

Greetings Beef Producers,

Here are requirements for the Illinois Heifer Development Program (IHDP). These will apply to heifers bred after Spring 2009. Major points to remember are:

- Spring and fall calving heifers should be enrolled by March 1st and October 1st, respectively.
- Heifer pelvic area can be measured at the prebreeding examination or at preg-check processing.
- Heifers sold as artificially inseminated must not be exposed to natural service sires for 14 days after AI.
- Heifers failing to become pregnant or losing a pregnancy after the breeding season are not IHDP eligible.
- Heifers must be managed to have their first calf prior to 27 months of age.
- Requirements for natural service and AI sire birth weight and calving ease direct have changed; please refer to Table 1 of the IHDP requirements for the new values.
- Sires used for AI must have accuracy values of 0.6 or higher on a 0 to 1 scale.
- IHDP recommends vaccination against Leptospirosis *hardjo-bovis* and testing for BVD-PI.
- Utilization of ultrasound for fetal aging and pregnancy determination is encouraged.
- Sale heifers must be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection.
- IHDP heifers are certified by tagging only after all data and records have been submitted.
- Catalog sale fees are \$15 per head payable when catalog information is submitted. It is non-refundable once animals are cataloged. Make checks payable to University of Illinois Extension.

If you have any additional questions feel free to contact me at (618) 242-9310.

Best regards,



Dr. Teresa Steckler
Extension Specialist, Animal Systems/Beef



ENROLLMENT FORM

Consignor Name _____ County _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Number of heifers enrolled in Illinois Heifer Development Program _____

Approximate of heifers number available for Spring Calving Heifer Sale (Dec) _____

Fall Calving Heifer Sale (April) _____

Return this form to:

Dr. Teresa Steckler, Extension Specialist, Mt. Vernon Extension Center, 4112 N. Water Tower Place, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Illinois Heifer Development Program (IHDP)

2009 Requirements

Program Objectives

- Improve existing developing heifer development programs
- Increase marketing opportunities for and add value to Illinois-raised heifers
- Provide a reliable source of quality replacements (genetics and management)

Enrollment: In order to qualify for IHDP interested producers must complete a heifer enrollment form by March 1st for spring calving heifers and October 1st for fall calving heifers. Heifers must be enrolled the year they are bred.

Ownership: Heifers enrolled in IHDP may be home-raised or alliance-verified. Alliance-verified heifers enrolled in the program must be owned a minimum of 60 days prior to the breeding season and be accompanied with an affidavit indicating the original breeder's name, address, and approximate heifer birth dates. Illinois residents must own the heifers in order to be marketed through IHDP.

Physical requirements

Animal identification: IHDP heifers must be individually identified with a visual ear tag and legible tattoo.

Blemishes and surgery: Heifers with active cases of Pinkeye or scars resulting from Pinkeye are not IHDP eligible. Horns and scurs must be removed and heifers must be completely healed prior to certification.

Implants & MGA: It is recommended heifers not be implanted. If heifers are implanted, it is required that only FDA approved products for replacement heifers be used and administered according to label guidelines. Long-term use of MGA is prohibited. Use of MGA for periods of up to 14 days to synchronize estrus is permitted.

Health requirements: A comprehensive herd health vaccination program starting at weaning age or before should be administered under the advice and guidance of your veterinarian in the context of a valid veterinary-client-patient relationship.

1. Calfhood vaccination against Brucellosis (Bangs) is **optional**. Non-vaccinates must be tested for Brucellosis if IHDP is held in conjunction with a sale barn auction.
2. Testing heifers for BVD-PI (persistent infection) is recommended

Weaning

3. Heifers must be vaccinated for IBR, BVD, PI₃, BRSV, Clostridial (7-way), Leptospirosis (5-way), Haemophilus Somnus, and Pasteurella H&M. Heifers must be 5 months of age or older at vaccination. Various products may be used provided label directions concerning initial and booster vaccinations are followed.

