

# LASATER BEEFMASTERS

"The Pedigree  
is in the Name"

FOUNDATION HERD OF THE BEEFMASTER BREED

Dale Lasater or Andy Duffy

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The 6 Essentials

DISPOSITION  
FERTILITY  
WEIGHT  
CONFORMATION  
HARDINESS  
MILK PRODUCTION

Spring 2008  
NEWSLETTER

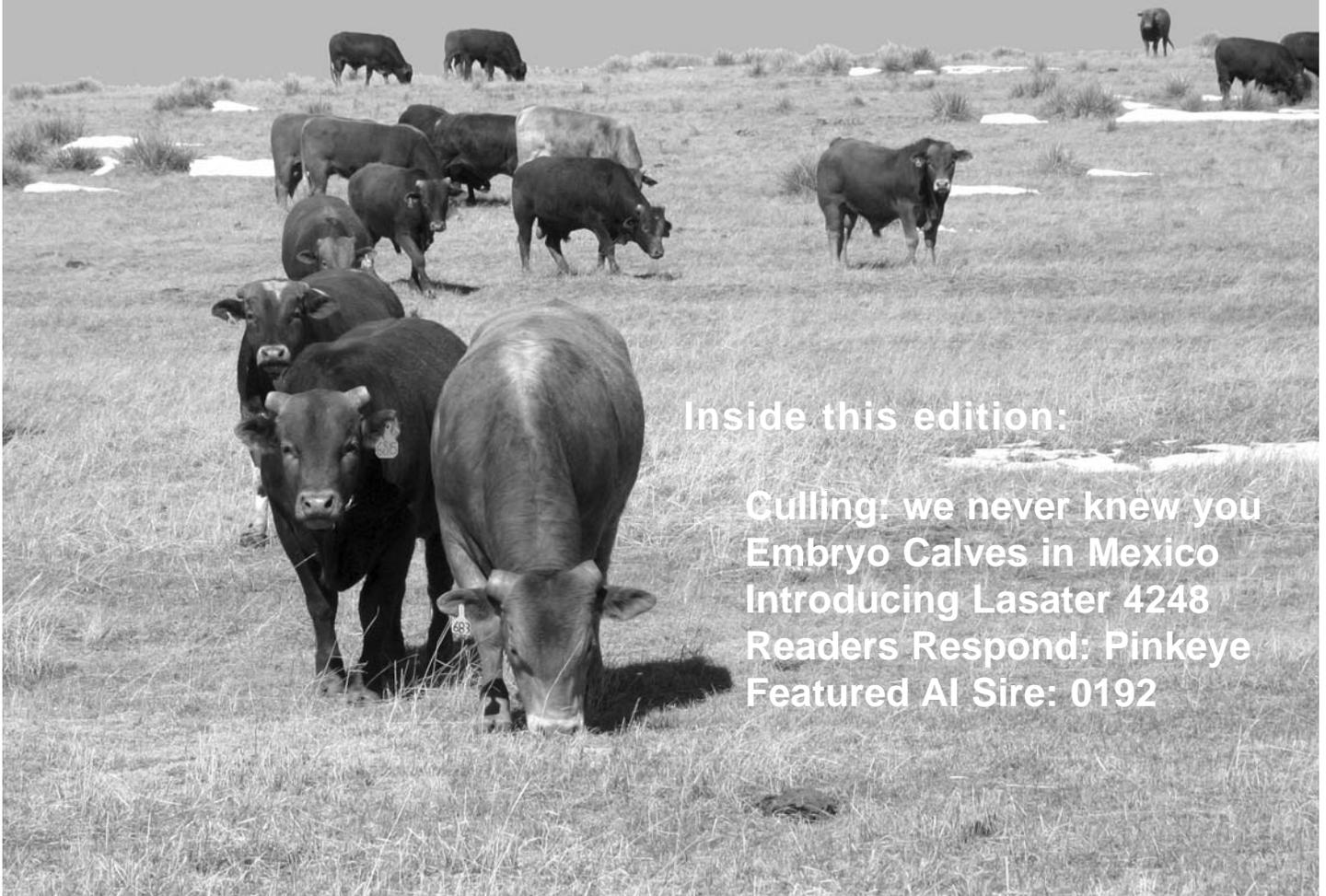
**We select cattle to work for us, so we know they will work for you.**



**Bulls available. Some Herd  
Sire Prospects. Call Dale or  
Andy for a complete list.**

**Inside this edition:**

**Culling: we never knew you  
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Introducing Lasater 4248  
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## **CULLING: "WE NEVER KNEW YOU"**

For any of us who aspire to be seed stock producers, our adherence to strict culling is a major factor in determining how well we serve our current and future customers.

Culling is the action step; before that we have to establish the criteria and set the standards that will serve as the basis for eliminating individuals from the herd. Every

year we have to say to some of our favorites, despite prior achievements or outstanding performance in another area: "We never knew you."

Our selection criteria have to conform to our particular environment and to the status of our herd. If we are just getting started on a strict culling program, a 90 day breeding season might be a big step forward and a major management move (this allows us to have as a goal having a calf each year with no exceptions). On this ranch for many years we had a 60-day breeding season, then gradually reduced it to 45 days where we have remained for twenty some years. Since most of our cattle breed in the first heat cycle, we could tighten it further to 30 days, as my uncle Watt Casey did (or we could debate whether that is putting too much emphasis on only one of the six essentials).

