

Winter 2026 - Volume 82 // #1

Red Poll

BEEF - JOURNAL



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2025 ARPA Fees

Normal Registrations

Under 12 months of age	\$35
12-24 months of age	\$40
Over 24 months of age	\$50

Complete Herd Report (CHR)

Annual Cow Enrollment	\$5
Registration of CHR calf (complete herd must be enrolled at beginning of year)	\$20

Transfers – all registration types

Within 1 month of date of sale	\$25
1 to 3 months from date of sale	\$28
Over 3 months from date of sale	\$35

Yearly Journal Subscription

\$25

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Photo by:
Jessie Shook



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Terms expire 2028

Jeff Doll
8884 Camp Ernst Rd
Union, KY 41091
859-743-7923
jefferydoll@gmail.com

Justin Platt
3952 W 700 N
Fairland, IN 46126
317-677-5418
justin.platt1996@gmail.com

Bob Carson
PO Box 530
Walton, IN 46994
704-657-5126
carson_bob@hotmail.com

Terms expire 2027

Jeff Talbot, Vice President
85 Sylvan Springs Dr,
Florence, AL 35634
256-436-2003

Joe Jackson
4398 S. 300 E.
Warren, IN 46792
260-519-5286

Terms expire 2026

David McCall
1152 Drane Lane
Eminence, KY 40019
502-494-9644
mccallshowcattle@yahoo.com

Tim Montague, President
2351 Terry Lane S Rd
Covington, TN 38019
901-570-0769
utvolsvet@aol.com

Gary Taylor
10355 Memphis Arlington Rd
Lakeland TN 38002
901-338-9686
garytaylorfarms@gmail.com

Chet Miller
4867 Buck Creek Rd,
Finchville, KY 40022
502-321-6001

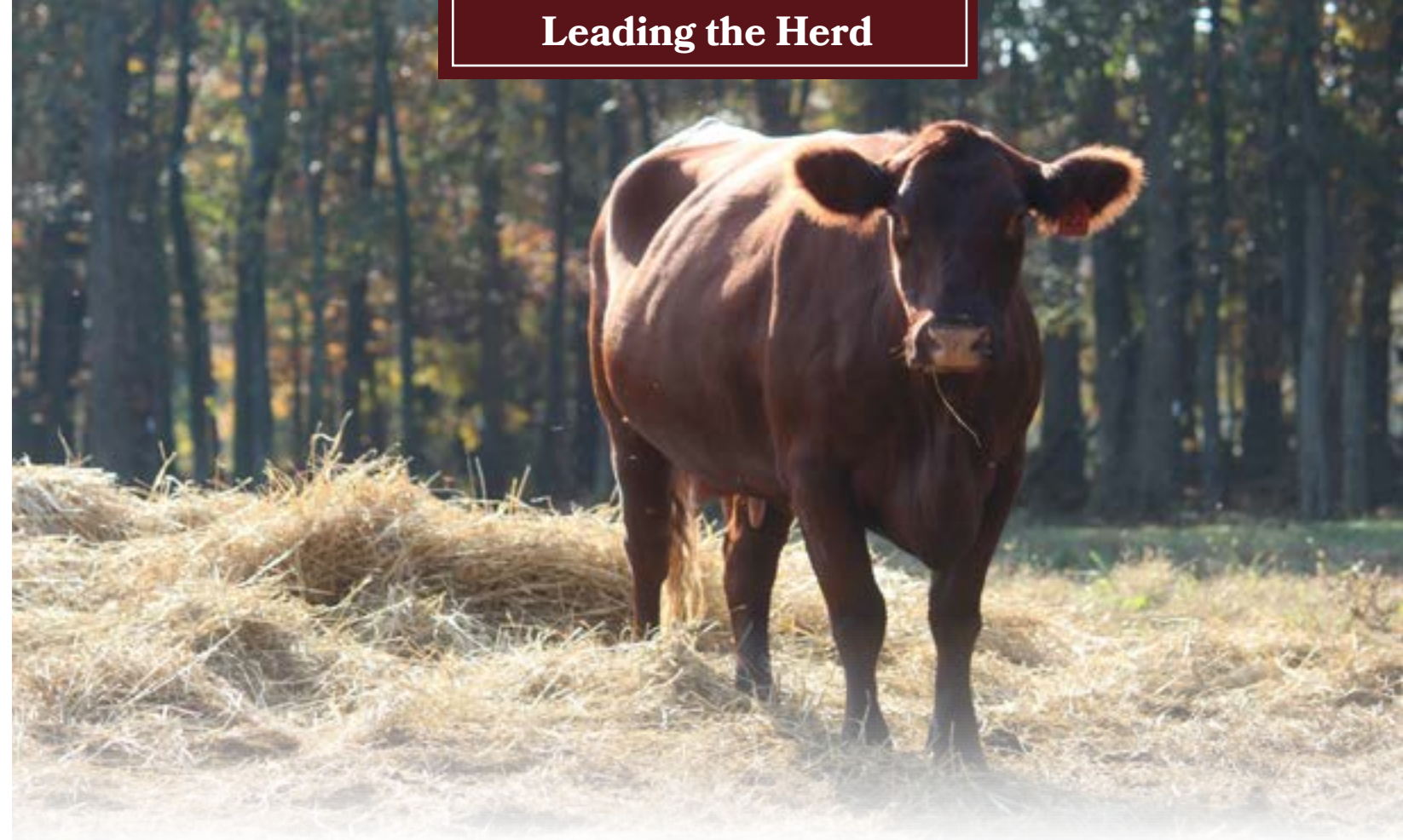
Red Poll Journal Designed by:



