dark cutting condition

- Abnormally high ultimate pH
- Due to exhaustion of glycogen reserves before slaughter
- Long-term stress
- Gender is a huge environment. Bulls, cryptorchids, heifers
- Estrus --- MGA
- Seasonality
  - Cold stress
  - Heat stress
  - Decreasing day length
  - β-agonist?





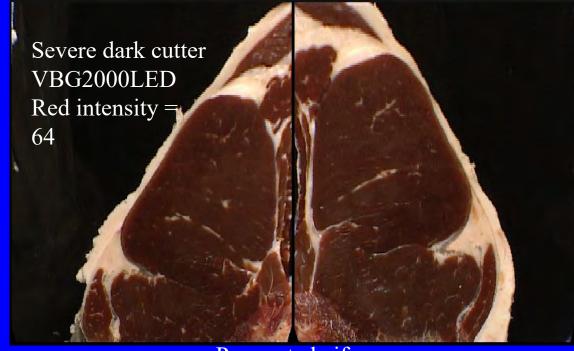


#### Dark cutting condition

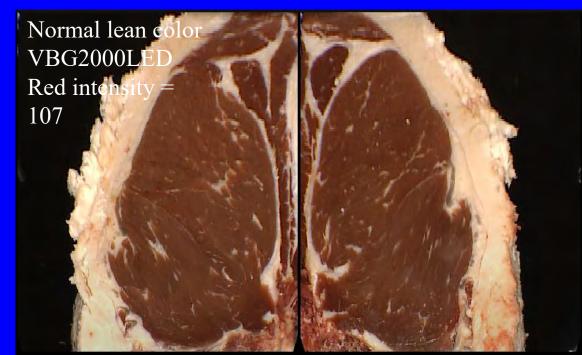
- We were all taught, and accepted, that dark cutting happened because somebody messed up.
  - The packing plant blames the feeder
  - The feeder blames the plant
  - And, everybody blames the trucker

#### But, consider this.

- heifers. They, have lived the same life since they left their mother and traveled <10 miles to our feedlot.
- They, were harvested commercially within 2 minutes of each other.
- With the exception of permanent environment, the environment is the same.



Pen mate heifers

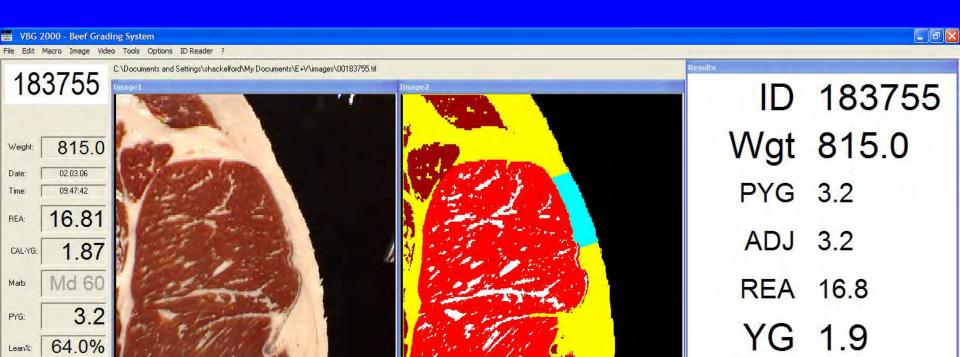


# This, suggests that there is a genetic effect

# **VBG2000**







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Height:

