

LASATER BEEFMASTERS

FOUNDATION HERD OF THE BEEFMASTER BREED

"The Pedigree
is in the Name"

Dale Lasater or Aaron Berger

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The Six Essentials

DISPOSITION

FERTILITY

WEIGHT

CONFORMATION

HARDINESS

MILK PRODUCTION

Spring 2002
NEWSLETTER

We select cattle to work for us, so we know they will work for you.

Lasater Beefmaster® Genetics Work from the Ranch to the Rail!

A group of 1,204 steers from the same ranch, weaned at the same time, were managed, fed and harvested under similar conditions. All steers were electronically identified in order to track performance from the ranch to the rail. Closeouts on the cattle occurred during 2001. The group included 511 head of Beefmaster steers (sired by ***Lasater Beefmaster®*** bulls) with the balance of the 1,204 steers being purebred or crossbred. The purebred steers consisted of three different breeds being evaluated on the ranch. The crossbred steers consisted of a two breed cross.

When the cattle were harvested and the information analyzed, the Beefmaster steers lead the group in overall profitability, **netting \$15.53 more per head** due to performance in the feedyard and carcass merit on the rail. **The 511 Beefmaster steers had a cost of gain of \$49.91, a feed conversion of 5.92, graded 70.3% Choice or better, with 59% being Yield Grades 1 or 2.** The 693 other steers from the 3 different breeds, as well as the crossbred steers in the group had a cost of gain of \$51.07, a feed conversion of 6.05, graded 69.33% Choice or better, with 68% being Yield Grades 1 or 2.

Furthermore, when **total net profitability** was analyzed, including costs associated with producing each group of steers prior to leaving the ranch, the Beefmaster steers returned on average **\$28.13 more per head** than their contemporaries from the three other breeds and crossbreds.

In summary, ***Lasater Beefmaster®*** genetics **WORK**. They are not only functional and productive, but most importantly, they are **PROFITABLE**. They work on the ranch, in the feedyard and on the rail.



**Lasater Beefmaster Field Day and Sale
will be held September 10 & 11, 2002**

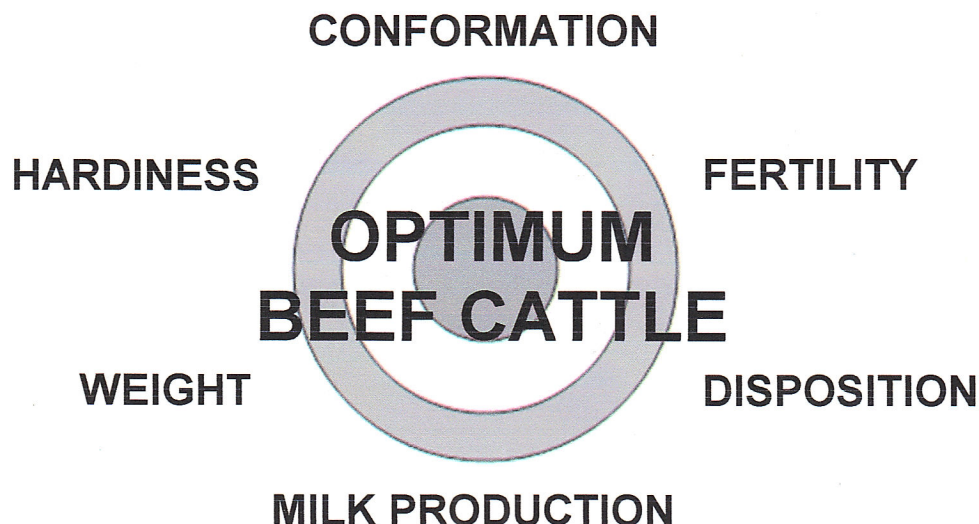
**90 Two-Year-Old Bulls developed on
native range will be offered at auction**

**50 Bred Females, Three-In-Ones,
and Cow-Calf Pairs will be
offered at private treaty**

The Lasater Ranch Selection Program: A Summary

How the *Six Essentials* are used in the selection of *Lasater Beefmaster*® Genetics.

THE SIX ESSENTIALS



"Each of the Six Essentials is equally important to hitting the target of producing optimum cattle. Removing any one of the Six Essentials results in the animal's functional and production value being greatly diminished."

Mr. Tom Lasater

Multiple trait selection means compromise and will eliminate individuals who may excel in a single trait (for example weight), but do not meet the other optimum criteria outlined in the Six Essentials. Nature itself culls out extremes.

We believe that optimum cattle are those that will sustain long-term profitability through the efficient conversion of forages into lean beef for the least possible cost.

Disposition: Having been raised under identical range conditions, the difference in disposition between individuals is apparent during the first several days following weaning. Those with poor dispositions are culled. Thereafter, disposition is judged continually and animals which exhibit unacceptable behavior are culled from the herd.

Fertility: Bulls retained for use in our herd go into service at approximately 14 months of age. All breeding occurs in large multiple-sire herds. For more than 50 years, the bulls with the highest libido and the strongest competitive instincts have left the most progeny. Less fertile bulls, or those less willing to compete, have left little or no progeny.

