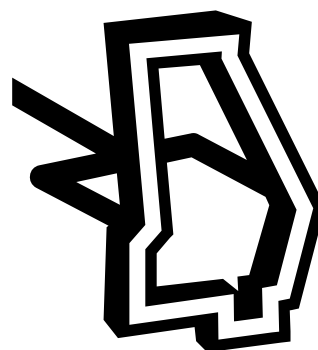


GEORGIA HERD PROGRAM

Tifton • Calhoun



2026-27 RULES AND REGULATIONS

Tifton HERD Program Calendar	
Accepted Birth Dates	• Sept. 1 – Nov. 30, 2025
9/1/26	• Entry deadline
10/6/26 (Tuesday)	• Delivery day
10/27/26	• <u>Report 1</u>
11/11/26	• <u>Report 2</u>
11/25/26	• CIDRs are removed
12/11/26	• Lutalyse is administered
12/14/26	• <u>Report 3</u>
12/21/26	• Clean-up bulls turned out
1/19/27	• Report 4
2/9/27	• Cleanup bulls are removed
4/13/27	• Final ultrasound
4/20/27 (Tuesday)	• 28 th Tifton HERD Sale

Calhoun HERD Program Calendar	
Accepted Birth Dates	• Dec. 1 2025 – Feb. 28 2026
11/1/26	• Entry deadline
12/3/26 (Thursday)	• Delivery day
1/6/27	• <u>Report 1</u>
1/27/27	• <u>Report 2</u>
2/10/27	• CIDRs are removed
2/26/27	• Lutalyse is administered
3/1/27	• <u>Report 3</u>
3/8/27	• Clean-up bulls turned out
3/31/27	• <u>Report 4</u>
4/22/27	• Cleanup bulls are removed
5/26/27	• Final ultrasound
6/1/27	• Transport sale heifers
6/2/27 (Wednesday)	• 27 th Calhoun HERD Sale

*Detailed calendar can be found at ugabeef.com/herd



PURPOSE

The Georgia Heifer Evaluation and Reproductive Development (HERD) Program is designed to address the following objectives:

1. To provide an educational resource that exposes the beef industry in Georgia to management techniques associated with development of beef heifers and serve as a model incorporating the latest research-based technology that can improve the reproductive success of Georgia and Southeastern cattle producers.
2. To provide beef cattle producers with unique information about their herd for decision making and management purposes.
3. Demonstrate feeding and health programs that result in replacement heifers reaching target weights required for successful breeding performance to enhance lifetime productivity in the beef herd.
4. To provide a method of evaluating heifers including reproductive performance, reproductive traits, and disposition.
5. Develop heifers which are source identified and genetically verified.
6. Demonstrate the benefits of cooperative efforts involving cattle producers, animal health professionals, Georgia County Extension Agents, the UGA Animal and Dairy Science Department, the UGA Diagnostic Lab and College of Veterinary Medicine, and the Georgia Cattlemen's Association.

LOCATIONS

GPS:

Tifton Evaluation Center – Irwinville
2347 GA HWY 32 W
Chula, GA 31733

Mailing:

Tifton HERD Program
2360 Rainwater Rd
Tifton, GA 31793

GPS:

Calhoun Evaluation Center – Rome
300 Battey Farm Rd
Rome, GA 30161

Mailing:

Calhoun HERD Program
1282 Highway 53 Spur SW - Suite 200
Calhoun, GA 30701

Location which heifers are developed is based off their birthdate(s)



HERD TEAM

UGA Department of Animal & Dairy Science Davy Rooks Francis Fluharty Grace Nyhuis Jason Duggin Katie Hammond Pedro Carvalho Pedro Fontes Travis Turnquist	UGA Ag & Natural Resource Agents Chelsea Lopez Sumter/SW Cody Bowling Catoosa/NW Brenda Jackson Murray/NW Brian Hayes Mitchell/SW Brandi McGonagill Houston/SW Greg Pittman Jackson/NE Hailey Partain Lamar, Upson/NW Heidi Cashwell Butts/NE Holly Anderson Ben Hill/SW Justin Hand Tift/SW Justin Shealy Echols/SW Keith Mickler Floyd/NW Lucy Ray Morgan/NE Michasia Dowdy Brooks/SW Morgan Grizzle Houston/SW McKenzie Wheeler Gordon/NW Paul Pugliese Bartow/NW Raymond Fitzpatrick Franklin/NE Rocky Tanner Johnson/SE Savannah Tanner Emanuel/SE Steven Powell Treutlen/SE Tammy Cheely Warren/NE Travis Tankersley Madison/NE Wade Hutcheson Spalding/NW
Georgia Cattlemen's Association Kelley Owen	
UGA Bull Advisory Committee Johnathan Wells	
UGA College of Veterinary Medicine Angie McDaniel Alejandro Ojeda Brad Heins	
UGA District Extension Liaison Jule-Lynne Macie	

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Eligibility for Entry and Nomination

Nominations are made by filling out and sending in the application form in this brochure. A \$50 nomination fee for each heifer must accompany this application form. The nomination fee will be applied toward the cost of evaluation. Nominations must be received by the entry deadline. Heifers must also meet the following requirements:

- A. Heifers may be registered or commercial. Registered heifers must furnish a copy (not original) of registration papers at delivery.
- B. Heifers must be home-grown.
- C. Heifers must have known breed of sire. Actual sire (with registration number) is preferred, but not required.
- D. Actual birth dates are preferred. If actual birth date is not known, then month of birth is required (birth date will be listed as the 15th; e.g. heifers born in October will be listed as October 15).
- E. Heifers should weigh, when delivered, a minimum of 1.75 pounds per day. A reasonable transit weight loss will be permitted.



