



WINTER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Ranch Visitors Welcome Anytime!

Brian & Loretta – 620/672-1890 *OR* srbulls@outlook.com *OR* John & Patricia – 864/710-0257 *AND* Spitzer Ranch, LLC on FB
The Spitzer Families are also excited about our new website at www.SpitzerRanchBrangus.com!

A WARM HELLO FROM THE SPITZER FAMILY

A NEW YEAR, and most of us are glad for a fresh start. Our wish for you is a productive, prosperous and incredibly HAPPY 2021. Let us resolve to be positive and motivated to be successful in all that we do.

Our biggest accomplishment by far this past fall was obviously our PROFIT MAKER ONLINE BULL SALE held the first Saturday in October 2020. This sale celebrated new beginnings for the Spitzer Families. 1.) Our first bull sale since 2016 following the mature cow herd dispersal. 2.) Our first sale since moving across the country from Fair Play, SC to Preston, KS. And 3.), our first ever totally online sale. We were truly blessed by your response to our offering.

Small in numbers but large on powerful genetic performance that touched all the bases for economically relevant traits important to the beef industry, the sale grossed \$72,400 on 15 and one-half bulls for an average of \$4671. Topping the sale was the \$10,000 investment for the ½ interest in SR PAWNEE WARRIOR G920. Several progressive commercial beef producers snapped up a few bulls in the \$5000 to \$8000 range, all going to repeat buyers who know what Spitzer

Ranch bulls can do to increase profitability. However, the budget minded cattlemen and cattlemen were certainly not left out as nine bulls sold from \$2400 to \$3200.

Thank You to our 2020 Bull Buyers:

- *Wayne Bass; Lakeland, FL
- *Binford Farms (Clay and Krista Binford); Castroville, TX
- *Matt Hildebrand (Sand Creek Ranch); Stafford, KS
- *Four K Ranch (The Bass Families); Okeechobee, FL
- *McCarleton Partners, LTD; Wauchula, FL
- *Pat and Brady Pfeil; Arcadia FL
- *Roland Seiler; Haviland, KS
- *Shell Creek Cattle (The Varner Families); Wortham, TX

The folks at Spitzer Ranch are certainly pleased to have had this nice response to their new venture on the High Plains of Kansas.

Please mark your calendars for the **FIRST SATURDAY IN OCTOBER, OCTOBER 2, 2021** for the next opportunity to invest in your future at our annual Bull Sale. Those calves have been weaned and will be developed to sell as Age Advantaged 17-20-Month-Old Bulls. Additionally, we ask you to like and follow Spitzer Ranch, LLC on Facebook and Instagram, as well as interacting with Spitzer Ranch, LLC at www.spitzerranchbrangus.com.

SPITZER RANCH, LLC PROFIT MAKER ONLINE BULL SALE SAT, OCT 2, 2021

BULLS WILL BE:

- *17 to 20 months of age.
 - *Passed complete breeding soundness evaluation (BSE).
 - *Managed according to BQA guidelines.
 - *PI-BVD, Trich and Johne's Disease tested FREE.
 - *Modified Live IBR-PI3-BVD-BRSV and Clostridial Diseases Vaccinated and treated for all parasites.
 - * Many of these bulls will be 4-STAR and 5-STAR Calving Ease Bulls for use on virgin heifers.
 - *Provide a balanced genetic approach where you can find calving ease, maternal cow-makers, powerful growth and carcass improvers.
 - *Sell with Genomic Enhanced-Expected Progeny Differences (GE-EPD)
 - *Are Parent Verified.
 - *Are Pedigree or DNA tested for known genetic defects.
 - *Are bred to put *Pounds on the Ground and Dollars in your Pocket!*
- Give us a look, you will find many curve bender-bulls to add more heterosis and performance to your cow herd!

OUR FAMILY, OUR RANCH, YOUR FUTURE!

The \$2000 Value Pitch

(By Dr. Darrell Wilkes, Executive Vice President, International Brangus Breeders Association – From December 2020 Brangus Journal.)

