



## Round 3 Guidelines

### Eligible Cattle

Visions Quest (VQ) Round 3 is open to registered, recorded and commercial Limousin and Lim-Flex® steers and heifers born between Feb. 1 and April 30, 2007. Participants must enroll a minimum of two head, but 10 or more are preferred. A group of 10 from one known sire is encouraged for data-collection purposes.

### Enrollment

A nonrefundable \$20 per head enrollment fee will be assessed, and the fees are due to the NALF office no later than Sept. 1, 2007. Your enrollment fee will be credited toward your yardage and feed bills.

### Preconditioning

Participants must precondition all VQ cattle before delivery. The preconditioning requirements follow.

- Vaccinate calves for infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), bovine viral diarrhea (BVD), bovine respiratory syncytial virus (BRSV) and parainfluenza-3 (PI-3) at least two weeks before weaning. Up to two weeks before shipping, vaccinate calves for clostridia (including blackleg) and pasturella to help prevent shipping fever.
- Administer a broad-spectrum parasite control at least two weeks before weaning to address internal and external parasites.
- Wean calves at least three weeks before delivery.
- Adjust calves to a feedbunk and accustom them to a feedyard receiving ration before delivery.
- Castrate and dehorn calves at least 30 days before delivery.

### Health Certificates, Brand Inspections

A health certificate must accompany cattle entering Colorado. A valid brand inspection must accompany cattle from states with brand-inspection laws (Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming). Entry permits may be required for some cattle. For more information regarding health requirements for moving beef cattle from your state into Colorado, call the Colorado State Veterinarian's Office at (303) 239-4161 or visit [www.ag.state.co.us/animals/Rules/InterstateMovement.html](http://www.ag.state.co.us/animals/Rules/InterstateMovement.html) on the Web.

### Cattle Delivery

Participants must deliver cattle to the Colorado State University (CSU) [Ag Research, Development and Education Center \(ARDEC\)](#) north of Fort Collins, Colo., between Nov. 1 and Nov. 15, 2007. Before delivery, participants must contact [Bo Sexson](#) at NALF or [Tom Field](#) at CSU to make delivery arrangements and provide an estimated time of arrival. Daytime delivery is strongly encouraged.

## Arrival, Processing

Once delivered, cattle will be processed, evaluated and sorted. Animals will be tagged using electronic identification (EID), implanted, weighed and scored for frame size, docility, muscle thickness and capacity. DNA samples will be collected for animal ID (if tags are lost), sire verification (if necessary) and DNA-test validation.

Upon arrival, steers should weigh at least 600 pounds and heifers at least 550 pounds to ensure they reach their optimum carcass weights.

Cattle of the same sex from different participants will be grouped together by expected time of harvest. Cattle will be placed in 10-head pens where feed intake will be measured on a pen basis.

In February 2008 (90 to 120 days before harvest), cattle will be re-evaluated for frame size, docility, muscle thickness and capacity. In April 2008 (60 to 90 days before harvest), animals will be scanned using ultrasound to help optimize harvest dates and to contribute data for NALF's genetic evaluation of carcass traits.

Contact [Sexson](#) for information about the VQ implant protocols.

## Feeding, Yardage Charges

Cattle will be moved through a series of rations, reaching about 90 percent concentrate in mid- to late-January 2008. The cost of feed will be determined from the average amount of feed consumed per animal within each pen (10 head per pen). CSU will assess a yardage charge of 35¢ per animal per day for collection of feed-intake and other data. There will be a \$1 per head chute charge for sick animals added to treatment and medication costs.