- F. Heifers must be permanently identified with a readable tattoo or brand. Consignors are subject to a fee (\$25 per head) if heifers have to be tattooed upon arrival.
- G. Heifers must be structurally sound and show evidence of good growth potential.
- H. Consignors must be members of the Georgia Cattlemen's Association at the time of nomination.
- I. A maximum of ten heifers per consignor will be accepted unless additional space is available.
- J. 15% of the capacity will be reserved for new consignors if more heifers are nominated than a location's maximum capacity.
- K. Priority for the remaining space will be given to previous consignors and Georgia residents.
- L. Heifers from other states will be accepted if space is available.
- M. It is highly recommended that you furnish a NAIS Premises Identification Number.

Health

- A. All heifers must be in good health. Out of state consignors should contact their local or state veterinarian for an interstate permit and any additional health requirements. **Program management will reserve the authority to turn any heifer(s) away due to active or potential problematic health concerns upon arrival (e.g. active ringworm, warts, & or pinkeye).**
- B. All consignors must return upon delivery a provided vaccine worksheet.
- C. The following preconditioning should be completed at least 30 days prior to delivery:
 - Dehorned and healed
 - Weaned and started on feed
 - Dewormed - 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.
 - Vaccination:
 - Two doses of a 5-Way Respiratory & Reproductive vaccine (IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV, and Lepto/Vibrio) should be administered 4–6 weeks apart. Modified-live vaccines (MLVs) are recommended.
 - Two doses of 7-Way Clostridial should be administered 4–6 weeks apart.
 - One dose of Mannheimia Haemolytica vaccine should be administered.
 - Vaccines should be administered according to the manufacturer's label directions and your veterinarian's recommendations.
 - Complete the vaccination series no later than 30 days before delivery.



Health (cont.)

Deworming & Vaccination Example Products

	Boehringer Ingelheim	Zoetis	Merck	Elanco
Dewormer - Injectable	LongRange	Dectomax, Valcor	N/A	Cydectin
Dewormer - Paste	Synanthic	Valbazen, Valcor	SafeGuard/Panacur	N/A
5-Way – Repro & Res w/ Lepto & Vibrio	Pyramid 5 + Presponse, Citadel VL5 or Express FP 5 VL5	Bovi-Shield Gold FP5 VL5	Bovilis Vista 5 VL5	Titanium 5 L5 HB
7-Way Clostridial	Caliber 7	UltraChoice 7	Vision 7	N/A
Mannheimia Bacterin Toxoid	Presponse SQ	One Shot	N/A	Nuplura PH
Leptospirosis & Vibriosis	Citadel VL5 HB	StayBred VL5		ViraShield

*Specific dewormers & vaccines used and the dates each were given should be recorded on the vaccine worksheet.

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

- D. This health program is of highest importance. Immunity is established only if calves are vaccinated with minimum stress. For best protection, the above series of vaccinations and boosters needs to be completed at least 30 days prior to arrival.
- E. Consignors must turn in the vaccination verification worksheet at the time of delivery. They are encouraged to work with their county agents to collect this information. Additionally, consignors are encouraged to develop and maintain a strong working relationship with their local veterinarian to establish and implement an effective herd health program.
- F. Upon arrival at the test station, all heifers will be tested for persistent bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection (PI-BVD). Any heifer that tests positive will be immediately removed from the program. Owners are strongly encouraged to isolate and retest positive animals at least 3 weeks later to differentiate persistent from transient infection. A negative result on the second test indicates a transient infection, and the animal may be retained in the herd. Animals that remain positive on the second test are considered persistently infected (PI) and should be sent to slaughter market by the owner, as they serve as a continuous source of BVDV infection for other cattle.

Delivery Form

- Soon after the entry deadline you will receive a delivery form on which you must



summarize the heifer's birth, performance, pedigree, and health information. The delivery form must accompany heifers at delivery. Heifers will not be accepted without a completed form.

Feeding

- The ration will consist of hay plus a supplement designed for optimum growth and development. This is not a gain test. Heifers will be fed to gain 1.50 - 1.75 pounds per day.

Program Cost

- Estimated cost will be announced before delivery date. The evaluation fee (minus nomination fee) is due upon delivery of heifers. This cost does not include sale expenses.

Liability

- Station personnel will make every effort to safeguard the health of the animals and to obtain competent veterinary services when necessary, but will not be responsible for loss by fire, theft, injury, sickness, or death in any other way.