“I call it the “\$2000 pitch.” It is a proposition to get a bull customer to quit looking at a \$2000 bull because he is cheap and set his sights on a \$4000 bull with better EPD because he brings more value. A bull will sire at least 100 calves in his four to five-year breeding life. An extra \$2000 for a better bull, spread out over 100 calves, is \$20 per calf. It does not take much of an EPD spread in calving ease or weaning weight to net \$20 per calf. If you throw in the maternal productivity of the daughters that are held back for replacement, a \$4000 pitch is not all that hard to make.

A good number of commercial cattlemen already have that figured out. I have seen a lot of bulls sell to commercial producers this fall at \$4000 to \$6000 – one after another after another.” “There is a strong commercial market for DARN GOOD BRANGUS BULLS. Regardless of the size of your outfit, the tools are available to make more Darn Good Brangus Bulls”, Says Dr Wilkes.

(NOTE that while Spitzer Ranch, LLC would be considered a rather small breeder in cow numbers, it stands out as one of the largest as far as a breeding program with strong emphasis on GE-EPD for the most Economically Relevant Traits such as Calving Ease, Growth, Maternal Ability and Relevant Carcass Measurements.)

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR CALVING SEASON?

For those of you with a winter calving or spring calving cow herd, it will begin before you know it. Are you prepared? Here are a few tips we trust will be good reminders.

Have a good relationship with your veterinarian. Not just any veterinarian, but the veterinarian you routinely work with for advice and services. Discuss any problems from last year and review your calving procedures. Plan with him/her for

when you begin calving (especially First-Calf-Heifers) and any problem you might anticipate. Additionally, especially if you have discussions beforehand, it is generally better (and cheaper) if you plan on any calving problem you cannot handle to be hauled to the clinic. It is more pleasant for all concerned to handle a dystocia in a nice environment. Especially if the problem leads to a caesarian section when a clean, in-clinic procedure will almost always lead to a more productive outcome for both the cow and her calf.

Check your working facilities.

If you have a designated calving facility – is it clean? Where will you get to water? Do all gates swing as they should and is everything functional? Do all the lights work? Is there some area to warm a newborn? Is there a pen handy for that pair that will not quite “mother up” as they should?

Do you have adequate supplies?

Do you have a good supply of plastic sleeves, a bucket, lubricant, calving chains and handles? Is your calf puller in working order? Do you have an unexpired bottle of the antibiotic recommended by your veterinarian to treat any cow you assist?

Do you have a reliable supply of colostrum?

Colostrum is critical to the newborn calf for passive immunity to a variety of diseases. Remember this should be within the first 4 hours after birth as the calf’s ability to absorb immunoglobulins decreases rapidly and is almost non-existent by about 10 to 12 hours after birth. Do you have stored colostrum (can be frozen). It is sure better to have it and not need it rather than to need it and not have it. Of course, the best source of colostrum is that cow, but another cow from the same herd is acceptable if her calf has had an adequate meal. *Caution: If you need to use a colostrum replacement*

product it would be good to discuss that with the veterinarian as well. It is easy to get confused as there are colostrum replacers, but there are also colostrum supplements and they are NOT the same. Additionally, do you have esophageal feeders and/or feeding bottles with good nipples handy to your work area?

Identify the calf. The absolute best way to eliminate problems is to have some way to match cows and calves. First, any cow needing assistance has a calf that is somewhat at risk and needs more observation, at least for the first few weeks. Second, if one only matches the “doggie calves” at weaning to cows that should be culled you are improving your cow herd. This can be a unique number, or many just number the calf with the same number as the dam.

Please plan now for a successful calving season!

A COW’S PERSPECTIVE

Friends are awesome. I like my friends so much. I will follow them even if it is not where we are supposed to go.

I like adventure. If a gate is open, I will walk through it.

I have bad days too and I feel quite crabby today.

Peace is preferable. I love it when you move toward me without yelling and hollering.

Yikes! I get scared. My cortisol levels go through the roof when I sense danger.

You may think you know when I am going to have my calf and I find that hilarious.

Yes. I know exactly where my baby is. HA! HA! On you.

Yes. You may weigh and tag my calf, but I will be watching your every move.

Adapted and modified from writings of Marci Whitehurst. Her BLOG is at (cowboywife.net)

BULL DEVELOPMENT REPORT - SALE BULLS

Spitzer Ranch 2020 spring-born calves were weaned on September 19, 2020. We collect check weights at eight-week intervals and January 9, 2021 marked 112 days since weaning. On our operation, the weaning weight is start weight. That way you see actual gain from weaning through the development period which includes the stressful period immediately after weaning.

