

GENETIC DEFECT POLICY

Section I. Purpose

- A. In order to maintain a viable breed free of undesirable genetic factors, every effort will be made to identify those animals which have specific genetic defects determined by the Board of Directors to be detrimental to the breed.
- B. Therefore, it is the responsibility of every IBBA member to report the occurrence of any defective Brangus-sired calf or older animal to the IBBA office (Executive Vice-President).

Section II. Policy

- A. The IBBA Genetic Study Committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, shall be responsible for reviewing and studying reports of genetic defects and making reports to the IBBA Board. The five member committee shall be composed of the Executive Vice President as a permanent member with four additional members to be elected by the Board for four-year terms. Each year, one four-year term shall expire and the vacancy shall be filled by a member of the IBBA recommended by the Nominating Committee and elected by the Board.
- B. The IBBA Board shall establish a list of genetic abnormalities which shall be considered deleterious to the Brangus breed. A deleterious genetic abnormality is defined as one which causes death or impairment of usefulness of the animal.
- C. Categories: Class I abnormalities may result in limitations on the registration of calves from the sires or dams transmitting them, as determined by the Board of Directors for each specific deleterious condition.

Class I Abnormalities:

- 1. Dwarfism
- 2. Osteopetrosis
- 3. Double Muscling
- 4. Syndactyly (Mule Foot)

Class II Abnormalities

- 1. Congenital Reproductive Abnormalities
- 2. Nontraditional Blood Types - Class II conditions shall be noted on A.I. Service Certificates but normal progeny shall be eligible for recording.

- D. In applying for A.I. Service Certificates, the owner shall certify on the application that to the best of his knowledge such bull does not possess and/or has not transmitted any Class I or II defects; or other factors except as indicated.
- E. Information sent to the IBBA office will be kept confidential, except as otherwise provided in these rules. The IBBA shall receive, file and maintain all information concerning unusual conditions of any progeny of recorded Brangus. Copies of the reports may be sent to the IBBA approved research facility for further study.
- F. Each case shall be handled on an individual basis. The diagnosis will be made available to the Genetic Study Committee and the owner(s) of the animal in question. The report will be scrutinized for evidence of genetic etiology.
- G. When sufficient evidence is gathered to indicate the animal in question is a carrier of a genetic defect, IBBA will notify the owner(s) of the carrier animal, and they shall be given the opportunity (60 days from the date of notification) to meet and discuss the findings before action is taken by the Executive Committee.
- H. Animals determined to be carriers shall be placed on a list of carriers of genetic defects only after Executive Committee action.
- I. The IBBA office shall maintain the list of carriers of genetic defects and any member can determine if a specific animal is a carrier by writing the Executive Vice President for such determination.
- J. Breeders do have the right to a hearing before the Genetic Study Committee to present evidence to establish that their animal is not a carrier of said genetic defect. If a breeder can establish that his animal is incorrectly listed, then the animal will be removed from the list.

Ethics. The IBBA considers as unethical the practice of offering for sale a breeding animal, semen from a breeding animal or ova (eggs) from an animal which is known to carry a deleterious genetic factor without informing the potential buyer of presence of such factor.

Advertising. Advertisements should carry notice of the presence of a genetic abnormality or undesirable condition.

Progeny testing bulls and cows for genetic defects. An owner of a bull or cow may apply to the IBBA for an IBBA supervised progeny test for genetic defects under guidelines established by the Board for official recognition. Application shall be made on an official form furnished by the Association prior to the beginning of the test. Recognition will be given to those animals which are "tested clean" of genetic defects.

Section III. Procedure

- A. Unusual, abnormal or defective calves should be reported to the IBBA office as soon as they are observed.

- B. If the calf is alive, a blood or hair sample should be taken immediately for parentage verification. The sire and the dam should also be genotyped.
- C. Take a picture of the defective calf and have the condition certified by an animal scientist, veterinarian, county agent, etc..
- D. Contact IBBA to obtain the party designated by the IBBA Board of Directors to make arrangements to ship the calf for study. If dead, place the calf in cold storage or ship in a styrofoam chest on ice.