



Crossbreeding Puts Money In The Pockets Of Commercial Producers

By John Ford
Executive Director, Santa Gertrudis Breeders International

There is no better place to see the condition of America's commercial cattle operations than from the seats and catwalks of a local livestock auction barn. Unfortunately, a day in the bleachers viewing animals moving through the sale ring, regardless of location, will lead one to question the health of the nation's cowherd. It is not unusual to see 7 and 8-year old black-hided heavily influenced *Bos taurus* cows run through the ring headed to the packer. At an age that should be the most productive of a cow's life, these females are already smooth mouthed and non-productive. In the belief that straight-bred black-hided cattle bring more money, producers have avoided crossbreeding and the known benefits it provides. During the last 20 years the nation's herds have become more and more straightbred and predominately one color, while reproductive efficiency has remained stagnant during the same time period. It is not rocket science, the move away from crossbreeding has had a detrimental effect on the commercial cowherd in America, despite the fact that years of research confirms crossbreeding has the biggest impact on enhancing fertility. If you are a commercial cattleman, you simply can't afford to discount the value of crossbreeding. The benefits of a crossbred cow to a commercial herd is undeniable and supported by years of research and data. The positive effect of crossbreeding far outweighs any black hided premiums.

Crossbreeding leads to Heterosis, or Hybrid Vigor. Simply stated, due to Individual Heterosis (Direct Heterosis) crossbred calves perform better for almost every trait than their straight bred parents, resulting in more profit per head. Maternal Heterosis impacts profitability as well. Crossbred cows improve

calving rates and calf survivability resulting in more calves born, more calves weaned, and more calves produced over the cow's lifetime. Studies conducted by the USDA Meat Animal Research Center prove planned mating programs utilizing crossbred females results in a 25% increase in efficiency, during their productive lifetime, when compared to straightbred cows. Maternal Heterosis will put more money in a cattleman's pocket than any other management practice. Crossbreeding also offers an additional advantage besides heterosis; producers can select breeds whose superior traits will complement each other in a particular crossbreeding system, producing crossbred animals with a more desirable combination of traits than can be found in existing breeds.

The versatility of the Santa Gertrudis breed insures that it is a compatible and profitable cross with a wide variety of breeds and the results are a highly marketable feeder and an extremely valuable F1 replacement female. Santa Gertrudis influenced females are quickly becoming the commercial females of choice across the United States. Knowledgeable cattlemen understand that today's volatile business environment demands females that are productive for an extended period, females that wean a heavy healthy calf in the most challenging of environmental conditions, and females that are flexible enough to fit into a wide variety of breeding schemes from the Carolina Coastal Plains to the rugged and arid Southwest. Santa Gertrudis influenced females fit the bill and cattlemen that infuse Santa Gertrudis genetics into their programs quickly find that they have made a profitable and sound business decision.

Meet Brad ...



Brad Wright with Ranch Hand Analytics has been working with Corporryn Acres and Dos Bros for three years to help make our cowherd better and stronger.

"Over three decades of raising quality Santa Gertrudis and Santa Gertrudis cross cattle has already established the program as one of the top maternal herds in the country, and they have the awards to prove it. With the help of my services, Corporryn Acres and Dos Bros are working to fine tune their selection processes with increased data collection and analysis to identify cows that are the most productive and consistent. With the help of Santa Gertrudis Breeders International genomic enhanced EPD model, we are working to improve EPD values and accuracies across the board while keeping focus on cows that can have a calf every year and raise a big calf in their South Texas environment," he explains.

He adds that with organized data it becomes easy to identify productive cows to continue to build around and also those cows that need to be culled. Organized data also helps to turn in proper contemporary group data on the purebred calves. This results in higher accuracy EPDs that improve the reliability of selection of replacements, as well as improved consistency and reliability for their customers.

Jim Corporryn says, "with Brad's guidance, we continue to collect more data on this cowherd and improve the genetic selection, and we're excited about the future and the great things to come from our seedstock and Star 5 herds."

Add Our Seedstock To Your Program This Spring

Corporryn-Dos Bros genetics will be selling cattle at two upcoming sales.

We will have cattle in the Mid-Coast 2018 International Super Sale at the Houston Livestock Show, March 2nd. We will be selling two bred heifers and we have them pictured here for your evaluation. We will also be selling eight fancy open heifers in the Santa Gertrudis Bluebonnet Classic Sale, March 24th in Hallettsville, Texas. We participate in three or four sales annually and you can be assured that we carefully select our best for these marketing showcases. For more information on our lots or the sales, please contact us.