These bulls have a 3.55-pound average daily gain (ADG) for the entire 112 days since they came off their mothers. That is a nice gain since we never have gotten bulls on wheat pasture this year. That gain is on Millet hay and a 46 Megcal/CWT low energy ration.

The **following page** delineates genetic information on individual bulls. While the tissue samples for DNA analysis have been submitted and run, there is a time lag for the Brangus system to get Genomic Enhanced Expected Progeny Differences (GE-EPD) calculated. Therefore, these are preliminary EPD. If you have interest in specific bulls, please wait until February EPD are published by the Brangus Association (usually by the 10TH of each month) and those should be GE-EPD. March 10TH for sure.

We constantly remind ourselves that we are small breeders in cow numbers, but large breeders in how we collect data and fit into the beef industry. These 23 bulls will stack up against anyone for their contribution to economically relevant traits (ERT) for beef production and enhanced profitability.

Give us a call with any questions about these bulls and our program. If you receive this Newsletter, you are on our mailing list so look for a Spitzer Ranch Bull Sale Catalog in early September.

DEALERS - CENTURY LIVESTOCK FEEDERS

Along with Hi-Plains Veterinary Services in Pratt, KS we have now established a dealership for all products manufactured thru Century Livestock Feeders. Go to CLF web www.centurylivestockfeeders.com for a complete list of their products or drop by the clinic in Pratt for a brochure. And you can always give us a call and we will mail a brochure directly to you.

We plan to have in stock the 8' DIAMETER X 46" TALL CATTLE Hay Rings in the STANDARD (6-LEG), the HEAVY DUTY (12-LEG) and the STANDARD BAR FEEDER (6-LEG).

However, we will be happy to take orders for the 8' DIAMETER X 32" TALL and the 8' DIAMETER X 66" TALL HORSE Hay Rings as well as any other product from Century Livestock Feeders.

These are the ONLY Hay Rings with a 7-YEAR WARRANTY. Discounts available if you assemble Hay Rings yourself.

Please call John Spitzer at the ranch 864/710-0257 OR call Brian Spitzer at the clinic 620/672-1890.

GENETIC SELECTION

(A shorter version from SPRING 2020.)

Why do you buy bulls? It would be our opinion that you are **NOT** looking to buy bulls! What you are looking for is a package of GENETICS that will: **Increase** "number of live calves weaned"; **Increase** the growth potential or "salable pounds of calf raised"; **Improve** the genetics and functionality of your cow herd thru retained heifers; and, most importantly, **Improve** profits for your operation. Honestly, you do not care much about the bull but what you very much care a great deal about is the **bull's value to you as**

the male parent.

However, it is awfully hard to get the right genetics into your cow herd without the necessity of buying bulls. Remember though that your goal is not about buying bulls but buying genetics that increase your profitability. Or quite simply, buying the next male parent of your future calf crop.

So where does that leave you as cattle folks who are serious about buying genetics, in the form of a bull, to create the next generation? We think it means looking at the information that is truly genetic and leaving the rest behind. With the advent of DNA sampling, we now combine the traditional EPD with the genomic testing to generate GE-EPD. Those GE-EPD provide you (and us) with the same confidence as if we had that bull's first calf crop already born. The same information as if we had 10-20 calves, depending on exactly which trait, on the ground. **Yes, we can see his value as a parent before the calves are born! How neat is that?**

The GE-EPD is considerably more accurate than the traditional EPD by itself; AND orders of magnitude more accurate than any of the individual weights and measures many people try to confuse you with. Spitzer Ranch is adamant about GE-EPD being your best tool in bull selection. We look at it as customer service when we can provide you with better information on the bulls in our sales. In our minds, genomic testing allows us to market cattle with more integrity because the genetic predictions are so much more accurate. Besides that, it reduces the risk that your purchase does not live up to your expectations as a parent. We believe it correctly answers the question: "How can we provide the most unbiased information to sell our bull's genetics to the right buyer?"

