

# B.C. Angus NEWS

BC Angus News

May 2022 | Volume 8 - Edition Eighty



## President's Report

**By Bob Miller, BCAA President**

With the 2022 bull buying and selling season behind us, farmers and ranchers showed strong interest in purchasing BC Angus bulls. Thank you to those who supported and bought good quality BC born and raised Black and Red Angus bulls.

What's a good bull worth? – a long standing answer to this question has been “A good bull is worth the value of five calves he sires.” Many believe this is a good rule of thumb to follow, but may lead to doing a little math, such as;

- 600 lb weaned steer calves at \$2.15 / lb for a value of \$1290 per head. Therefore using this formula – the answer to what I should pay for my next bull is \$6450.00
- 875 lb. yearling steers at \$1.90/ lb for a value of  $\$1662.50 \times (5) = \$8312.50$

So in the current market, a good bull is worth somewhere between \$5000. - \$9000. to a good commercial cattle operation. Where exactly in that range, depends on your operations marketing plan and the market conditions

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# President's Report

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By Bob Miller, BCAA President

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at that time. In some cases, old rules of thumb still work or at least gives one a starting point. As we prepare for breeding season - cow owners before turning out bulls need to think about bull to female ratios. A conservative expectation of the number of cows we should expect bulls to cover in a defined breeding season is;

- Bulls under 15 months of age = 10-12 females
- Bulls 15 - 18 months of age = 12-18 females
- Bulls 18 – 24 months of age = 18-25 females
- Bulls over 24 months of age = 25-40 females

The old rule of thumb for managing younger bulls is; one female per month of age of the bull at turnout, after passing breeding soundness examination.

Tips to Optimize Cattle Mineral Intake.

- When first putting minerals out, especially during hot temperatures, place mineral tubs near loafing areas, water sources and shade.
- Having enough mineral feeding sites is important in meeting your herd's needs. On average, a mineral tub will last about 10 days per 50 cows or for loose mineral a rule of thumb is two bags per cow per year, or 4 ounces per head per day.
- Choose a mineral feeder that works for your environment. Wooden feeders will deteriorate under rain and inclement weather, metal feeders will rust. Placing feeders under some type of shelter when possible can help extend their life. Placing tubs in a truck tire works nicely to restrict cattle from knocking them over.

Some believe it's time to add nitrogen fixing legumes to your pastures. With today's ever increasing operational input costs, specifically fertilizers, and with cattle prices remaining stagnated, farmers and ranchers who care about managing their grasses are looking at other alternatives. One of those alternatives may be to use legumes in the pastures to replace N fertilizers. Forage legumes can fix 50-150 pounds of nitrogen from the air, depending on the density of the legume stand.

Point of interest, CCIA continues to deal with a number of tag production issues. It appears this may last a while. The CAA has recognized these issues will create added issues in having cattle verified for brand programs and Gold Shows and is in the process of developing an enhanced Angus verification system over the next few months to increase the ways and ability to provide Angus verified calves to a number of programs. CAA will be hosting a webinar on this once the system is complete.

BC Junior Angus Association remains active, as they have recently engaged in board governance and a Robert's Rules of Order webinars, as well as, hosting an on line fundraising auction.

In closing, BCAA in conjunction with CAA have introduced a new venture in creating an Angus Ambassador role. Some responsibilities, but not all, of the Ambassador position will be to promote CAA and BCAA programs and initiatives while attending BC Angus functions and events, mentor new Angus Association members, visit

# President's Report

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By Bob Miller, BCAA President

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provincial sale out facilities regularly, attend fall Angus influence feeder calf sales and conduct farm and ranch visits with strong emphasis on the commercial cattle operations using Angus and Angus influence.

BCAA and CAA are pleased to announce that long time Angus member John Appleby has been selected to serve the role for BC as Angus Ambassador. Congratulations, John.

Congratulations also go out to BCJAA member Lexi Augustine of Horsefly, BC on exhibiting the Reserve Grand Champion Angus bull at the 85th Annual Williams Lake bull sale. This was the first time Lexi has consigned and sold a purebred Black Angus bull at auction.

Until the next time.

