

Rio Grande Valley Bull Gain Test & Heifer Development Program Terms

Bull/Heifer Test ID	- Tag number assignment at Rio Beef Feedyard/Rio Grande Valley Bull Gain Test
Tag Color	- Color assigned to each age group
Age Group	- Late Summer Yearling Bulls (LYSB), Late Senior Bull Calf (LSBC), Early Junior Bull Calf (EJBC)
Ranch	- Your ranch name
Ranch ID	- Animal ID number (brand or tag) given at the ranch
Breed	- Breed or breed cross
Birth Date	- Animal birth date
Arrival Date	- Date cattle arrived at feed lot
Start Date	- Starting date of gain test, used for computations of age for WPDA and ADG
End Date	- Ending date of gain test, used for computations of age for WPDA and ADG
Lot	- Lot Number assigned by feedlot to each consignor
Age	- Age in days when animals were delivered to the feedlot
On Feed Wt I and II	- Bulls were weighed on two consecutive days at the beginning of the test
On Feed Weight	- Average of On Feed weights I and II. Used to determine weight at the start of the test
Final Wt I and II	- Bulls were weighed on two consecutive days at the end of the test
Final Weight	- Average of Final Wt I and II. Used to determine weight at the end of the test
Weight per Day	- Weight per Day of Age (WPDA) Final weight divided by age in days
Final Gain	- Gain on test (Final Weight - On Feed Weight)
Final ADG	- ADG (Average daily gain) on test (Final Gain divided by 112 days)
Final Hip Ht.	- Height at the hip in inches (heavy cattle are usually taller and may require more feed to maintain them)
Frame Score	- Frame score calculated by BIF (Beef Improvement Federation) formula, different for bulls and heifers)
Ribeye Area	- Ultrasound measure of ribeye area (REA) in square inches
REA/CWT	- REA per hundred pounds of live weight at ultrasound, it is a measure of muscling, 1.2 sq. in. or higher is recommended for improving muscling
Fat Thick.	- Ultrasound measure of fat thickness at the 12 th -13 th rib in tenths of an inch
IM Fat %	- Ultrasound measure of percentage of intramuscular fat (IMF or marbling): 3.0 - 3.9 Slight (Select), 4.0 - 4.9 Small (Low Choice), 5.0 - 5.9 Modest (Avg. Choice), 6.0 - 6.9 Moderate (High Choice)
Rump Fat	- Fat thickness in inches over rump. An indicator of fatness associated adaptability, cutability and maturity.
RTS (heifers)	- Reproductive Tract Score 1 = Infertile, 2, Underdeveloped and possibly subfertile (young), 3 and 4 = Developed and fertile, 5= Fertile and cycling (heifers) Recommend 3 or higher.
BCS	- Body Condition Score; Visual Estimate 1 = very thin, 5-7 = optimal, 9 = very fat (heifers and bulls)
Final S.C.	- Scrotal Circumference, in centimeters, 2.54 cm = 1 inch (bulls), 32-34 cm for yearling bulls
Sheath Score	- Visual estimate 1 = Tight sheath, 5 = Pendulous (bulls) Less than 3 is recommended.
Navel Score	- Visual estimate: 1 = Tight navel, 5 = Pendulous (heifers) Less than 3 is recommended.
Pelvic Height	- Height of pelvic opening in centimeters
Pelvic Width	- Width of pelvic opening centimeters
Pelvic Area	- Height times width of pelvic opening in square centimeters, 160 sq. cm. or higher for 14 month old heifers
ADG Ratio	- Ratio of the bull against his age group average for ADG. 100 is average.
REA/CWT Ratio	- Ratio of the bull against his age group average for REA/CWT. 100 is average.
WPDA Ratio	- Ratio of the bull against his age group average for WPDA. 100 is average.
Marbling Ratio	- Ratio of the bull against his age group average for marbling or IMF. 100 is average.
S.C. Ratio	- Ratio of the bull against his group average for SC. 100 is average.
RGVBIA Ratio	- This ratio takes into account 30% of the bull's ADG ratio, 20% of his REA/CWT ratio, 20% of his WPDA ratio, 20% of his IMF ratio and 10% of his SC ratio. Bulls whose RGVBIA Ratio exceed 100 are usually above average in more than one trait, however bulls should be evaluated for the economically relevant traits the breeder is interested in and is most profitable for them.