Spitzer Ranch, LLC BULLS	BREED	Registration Number	CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	REA	IMF	MK	TM	CEM	HP	STAY	SIRE	DAM
SR INCA WARRIOR H004**	50%RB:50%AR	UR10444070 Top % RANK	7.1	-0.8	18	25	-0.18	0.43	-0.06	6	15	4.1	1.18	1.75	MR PB Redbull 521/09W	2JP 5620
SR PAWNEE WARRIOR H005	75%BN:25%AN	UB10444071 Top % RANK	4.5	1.0	35	65	0.51	0.38	0.13	10	28	3.7	2.94	1.61	MC Playbook 468Y3	SR Crow Foxtrot F879
SR INCA WARRIOR H007**	50%RB:50%AR	UR10444073 Top % RANK	6.5	-0.8	15	21	-0.18	0.41	-0.06	7	14	4.0	1.18	1.75	MR PB Redbull 521/09W	2JP Cali's 254
SR PAWNEE WARRIOR H009	BRANGUS	R10444075 Top % RANK	7.0	-0.7	30	56	0.44	0.37	0.02	12	27	3.8	2.76	1.16	MC Playbook 468Y3	SR Crow Foxtrot F865
SR MOHICAN WARRIOR H011	50%BN:50%AN	UB10444077 Top % RANK	3.9	-0.4	37	77	0.88	0.60	0.21	19	37	3.1	1.42	0.99	TCB Catawba Warrior R532	HP Absolute E736
SR Mohican Warrior H014	50%BN:50%AN	UB10444080 Top % RANK	3.9	-0.9	33	72	0.99	0.62	0.19	17	34	2.7	1.45	0.90	TCB Catawba Warrior R532	HP Absolute E732
SR MOHICAN WARRIOR H019	50%BN:50%AN	UB10444085 Top % RANK	2.8	0.7	36	71	0.71	0.39	0.18	18	36	3.5	1.12	0.87	TCB Catawba Warrior R532	HP New Design X007
SR Calusa Warrior H020	BRANGUS	R10444086 Top % RANK	1.3	3.4	42	77	0.48	0.58	0.18	18	39	3.4	1.29	1.43	SR Chickasaw Warrior F817	SR Warrior Princess F838
SR Ree Warrior H021**	50%AR:50%RB	UR10444141 Top % RANK	3.2	1.3	26	43	0.56	0.33	0.01	8	21	2.8	1.41	1.28	Brown JYJ Redemption Y1334	SVF MS 99R11
SR TATANKA WARRIOR H024	50%BN:50%AR	UB10444089 Top % RANK	2.5	2.4	26	45	0.15	0.29	0.07	2	15	3.2	0.13	0.52	Brinks Easy Street 30D37	Cali's Hotshot 244
SR MOHICAN WARRIOR H031	50%BN:50%AN	UB10444095 Top % RANK	7.3	-1.9	35	73	0.79	0.60	0.15	21	38	3.2	1.33	0.99	TCB Catawba Warrior R532	HP EZ Money B403
SR CHICASAW WARRIOR H033	BRANGUS	R10444096 Top % RANK	6.4	-1.0	32	64	0.59	0.59	0.15	16	31	3.7	2.60	1.26	MC Boulder 889Z14	SR Mohican Blackbird B462
SR MOHICAN WARRIOR H035	50%BN:50%AN	UB10444097 Top % RANK	6.1	-0.9	36	77	1.08	0.58	0.15	20	38	3.5	1.31	1.01	TCB Catawba Warrior R532	HP In Focus C505
SR CALUSA WARRIOR H037	75%BN:25%AN	UB10444099 Top % RANK	7.3	-1.4	37	78	0.83	0.77	0.26	18	36	3.5	2.01	1.53	SR Chickasaw Warrior F817	SR Mohican Blackbird F816
SR MOHICAN WARRIOR H038	50%BN:50%AN	UB10444100 Top % RANK	3.0	-0.1	38	80	1.04	0.68	0.19	19	38	2.6	1.47	0.91	TCB Catawba Warrior R532	HP Absolute D613
SR CALUSA WARRIOR H040	75%BN:25%AN	UB10444102 Top % RANK	3.5	1.7	40	76	0.47	0.52	0.26	16	36	3.3	2.47	1.89	SR Chickasaw Warrior F817	SR Crow Foxtrot F857
SR OHIO WARRIOR H042	50%BN:50%AN	UB10444104 Top % RANK	4.9	0.3	29	56	0.39	0.43	0.17	15	29	3.6	1.07	1.74	SR Wrangler Warrior F823	HP Traveler W908
SR CAYUGA WARRIOR H045	BRANGUS	R10444107 Top % RANK	2.1	2.1	32	66	0.69	0.42	-0.04	15	31	2.7	0.30	0.30	SR Choctaw Warrior F848	SR Warrior Princess B473
SR OHIO WARRIOR H048	BRANGUS	R10444110 Top % RANK	4.0	1.0	26	48	0.49	0.32	-0.02	15	28	3.4	0.69	0.52	SR Wrangler Warrior F823	SR Mand Pretty Shield B486
SR CONGAREE WARRIOR H049	BRANGUS	R10444111 Top % RANK	4.6	0.5	37	74	0.59	0.77	0.23	13	32	3.7	2.74	1.74	SR Chickasaw Warrior F819	SR Choc Willow Woman E708
SR CONGAREE WARRIOR H050	BRANGUS	R10444112 Top % RANK	2.5	2.5	35	73	0.79	0.61	0.23	20	38	3.5	1.84	1.99	SR Chickasaw Warrior F819	SR Aztec Bright Eyes D660
SR CAYUGA WARRIOR H060	BRANGUS	R10444122 Top % RANK	4.3	0.6	38	76	0.40	0.54	0.13	11	30	3.7	1.73	1.08	SR Choctaw Warrior F848	SR Apache Raven Rock B474
SR CAYUGA WARRIOR H061	50%BN:50%AN	UB10444123 Top % RANK	6.5	-1.5	24	58	0.60	0.37	0.14	12	25	3.1	1.73	1.66	SR Choctaw Warrior F848	HP Extra K205
*** These 3 Bulls are RED																