Bob Miller

## Kristina's Korner

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**Kristina Moller, Secretary for the B.C. Angus Association**

As many of us are well aware of in the beef industry, the past couple months have been extremely concerning with the price increase in the products that we rely on the most to conduct the day to day business at our operations. Fuel, fertilizer and feed are just a few of the things that have gone way up in price. It is easy to take a 'doom and gloom' perspective on this, especially since the cattle market prices are not exactly matching this sky high increase. As a person who is relatively new in this industry, and certainly a newcomer to running my own outfit, I find myself often worrying about this as well.

Instead of worrying, stressing and complaining, which accomplishes nothing, I try to think of ways that I can diversify my operation and do things differently to make an attempt to combat these high prices. It is easy to fall into the mentality of, "well this is the way it's always been done, and is the way we need to keep on doing it." Despite the fact that I have not owned my ranch for very long, I feel hesitant at doing things differently than how I originally thought. I came into this industry, like most of us do, with set goals and a set mindset; a specific number of head that I was going to run and a set amount of feed to be produced every year. This is now changing, due to the changes in our industry.



I encourage all producers to try this as well. What else is your operation capable of? What else can it do for you? What else can your cattle do for you? The Angus cow, for instance, is fertile, efficient and easily adapts to environmental situations. She is the perfect example of today's working mother. I think now is the time to 'think outside the box' and shift our perspectives to better combat this unpredictable market.

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# Publication Dates

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The newsletter is published three times per year, January, May, and September.

For further information, please contact

Kristina Moller, phone at 250-991-0921 or email at kmranch2763@gmail.com

# Connect With B.C. Angus

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# Red Moon Angus 2022 Bull Sale Results

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The 2nd on line timed yearling Red Angus Bull auction was held March 25-26, 2022. The bulls were on display at the farm and were sold through BC Livestock Producers Cooperative, Next Lot system.

Red Angus yearling bulls averaged \$5750. Interest came from throughout the western provinces. Most of the bulls were sold to repeat buyers.

High selling bull was Red Moon Jack Flash 42J, purchased by Tony Zemenchik, of Burns Lake, BC at \$8 100.00. The 2nd high sellers tied, Red Moon Justification 14J, purchased by The Dane Ranch, Williams Lake, BC and Red Moon Jake Break 35J purchased by Carmella Farms, Vanderhoof, BC. Both at \$7300.

Looking forward to next year, we have a good lineup of heifer bulls to be offered.

The Moon family would like to thank all those who showed interest in the bull pen and took the time to stop by and view the bulls. As time change back to pre-covid we would appreciate any feedback on the online time sale format in the years going forward. You may reach us through email redmoon@hwy16.com

Thank you to Elysia Penner, Wayne Jordon, Al Smith and the rest of the crew at BC Livestock for your great service and support.

We hope you all have a smooth calving season and profitable fall calf sales.

The Moon Family



Red Moon Jack Flash 42J, High Seller



Red Moon Justification 14J, 2nd High Seller



Red Moon Jake Break 35J, 2nd High Seller

# 2022 BC Angus Bull Sale Results

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## March 18 – Harvest Angus

Tom de Waal, Prince George, BC.

Averaged \$3705 on 39 bulls, and \$2630 on 13 bred cows and heifers.

## March 19 – Bulls From the Heart Sale

Clinton Rodeo Grounds, Clinton, BC

Heart of the Valley Angus, Brad & Aleta Chappell, Courtney, BC with Limestone Charolais, Craig Allison and Brenda Miller, Clinton, BC

26 Red Angus yearling bulls averaged \$6155.

13 Charolais yearling bulls averaged \$5460.

## March 19 - Northern Alliance Bull Sale

Ft. Fraser, BC

Poplar Meadows Tanya, Monty Belsham and family, and Blast Angus, Brent, Lia Long and family.

Averaged \$5491 on 92 yearling Black Angus bulls.

## March 25-26 – Red Moon Angus

Shirley, Jim Moon and family, Vanderhoof, BC. Online bull sale.