Jessie Shook
Rogersville, Alabama
352-458-1376
jessielrshook@gmail.com

Design | Freelance Writer
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Leading the Herd



President's Message

Season's Greetings, I know we are all gearing up for winter and all of the hard work involved with taking care of livestock, but I hope we all take time to celebrate the meaning of the season and to spend quality time with our families.

Our annual meeting and sale were a big success. We set a record for highest price for a bull at this sale. A cow/calf pair went for the highest price in close to 50 years. Prices were up across the board and we had many buyers participating that included both ARPA members and new breeders.

Even more exciting to me personally, was the National meeting. We had an environment of cooperation and cohesiveness that we need to cultivate for the future of our breed. We elected a new board -both old and newer faces-that are excited about moving forward in an energetic and productive manner. We are going to hit the ground running, Lord willing, and pray we can all reap the benefits of working together.

Please contact any board members with ideas, suggestions, concerns, and especially encouragement. Always keep in mind that this is a volunteer organization whose sole purpose is to promote these exceptional cattle in a way that will benefit all of us in the long run.

Tim Montague

Email: utvolsvet@aol.com

Cell: 901-570-0769

116th National Red Poll Show

Where Heritage Meets Quality

Females:

Division 1 Winners

Howard Young, JF TG Serena
 Luke Jones, Red Oak LJ Alessandra

Division 2 Winners

Adam Miller, AK's Ray Polly
 Emily Koch, Koch Scarlett

Division 3 Winners

Cooper McCall, BH 57 aka Peppermint
 Audrey McNamara, JF F Sadie

Division 4 Winners

MacKenzie Young Young's NR Ann
 Andrea Weaver JF F Dottie

Grand Champion Female

Adam Miller, AK's Ray Polly

Reserve Grand Champion Female

Emily Koch, Koch Scarlett

Bulls:

Division 1 Winners

Howard Young, JF F 419
 Emily Koch, Kochs Troubadour

Division 2 Winners

Robert Carson, JF Gunpowder & Lead

Grand Champion Bull

Howard Young, JF F 419

Reserve Grand Champion Bull

Robert Carson JF Gunpowder & Lead

Pair of Females

Silas Raines

Best 2 Head:

Howard Young/AK Cattle
 Emily Koch
 Robert Carson

Premier Exhibitor:

