



Georgia Beef Challenge 2025-26 Rules and Entry Form

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The Georgia Beef Challenge is held in cooperation with the Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative (TCSCF), Lewis, Iowa. The TCSCF has been in existence for over 40 years; it is governed by a Board of Directors along with Catherine Hoffmann.

MANAGEMENT

Calves will be fed by TCSCF Cooperative approved individual farmer-feeders in Southwest Iowa. Depending upon the number of entries, calves may be fed with more than one individual feeder. The program will not require feed deposit upon delivery nor carry the burden of feeding expenses. Instead the TCSCF Board will purchase the calves for \$5 each, thus giving the Board title to animals and allowing them to borrow money to pay feed, veterinary, yardage, risk management, and other expenses related to feeding of the cattle. Consignors will be assessed \$12.50 per calf for data collection, including full carcass data.

Animals will bear all expenses on an individual basis. Trucking will be prorated from the individual arrival weights; feed costs will be calculated for each calf based on weight, rate of gain, and composition of gain; veterinary expenses and medications will be charged to the individual calf receiving treatment.

Calves will be sold on a grade & yield basis and will be the basis for determining individual animal value. Proceeds to consignors will be calculated as individual animal value less all related expenses including interest.

The Board has made arrangements with its lender to advance \$400/hd on a minimum 10 head consignment. Advances must be requested by the consignor. The consignor will pay the interest incurred.

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Participants must be members of the Georgia Cattlemen's Association.
2. Reservation fee of \$20 per calf must accompany entry. Reservation fee will be credited to your feeding costs. **To plan delivery and shipment, it is important that we get a firm number of entries. You are not entered until the entry form and deposit have been received!**
3. Consignors will be notified of specific delivery dates and times after entries are in.
4. Calves should weigh between 550 and 800 pounds at delivery. Heifers are eligible.
5. At delivery to the Georgia collection point, all calves will be given individual identification. Farm tags will be removed upon arrival in Iowa.
6. All calves must be sold to TCSCF Cooperative for \$5 each. All ownership rights are thus conveyed to, and calves become property of TCSCF Cooperative. This allows the calves to be used as collateral to borrow against to finance feeding expenses. This eliminates the need for a feed deposit. Death will be a loss to TCSCF Cooperative and the former owner.

7. A 28 to 35 day warm up period will allow calves to become acclimated to the feedlot. Calves will be placed on a finishing ration as soon as possible.
8. Calves will be weighed individually at least 4 times: within 2 to 5 days of delivery, on-test, time of re-implant, and prior to harvest. You will receive an initial arrival report form the GBC Office, and the on-test, re-implant, and final closeout reports form the TCSCF office.
9. Calves within a pen will be harvested on at least 2 different dates approximately 5 weeks apart, determined by the TCSCF staff in consultation with the feedlot where the cattle are being fed.
10. Final settlement will be made after all cattle in a pen have been harvested. The final reports and checks will be mailed within one week after final settlement has been received from the packing plant.
11. The TCSCF Board reserves the right to disqualify any animal at any time if a problem arises with a calf entered in the program. Disqualified animals will be sold, and expenses will be charged against that animal.
12. All TCSCF Board decisions will be final.

RISK MANAGEMENT

1. Risk management (corn purchases, contract sale of cattle, hedging, etc.) decisions for the Georgia Beef Challenge entries will be made by a steering committee consisting of consignors and management from University of Georgia faculty.
2. Risk management decisions will apply to all Georgia consignments, unless a producer has a enough cattle expected to result in 40,000lbs (finished contracts worth) or more of finished weight. In this case, the producer can choose to do their own risk management or use the risk management committee.
3. The Risk Management Form must be completed and signed by all producers before the cattle leave Georgia. This form is attached as the last page of this entry form. If you have questions, please contact a member of the Risk Management Committee.
4. A producer can use their own broker, or they can consult with the Risk Management Committee.
5. In addition, a group of producers with enough cattle in the same pen may work through the Risk Management Committee to do their own risk management.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

All entries shall meet the following standards:

1. All calves shall be weaned for a minimum of 45 days prior to delivery
2. All bull calves must be castrated (knife or band) at, or before weaning.
3. All calves should be treated for internal and external parasites
 - a. All calves should be dewormed **at the time of weaning** and not before. It is recommended that a combination of an injectable ivermectin-type dewormer **and** white paste dewormer be used. If a combination is not used, a white paste dewormer is preferred over an injectable product. Pour-on dewormers should be avoided. Specific products recommended for use in the Georgia Beef Challenge program are in the table below and any of the injectable and paste products can be used together, regardless of manufacturer.

