



TE MANIA ANGUS
BREEDING BETTER BEEF

Breed for success



Te Mania Angus has dominated the breed's EBVs for years – and is showing no signs of slowing down – with more than twice as many Angus Group Breedplan trait leaders as any other stud.



The figures add up at Te Mania Angus

Adding to that success is Te Mania Angus' insistence all sale bulls are stringently – and independently – assessed for structure. With the results published alongside each bull in all sale catalogues.

Te Mania Angus can deliver calving ease and be commercially profitable with the fast-growing, high-marbling bulls wanted by the feedlot industry, processors, and, most crucially, consumers.

Te Mania Angus director Tom Gubbins says his family's business has been going to great lengths – “lengths above and beyond those expected by the rest of the industry” – to further improve that accuracy.

He says Te Mania Angus does that in many ways, such as keeping animals together in large contemporary groups to achieve more effective progeny in each group which can then be compared in one environment.

“The phenotype (what you see) is made up of the genotype (inherited factors) plus the environment (all other factors),” Tom says.

“If we put animals in large groups where the environment is the same, then we can compare genotypes,” he says.

Te Mania Angus also progeny tests a significant cast of sires each year – both on-property and through the Team Te Mania commercial progeny test herds.

Tom says these progeny test herds contribute valuable information on sires, which further increases the accuracy of sale bulls through the sire line.

He says while this is a time consuming and expensive program, Te Mania Angus remains committed to this principle – and its success is clearly reflected in Breedplan and in demand from major feedlots for Te Mania Angus blood steers.

“As we all well know, EBVs can change as more information comes to light, because EBVs are estimates of the animal's genotype,” Tom adds.

“The more information made available, the more accurate the estimates and the reason why an EBV may change,” he says.

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"In our breeding program these short-generation interval, high-accuracy animals also give us the opportunity to make faster genetic gain, therefore improve our herd and the herds of our clients at an ever-accelerating rate," he says.

"It also means we can use more of our own-bred sires, which we obviously know much more about.

"With this extra accuracy we can make more specific breeding decisions than the rest of the industry, for example keeping a lid on birthweight.

"And because of the number of sale bulls we are producing for sales in Victoria and NSW as well as Team Te Mania and private sales, we have large numbers of very low birthweight bulls while pushing growth hard and keeping mature size at a viable limit.

"We can now also do this while boosting marbling and other important carcass traits."

Parallel with its genetic progress is Te Mania Angus' focus on structure.

Tom says the stud is continually expanding its structural assessment program to optimise soundness and performance in its stock.

He says the program involves an independent assessor from BEEFXCEL analysing the structural composition of the herd on an individual basis.

The program used at Te Mania comprises of an annual assessment of all sale bulls, an annual assessment of all breeding females and donor cows and any animals deemed inadequate are immediately culled.



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Join the winning team

Team Te Mania is an alliance of cutting-edge Australian Angus producers working together to produce high-quality beef cattle and collectively market through a nationally recognised brand. It is about starting producer members along the path from being price takers to price makers.

Team members have access to the latest Te Mania Angus genetics through a bull-leasing program and discounted artificial insemination. The bull leasing is backed by a 48-hour replacement guarantee. Focusing on efficient management practices and industry-leading genetics, Team Te Mania members target the lucrative B3 market.

They work together to genetically fast-track the fertility and performance of their herds, achieving more cattle reaching commercial targets, in a shorter period of time from conception to turn off. In turn, Te Mania Angus – the nucleus herd – benefits from vital production feedback used to further finetune the genetic program.

Targeted genetics are multiplied through consistent commercial production by Team Te Mania herds, ensuring a premium product for the commercial cattle producer, the processor and the retailer.

Established in 1995, Team Te Mania today includes herds from Victoria, NSW and SA.

Management requirements

Team Te Mania has two commercial management programs.

1. Production herds

The minimum recording requirements of Team Te Mania progeny are:

- Month calf was born, and
- Sex of calf.

2. Progeny Test herds

Registered with the Angus Society on the ACR (Angus Commercial Register), these herds submit performance data to Group Breedplan. Management requirements are:

- Single sire mating
- Artificial Insemination, to ensure linkage with other Team Te Mania herds
- Female identification and joining dates
- Identification of all calves
- Birth date, weaning weight and post weaning weights.

Cattle within the progeny test program are scanned for IMF% (Intra Muscular Fat) and EMA (Eye Muscle Area), paid by the Team Te Mania Research and Development Fund.

The Team program is based on the eventual exclusive use of Te Mania Angus genetics in Team herds.

There is a phase-in period while bulls in each member's herd are gradually replaced with Team Te Mania lease bulls and/or subsidised semen.

The progeny of all Team Te Mania semen and lease bulls become the property of the Team member.

All male progeny must be castrated.

Benefits of the team program

- The quality and volume of Team Te Mania differentiates it from any other line of cattle
- Development of premium female breeding herds
- Higher numbers of steers reach market specifications
- Market awareness from a strong and recognised brand
- Use of proven Angus genetics at commercial rates
- Guaranteed replacement of lease bulls within 48 hours
- Cashflow – No back-up bulls, no capital outlay. Lease payments are tax deductible
- Te Mania Angus consultants and directors assist with genetic and management decisions
- Sharing ideas with dynamic group of commercial cattle producers.