Howard Young/AK Cattle

Premier Breeder:

Jackson Farms

Junior National Red Poll Show:

Division 1 Winners

Luke Jones, Red Oak LJ Alessandra
 Malcolm Ray, JF TG Jenny

Division 2 Winners

Silas Raines, SBF Joelle
 Silas Raines, SBF Joanne

Division 3 Winners

Cooper McCall, BG57 aka Peppermint
 Audrey McNamara, JF F Sadie

Division 4 Winners

MacKenzie Young, Young's NR Ann
 Andrea Weaver, JF F Dottie

Grand Champion Female

Luke Jones, Red Oak LJ Alessandra

Reserve Grand Champion Female

Cooper McCall, BG57 aka Peppermint

Glenn Raines Memorial Premier Exhibitor

Silas Raines



Grand Champion Female: Adam Miller, AK's Ray Polly



Reserve Grand Champion Female: Emily Koch, Koch Scarlett



Grand Champion Bull: Howard Young, JF F 419



Reserve Grand Champion Bull: Robert Carson, JF Gunpowder & Lead

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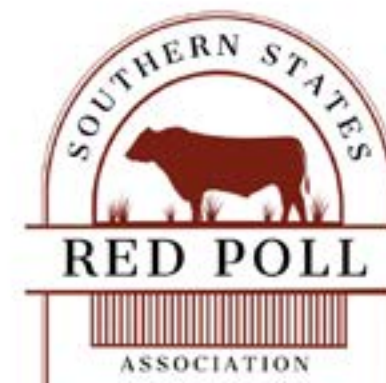
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JIM JACKSON

ARPA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND REGISTRAR

PHONE: 765-425-4515

EMAIL: AMERICANREDPOLLS@GMAIL.COM

MAIL: 11603 W 700 N
FARMLAND, IN 47340



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FRIDAY 8 AM-4 PM EST

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lhartsell@hmsracing.com

EP FARM - GERALD PARK
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LINCOLNTON, NC 28092
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276-694-4297
morrisonredpollfarm@gmail.com

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Ltolia@sitestar.net

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Red Polls, Family Pride and a 70-Year Journey

By: Justin Platt



In 1954, James and Mary Spegal bought a little farm with just three Red Poll cows on it. They probably had no idea then that those three cows would spark a family tradition that would last for generations. When Gail and Shirley married and eventually took over, they poured their hearts into growing the herd. The farm became more than a home—it was the place where their boys, Gregg and Todd, learned to work, to show, and to appreciate the cattle their family cared so much about. Later, four of 6 grandkids—Megan, Cameron, Andrew, and Katie—followed right along in their footsteps.

Showing Red Polls became a family way of life. Gail was never happier than when he was in the show ring alongside his sons and grandkids. For 65 straight years, he stepped into the Indiana State Fair ring—something few people can say. When asked about his fondest memory of showing Red Poll cattle, he simply said, “Winning Grand Champion heifer at North American when it was in Chicago”. As well as when he raised the heaviest yearling weight bull of the breed at 1,435 pounds. These are just some of the memories that meant so much to him.

In 2015, everything changed when Gail was hurt in a farming accident. It was a tough time, but the Spegals did what they’ve always done—they came together. While Gail worked hard to recover,

their oldest son Gregg returned home after retiring from the military and took over the day-to-day cattle work on the farm. Their younger son Todd continued to handle the row crop portion of the farm. Life wasn’t always easy, but it brought the family even closer and kept the herd and operation moving forward.

As the cattle operation grew, Gregg and Amy realized they needed a better way to get their freezer beef to customers. What started as a small setup in their garage then moving to farmers markets, eventually became a brick and mortar storefront - Spegal Prime Cuts. In 2020, they got the chance to open a storefront in Shelbyville. Now, they’re able to offer Red Poll beef products, fresh or frozen, in large and single serve quantities. They are able to and continue to expand working with other Red Poll breeders, helping promote the breed and support the farmers who raise it.