Broad: |S

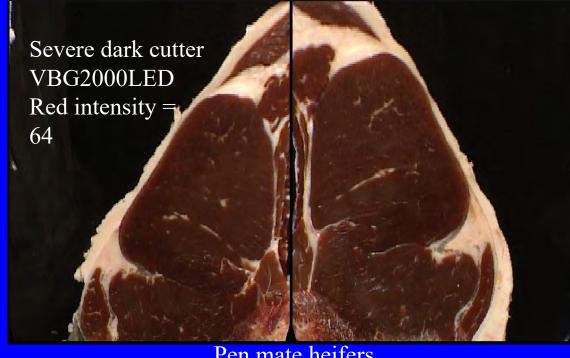
Evaluation: 0.72 s

Menue-Mode

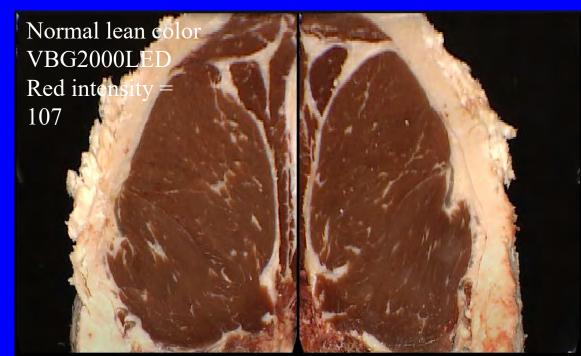
Marb Md 60

#### Genomic control of dark cutting

- N = 7,355
- 60+ harvest days over 10 years
- contemporary groups
  - Heifer
  - Steer
  - Late-castrate
- Instrument evolution
- Color as a continuous variable. NOT categorical



Pen mate heifers



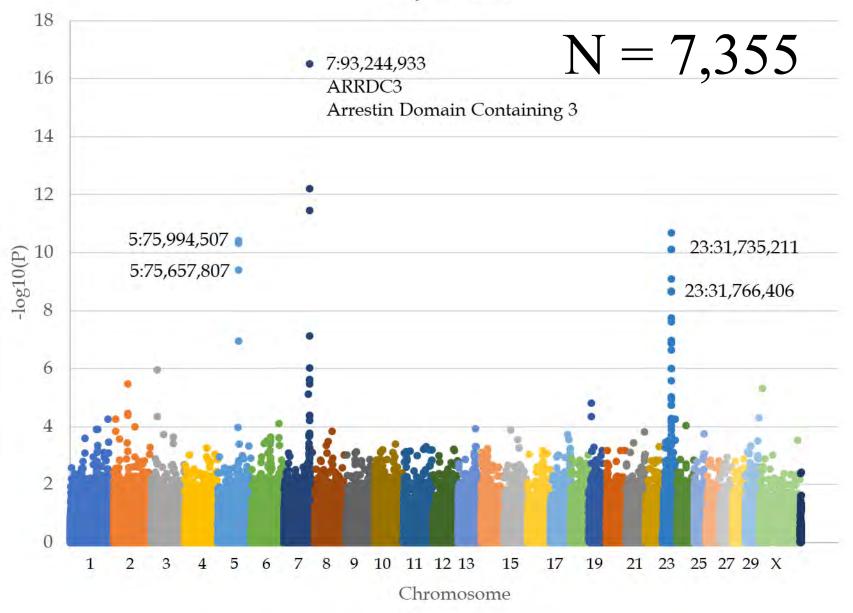
# Not categorical because it isn't!



#### **Imputation**

- GPE, 18 beef breeds
- AI and multisire naturally-mated
- Every breed combination that you can imagine and many that you cannot.
- Smaller contribution from SFA and other projects (weight trait project)
- Imputed to F250

#### Ribeye\_color\_r



- Functional mutation in a gene (ARRDC3) that regulates \( \mathbb{G} \)2 adrenergic agonist receptors
- This SNP is on many commercially-available SNP chips.
- Favorable allele is not fixed in any of the major beef breeds.
  - Highest frequency is  $\sim 0.7$
  - For several breeds the frequency is less than 0.2
  - Originated in British breeds

- Unfavorable allele is highly-conserved across species.
- Little change in sequence over 800 million years of evolution dating make to drosophila melanogaster.
- Similar among...