	Company			
	Boehringer Ingelheim	Zoetis	Merck	Bayer
Injectable	LongRange	Dectomax	N/A	Cydectin
Paste	Synanthic	Valbazen	SafeGuard/Panacur	N/A

*Specific dewormers used and the dates each were given should be recorded. Follow the label directions for dosing and withdrawal on all products used

4. All cattle shall have horns removed with a preference for dehorning prior to weaning
5. All cattle should receive **two doses** of both a modified live viral vaccine (MLV) and 7-or 8-way blackleg vaccine (depending on risk of tetanus). Please note that these suggestions are for feeder cattle. This protocol may not be ideal for breeding animals.
 - a. Two doses of 5-way modified live respiratory (MLV) with *Mannheimia haemolytica* and 7-or 8-way blackleg vaccine must be given prior to weaning. The first dose may be given as early as 90 days of age. The second dose should be given at the time of weaning. If it is not possible to administer the first dose prior to weaning, calves should be vaccinated for the first time at weaning and then boosted 3-4 weeks later. Specific products recommended for use in the Georgia Beef Challenge program are in the table below.

	Company		
	Boehringer Ingelheim	Zoetis	Merck
5-way MLV	Pyramid 5 + Presponse SQ	Bovishield Gold OneShot	Vista Once SQ
Blackleg	Caliber 7	Ultrachoice 7	Covexin 8/Calvary 9

6. Adjunct procedures (Not Required for Entry)
 - a. BVD Ear Notch

****PLEASE CONSULT YOUR VETERINARIAN BEFORE USING A MLV VACCINE ON CALVES NURSING PREGNANT COWS****

NUTRITION

- All calves should be fed a diet to maintain growth between 1.5 and 3.0 lb per day. This should be based on the condition of the calves at weaning. Gains of 3.0 lb per day should only be targeted if calves are under condition at weaning.
- A mineral that contains trace minerals and a vitamin pack should be offered free choice, or mixed into the ration to ensure a daily intake of 3 oz per day.

Forage	CP (%)	TDN (%)	4-5 cwt Calves ^{1,2}
			----lb/head/day----
Poor Forage	<5	<44	10
Fair Forage	6	48	8
Average Forage	10	54	6.5
Above Average Forage	12	60	5
Good Forage	14	65	2.5
Excellent Forage ³	>18	>67	0

¹ This can be a commercial weaning ration, or a commodity blend consisting of a 50:50 of an energy and protein supplement

Energy supplements: Soybean hulls, citrus pulp, grain, hominy

Protein supplements: Dried distillers grains, corn gluten feed, cottonseed meal, soybean meal, canola meal, sunflower meal

² If grain is utilized (corn, oats, wheat, hominy, etc), limit daily intake of grain to 0.5% of BW (e.g. 2.5 lb for a 500 lb calf) to minimize chances of digestive disorders. This amount can be increased over time; please contact your local Extension agent for a strategy to increase grain.

³ This is typically well-managed winter annual and summer annual forages

The 2025-26 Georgia Beef Challenge is a cooperative effort of the Georgia Cattlemen's Association, the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, Iowa State University Extension, and the Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative.

2025–26 Georgia Beef Challenge Entry Form

Farm _____ Owner _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell # _____ Office/Home # _____ County _____

Email Address: _____ Premises ID No. _____

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Certification No. : _____

No. of Heifers: _____ No. of Steers: _____ Estimated weight at delivery: _____

Approximate date calves will be ready to deliver: _____

Include a non-refundable reservation fee of \$20/hd payable to: Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity

Return to: Grace Nyhuis (gracen@uga.edu, 229-386-3683)
UGA Animal & Dairy Science
2360 Rainwater Road
Tifton, GA 31793

TCSCF AGREEMENT & TRANSFER LOCATION DOCUMENT

I agree to transfer ownership rights to the Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Board of Directors _____ steer(s)/heifer(s) for a fee of five (\$5) dollars per head for a total of \$ _____. It is my understanding that when the steer(s)/heifer(s) sell, the feed expense, yardage, veterinary expenses, and any miscellaneous expenses associated with feeding cattle will be deducted from the sale price. There will be a \$12.50 per head fee for data collection which includes carcass data. The remaining money will be returned to me, the original consignor. I have read and understand the above information.

The calves I am shipping on this entry form originated in _____ County, Georgia.

Signature of consignor

Date

____ Yes, please send me the \$400/head advance for my calves listed above. I understand that a minimum 10 head consignment is required for an advance. Please send the advance
(Circle one) As soon as possible -or- after 12/31/25

____ No, please do not send me the \$400/head advance for my calves.

____ In the event # ____ or more of my consigned cattle are found dead while on feed, I would like a full slate necropsy run at my own expense on any additional death loss.

GEORGIA BEEF CHALLENGE

Consignment Form

Farm: _____ Owner: _____

[illegible]

*At least birth month/year.

