

Mountain Cattle Alliance

Mountain Cattle Alliance (MCA) is affiliated with the WNC Regional Livestock Center

“Producer Owned, Producer Driven”

Requirements for Participation of Home Raised Calves:

1. All MCA cattle must be processed according to NC Beef Quality Assurance guidelines. Participants should be NC Beef Quality Assurance certified, or they can be aided by a certified NC Beef Quality Assurance extension agent or another producer.
2. All cattle must be home raised.
3. Cattle must be weaned a minimum of 60 days prior to delivery.
4. Animal Health Program (Merck PrimeVAC 45 Protocol)

First Processing:

Vista Once (SQ)
Vision 7 (SQ)
Safeguard Drench
Injectable Dewormer (Producer's choose)
Implant (either Ralgro or Revalar G)
MCA ear tag in right ear.
Individual weights to WNCRLC of potential MCA calves

Second Processing:

Vista Once (SQ)
Vision 7 (SQ)

5. Vaccination protocol must be completed 21 days prior to delivery.
6. MCA calves are identified with a MCA custom tag in calves' right ear. Steers are tagged with green tags, Heifers with a yellow tag.
7. Weaning weights are required for WNCRLC to project loads.
8. Heifers are Guaranteed Open.
9. Bull Guarantee, Males must be castrated and healed preferably at a young age.
 - a. Cattle sold be castrated and healed before first working. Knife castration is strongly recommended.
 - b. If banded, scrotal sac with two testicles must have fallen off and completely healed.
 - c. Improper banding technique may lead to stags; late castration calves will carry a bullish appearance. Both are hugely discounted and may be rejected.
10. Sellers agree to reimburse buyer's \$200.00 for heifers and intact bulls/stags. A veterinarian must properly verify all claims from purchaser within (4) months of delivery date.
11. Calves require Dehorning and healed (no visible horns or scurs)
12. MCA producers are encouraged to practice low stress cattle handling. Cattle with bad dispositions and temperament are NOT desirable in any aspect of the cattle industry. It is important that we continue our reputation for docile cattle.

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13. Feeding program:

- a. Trained to eat feed from a bunk and drink water from a trough
- b. Calves should not be over fed; fleshy calves should be avoided and are likely to be discounted.
- c. Calves should gain 2 to 2.5 lbs. per day during the preconditioning period.
- d. All calves are to be fed a formulated diets to produce similar rates of gain.
- e. No feed supplements will be composed solely of corn gluten pellets.
- f. Calves must have access to free choice mineral supplements. No other salt available.
- g. Calves that are overly full on delivery day Will Not be tolerated.

14. The following cattle listed Do Not qualify for the MCA criteria:

- a. Number 2 and number 3 muscle cattle.
- b. Small frame or excessively large frame cattle.
- c. Rat tail calves.
- d. Dairy cross, Brahman Influence, Feather neck Hereford, Pink nose Charolais or double muscle cattle.

15. Cattle that have the following defects or abnormalities Will Not be accepted:

- a. Unhealth or animals with abscesses.
- b. Late cut bulls or stags
- c. Cattle with excessive warts, bad eyes, lameness, calves with ringworm, defective ears, tails, humpbacked cattle or calves with excessive hair coats.

16. All cattle will be inspected and any animal that does not meet sale requirements will not be eligible for the MCA sale.

17. All calves will be sold with the standard cattle industry 2% shrink and topside slide.

MCA Steering Committee Members and Contacts 2024

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