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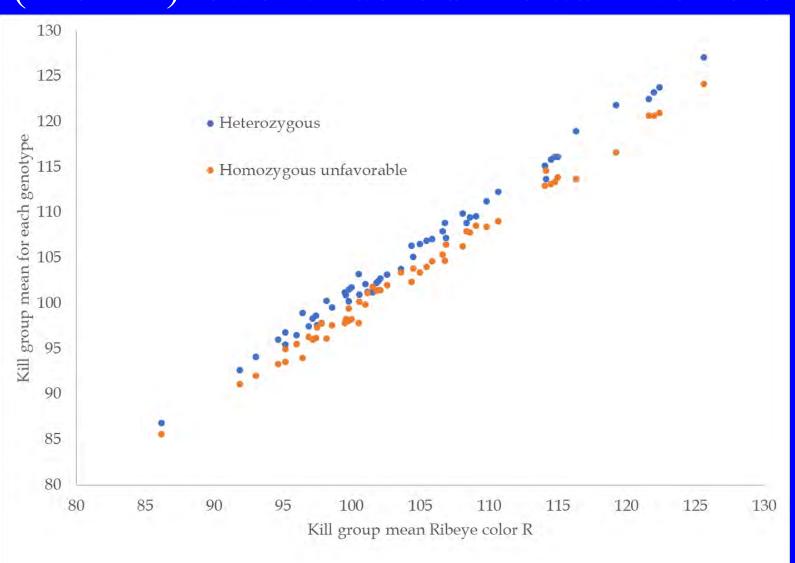


- Unfavorable allele is highly-conserved across species.
- Little change in sequence over 800 million years of evolution dating make to drosophila melanogaster.
- Similar among...



## Ribeye\_color\_r

(0 to 255) lower value is darker..unfavorable



## The blame game

• Turns out that maybe, the breeder is at fault.

#### Genetic correlation

- What happens if we select to decrease susceptibility to dark cutting?
- We are investigating

- Gary Bennett
  - Selecting Functional Alleles project
- Non-retained animals are fed for slaughter
  - And they have high density genotypes when they enter the feedlot at weaning!
- Blocked by Line (Angus and 3 composites), Pop (Control and select line), Sex (steers and heifers), and dark cutting genotype and assigned to
  - Natural (no life time implant)
  - Aggressive implant strategy
- Over the next 4 years, should be 1,500 to 2,000 head of excess steers and heifers in this study

- Natural (no life time implant)
- Aggressive implant strategy

Average of HCW	Column Labels	₹	
Row Labels	Implanted	Nonimplanted	
106	717.5	676.9	-41
125	716.5	669.4	-47
126	724.7	677.8	-47
127	693.0	614.7	-78
Grand Total	711.8	657.1	-55
	_		
Project	2_SFA	T,	
Sex	(Multiple Items)	T,	
	_		
Average of HCW	Column Labels	▼	
Row Labels ▼	Implanted	Nonimplanted	
106	809.1	733.6	-75
125	855.6	765.9	-90
126	803.8	723.6	-80
127	795.5	703.6	-92
Grand Total	815.7	730.3	-85

Average of Marb	Column Labels			
Row Labels ▼	Implanted	Nonimplanted	<b>Grand Total</b>	
106	510	534	521.8	25
125	385	404	394.9	19
126	426	505	465.7	79
127	469	530	499.4	61
Grand Total	443	489	466.0	46
Project	2_SFA 🕶			
Sex	(Multiple Items)			
		_		
Average of Marb	Column Labels			
Row Labels ▼	Implanted	Nonimplanted	<b>Grand Total</b>	
106	450	529	488.2	80
125	369	387	377.8	17
126	417	450	434.0	33
127	452	531	490.8	80
Grand Total	421	472	446.2	50