15 Red Angus bulls averaged \$5750

## April 2 – Best Bet Bull Sale

BC Livestock, Williams Lake, BC

Mitchell Cattle Co. Ian & Anja Mitchell and family, Barriere, BC

22 Red Angus yearling bulls averaged \$5260.

Crosby Cattle, Ron & Lois Crosby, Vanderhoof, BC

8 Black Angus yearling bulls averaged \$6906.

## April 2 – KT Ranches

Kevin & Tracy Carson. Online sale

20 Black Angus yearling bulls averaged \$6294.

## April 9 – Vanderhoof All Breeds Bull Sale

19 Black and Red Angus bulls averaged \$5305.

## April 14 – 85th Annual Williams Lake Bull Show & Sale

Averaged \$4370 on 28 Red and Black Angus bulls. Three Angus cross open yearling heifers averaged \$1600.

# Check It Out!

Check out BC Angus Association new website [www.bcangus.ca](http://www.bcangus.ca)

# Nicola Ranch, Merritt, BC

## BC Angus Association Commercial Angus Breeder of the Year 2022

### Nicola Ranch History

Nicola Ranch was established in 1919 by Major Charles Sydney Goldman. Today, the home ranch location was once the town of Nicola. The ranch has changed ownership four times during its history. In 1958 Major Goldman sold to the Parker family from Texas. The Parkers owned the ranch from 1958-1978. An ownership group from Alberta then owned the ranch for period of 1978-1988. Current owners, the Liu family, purchased the ranch at that time. John Liu, serves as president of the company. Nicola Ranch is made up of four different ranches totalling 300,000 acres.

### Why Angus

Much like many ranches in BC's interior the cowherd has changed over time. Nicola Ranch cowherd has had Shorthorn and Hereford influence but now all straight Black Angus. Nicola Ranch owners, management and cowboys are extremely proud of their herd today. Black Angus only bulls have been purchased and turned out for the past 20 years. For the past decade, Angus bulls have been purchased from McGillivray Livestock, Alex & Jenny Robinson and Sealin Creek Angus with straight Canadian Angus genetics. Using these Angus genetics; "our program has become more rounded and predictable" says ranch manager John Parks. "Within our approx 1500 cowherd, calving problems are almost non-existent; the maternal instincts of the Angus cows are second to none as our ranch calves weight is right up with exotic crossbreds." The Nicola ranch targets nine months on grass while during the wintering month's cows are feed first cut silage and mineral.

### Marketing

For many years, Nicola Ranch marketed their steer calves on TEAM (The Electronic Auction Market) however recently; they have experienced good results marketing through BC Livestock Co-op, Kamloops.

### Replacement Heifers

Approximately 300 replacement heifers are selected annually with the balance of the heifer calves being sold or placed in their yearling grasser program.

### Ranch Management

John Parkes, better known as JP, is the ranch manager and has been at Nicola for a total of fifteen years. Nicola Ranch employs seven full time and four seasonal employees.

### Acknowledgement

Nicola Ranch is honoured and wishes to thank BC Angus Association





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## **BC Angus 2022 Gold Shows**

**August 9 – 14**, Dawson Creek, BC – Celebrating their 100th Agricultural Fair & Rodeo – [www.dawsoncreekex.ca](http://www.dawsoncreekex.ca) for more information including livestock entry forms.

**August 31 – September 4**, Interior Provincial Exhibition (IPE) – Armstrong, BC, [www.armstrongipe.com](http://www.armstrongipe.com) for further information.

# Catching up with BC Junior Angus Association President

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## Wade MacDonald, BCJAA President and CJA British Columbia Director

*Give us a little background of yourself such as; family farm, parents, siblings, high school, hobbies, other jobs, career interests etc.*

My family and I recently moved from Rock Creek, BC to Vanderhoof, BC where we raise commercial Black Angus cattle. My family consists of my mom and dad (Greg & Jennifer), my older sister (Sarah), younger brother (Cameron) and myself. I enjoy being on the ranch, hunting, and working with equipment and livestock. Off the ranch, I work part-time at the BC Livestock Co-Op in Vanderhoof and run Braemoor Contracting, a livestock fencing company, alongside my dad. This fall, I will be attending Lakeland College in Vermilion, AB where I will be working towards my Animal Science Technology: Beef Major Diploma. After my 2 years there I hope to return to Vanderhoof and continue fencing and ranching.



*Wade – I am guessing you have spent time in both 4H and also BC and Canadian Junior Angus Associations. Tell us how many years in each and what life lessons you have learned from being involved in those two organizations.*

I was a 4-H member with the Boundary “C” 4-H Club for 8 years. Throughout my time in 4-H some of the most valuable things I learned were public speaking and developing a stronger eye for cattle.

