

COST

Approximate Cost:

\$.50/day plus \$.35/lb gain, per heifer.

(Ex.: 2002 program heifers averaged 1.8 lb/day gain for a daily cost of \$1.13)

Other charges include vet evaluations, ultrasound scans, semen and AI breeding, reporting and administration.

Option A: Heifers returning home after spring repro and ultrasound examinations. Total cost should average under \$215/heifer.

Option B: Heifers participate in program and sell at the spring NYBPA Bull & Empire Heifer Sale. Total cost should average under \$250/heifer. (does not include commission or sale expenses)

Option C: Heifers remain throughout the summer AI breeding and pregnancy examination, returning home in August 2006. Total cost should average under \$400/heifer

SIGN UP NOW

• **Option A** Custom fed through spring reproductive exam

• **Option B** Enroll heifer in Spring 2006 open heifer sale

• **Option C** Heifers remain through summer for AI breeding

• **Option D NEW** Enroll heifer in Fall 2006 Cornell Bred heifer sale

Sign Up with attached form

Contact:

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Empire Heifer Development Program

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Support provided by:

Cornell Beef Cattle Extension Program, Department of Animal Science, Cornell University

Empire Heifer Development Program

“Value Added Management and Marketing Program for Northeast Beef Producers”



Program

- **Heifers** will be weighed and evaluated for rate of gain and growth throughout the evaluation. Producers will receive: contemporary group comparisons, temperament scores, ultrasound data, reproductive data, and marketing opportunities.
- **Prebreeding:** Heifers will undergo a reproductive soundness exam 35 to 45 days prior to breeding, including a reproductive tract score exam, body condition score, pelvic measurements, body weight and functional soundness evaluation
- **Breeding:** Estrous cycles will be synchronized and heifers will be bred on observed standing heats. Detection will span 30 days. After AI breeding, natural service sires will be turned in with the heifers.
- **AI sires** will be selected by cattle owners and if requested with consultation from the program manager. Natural service sires will be selected based on calving ease and overall EPD'



Health Protocol

* Minimum program to include vaccination for:

IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV, 7-way Clostridium, Pasteurella (Mannheima haemolytica, Pasteurella multocida), Haemophilus somnus and a dewormer product for both internal and external parasites

Recommended: Selenium & Rabies vaccine. [If you need assistance, consult with your veterinarian] More information will be supplied upon enrollment

Timeline

September 15th - Early bird sign up \$25/heifer

October 1st - Last day to administer killed vaccine products

October 15th - Last day to booster killed vaccines

November 1st - Last day to wean heifers

December 2nd & 3rd - Delivery of heifers

January & March - Weigh days

•**March 15th** - Ultrasound for rump fat, rib eye area and % intramuscular fat

April 5th - Reproductive Tract Score exams and pelvic area measurements

APRIL 2006 - "NY Bull & Empire Heifer Sale" (upon passing quality criteria)

June 5th - Start of breeding season with synchronization and AI

late August - Ultrasound pregnancy exam Heifers return home

NEW! Fall 2006 - Cornell Bred Heifer Sale

All breeds, as well as crossbred

Eligibility:

- **Heifers MUST** be pre-vaccinated* according to protocol before arriving at feeding facility. Heifers will be rejected if they do not meet health standards.
- **Heifers must weigh** a minimum of 450 pounds upon delivery. (no horns allowed)
- **Only heifers born in 2005** can be enrolled. (fall-calves are being