Prebreeding

4. To maximize protection against reproductive loss, vaccinations against Leptospirosis (5-way) and Vibriosis must be given between 60 and 30 days prior to beginning of breeding. Vaccination against Leptospirosis *hardjo-bovis* is recommended but not required. Products used must follow label directions concerning initial and booster vaccinations. A booster vaccination against IBR, PI₃, BRSV and BVD is also required between 60 and 30 days prior to beginning of breeding. Modified live viral vaccines for IBR and BVD are recommended.

Pregnancy Examination

5. Booster vaccinations against Leptospirosis (5-way), Vibriosis, Clostridial (7-way), IBR, PI₃, BVD and BRSV (4-way) are required at pregnancy check.

Parasite control

6. Heifers must be treated for internal and external parasites within 30 days of sale. Internal parasite control products must have label claim for immature parasite life cycle stages.

Prebreeding evaluation: A pelvic evaluation is required of all heifers at either prebreeding or preg-check processing. Heifers require 150 cm² of pelvic area prior to breeding to qualify for IHDP. Heifers with pelvic areas of less than 150 cm² can be remeasured at pregnancy determination and must have a minimum of 180 cm² at this examination. IHDP encourages producers to conduct prebreeding evaluations 30-60 days prior to the breeding season to facilitate pelvic evaluation as well as prebreeding vaccinations.

Reproductive management: Natural service breeding season cannot exceed 65 days. Estrus synchronization and artificial insemination are encouraged. Producers utilizing artificial insemination must report breeding dates. Heifers marketed as AI bred cannot be exposed for natural service for 14 days following AI

Any heifer that fails to become pregnant during or loses a pregnancy following the original breeding season is no longer eligible for IHDP. Heifers must be managed to have their first calf prior to attaining 27 months of age.

Sire requirements: Heifers must be serviced by bulls of known ID and breed with complete EPD's. There are no breed restrictions for IHDP natural or AI sires as long as EPD's for BW or calving ease direct meet Table 1 requirements. Accuracy values for bulls used in conjunction with AI must be a minimum of 0.6 on a 0 to 1 scale.

Service sire breed	Maximum birth weight EPD	Minimum calving ease direct EPD
Angus		+7
Charolais		+9.3
Gelbvieh		109
Limousin		+11
Polled & Horned Hereford		+1.6
Red Angus		+7
Shorthorn		+2.3
Simmental		+11.2
Simm/Angus (SimmAssoc)	-1.8	

Accuracy values for AI bulls must be a minimum of 0.6

Active Sire Percentile Rank Requirement for breeds not listed
 American Breed – Upper 20% Continental – Upper 15%
 British – Upper 30% Composite Hybrid – Upper 20%

Pregnancy examination: A pregnancy exam should be performed prior to 120 days of gestation to determine fetal age and group heifers accordingly at the time of sale. A 65-day breeding season allows producers to palpate heifers 55 days after the end of breeding. Individual animal identification, pregnancy status and fetal age are required.

Certification: Heifers meeting requirements as outlined will receive an Illinois Heifer Development Program ear tag. Misrepresentation or false advertisement of IHDP will result in exclusion from future program participation. Heifers cataloged in IHDP Sales are accessed \$15 per head payable when catalog information is submitted. Make checks payable to University of Illinois Extension. It is non-refundable. Ear tags can be obtained from Teresa Steckler at (618) 627-2243.

Sale Eligibility Requirements

Weight and body condition: Bred heifers must weigh a minimum of 800 pounds on sale day and body condition score between 5 to 8 on the 9 point scale. Heifers will be sold on a per head basis.

Heifer inspection: Heifers will be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection. Heifers will be screened prior to sale for frame, muscle, structural soundness, disposition, and general sale acceptability. All heifers must meet a minimum projected frame score of Medium using the USDA system for grades for cows (Medium = mature weight of 900 to 1,100 pounds with 0.2 inch of backfat at the 12th rib). Heifers must meet a muscle score of 1 using the USDA feeder cattle scoring system. The screening committee reserves the right to refuse any heifer not meeting minimum criteria for frame, muscle, body condition, or any heifer deemed to have an undesirable disposition.

