

TJAA CARCASS CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES

The Texas Junior Angus Association (TJAA) carcass contest is designed to encourage participation in the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) carcass contest and create an educational opportunity for juniors to understand profitability metrics of the cattle feeding sector of the beef industry and the impact of carcass traits on grid-based marketing.

Eligibility of Participants & Entries:

1. Participants must be a junior, regular or life members of the Texas Angus Association.
2. Participants must be 8-20 as of January 1 of the current year.
3. Registered carcass steers must be Bred & Owned by the exhibitor or purchased from a Texas Angus Association Member.
4. Multiple entries up to 3 per exhibitor shall be allowed in this event with the top carcass counting.
5. The participant will be required to register for the event prior to entry deadline of the Texas Junior Angus Show (TJAS).
6. All carcass steer exhibitors must be present at the time of scanning at the TJAS. Otherwise, the steer will be disqualified.
7. All carcass steer exhibitors are required to attend a designated educational session at the TJAS to learn more about how to Target the Certified Angus Beef brand and the science behind the ten specifications.
8. All carcass steer exhibitors are required to be Beef Quality Assurance Certified (BQA). A copy of the certification must be included with the record book. More information can be found at <https://www.bqa.org/beef-quality-assurance-certification>
9. Steers must be born between January 1, 2024 - July 1, 2024.
10. Minimum live weight of 950 pounds.
11. It is highly recommended that all steers be halter broke.

Event Procedures:

Carcass ranking

1. The carcass steers to be weighed no more than 7 days prior to the day of scan with either a country agent, school ag advisor, Texas Angus Association Board Member, or a TJAA Advisor present (verified out-weight).
2. The carcass steers will be scanned at the TJAS by a Ultrasound Guidelines Council certified Field Technician from the AAA list.
3. Carcass steers will be ranked based on carcass traits from the ultrasound using NJAS Carcass Contest grid-based formula. The Grid formula rewards carcass that meet or exceed Certified Angus Beef (CAB) brand qualifications per the USDA G1 schedule.
4. To calculate a yield grade, carcass weight will be established applying a standard 63% dressing percentage to the verified out-weight. Ribeye area and fat thickness at the 12th rib will be established from the ultrasound scan. A standard 3% Kidney, Pelvic & Heart (KPH) adjustment will be used.
5. Animals need to be clean and dry for best scan results. No pre-oiling will be allowed prior to scan. The ultrasound Technician may clip the steer at the location of scan site in order to produce the best image possible from the scan.
6. Quality grade will be determined using the intramuscular fat(IMF) from the ultrasound scan. "A" maturity will be assumed for all entries.
 - a. "Modest" or higher marbling.
 - b. Medium to fine marbling texture.
 - c. Only cattle harvested less than 30 months of age by dentition and only A-maturity lean – for superior color, texture and tenderness.
 - d. Ribeye Area (REA) of 10.0 – 16.0 in²
 - e. Hot Carcass Weight (HCW) of 1,050 lbs. or less
 - f. Less than 1-inch fat thickness
 - g. Superior muscling (restricts dairy influence)
 - h. Practically free of capillary rupture
 - i. No dark cutters
 - j. No neck hump exceeding 2 inches.

Record book ranking

Participants are expected to complete the associated record worksheet. The carcass steers are to be weighed at the beginning of the feeding period with a country agent, school ag advisor, Texas Angus Association Board Member, or a TJAA Advisor present (verified in-weight). Participants will calculate appropriate performance measures (ex. Average daily gain, weight per day of age, cost of gain, etc.).

Interview ranking

Participants will be asked a series of questions related to cattle feeding and carcass traits and scored on knowledge of responses.

Total Contest Entry Ranking:

75% Carcass
15% Record book
10% Interview

Prizes and Premiums:

1. Thomas Kemp Memorial Scholarships will be awarded to overall based on overall entries:

Thomas Kemp Memorial Scholarship Proposal

Number of Qualified Exhibitor	Overall Grand Champion	Overall Reserve Grand Champion
1 – 10	\$1,500	\$1,000
11 – 20	\$2,250	\$1,250
21 – 30	\$3,000	\$1,500
31 – 40	\$3,750	\$2,000
41 – 50	\$4,500	\$2,250
51+	\$5,000	\$2,500

The overall Thomas Kemp Memorial Scholarship Proposal awarded to any one Texas Angus Junior Member shall not exceed \$7,500.

2. Awards will be provided to the Champion and Reserve champion owned division and bred & owned division entries with a minimum entry of 7 participants per division or both divisions will be combined.
3. Premiums will be awarded.

Texas Junior Angus Association Carcass Steer Record Book Instructions

1. **Section four (4)** – (Optional)

Photo story Record Books must be divided into no more than six (6) sections. Each section must be separated by a blank page.

Section one (1), two (2), and three (3) are required.

1. **Section one (1)** – (Required) – an essay of introduction not to exceed two pages, can include items such as:

- A brief personal background
- Calf selection – size, pedigree, etc.
- Feed selection – facts as to why you chose your feed ration
- Short discussion of industry standards (what commercial feeders expect of cattle in feedlots.) – should include items such as:
 - i. Approximate pounds of feed a calf will eat per day
 - ii. Average daily gain
 - iii. Average cost per pound of gain
 - iv. What feeders and packers are looking for when sourcing cattle

2. **Section two (2)** – (Required) – Record book worksheet:

- Official start weight
- Official out weight
- Average daily gain
- Feeding log (Total weight of feed fed)
- Average cost of gain
- Veterinary expenses
- Additional expenses

3. **Section three (3)** – (Required) – Conclusion – not to exceed one page.

- Summary of your project/ problems encountered, opinion of commercial steer show
- **WHAT YOU learned from the project**
- Other items of interest

Texas Junior Angus Association Carcass Steer Contest Worksheet

Name: _____ Member Num: _____

Age: _____ BQA# _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Phone: _____

Breeder of Steer(s): _____

<u>Steer Reg. #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Weight</u>	<u>Authorized Signature</u>

<u>Steer Reg. #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Out Weight</u>	<u>Authorized Signature</u>

Number of Days on Feed:

<u>Steer Reg. #</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>	<u>Total Days on Feed</u>

Feed Purchased: Ra4on description and/or type of feed:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amt/lbs</u>	<u>Cost/Unit</u>	<u>Total</u>

Gross Feed lbs: _____ Sub-Total Feed Purchases: \$ _____

Veterinary Expenses:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost/Unit</u>	<u>Total</u>
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$

Other/Misc. Expenses:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost/Unit</u>	<u>Total</u>
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$
		\$	\$

TJAA Carcass Steer Summary of Expense

1. Total Finish Weight of Steer (-3% Shrink)	
2. Start Weight of Steer	

Total Gain of Steer: _____

Total Days on Feed: _____

Average Daily Gain of Steer: _____

Total Cost of Feed: _____

Average Cost of Gain: _____

Purchase Price (for Bred & Owned estimate value): _____

Total Expenses (Feed/Vet/Misc.): _____

Projected Breakeven: _____