SPITZER RANCH RESOURCES AND FAMILY HAPPENINGS

What an eventful, challenging and strange year has been 2020. If you have been one who has been ill with the COVID-19 virus, or worse has had a friend or family member succumb to this disease, we offer condolences. We in Pratt County Kansas have been fortunate to be spared the more serious situations seen in other areas of the USA. Not to say we are unaffected, but we have not been plagued with the high infectivity and deaths we mourn in other parts of the country. Let us prayerfully expect the newly released vaccines to lessen this tragedy and get us back to normal.

Of course, Brian, Loretta and family have called Kansas home for almost 20 years now. While John and Patricia only made the move in July 2019, it is certainly beginning to feel like home for them. The rest of you Grandparents on our list absolutely understand how positive Grandchildren can be and our four here have really been a joy. They are currently our only Grandkids and it has been wonderful to really get to know them and be a part of their lives.

Oldest granddaughter has now "aged out" of 4-H, but the other three are constantly active in livestock club with steers, heifers and goats. Their passion, however, is the horse club. All four of them are excellent horsemen/women and seem to rise to the top of county and state horse show awards. Daniel has become so good with training that he seems to always have a horse or two he is tuning up for someone. There is seldom a day of reasonable weather that does not find them horseback.

We do miss our oldest son Jason, but Dentistry keeps him tied to SC,

at least for now. Jason and John used to spend many hours hiking the SC Mountains and they have both lost their hiking partner. The move did place us only about six hours from youngest son Ben and his wife Lauren in TX and we seem to see them every 3-4 months now. Brian and Loretta live on the ranch near Preston and it is about 12 miles from John and Patricia's house to there.

Typical of cow-calf operations in our part of the world, Spitzer Ranch cows run on native range as much as possible. We differ in that much of our land is in quarter sections, and we have established water systems and subdivided the range to 40-acre pastures rotating about every 5-10 days depending on grass.

Calving is on dormant range with First-Calf Cows calving mid-March and Mature Cows two weeks later. That is generally just ahead of spring grass growth. Unless we are fortunate enough to be able to graze volunteer crabgrass following wheat harvest (which we did for part of this summer) cows and calves stay on native range till weaning.

Depending on summer rains dry cows may get a bit of fall grazing on range right after weaning. We are blessed to have a good relationship with a neighbor-farmer and cows graze milo stubble/corn stalks, wheat pasture supplemented with hay, and some protein supplement through the winter.