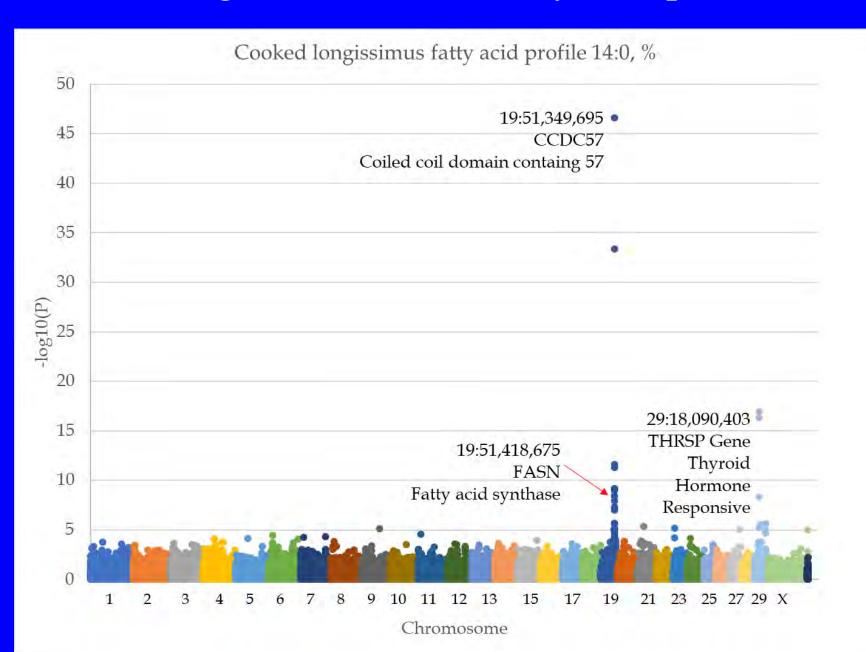
Average of % Choice	Column Labels			
Row Labels 🔻	Implanted	Nonimplanted	<b>Grand Total</b>	
106	100	100	100.0	0
125	23	39	31.1	16
126	63	100	81.6	37
127	87	100	93.5	13
Grand Total	66	83	74.2	17
Project	2_SFA 🖵			
Sex	(Multiple Items) 🕶			
Average of % Choice	Column Labels 🔻			
Row Labels 🔻	Implanted	Nonimplanted	<b>Grand Total</b>	
106	72	89	80.4	16
125	12	28	19.8	15
126	53	69	61.0	17
127	67	93	79.8	27
Grand Total	50	69	59.4	19

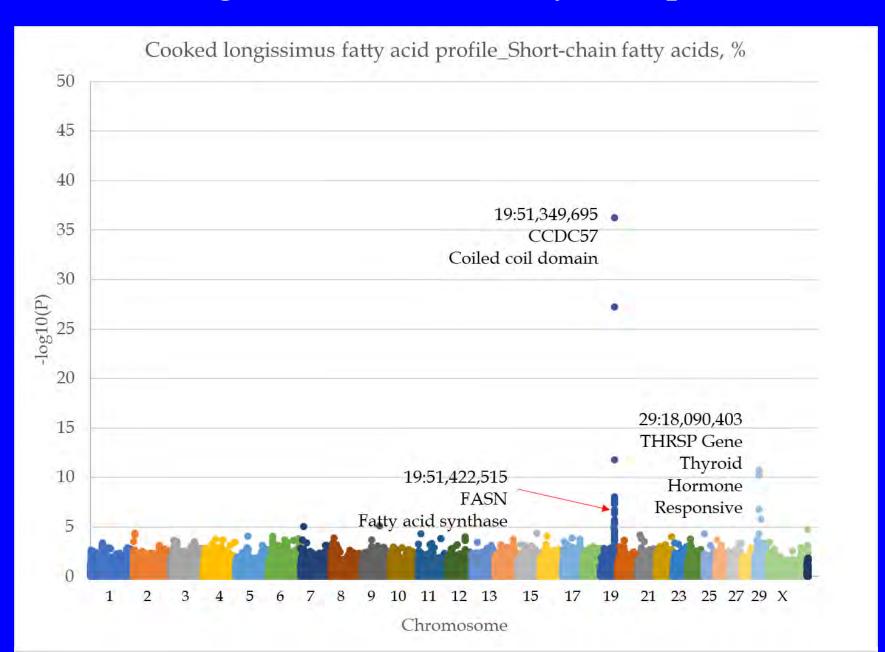
Project Sex	2_SFA .T (Multiple Items) .T			
	Column Labels			
Average of RibEyeColor_r				
Row Labels	Implanted	Nonimplanted	Grand Total	
0	104.9	104.8	104.8	-0.1
1	99.3	101.7	100.4	2.4
2	97.5	98.9	98.2	1.3
Grand Total	98.4	99.9	99.1	1.4
Project	2_SFA 📭			
Sex	(Multiple Items) 🕶			

