



# BJ Angus Genetics

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## **BJ ANGUS GENETICS 2022 SALE CANCELLED** **Join us back at BJ Angus March 9, 2023**

Dear Friends,


BJ Angus Genetics increased the size of their seedstock operation in 2020 and leased native pasture approximately 100 miles from Manhattan, KS. Fall bred cows were placed in the leased pasture after confirming pregnancies in April 2020. The expectation was the bred cows would do extremely well summering on the lush Kansas native grass.

After observing cows were not displaying pre-calving signs in late August, Dr's. Lee Penner, DVM, and Clay Breiner, DVM, pregnancy checked the herd and determined most of the cows aborted their pregnancies during the summer. After recovering from the initial shock, Dr. Penner, the Kansas State University (KSU) Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and senior Veterinarians at Zoetis began the arduous task of determining the cause of the abortion storm that resulted in the loss of nearly an entire calf crop.

Blood tests revealed the cows were supremely vaccinated and they contracted a highly infectious virus carried by deer that causes abortions. The virus is deadly to deer and transmitted to cattle by flying/biting insects. No vaccines are available to protect pregnant cows from the virus. This environmental issue resulted from deer traffic in and around the rented pasture. Like many bovine viruses, infected cows develop an immunity to the virus and their longevity is unaffected. Dr. Breiner pregnancy checked the same cows in April 2021 and found 98% pregnant to artificial insemination performed in November and December 2020.

The loss of the 2021 calf crop has forced the difficult decision to **cancel** the BJ Angus Genetics Sale in 2022. We will appreciate seeing all our friends and customers back at BJ Angus on March 9, 2023. Meanwhile, we will gladly work with customers needing to add the same progressive genetics to their operations in 2022. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

  
John & Bonnie Slocombe