In 2019, Megan (Spegal) and her husband, Justin Platt, bought their first Red Poll from Jackson Farms at the Kentucky Beef Expo. That one bred cow kicked off something special. Since then, they’ve won banners with both heifers and bulls, and Megan has made it her mission to share the breed with her FFA students. She gives them the chance to show Red Polls at county fairs, junior

shows, open shows, and even NAILE—carrying on the tradition she grew up with.

Since 1954, a lot of cows have lived on the Spegal farm, but it’s never really been about the cattle alone. It’s been about family—working together, showing together, cheering each other on, and building memories with every calf, every show, and every generation. What started with three Red Polls has become a journey filled with friendship, pride, and love.

The Red Poll breed hasn’t just shaped the Spegal story — it’s become part of the Spegal.



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G&S Red Polls
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 Pittsburg, Tx 75686

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Members:

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 Mabelvale, AR 72103
 501-517-2534

Henry Patterson
 281 CR 3181A
 Cleveland, Tx 77327
 281-659-7340

Jackie & Janna Stieber
Stieber Red Polls
 910965 S 3370 Rd
 Wellston, Ok 74881

Diamond T Red Polls
Darrell Thomas
 1203 N Main St.
 Winnsboro, Tx 75494
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Building a Stronger Beef Industry Through Red Poll Genetics

Submitted By: Brittany Abbott, Turanga Red Poll Stud

The beef industry is booming at the moment and as beef producers we have never been so excited and open to the new opportunities that are available to us. Educating, demonstrating and showcasing the capability of the Red Poll breed to the commercial beef industry is our opportunity to see the breed survive and flourish in future years.

At the Turanga Red Poll Stud we are selling between 20 to 25 bulls a year that are dominantly under two years of age. The majority of these young bulls are sold at 14 months of age which enables more profitability for our clients through earlier joining periods and more profitable for ourselves through paddock management and feed intake. When we select for our bulls we focus on fertility, temperament, conformation and performance as these contribute to longevity that are essential for a bull working over stock. To maximise the saleability and ensure reliability of our bulls they must be semen tested, physically assessed by a vet, pesti-virus tested, genetically tested including a myostatin status, 5 in 1 vaccinated and vibro vaccinated.

We breakdown our markets into four categories; stud stock, cross or composite breeding, beef on dairy and commercial outlet. The bulls selected for stud use are the top of the group for phenotype, genetics, genomics and performance.

By clearly identifying what clients need and the differences between them, bulls can be best allocated to suit the different jobs required and therefore produce the best result for the client and ourselves.

Selling bulls is not a simple task, it requires a lot of time and effort however it is very rewarding. Building connections with clients are essential in gaining repeat buyers and for us our highlight is being able to follow up and visit buyers to get their feedback, see how the bulls have performed and what they are producing. It is the first sale of a bull to any client that is the critical selling stage as it reflects your stud's reputation and is, in most circumstances, an introduction into the breed for the buyer.

One sale is going to decide whether or not a repeat buyer has been gained or lost with valuable opportunity and therefore it is important to understand the responsibilities as a stud breeder providing bulls for stud and commercial use. The biggest question we get asked is whether or not these bulls are safe to use. For us this comes down to understanding calving ease, the influence of myostatin and how genomics and raw data provides assurance for our product.

Myostatin has been a hot topic in recent times with much discussion over the benefits and

problems associated with this gene mutation. It is critical to understand how this mutation effects animals, how it is passed on through progeny and most importantly how to manage it. Firstly, this is not an isolated issue to the Red Poll breed and is seen in a wide variety of breeds but it is often not associated with Red Polls. Myostatin is a naturally occurring protein that acts as a regulator to stop muscles growing excessively and when this gene mutates this function is disrupted and hence excessive muscle develops which is often referred to as double-muscling. There are multiple variations of the myostatin mutation however Red Polls specifically have the Nt821 variant. Animals that have no mutated copies of myostatin are referred to as non-carriers that exhibit normal muscling for the breed. An animal that carries one copy is heterozygous, meaning it typically shows some level of increased muscling however less pronounced than an animal that is homozygous with two copies that usually displays extreme muscling. When a joining occurs between two heterozygous animals, a homozygous calf is produced that will display double-muscling and a joining consisting of one heterozygous animal has a 50% chance of passing on the gene. I emphasize the importance and necessity for individual animals to be tested to know exactly what you are selling or buying because the mismanagement and complications of double-muscled calves can be destructive and devastating for all involved.