Houston Mid Coast International Super Sale Consignments
March 2, 2018 6:00 PM- NRG Arena-Houston, Texas

DB 26/6- Bred Heifer
Registration # 20164136

We think this female is an "Elite" Santa Gertrudis donor prospect. The Houston sale has become a sale of the Santa Gertrudis breed's best genetics. Thus, when considering consigning we selected from our very best. We IVF collected DB 26/6 in December and received 9 viable embryos. When talking phenotype that fits the industry DB 26/6 is the "right kind". She has moderate frame, wide base and a tremendous rib and volume. She will make cattle that will be easy keeping and functional.

She ranks in the Top 5% for WW, Top 10% for YW, HCW & REA

A.I. Bred to Navidad 8/5 Reg# 20152735 on 12/29/2017



CA 901- First Calf Heifer Pair
Registration # 20145362

"The Best We Know How To Raise". CA 901 is the premier heifer we raised in 2014. She has always been the most impressive in her contemporary group on performance and look. We bred her to our exciting young A.I. sire, Navidad 8/5 and think it is fitting to offer his first live heifer calf in the Houston sale at her side. CA 901 boasts a balance of EPDs including Top 4% for REA, Top 5% for WW, Top 10% for YW & HCW, Top 15% for Tenderness rankings.

Heifer calf CA 003 at side born 1/1/2018
Reg# 20180001
Ranks in Top 3% WW, REA, Top 6% YW, HCW, Top 20% Tenderness, Top 25% Marbling



For catalog on this sale, visit amscattle.com

Thank You To Our Buyers At The Tri-Star Sale

We have been a participant in the Tri-Star Sales for several years and we enjoy working with Briggs Ranch, Joe Jones and Family, and the other consignors to present a top notch set of registered Santa Gertrudis cattle. Our cattle were purchased by breeders from Texas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Colorado and Alabama. Thank you to the following folks who purchased our lots:

Delmo Payne
Brent Shaw
Jacklyn Jones

Briggs Ranch
Wendt Ranches
Vesper Ranch

Tinney Farms
Riverbend Farms
San Jose Cattle Co.

Red Doc Farm
Cherokee Ranch
Wiley Ranch

**Join Corporron Acres-Dos Bros
At These Events**

- February 14-San Antonio Livestock Show All Breed Bull and Commercial Heifer Sale, San Antonio, Texas
- March 2-Mid Coast 2018 International Super Sale, Houston Livestock Show, Houston, Texas
- March 24-Santa Gertrudis Bluebonnet Classic Sale, Hallettsville, Texas
- August 6-8-Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course, College Station, Texas

Corporron Acres/Dos Bros Ranch
3148 CR 229 Schulenburg, Texas 78956

CA/DB Cochise 3328

- Sire for Corporron Acres and Dos Bros Ranch
 - Carries Red Doc breeding
 - Ranks in the top 1% of the breed for Weaning and Yearling Weight, Hot Carcass Weight and Ribeye Area
 - Ranks in the top 10% of the breed for Marbling and Scrotal Circumference
 - Has a growth index of \$34.95
 - Polled
 - SEMEN FOR SALE
- CONTACT BRUSHY CREEK SIRES
at 512/352-7444**



The cattle of Corporron Acres and Dos Bros Ranch are known for their efficiency, fertility and the extra profits from their remarkable ability to excel in gain.
Visit our website and plan a visit to the ranch to see our cattle, our program and more importantly evaluate how our cattle could help you reach your goals.

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Primo Manzano
Herdsman

www.CORPORRONACRES-DOSBROS Ranch.COM



Ranch headquarters
conveniently located 5
miles off of I-10 on Hwy
77 at Schulenburg, Texas

**We Hit
The Road**

For many years, we have attended the Beef Cattle Short Course at Texas A&M University and participated in the sessions. This year we went all out and had a booth for the ranch, alongside Pinnacle Whitetails, which is owned by Randy and Rodney Corporron. We were able to discuss not just our breeding program, but share about the Santa Gertrudis breed and tout the value of Star 5 females with cattlemen from across the country. The Short Course, which is the first week of August annually draws over 1,400 producers and is the largest beef cattle educational event in the country. We took the ranch on the road and had a great experience.



Our manager, Larry Brown was on hand in our booth at the Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course to visit with cattlemen.

*Right Out of Our
Pastures To The Sales*

For us—stock show season means marketing. We have been showcasing our Star 5 females for quite some time in the San Antonio and Houston Commercial Females Sales. This has been great exposure for our entire program and we've made new friends and developed new customers. We were fortunate enough to win the overall grand champion honors at San Antonio in back to back years (2014 and 2015) and we're gearing up for this sale in February.



**San Antonio All Breed Bull Sale
and Commercial Female Sale**
February 14th
San Antonio Livestock Show,
San Antonio, Texas

We are selling two pens of pairs. Each pen will consist of five females, featuring our Santa Gertrudis breeding crossed with Hereford genetics from the renowned Barber Ranch and B&C Cattle Co. These females will have 30-60 day old calves at side, sired by Angus bulls.

*We look forward to being at this
event and talking cattle.*