Evaluation and Breeding

- All heifers will be evaluated for pelvic area, frame score, reproductive tract score, disposition score, and structure. It is strongly suggested that heifers should be at least 12 months of age at the time of breeding.
- They will be heat-synchronized and bred A.I. (once at each location) followed by at least 45 days with a clean-up bull. Mead Magnitude will be used as the primary sire. Heifers closely related to Magnitude will be AI'd to another ABS sire TBD. Clean-up bulls will be chosen by the HERD Team. Calving ease will receive top priority in selection of bulls. Consignors wanting to specify a different A.I. sire may do so but must furnish the semen at the time of delivery.
- Station personnel will make every effort to protect and conserve the semen provided but will not be responsible for any semen loss (i.e., tank malfunction, going dry, theft, etc).

Reports

- There will be four reports compiled throughout the development program. Consignors will be provided a summary at each of these times (See calendar for report dates).

Removal of Heifers

- Heifers will be removed only after the end of the evaluation, as a result of chronic conditions, or if the usefulness of treated heifers is impaired. Unruly heifers will also be removed from the test. Owners will be notified in such cases.

Consent of Data Collection

- Heifers may be used for collection of data in research projects that will be approved by the University of Georgia Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. Unless studies are designed to be observational (i.e., the use of data that can be collected as part of the existing program), approval must be obtained from the voting members of the HERD Team. Any study conducted must involve minimal risk and designed that all heifers are managed under the same protocol (i.e., no heifer will receive a treatment or have a sample collected that another heifer does not). Information collected from these studies will be used for educational purposes and/or published with individual animal and owner identification remaining confidential.

Sale

Eligibility

- A. Registered heifers are to be DNA tested for genomic enhanced EPD's by their respective breed association. It is encouraged to have this data submitted prior to delivery. If you need assistance, please contact the Test Station. Genomic enhanced EPD's will be published in the sale catalog.
- B. All commercial heifers will be genomically tested. DNA samples will be collected and submitted by the Test Station upon delivery. Results will be published in the sale catalog.
- C. Registered heifers will be accepted into the program on ancestral or tested free pedigrees at the time of program entrance. If a new genetic defect were to arise after the program has already begun, any potential carrier heifer will be eligible for sale with notation in the sale catalog.
- D. Consignors must indicate by the first pregnancy diagnosis whether heifers will be sold or taken home (assuming they meet eligibility).
- E. Heifers must be able to stand for video in order to be sale eligible. Unsound or unruly heifers will not be sale eligible.
- F. Heifers must have an ACTUAL pelvic measurement of at least 140 sq. cm. in order to be sale eligible.
- G. Heifers must have a reproductive tract maturity score of at least 2 in order to be sale eligible.
- H. Heifers must be pregnant in order to sell.
- I. The cost of transfer fees for registered heifers will be paid by the seller. The cost of AI service certificates will be paid by the buyer.
- J. Heifers are guaranteed to be pregnant the day of the sale. They will be palpated pregnant by a qualified veterinarian. Purchasers will have 30 days from the date of sale to observe for signs of nonpregnancy and report any open females to the sale management. If a qualified veterinarian determines that a heifer that was sold as pregnant is in fact open, then the purchaser will be eligible for a 25% refund of the purchase price from the consignor of the open heifer. The consignor and/or sale management reserves the right to retest any heifer in question for pregnancy.

Catalog

- Information in the catalog will include weight per day of age, pelvic area, reproductive tract score, frame score, disposition score, sire EPD's (if available) and EPD's of service

sires (AI and natural).

Sale Expenses

- Sale expenses (i.e., advertising, beef checkoff, catalog printing and postage, insurance, veterinarian, auctioneer, etc.) will be divided equally among heifers in the sale.

Preparation for Sale

- No grooming, clipping, etc., will be permitted by consignors. The HERD Team will be responsible for getting heifers clean and presentable for the sale.





Nomination Form

Important Dates, Entry Deadlines, & Mailing Addresses

Tifton Program:

Birth Dates: Sept. 1 – Nov. 30, 2025
Entry Deadline: Sept. 1st, 2026
Delivery: Oct. 6th, 2026
Sale Date: April 20th, 2027

Make check out and mail to:
Tifton HERD Program
2360 Rainwater Rd
Tifton, GA 31793

Calhoun Program:

Birth Dates: Dec. 1, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026
Entry Deadline: Nov. 1st, 2026
Delivery: Dec. 3rd, 2026
Sale Date: June 2nd, 2027

Make check out and mail to:
Calhoun HERD Program
1282 Highway 53 Spur SW - Suite 200
Calhoun, GA 30701

Farm Name: _____

Consignor's Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Location Selection & Number of Heifers Per Location (write in box)

Tifton

Calhoun

How many heifers do you wish to consign? _____

Commercial _____ Registered _____

Do you have more heifers you wish to consign if space allows? _____ Yes _____ No

Please make sure your membership with the Georgia Cattlemen's Association is current.

Nomination fee of \$50 per animal is due with this nomination form at the deadline. This fee will be applied to the total program cost per animal. Delivery packet and total cost will be mailed to you upon acceptance into the program ahead of delivery.

Make checks payable to: Calhoun HERD Program or Tifton HERD Program (Depending on location selection)