Some breeders will credit animals that are heterozygous for having increased yield, lean meat content and physical appeal however both heterozygous and homozygous effected animals have increased risks of fertility loss, calving difficulties, abnormal health problems and reduced fat laying ability. Regardless of whether myostatin is working in your favour or not, a status must be known when considering saleability and credibility via genomic testing.

Genomic testing provides a vast scope of genetic evaluation which can enhance environmental adaptability, health markers and performance. Our current genomic package includes slick gene which is associated with fine skin and hair type that is more tolerable to warmer climates and has been associated with higher eating quality. Pinkeye resistance testing indicates whether an animal is more likely to be predisposed to the disease compared to another. A2 milk is also identified that is linked to healthier calves, higher weaning performance and marketability for A2 milk consumption.

Raw data is a strong foundation in identifying heritable growth traits and patterns. Record keeping maintains traceability that can be submitted to performance recording software to elevated accuracy percentages over predicted markers. For us, all calves are weighed at birth, weaning, 400 day, 600 day weights and also all cows at weaning.

Birthweights are often controversial and complicated in the sense of what is deemed acceptable. For us, just because a cow can have a 50kg + calf, doesn't mean it is commercial acceptable. The thought behind this is if high birthweight calves are kept as bulls that they have a higher chance of causing calving difficulties in another herd that doesn't have the same calving capability and potentially cause serious issues and unnecessary stress. Traditionally chasing extreme growth leads to big calves. From our experience across 18 years of recording birthweights which is just over 1000 calves, our acceptable range for calves are; bull calves out of mature cows 37-44kg with an optimum of 40-43kg and heifer calves 37-42kg. For bull calves out of two year old heifers 32-36kg and 30-35kg for heifer calves. By having these permiters in place, we reduce the risk of causing calving issues and not isolating ourselves into limited markets.

On the opposite end, selecting of extreme low birthweight animals will lead to small growing animals that are only capable of having even smaller calves which is why it is important to find a balance between birthweight and growth. There is a very small percentage that are born small with extreme growth and are referred to as curve benders however they are a very select few. Another thing to consider is that bulls are not always to blame for high birthweights and that cow families can carry higher birthweights that are often over looked which is why it is important to weigh all calves and notice combination changes and the effect on birthweight. Calf shape is also a consideration and often a reflection of the sire and dam structurally.

As Red Poll breeders, we all know and understand the value and benefits of Red Poll genetics and now, as a breed, it is our opportunity to take the steps to make a positive impact on the commercial beef industry.

Contribute to the Next ARPA Magazine! We welcome educational content and feature stories from members. Your voice helps tell the Red Poll story—send in your submissions!

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See page 9

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Inquiries & Visitors are always welcome!



Spegal's PRIME CUTS

Andrea Weaver — Leading the Future of Red Poll Cattle

Junior President, Red Poll Ambassador, and Rising Star

My name is Andrea Weaver. I'm currently serving as the National Red Poll Ambassador and the Junior Board President. A little about me, I'm 19 and a sophomore in college studying Agriculture and Fire Science. In high school I obtained my Firefighter and EMT certifications, I now work as EMT through a local EMS service. While working and going to school I also volunteer as a firefighter in 2 different departments. Recently I have expanded my training and became a CPR instructor.

Needless to say, I keep very busy but I still find time to do what I love, showing cattle, but more specifically showing Red Polls. The last 5 years I have been showing Red Polls and have truly fallen in love with the breed and its association.