Females are first exposed at 12 to 14 months of age. All age groups are bred under range conditions during a 45-day breeding season. Since 1948 every female has been required to conceive during a short breeding season and also wean an acceptable calf each year. There are no exceptions to this rule. If a cow does not conceive or for any reason does not wean an acceptable calf (even if her calf is killed by lightning) she is culled from the herd.

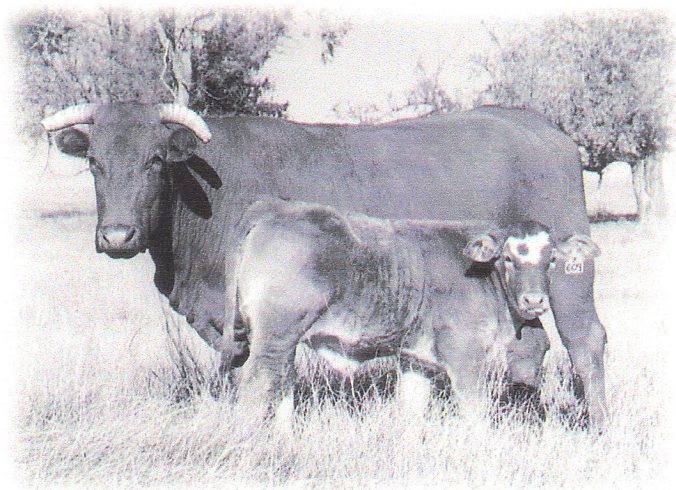
Weight: Bulls to be retained as herd sires are selected based upon weaning weight, post-weaning gain and yearling weight. Weaning weight primarily measures the milking ability of a bull's dam, but also gives an indication of a bull's own growth potential. Post weaning gain to a year of age (in our program) measures how efficiently a bull is able to convert native forage to pounds of beef. Yearling weight is a combination of weaning weight and post weaning gain and therefore is the most important weight used in selection.

Approximately 85% of the heifer crop is retained for replacements. Only defective heifers or those that appear unable to reach puberty at 14 months of age are culled at weaning. After that time a cow is not culled on her own weight, but for weaning a lightweight calf. What do we do with all the females resulting from keeping so many heifers? The strict selection for the Six Essentials and the resulting rapid attrition, drastically limit internal herd growth.

Conformation: "Conformation is defined as "type on the hook, not type on the hoof." Muscling, along with length and width of hindquarters is emphasized in the selection of bulls as potential herd sires. Animals with any type of structural defects such as problems with their feet and legs or frame are culled from the herd.

Hardiness: Hardiness is exemplified by those animals that relentlessly carry on their production assignments year after year in a range environment with minimum assistance. For example in our herd, first-calf heifers are expected to calve out on the range with no assistance. These criteria favor those individuals that are able to carry on production with minimal intervention and with the least cost.

Milk Production: Only bull calves with above average weaning weights are considered as potential herd sires. These bulls will most likely sire daughters that will perpetuate the heavy milking characteristics demonstrated by their individual dams. Lightweight calves, both bulls and heifers, are culled at weaning. Also dams weaning bottom-end calves are culled from the herd.



"PRETTY IS AS PRETTY DOES!"

Available At Private Treaty
20 Casey Beefmaster Cow-Calf Pairs

These cows range in age from 3 to 12 years of age with the majority being ages 4 to 9. The calves were born in February and March. The Casey breeding program is well known for its selection emphasis on functionality and fertility. This is a tremendous opportunity to purchase excellent maternal genetics. Please call us if you have an interest.

Lasater Beefmasters

P.O. Box 38

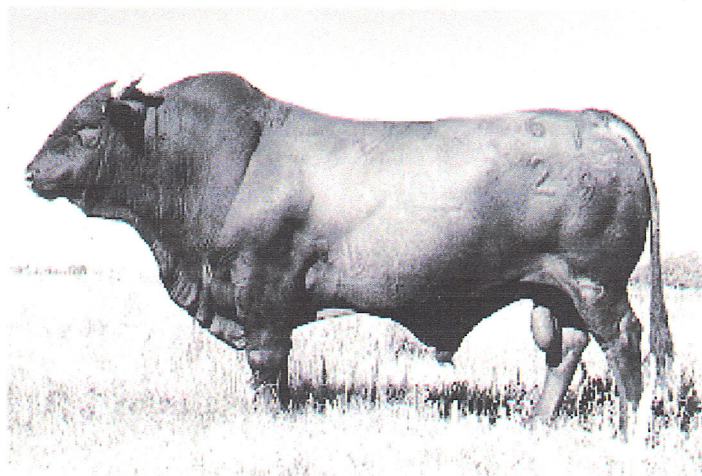
Matheson, CO 80830

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www.lasaterranch.com

We select cattle to work for us, so we know they will work for you.

Lasater 6129 Semen Available



Sire: Lasater 4396

Dam: Lasater 4079

WWR 108

YWR 107

Mature Wt. 2075#

6129 has gone through the rigors of the Lasater Ranch selection program and excelled. Having a weaning weight ratio of 108 and a yearling weight ratio of 107, he was a standout among his peer group of 44 bulls out of first-calf heifers. His performance in service has been exceptional as well. He was the most prolific breeder of the bull battery in 2001. Of the 13 yearling bulls retained as herd sires in 2001, four were sons of 6129. This bull exemplifies the **Six Essential** qualities that are at the foundation of the **Lasater Beefmaster®** selection program.