Pregnancy: The consignor guarantees bred heifers to be safe in calf. A confirmatory pregnancy exam must be performed within 30 days of sale. If a heifer is proven by veterinary exam within 30 days after sale to be open, the consignor will replace the heifer or make a financial settlement with the buyer.

ILLINOIS HEIFER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Timeline and Data Collection

The following is a timeline of procedures and required data collection for heifers enrolled in the Heifer Development Program.

Weaning	Pre-Breeding	Breeding	Pregnancy Exam	Pre-Sale
<p>Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vaccination - IBR, BVD, PI₃, BRSV, Clostridial (7-way), Leptospirosis (5-way), Haemophilus Somnus, & Pasteurella H&M, (<i>Brucellosis is optional</i>). ➤ Evaluate for structural soundness and blemishes ➤ Remove horns/scurs ➤ Parasite control <p>Required Data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual Animal ID (tattoo required) <p>Optional Data: <i>Record if Available</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Birth date, birth weight ➤ Weaning weight ➤ Weaning date <p>Optional testing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ BVD-PI (persistent infection) 	<p>Procedures: (30-60 days prior to breeding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vaccinations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBR, PI₃, BRSV, & BVD booster • Vibriosis, & Leptospirosis (5-way) • Leptospirosis harjo-bovis (recommended) ➤ Pelvic Measure - height, width, area – 150 square centimeters or greater. ➤ Weigh – 600 lbs British, 700 lbs. X-breds. ➤ Evaluate for structural soundness and blemishes ➤ Parasite control ➤ Service Sire Selection - confirm EPD's meet program requirements <p>Required Data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual Animal ID ➤ Breed or breed cross ➤ Color/description ➤ Pelvic measurements ➤ Weight 	<p>Required Data:</p> <p><u>Breeding Program:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Natural Service ➤ AI <p><u>Synchronization Method:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ None <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates bulls in and bulls out (max 65 days) ➤ Prostaglandin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates injected ➤ MGA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates MGA fed ➤ MGA + Prostaglandin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates MGA fed and prostaglandin injected ➤ CIDR + Prostaglandin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates CIDR present and prostaglandin injected <p><u>Heat Expression:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Observed standing heat ➤ Secondary signs of heat ➤ Fixed - time AI <p><u>Insemination:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual ID ➤ Breeding date (mo/day) ➤ Breeding time (am/pm) ➤ Inseminator initials 	<p>Procedures: (maximum of 120 days after start of breeding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vaccination – Vibriosis, Leptospirosis (5-way), Clostridial (7-way), IBR, PI₃, BVD, & BRSV. ➤ Pregnancy exam ➤ Body Condition Score ➤ Re-measure pelvis on heifers less than 150 cm² at pre-breeding. Must be 180 sq. centimeters. ➤ Evaluate for structural soundness and blemishes ➤ Parasite control <p>Required Data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Individual Animal ID ➤ Number of days pregnant ➤ Body Condition Score ➤ Pelvic measurements if re-measured ➤ Blemishes/Unsoundness 	<p>Procedures: (within 30 days of sale)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Applies only to heifers consigned to a Heifer Development Sale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Treat for internal and external parasites ➤ Evaluate for structural soundness, scarred eyes, and injuries ➤ Body Condition Score ➤ Cross reference animal ID. ➤ Pregnancy exam ➤ Certificate of Veterinary inspection

All products listed must be used according to label directions. Consult your veterinarian regarding any questions on health procedures. Forms for data collection are available All data should be forwarded to:

Dr. Teresa Steckler, Extension Specialist, Mt. Vernon Extension Center, 4112 N. Water Tower Place, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864