A single service of AI breeding is early June on heifers and mid-June on lactating cows. Bulls go with heifers for an additional 45 days and bulls stay with the cow herd for 65 days. As summer range is sometimes questionable, we wean when the youngest calf is about 120-days old.

Calves are usually dry lotted the first 56 days on hay and a 50 Megcal/CWT self-fed ration. Then we try to go to wheat grazing and a self-fed 46 Megcal/CWT ration with

additional hay. Once we collect all yearling data heifers go into the breeding pastures and bulls go on range (or hay) and are hand-fed supplement to gain about 1-1.5#/day until just prior to the Spitzer Ranch, LLC Annual Bull Sale the FIRST SATURDAY of OCTOBER each year.

That is a short synopsis of our typical production year. Brian, Loretta and their family are responsible for the bulk of the ranch work and day-to-day management. John and Patricia are semi-retired but help with major cow work, a portion of the records, advertising and of course we all work at planning and executing the annual bull sale.

The elder Spitzers bought a house in town and have spent over a year now adding a room, a porch and renovating and remodeling the entire house. The rest of the family say we have about worn out that excuse so we may spend more time at the ranch in 2021. Not a bad thing to be able to be helping with ranch work in your mid-seventies!

We are sure that everyone knows that BEEF Magazine has ceased publication. Too bad as it was always good information and will be missed. However, the magazine Gulf Coast Cattleman (GCC) seems to be thriving with lots of good articles applicable to all ranchers. Do not let the name fool you as they are continually expanding readership a great deal farther north and west.

We have taken the liberty of checking our mailing list with their subscribers; and if you were not receiving GCC we have enrolled you for a complimentary subscription. If it does not show up in your mail soon, give us a call or email and we will see why.

A DIFFERENT LOOK AT CROSSBREEDING

Yep, crossbreeding from a Seedstock Producer no less! We believe strongly in the crossbred cow for the commercial industry. In fact, that is why we raise Brangus. We believe the **Brangus Crossbred Cow** to be more useful to more operations than any other breed. But this is not going to be the typical discussion of crossbreeding. However, a short version of many articles will serve as a reminder of why crossbreeding pays dividends.

Volumes of data have shown a disciplined crossbreeding program to increase productivity by 20-25% over straight breeding. Most of those data were generated by crossing Bos Taurus X Bos Taurus breeds (English and Continental Cattle). However, data from the southeast and, more recently, reports from USDA-MARC, Clay Center, NE would say that increase to be almost doubled if Bos Taurus are crossed with Bos Indicus (Brahman and the American Breeds).

We are absolutely convinced of two things that will go a long way toward increasing production and profitability in commercial cow herds. **FIRST**, capitalizing on **HETEROSIS** by using a well-planned crossbreeding program and **SECOND**, Brangus will be the Bos Indicus breed of choice to maximize heterosis in that structured crossbreeding plan.

Did you notice the terms disciplined and well-planned in the paragraphs above? Well-Planned means there must be logic and attention to breeds that complement each other. As previously stated, we believe Brangus, being a Bos Indicus Breed, will logically add tremendous heterosis in maternal traits like calving ease, fertility, efficiency, longevity, vigor, and hardiness, as

well as all growth traits. In the Spitzer Ranch cow herd, there has also been selection pressure on carcass traits such that Choice and Upper 2/3 Choice YG 2 carcasses are common. Our 22 years of Ultrasound Carcass Data and feeding a few of our culls in Iowa and Kansas feedlots proves that as fact.

In short, using Spitzer Ranch Brangus Bulls in a crossbreeding system will be very complementary to most of the breeds in today's commercial cattle industry. We have worked with customers to establish remarkably successful crossbreeding programs using Brangus with a variety of breeds.

Disciplined means one must stay with the plan long enough to see true benefits materialize. That seems to us to be where things fall apart. Far too many producers seem to think using breeds of a "different color" generates a good crossbreeding program. Maybe but probably not. Many either did not plan well on which breeds to use or are easily swayed by a fancy commercial or slick page AD to try another breed. Others get so caught up in presentations about maximizing heterosis that they design multi-breed crossbreeding schemes that are destined to fail from overwhelming complexity and severe management limitations. *Absolutely the way to truly maximize heterosis in both cows and calves is a two-breed, true F1 crossbred cow bred to a bull from a third, terminal-oriented breed. That would be ideal, but impractical for most unless one has a reliable supply of purchased F1 crossbred cows.*

So where does that leave us? We will probably take a hit from the Geneticists in the crowd; or at least from some. But, for almost all commercial operations, a **TWO-BREED** Crossbreeding scheme will

get the vast majority of the heterosis supplied by the two-breed F1 cow mated to a third breed in a terminal system.