**Estimate how much you expect them to weigh at delivery

Updated 9/19/25



Georgia Beef Challenge

Georgia Beef Quality Assurance Program

Animal Processing Records

In order for you to fully benefit from the program, we need to know the complete management history of your Beef Challenge consignment. Please fill out the processing record to include vaccinations, deworming, implants, castration, etc.

Farm Name: _____

Owner: _____

Were these calves creep fed? Yes___ No___

Weaning Date: _____

Feeding Program:

List all that calves were fed:

	Description (eg., corn, oats, SBM)	Brand Name (if commercial feed)	% Protein	Amount Per Day
Supplemental Feed				
Hay				
Silage				
Other				

Minerals: % Ca _____ % P _____

Fortified with Selenium? Yes _____

No _____

Zinc? Yes _____

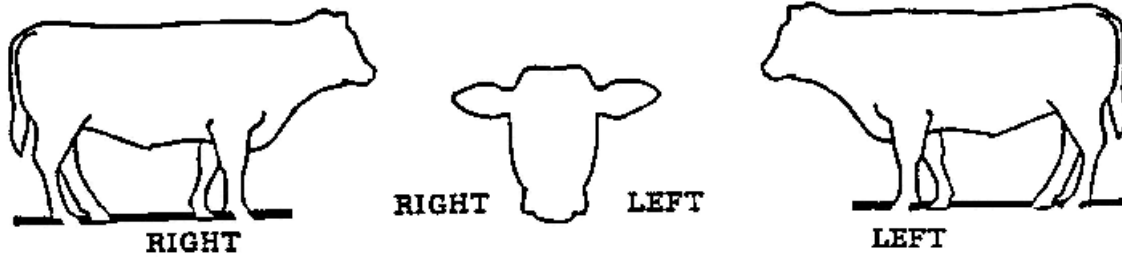
No _____

Copper? Yes _____

No _____

(Send in a tag from the mineral if possible.)

Georgia Beef Challenge Processing Record



Number each product administration site above and provide detail below.

Treatment Date	Treatment	Brand Name	Lot No.	Company	Dose	Route of Admin.
	Castration					
	Dehorn					
	Implant					
	Deworm 1					
	Deworm 2					
	7/8 Way					
	IBR					
	PI ₃					
	BRSV					
	BVD					
	Pasteurella					
	Weaned					

Comments: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Farm: _____

Georgia Beef Challenge Risk Management Form

In accordance to rules set forth at the annual meeting of Georgia Beef Challenge consignors, the Risk Management Committee will implement price risk management strategies relative to the following:

- 1) Use the best tools available to insure the best protection for the cattle in a pen. Do not work towards a specific profit figure; use futures, options, or LRP insurance to protect as much of the value of the calves as possible. The Risk Management Committee has the flexibility to use the best tools in each situation.
- 2) If an option is used, the Risk Management Committee has permission to spend up to \$50 for the option.
- 3) Corn situation:
 - a. Cattle that are shipped on or before September 30 will receive old crop corn. That corn will be purchased on an as-needed basis.
 - b. Cattle that are shipped on or after October 1 will be fed new crop corn. Plans are to purchase one-half of the corn needs at the time of delivery and the remainder on an as-needed basis.
 - c. When the 2025 corn crop is in and information is available about corn prices, then the Risk Management Committee will revisit the corn situation and make the best decision pertaining to pre-purchasing corn and/or other feeds.
- 4) If a producer has a contract worth of cattle in a pen (40,000lbs finished weight), then they can opt to do their own risk management. The Risk Management Form must be completed and signed by producers before the cattle leave Georgia. A producer can use their own broker, or they can consult with Dr. Will Secor. In addition, a group of producers with enough cattle in the same pen may work through Dr. Secor to do their own risk management.

The implementation of these strategies will depend on market conditions between the time when the cattle are placed and when they are harvested. The Risk Management Committee has the flexibility to use the best tools in each situation.

Producers who have at least one live cattle futures contract equivalent of cattle (40,000 pounds of finished weight) can choose to develop and implement their own risk management program. Producers choosing to do their own risk management can use the brokerage services utilized by the Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity (TCSCF). They are also encouraged to consult with one of the members of the Risk Management Committee regarding their risk management plan.

Please check one of the blanks below:

1. I want the Risk Management Committee to manage the price risk on my cattle. ____
2. I have a live cattle futures contract and wish to conduct my own risk management program. I understand that I can utilize the brokerage services offered by the TCSCF and am welcome to consult with members of the Risk Management Committee regarding strategies. ____

Consignor Name: _____

Consignor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Number of Cattle _____ Expected Harvest Weight _____ Total pounds of production (number of cattle times expected harvest weight) _____