

BULL MANAGEMENT & CRITERIA

Did you know the bull is 50% of your herd's genetics? Superior genetics in a bull will spread through your herd faster and are a necessary investment.



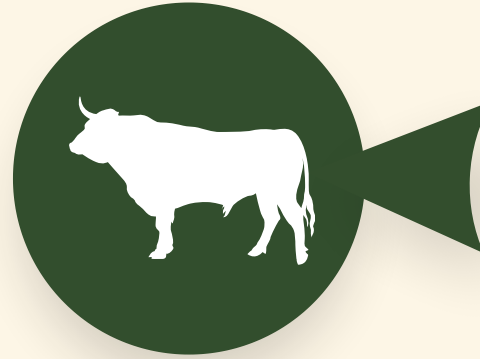
To maintain your bull's health, maintain a relationship with your veterinarian and vaccinate at least 30 days before breeding season.

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING A BULL:



Genetic Performance

Can be evaluated through the use of Expected progeny differences (EPDs). EPD's predict the difference that can be expected in the performance of the progeny.



Visual Appraisal

Structural correctness, muscle composition, angles, sheath score, and functionality can be determined by looking at the bull.



Acclimation to the Environment

Find a bull that will adjust to your ranch's climate and management conditions. Evaluate the need of the bull for additional feed and supplements during the breeding season.

EXPECTED PROGENY DIFFERENCES (EPDS)

EPDs provide an estimation of the performance in progeny based on their parents data. Growth EPDs provide information on topics such as weaning and yearling weight while carcass EPDs include information on topics like marbling, backfat thickness, and ribeye area. This data gives producers the ability to select bulls based on their production goals.

EPD Values associated with: Top 25% of Sires in the Breed, Breed Average, Top 75% (bottom 25%) of Sires in the Breed

Lot #	CED	Lot #	BW	Lot #	WW	Lot #	YW	Lot #	Milk	Lot #	SAPI	Lot #	STSI
1	16.3	20	-1.5	4	86	4	138	48	29	5	152	5	88
48	15.3	48	-1.4	13	83	13	130	5	28	20	148	4	81
5	14.8	25%	0.5	3	78	5	121	50	28	1	145	21	80
46	14.7	46	-0.3	15	78	21	121	46	27	48	138	20	79
25%	13.7	5	0.2	29	78	3	120	54	27	25%	135.13	1	77
20	12.3	1	0.3	5	76	15	117	12	26	21	135	65	77
AVG	11.7	54	0.4	11	76	65	116	15	26	46	134	3	76
4	11.5	AVG	0.6	21	75	29	115	65	26	65	133	48	76
11	11	44	0.5	44	75	38	115	25%	24.6	12	130	12	75
38	11	65	0.9	12	74	11	113	3	24	54	129	25%	74.68
44	11	8	1.1	58	74	12	113	11	24	8	128	13	73
65	10.6	10	1.1	38	73	44	110	4	23	4	126	29	73
13	10.5	44	1.1	65	73	58	110	8	23	3	125	11	72
21	10.2	21	1.2	61	72	25%	109.6	10	23	AVG	123.83	38	72
12	9.9	29	1.2	25%	71.1	50	108	13	23	50	123	46	71
54	9.9	50	1.3	48	69	61	107	29	23	13	121	50	70
75%	9.7	75%	1.6	1	68	48	104	58	23	29	119	AVG	69.24
29	9.6	4	1.6	50	68	1	102	38	22	38	115	8	69
8	9.5	11	1.7	46	67	8	100	AVG	21.7	11	114	44	69
61	9.5	15	2.3	8	65	46	100	20	21	44	114	58	69
10	9.2	3	2.4	8	65	10	99	21	21	58	113	15	67
50	9.2	13	2.4	20	63	20	99	44	21	75%	112.05	61	67
58	8.7	12	2.5	10	62	AVG	98.5	75%	19	61	111	54	66
15	7.9	61	2.7	54	58	54	91	61	19	10	107	75%	63.55
3	7.2	58	2.9	75%	57.8	75%	86.3	1	13	15	102	10	62