I have been involved in the Canadian Junior Angus Association since 2019, with Showdown in Barrriere, BC being my first event. I loved the community of people that it connected me with, so I became involved with the BC Junior Angus Association shortly after, first becoming a director in 2020 and then get elected to the President position in Fall 2021. Through both associations I have had the chance to become a stronger leader.

*What are your best takeaways and what advice would you offer to younger members about your involvement in both these organizations?*

The greatest takeaway that I have had from both the BC and Canadian Junior Angus Associations is the connections I have made with like-minded individuals. I would advise younger members to have the courage to get involved in either organization. They both have great people involved in their Executives and Board members that are always willing to mentor younger members and make them feel welcome!

*Do you feel the BCAA supports the Junior's and their initiatives enough? Please explain.*

Yes, I do believe they support us enough. The BCAA is always a great help with any questions we have or help we need. They overlook all of our finances and are super supportive in any ideas we have.

*Why Angus?*

Angus cattle are something I have always been around, starting with commercial angus on our ranch and then moving into buying some purebreds for 4-H projects. Through owning angus cattle, I have gotten many opportunities with CJAA and BCJAA and I have loved every moment of it.

# 2022 BC Junior Angus Scholarship Award

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## Donna Mills, BC Angus Association Director

First of all I would like to announce that Jim and Shirley Moon, of Red Moon Angus from Vanderhoof BC have agreed to be our scholarship donator. When I talked to them about scholarships they kindly stepped up and I had an answer in a few days. If you see Jim and Shirley please let them know how much we appreciate them.

This year there were just two applications. So for those juniors please keep this in mind for next year. You might have a great chance to help out with your post secondary education.

This years scholarship winner has too many accolades to mention here. A few stand out. Current director of the BC Junior Angus Association, involved in many aspects of the 4H program, owner of her own herd called Smokey Mountain Angus. Alexa Augustine is the recipient of the 2022 Junior Angus Scholarship Award. Going forward Lexi would like to pursue a career in the field of genetics and reproduction. She has conditionally been accepted for the bachelor of Health,Science and Biomedical Studies Program at UNBC, Prince George. Lexi is from Horsefly BC.

Congratulations on your award and wish you well in all of your future endeavours.

Sincerely,

Donna Mills  
BC Angus Director

## BC Angus Association Scholarship Recipient - Lexi Augustine

I come from a rural community called Horsefly where I am expanding my herd of purebred black Angus cattle. Positions that I currently hold are President of the Horsefly 4-H Club, BC Central Interior 4-H Ambassador, BCJAA Director, LCSS Girls Rugby teammate, and Jr Rustlers Girls Rugby teammate. After I graduate, I am looking forward to attending UNBC for a Bachelor of Health Science - Biomedical Studies program.

Thank You!  
Lexi Augustine



# BC Angus Association Field Day & AGM

Saturday, September 17, 2022

To be held at Alex Fraser Park, Quesnel, BC

Live cattle displays- all BC Angus members are invited to bring cattle. Purebred and commercial Angus and Angus influence cattle are welcome. No bulls over 2 years of age.

- Cattle arrive Friday evening or Saturday am before 10:00 am
- 3:30 PM - AGM
- 6:00 PM - BBQ & Fellowship

Watch BC Angus FB for more details.

For more information or to reserve a live cattle display pen contact: BCAA Secretary Kristina Moller

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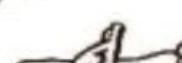
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A black and white photograph of a John Deere tractor. The tractor is shown from a three-quarter front angle, facing right. It has a large front-end loader attachment with a grapple bucket. A large, round hay bale is being held by the loader's grapple. The background is a bright, open field under a clear sky.

The logo for Mountain Ash Angus features two stylized bull heads. The head on the left is rendered in a dark, greyish-blue color, while the head on the right is a vibrant red. Both heads are shown in profile, facing towards the center where the company name is displayed.

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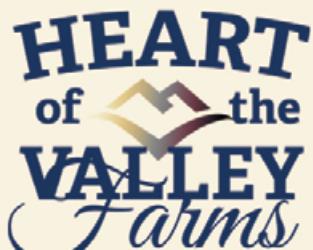
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