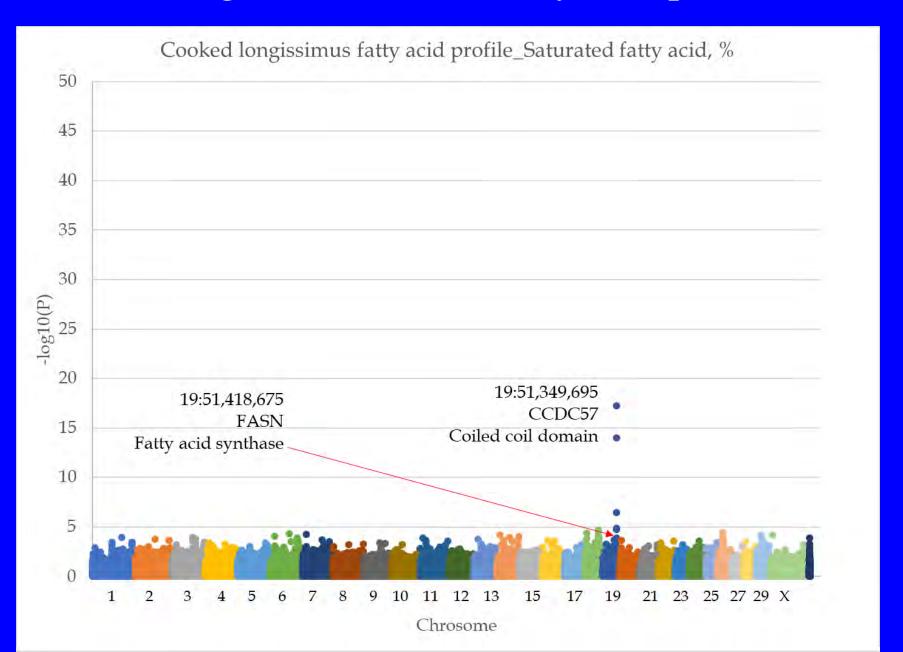
Average of RibEyeColor_r	Column Labels 🔻			
Row Labels	Implanted	Nonimplanted	Grand Total	
0	110.4	110.8	110.6	0.5
1	104.5	106.8	105.7	2.3
2	102.8	105.9	104.3	3.1
Grand Total	103.7	106.6	105.1	2.9

## Fatty acid profile

- Cooked longissimus muscle
- Aged, cooked, trimmed, homogenized, fat extracted, GC-mass spectrometry
- Fatty acids expressed as a percentage of total fatty acids
- C14:0 C14:1 C15:0 C16:0 C16:1 C17:0 C17:1 C18:0 C18:1t11 C18:1c9 C18:1c11 C18:2t9,12 C18:2c9,12 C18:3 CLA c9,t11 C20:3n6 C20:4n6