Through out this journey I have been a part of 4-H, as well as FFA. In FFA I completed an SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) on the Red Poll cattle I took care of and showed. Through this SAE I received my green hand degree, chapter degree, Hoosier Degree (State Degree), and now the highest Degree... the American Degree.

My journey with the Red Poll breed has allowed me so many opportunities to expand my knowledge, grow in leadership, make new connections, and teach all sorts of people about the breed (Including Vice President Pence).



Andrea has received the highest Degree through FFA, the American Degree.



Andrea is a volunteer firefighter at 2 different departments.



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2025 National Red Poll Sale



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256-229-1038
256-229-1057

Moulton

12955 AL Hwy 157
Moulton, AL 35650

Courtland

3761 Jefferson St.
Courtland, AL 35618
256-637-2939

Florence

1026 S Court St.
Florence, AL 35630
256-764-8441

Lynnville

145 Mill St.
Lynnville, TN 38472
931-527-3923

Pulaski

2070 Elkton Pike,
Pulaski, TN 38478
931-363-2563

Lot Number	Price	Seller	Buyer
BULLS			
1	\$5,000	Egyptian Farms	Creech Family Red Polls
3	\$3,000	Miller Family Farm	Jackson Farms
4	\$6,825	Red Oak Farms	Clayton Oesch
COW/CALF PAIR			
11	\$7,000	Young's Red Polls	Jackson Farms
BRED HEIFERS			
21	\$2,200	Canebrake Farms	Gary Todd
22	\$3,000	Lost Creek Farm	John Sheppard
24	\$3,500	JM Farms	Russ Wesley
COMMERCIAL BRED HEIFERS			
31	\$1,800	Lost Creek Farm	Gary Todd
32	\$2,400	Lost Creek Farm	Jennifer Oliver
33	\$2,000	Lost Creek Farm	Jennifer Oliver
OPEN HEIFERS			
34	\$2,600	Stieber's Red Polls	Carson Farms
36	\$3,000	Coke Creek Farms	Swift Spring Farm
37	\$3,100	AK Cattle Co	Russ Wesley
38	\$3,700	Doll's Red Polls	Russ Wesley
39	\$3,000	Young's Red Polls	Doll's Red Polls
40X	\$1,600	Canebrake Farms	Jackson Farms
41	\$3,100	AK Cattle Co	Russ Wesley
42	\$2,300	Taylor Red Polls	Doll's Red Polls
43	\$2,200	Taylor Red Polls	Jennifer Oliver
44	\$3,700	Egyptian Farms	Jackson Farms
46	\$3,000	Coke Creek Farms	Sanders Cattle Company
47	\$2,700	Coke Creek Farms	Lost Creek Farms
49	\$4,500	Doll's Red Polls	Russ Wesley
50	\$1,600	Canebrake Farms	Jackson Farms
Total Sales			
	\$76,825	\$3,201.04	Sale Average
		\$4,941.66	Bull Average
		\$2,900.00	Bred Heifer Average
		\$2,066.66	Commercial Bred Heifer Average
		\$2,864.28	Open Heifer Average
		\$7,000.00	Cow Calf Pair Average

Bama Red Polls
 TJ CURRIER
 888 COX COVE ROAD
 HAYDEN, AL 35079
 205-647-3923

HB FARMS
 BRIT AND HAILEY BIPPUS

 1075 COUNTRY ROAD 154
 CORNING, AR 72422
 870-450-7039
 BIPPUS.HAILEY@GMAIL.COM
 FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Upcoming Events

Index

March

Kentucky Beef Expo, March 6-7, 2026
 Louisville KY
<https://kybeefexpo.com/>

March 15

Spring Journal submission deadline

Summer 2026

Junior- Preview Show
 Location & Schedule TBD

July 15

Fall Journal submission deadline

July/August

Indiana State Fair Open Red Poll Show, Schedule TBD,
 Indianapolis IN
<https://www.indianastatefair.com/>