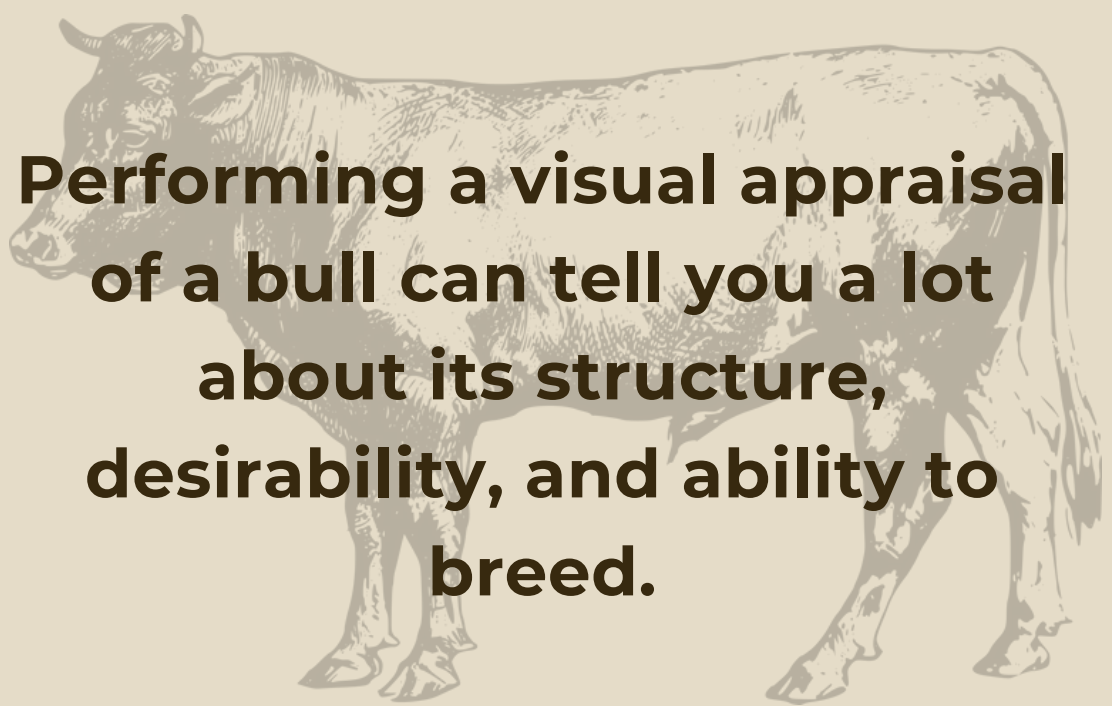
BREEDING SOUNDNESS EXAM (BSE)

A BSE is a physical exam of both internal and external reproductive organs and is performed by a veterinarian. It includes a semen collection and measuring of the scrotal circumference.



In order to pass, the bull must:

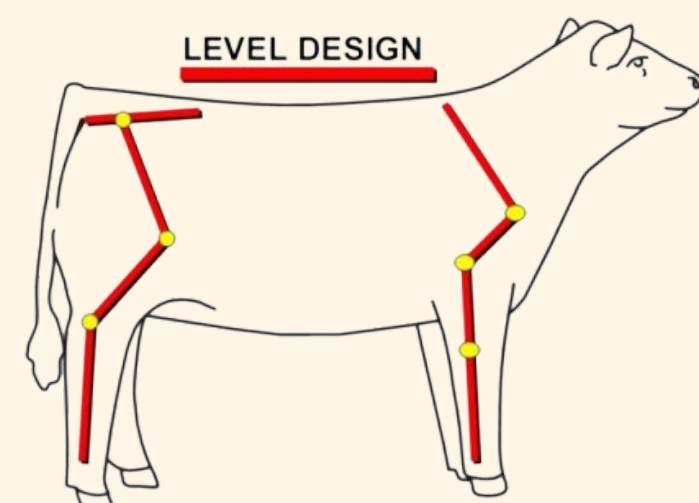
- Have at least 70% normal sperm
- Pass a physical exam
- Meet the minimum requirement for scrotal circumference
- Palpation of internal organs
- Conduct a yearly BSE before the breeding season



Performing a visual appraisal of a bull can tell you a lot about its structure, desirability, and ability to breed.

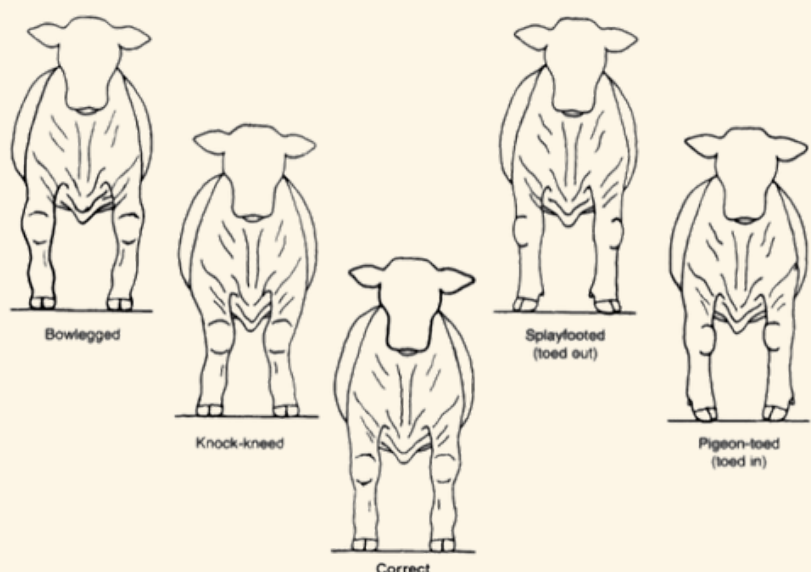
A FUNCTIONAL BULL:

- Deep and big bodied
- Easy fleshing
- Correct angle to joints
- Correct foot size and heel structure
- Moderate frame score



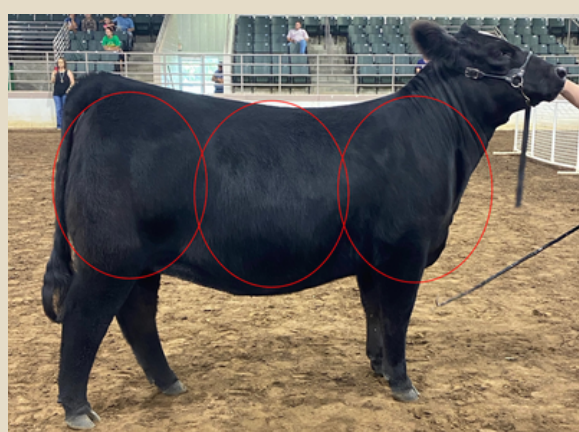
A bull's structure impacts their overall health, ability to breed, and reflects the traits that they will pass down to future progeny.

Front Leg Structure

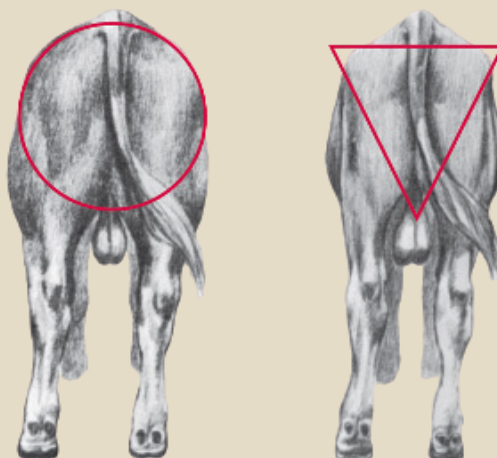


EVALUATING MUSCLE

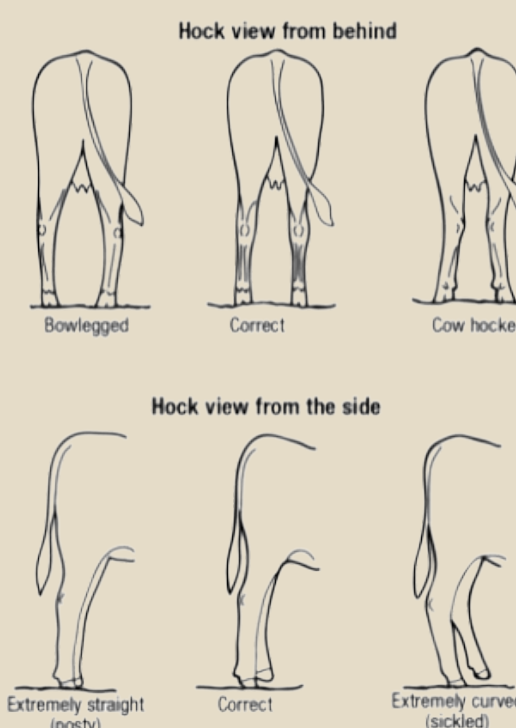
Side:
Forearm
Topline
Rear Quarter



Behind:
Evaluate Muscle Up High
Width of Stance at the Ground



Rear Leg Structure



Desirable sheath

Loose, undesirable sheath

SHEATH SCORING

A bull's sheath can impact their ability to breed. Having a relatively high and tight sheath is ideal for breeding purposes. A looser, lower sheath can prevent the bull from breeding cows naturally.

BULL TO COW RATIO

When breeding naturally, it is important to have a proper bull:cow ratio to ensure that you have enough bulls to service your herd.

Bull age	Bull to Cow Ratio
12-18 Months	1:15-20
2 years	1:30-35
3+ years	1:35-40

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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