Besides, there are advantages. First, simple has extreme value in a ranching operation. Second, if you do your homework and are even reasonably good at selecting bulls, your heifer calves become a retained asset, not sold as terminal animals. Many have gotten to where they sell heifers for par or premium to steers! Third, it is a whole lot less stress on the system – bull selection in both breeds for pretty much the same traits – fewer breeding pastures - hunting for bulls to buy and seedstock breeders to buy them from and so on.

However, it is not easy and again takes **PLANNING** and **DISCIPLINE**. Please refer to the chart on the next page for discussion. For this example, we are going to start with your base cows, whatever breed or crossbred they are, and designate them as XX. Then we will enter a plan to create a two-breed crossbreeding scheme using Brangus (BN) and Hereford (HH). (Obviously, you could substitute other breeds and the concept would be the same. We just happen to like the Brangus X Hereford Crossbred cow. If you do not, then substitute Angus or Sim-Angus or Red Angus or Gelbvieh or whatever is your breed of choice.)

If we use BN bulls on your XX cows in 2021 the ½ BN & ½ XX calves would be born in 2022, those heifers would be again bred to BN bulls in 2023 and have ¾ BN & ¼ XX calves in 2024. Then we really start our two-breed crossbreeding by using HH bulls on those ¾ BN & 1/4 XX heifers in 2025.

After that we would always breed Brangus-sired females to Hereford bulls and Hereford-sired females to Brangus bulls. Pretty simple right.?

If you will follow through the chart, you will see that eventually the cow herd will somewhat stabilize to all cows being between 2/3 BN and 1/3 HH or 2/3 HH and 1/3 BN - forever! But it takes 10-12 years to get to that point. See where **discipline** comes into play

You will obviously see the benefits of capturing heterosis in your program much sooner, but it takes a minimum of 10 years to accomplish the full fruits of your planed two-breed crossbreeding system.

In our opinion that is one of the

main reasons why what may have started out as a well-planned crossbreeding system failed. Somewhere along the line, for one reason or another, the positive “end in sight” was lost. If you design a good, logical and well-planned system – stick with it!

YEAR	BULL BREED	COW BREED	CALF BREED COMPOSITION	BORN IN	
2021	Brangus (BN)	Base Breed (XX)	50% BN:50% XX	2022	
2023	Brangus (BN)	50% BN:50%XX	75% BN:25%XX	2024	
2025	Hereford (HH)	75% BN:25%XX	50% HH:38% BN:12% XX	2026	
2027	Brangus (BN)	50% HH:38% BN:12% XX	69% BN:25% HH	2028	*6% XX Dropped
2029	Hereford (HH)	69% BN:25% HH	63% HH & 37% BN	2030	*3% XX Dropped
2031	Brangus (BN)	63% HH & 37% BN	67% BN & 33% HH	2032	** APPROXIMATE
2033	Hereford (HH)	67% BN & 33% HH	67% HH & 33% BN	2034	** APPROXIMATE

*By Breeding convention anything less than 1/8 (12%) contributes little and is dropped.

** From this point forward, the system would stabilize and calves would range 2/3 BN & 1/3 HH to 2/3 HH & 1/3 BN.



“Their production continues to shine with the calves they bring to the weaning pen year after year, consistently outproducing English crosses through conception rate, pounds of weaned calves and longevity.”



60043 NE 50th St.
Preston, KS 67583
srbulls@outlook.com

Brian and Loretta Spitzer
620/672-1890

John and Patricia Spitzer
864/710-0257

Brangus Seedstock Producer
Profitable Genetics from
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PROFIT MAKER ONLINE BULL SALE

Bidding will again be through SMART AUCTIONS.

Bidding will close SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021.

Catalogs will be in the mail in early September.

*Profitable Genetics from
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