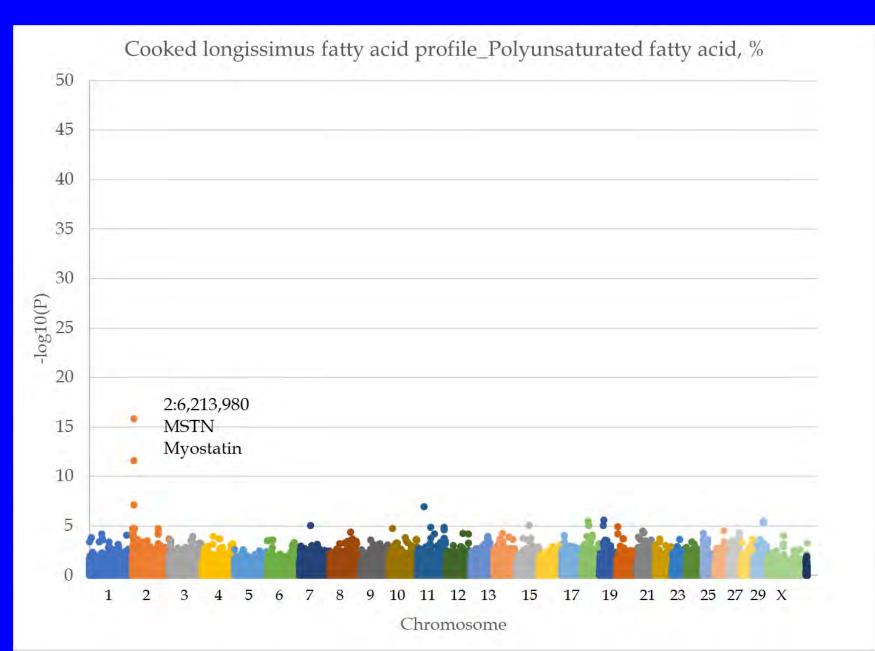


# Biggest effect

- Myristic acid
  - The first fatty acid generated

#### Human health

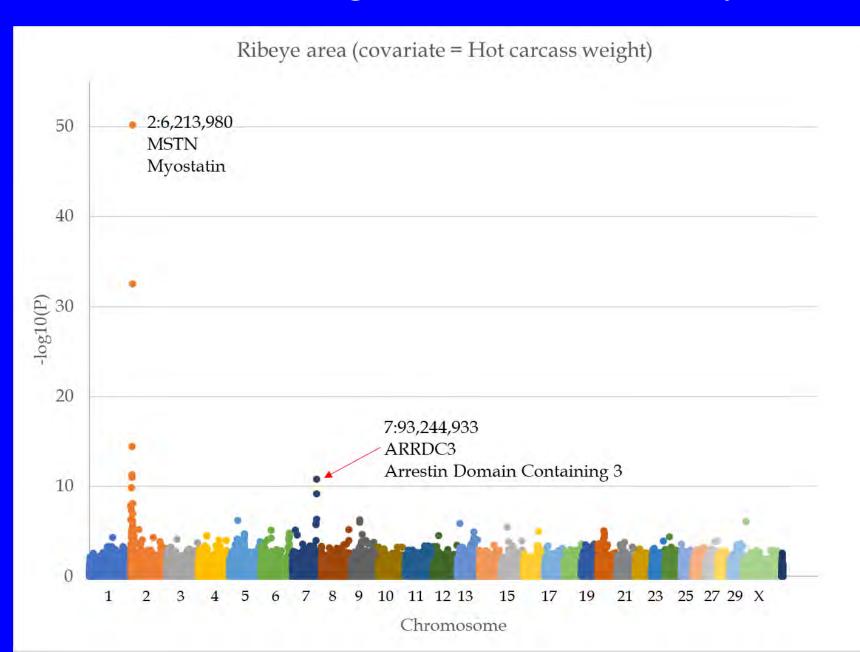
- Muscle
- Ground beef
- Fat
  - Collecting data on s.c. fat
- Next year's SFA carcasses
- Grand challenge



# Myostatin effect

F94L Genotype	HCW	Calc_YG	PYG	ADJ PYG	REA	Marb	PUFA
LL	864.4	1.9	3.1	3.0	16.6	363	14.9
FL	831.7	2.8	3.5	3.4	14.3	366	12.1
FF	816.1	3.3	3.5	3.4	13.0	376	10.0

#### Genomic regulation of muscularity



#### Ribeye\_color\_r