August

Kentucky State Fair Open Red Poll Show, Schedule
 TBD, Louisville KY
<https://www.kystatefair.org/>

September/October

National Meeting and Sale
 location and date TBD

November

National Red Poll Show
 Louisville, KY, schedule TBD

November 15

Winter Journal submission deadline

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Dolls Red Poll Cattle.....	Page 19
Egyptian Farms.....	Page 12
Esquire Land and Cattle.....	Page 13
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HB Farms	Page 22
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Little Creek Farms	Inside Cover
Lost Creek Farms	Back Cover
Miller Family Farm	Page 8
Quad Cities Animal Hospital.....	Page 17
Shadow Creek	Page 12
Southern States Association	Page 7
Spegal's Red Poll Cattle	Page 17
Stieber Red Poll	Page 9
Taylor Land and Cattle	Page 16
Tennessee Valley Cooperative.....	Page 20
Texas Red Poll Association	Page 12
Wiese Farms.....	Page 22
Wooded Ridge Ranch.....	Page 9

Hill Top Farms
 John Rager
 260-578-6745
 6942 W 1000 N, Roann, IN 46974
 Concentrating on increased milk production
 and carcass quality

Wiese Farms
 Brian Hiebert
 jbhieb@outlook.com 620-802-2169
 Bill Wiese
 wmwiese@gmail.com 620-465-3865

First time purchasers of Red Polls / new Members of ARPA:
 Jul 15, 25 – Nov 19, 25

Freddie Brinson Millen, GA	Nathan Nash Fordland, MO
Baker Farms Liberty, IN	Janelle Anderson Waynesboro, TN
Ainsley McNamara (JR) Syracuse, IN	Ben Anderson Waynesboro, TN
Russell Wesley Science Hill, KY	Brenton Echols Slaton, TX
Josh Streblov Granite Falls, MN	Evans Mill Farm Dillwyn, VA
Diamond F Cattle Co Eldon, MO	

Welcome to ARPA!

Black Velvet Ranch
 Registered Red Poll Cattle
 Sires: SCC Aiden & JF TNT
 Russ & Pam Peterson
 Grove City, Minnesota
blackvelvetranch@outlook.com
 320-905-0733

G & S Red Polls
 George Shaffer & Family
 970-846-6343
 157 CR 1266 Pittsburg, TX 75686
 Semen & Grass-fed Beef for Sale

NEW ARPA ADDRESS
 See page 9 for details in secretary's message.

How to Contribute to the Red Poll Beef Journal

Deadlines For Submissions and Payments
 Winter Journal - November 15, 2025
 Spring Journal - March 15, 2026
 Fall Journal - July 15, 2026

Advertisements will repeat unless you contact the office with changes

Share Your Story! We're now accepting educational articles and feature articles for the Red Poll Beef Journal. Help us highlight the breed and the people behind it!

Advertising Rates

Advertisement Size Price File Size
Full Page - \$240.00 8.5 in wide, 11 in tall
1/2 Page - \$135.00 8.5 in wide, 5.5 in tall
1/4 Page - \$80.00 4.25 in wide, 5.5 in tall
4 inch - \$55.00 3.5 in wide 4 in tall
Business Card - \$35.00 3.5 in wide, 2 in tall
Inside Front Cover - \$300
Back Cover - \$400
Inside back cover - \$300

You can have a business card size ad created for \$50



LOST CREEK FARM

TIM & SANDRA MONTAGUE

ESTD 1985

Covington, Tennessee

Cow/Calf Operation | Custom Beef Business



Lost Creek Heifers

Junior Herd Sire

JF Big Deal

Reg # 219621

(sire JF Big Shot dam JF
April)

**Senior Herd Sire PBF Big
Buck's Ferdinand**

Reg # 216684

2018 Division 2

Intermediate Champion
Bull at the 109th Annual
Red Poll Show



DEDICATED TO PRODUCING QUALITY BLOODSTOCK

Tim Montague DVM and Sandra Montague DVM
UTVOLSVET@AOL.COM | 901-570-0769