Each year some of the great mother cows leave our herd. The year each one leaves, some of their mates get the job done (despite drought, harsh winter or other adverse condition). Others leave because their light-weight calves mean they lack another essential. Did you ever keep a cow that prolapsed but healed up well and re-bred? If so, that problem will simply continue on in your herd and be passed on to your cus-



tomers. Long toes? A bull customer was unhappily surprised recently when he learned that one of our fellow breeders was "down in the pens trimming cow's toes." He had thought everyone understood the founder's words: "We let the packer trim them."

What about that great looking bull that develops feet problems, or the one whose dam had a bad bag? There is only one cure; anything else damages our herd and is a disservice to our customers.

How about you? Have you ever failed to cull for a defect and had that oversight come back to bite you? Have you observed the effect on other herds where selection pressure for a critical trait was not maintained?

Our friend and colleague Judy Long said recently when discussing marketing: "The one best answer I can say about increasing use of Beefmaster cattle is that any purebred breeder should produce solid quality cattle that work." Amen. And that is why culling is so important and why we are not being hardhearted when we say to an old bovine friend: "We never knew you."



## Lasater Embryo Calves in Mexico



Antonio Garza showing Dale Lasater the Lucero Beefmaster herd. Soto la Marina, Mexico, 1995



**Lasater 8237**, dam of Herdsire 0192 and donor 26 embryos that went to Mexico

At our 2006 annual sale, Lucero Beefmasters purchased 100 Foundation Herd embryos. The calves resulting from those embryos have hit the ground and are taking off. Lucero Beefmasters is owned by Antonio Garza and his father, Dr. Artemio Garza Flores, longtime Beefmaster breeder and author of *Ganaderia: Mi Vision, Mi Experiencia*



Elite donor, Lasater 6015

Only the most elite Foundation cows have entered our embryo program. All have weaned at least six consecutive calves (starting out as 2-year-olds of course), many of them seven, eight or nine, with outstanding production records. They are the dams of some of the most outstanding individuals produced in this herd. **Please contact us if you would like to view our current list of over 100 available embryos.**

# INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST AI SIRE, LASATER BEEFMASTER 4248



<u>Brand</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>WN</u> <u>Wt</u>	<u>Wn-Yr</u> <u>Gain</u>	<u>Yr</u> <u>Wt</u>	<u>2 Yr</u> <u>Wt</u>	<u>Yr</u> <u>S.C.</u>	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>
4248	Red	639	311	950	1540	32	1526	6327

Coming from a proven 8-year-old dam, Lasater Beefmaster 4248 shares the same breed-leading capacity, phenotype and attractive muscle pattern of his sire, Lasater 1526. He is certainly one of 1526's best sons, if not the best, and that is saying a lot. For the past few years, our 1526 sons have been our highest selling bulls at our annual sale. Lasater 4248 is heavily muscled, yet smooth-bodied. When we took ultrasound measurements, we were not surprised to find out that he had one of the largest Ribeye Areas, 16.9. His first sons sell in this year's annual sale in September. **Semen Available.**

## READERS RESPOND

In last fall's newsletter, we had an article on pinkeye, and Ed Lasater's selection practices with his Hereford herd at the turn of the last century. In my haste I left out a critical sentence. Sally Lasater pointed out that Ed Lasater selected those individuals in his Hereford herd with good pigmentation and red goggles because he had noticed that they did not have the pinkeye and cancer eye that his other Herefords had. That selection heritage from the specific Hereford bloodlines used in the development of the Beefmaster breed brought into our gene pool a built-in resistance to eye problems that we still benefit from these many years later.

Larry Lairmore (Arkansas) wrote: "Not only have I never had a case of pinkeye in the 30 years I have raised purebred Beefmasters, but I have also never had a case of anaplasmosis- a disease that causes a lot of deaths in the south. I do not do any kind of prevention for the disease (medicated salt and meal etc.). I think Beefmasters must have a natural immunity."

Camillo Flanagan wrote from Corpus Christi: "At eighty-six, I still remember pinkeye and cancer eye. I haven't thought about it in years....We still have lots of white and mottled faces, but not one without a spectacle. I have photographs of

many of the cattle we have owned since 1978....I have not found one white face that did not have the eyes protected by the red ring...I have forgotten all about pinkeye as a hazard to a breeder."

Monte Miller (Missouri) wrote that he has had three cases of pinkeye in his herd in the past decade; two were solid black, and one was white faced with very little pigmentation.

Homer and Julia Dill (Missouri) commented: "We've been breeding Beefmasters since 1992. None of our Beefmaster cross cattle has ever had pinkeye. But our heifers have never been what Tom Lasater would have approved of until we got a bull 'straight from the factory.' Our first Lasater bull...sure corrected lots of problems: correct frame, udders, feet, eyes, lots of length. The neighbors are the real judges. They ask: 'Are those your heifers? Are you keeping them? That's a real set of heifers.'"

Dave Hargis (Oklahoma): "Dad bought his first Beefmaster bull in 1966. At that time we had a big problem with pinkeye and cancer eye in our Hereford herd. From then until now we've never had a case in our Beefmaster-cross or Beefmaster cattle. The Beefmasters totally cured that problem."



# Lasater Beefmasters

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← We select cattle to work for us, so we know they will work for you. →

## Lasater Beefmaster 0192

Lasater 0192 has been widely used with great success all around the world. You can't imagine a more massive, powerful, heavily muscled, attractive bull than Lasater Beefmaster 0192. As a yearling, he was the most prolific breeder among the 2000 models. Five of his sons have been selected as Lasater Herd Sires. **Semen Available.**



<u>WN</u>	<u>Wn-Yr</u>	<u>YR</u>	<u>2 YR</u>	<u>3YR</u>	<u>SC</u>	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>
<u>WT</u>	<u>Gain</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>WT</u>			
670	248	918	1331	1744	40	8302	8237