

## **Red Angus Herd Improvement Plan**

**Name:** Example Ranch

**Address:** Sometown, Kansas

**Phone:** (###) ###-####

**Email:** example@example.com

**Duration of the Your Herd Improvement Plan (1 to 3 years):** 2 year(s)

**Describe your current operation** (seedstock and/or commercial operation; general breeding program; when/how calves are sold; source of replacement heifers, etc.):

150 head spring calving commercial cow/calf operation. We've used Red Angus bulls for the last 15 years, so the cowherd is predominantly Red Angus. New herd bulls are used on replacement heifers as yearlings and two-year-olds, so calving ease is important. Replacement heifers are retained from mature cows. Remainder of weaned calves are sold private treaty to a feed yard buyer who has bought our calves for the last 5 years.

**Using scores 1-3, indicate the importance of the traits below when you are selecting Red Angus herd bulls** (1=High, 2=Moderate, 3=Low, and blank = Not Considered):

**Indices:** 1 HB      2 GM

**EPDs:** 1 CED   BW 2 WW 3 YW 2 Milk   ME 3 HPG 3 CEM 2 STAY  
2 Marb   YG 2 CW 2 REA   Fat

**Traits:** 1 Phenotype 2 Disposition 2 Feet   Individual Performance (BW etc.)  
  Pedigree    2 Breeder        Scrotal Circumference

**Other:**

**List and briefly describe any measurements, metrics, and/or benchmarks you use on an annual basis to evaluate the success of your operation** (For example: 93% of exposed females wean a calf; \$50 profit/grazed acre; Sell 100 seedstock bulls that average \$1,000 over expenses; stay in business; etc.):

Profit from cowherd is enough to pay land mortgage and taxes each year.

**List 2 to 5 herd improvement goals for your operation** (in order of significance):

1. Average HB index of bulls used in 2018 to be in the top 25% of the breed .
2. Implement an AI program on yearling heifers.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

**For each goal above, describe your action plan and timeline for achieving that goal. List annual steps for goals that will take multiple years to achieve.**

- 1) Immediately after the 2017 breeding season, cull 2 of my mature bulls, who have HerdBuilder indexes of 68 and 85 (too low for what I want). In the Spring of 2018, buy a yearling Red Angus bull that has a HerdBuilder index of 150 or higher.
- 2) Identify an AI technician or personally attend an AI school by April 2017. Review estrous synchronization options and purchase semen by May 2017. AI the heifers on or about June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**How can RAAA help you achieve your herd improvement goals?**

My neighbor uses AI, but they run Black Angus bulls. They purchase semen through one A.I. company who has a couple Red Angus bulls I like, but are they the only company that sells semen? I need help identifying what companies sell Red Angus semen.

***Note: All individual information in this plan will remain strictly confidential.***