

# Bull Sale Oct. 31 Averages \$2518



## SPRINGFIELD, MO.

The 78th All Breed Tested Bull Sale saw 33 bulls sell for an average price of \$2518 according to Eldon Cole, a livestock specialist with University of Missouri Extension.

The sale is a joint effort of the Southwest Missouri Beef Cattle Improvement Association and MU Extension. The sale was held at the Springfield Livestock Marketing Center on Oct. 31.

"The attendance was down from the usual number, but those who attended bid actively on the top end of the offering. Ten bulls were marked out at \$3,000 or more," said Cole.

The evening's top was \$4,000 on an Angus bull consigned by Fred Swartzentruber, Blue Mound Angus of Halfway. The successful bidder was Brent Seiner, Bolivar.

A Polled Hereford from Bonebrake Farms, Springfield, brought \$3,100 on a bid from Cupps Cattle Co., Shell Knob.

"Buyers seemed to be paying close attention to expected progeny difference (EPD), especially

calving ease and frame size. In spite of attempts to downsize frame and mature weight, the 6-frame and up bulls remain attractive to commercial feeder calf producers at this sale," said Cole.

Compared to the March sale the recent sale was \$307 off and \$102 below the one-year ago sale.

"The weaker tone likely is due to the big sell-off that's seen a lot of cows go to market. This has resulted from favorable cull cow prices and short feed supplies as we move towards winter," said Cole.

Consignors to the sale participate with their breed association's herd records program which provides them with EPD data. They also cooperate with their extension livestock specialists in gathering weights, heights and screening for conformation.

The next sale of qualifying bulls will be the last Monday in March. △



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