



Musgrave Finalist



TC Doc Holliday

PIERCE ANGUS FARMS  
2013 NEWSLETTER

Hello from the Pierce Angus Farm. I hope everyone has had a successful year in their farming and cattle operations and that their families are healthy.

Life is full of surprises and changes, just compare the last 2 years, short crop in 2012 and \$8 corn, a 20% larger corn crop this year and \$4 corn. Feeder cattle prices got hit last winter because of the feed price and this year record highs with the cheaper feed costs. The only thing that stays the same is that things won't go the same way each year. At our farm the same field of continuous corn the last 2 years were extreme, last year 135 B/A, this year 235 B/A. On another farm had something that I haven't encountered before, a bad case of corn root worm. I had a 14 acre piece go 16 bushels per acre, that piece has done 200 to 210 in 2 of the last 4 years. I had told someone in the summer that I had the worst and maybe the best fields of corn in the county. We now have the planter in town getting insecticide boxes put on. We have found out that the stacked traits don't always hold up after numerous years of continuous corn. Even at my age you learn something each season.

We also had another first for Connie and I this year. We were invited to help my brother-in-law celebrate his birthday—in France. Our first overseas trip experience, and it was a lot of fun. The first week, we stayed in a beautiful villa built in 1687. Got to see lots of Roman structures, and ancient cities. Great food and pretty girls on the Riviera in Nice. Fancy cars in Monaco, including Lamborghini's, Rolls, Aston Martins, etc. and some out-of-this-world yachts. Ate a little of the beef, but it doesn't come up to our grain fed beef. It actually had lots of flavor, but was tougher. Then back to the real world of cutting hay and farm chores.

In our cattle herd this year we got the first calves by the new herd bull, TC Doc Holliday, and they were all we hoped they would be. Came very easy, and really grew. Super dispositions. We had the first calf crop of bulls to sell this year by Musgrave Finalist and they were very popular. We bred the Finalist heifers to Doc and those calves are due to start calving in Jan. and Feb. We are really looking forward to those as I think the bulls will compliment each other. We haven't assisted a calf out of a heifer by either bull. I had to have a vet for one cow, but she had the calf upside down and backwards and we were able to save the calf. We have used Finalist now for 3 full seasons, both spring and fall herds, and he has bred 190 cows naturally in those 3 years. He bred 70 his first year. He breeds her once and walks on -- that really helps to get a bull to cover a lot of cows. He is a super fronted bull, big barreled and big butted bull. For as hard as I have worked him, it didn't hold him back a bit. He is very impressive. When I sell females bred to him and show the buyer the bull, it's a pretty easy sale.

TC Doc Holliday adds a great set of new genetics to our herd. His sire, Sygen Doc, has proven to be a great sire, and his dam is one of the great cows in the Angus breed. She has 2 sons in AI Studs, and numerous herd sires in purebred herds around the country. He was my pick of all of the bulls in the TC Ranch herd in his calf crop. He was the 4<sup>th</sup> high selling bull that year, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> high selling bulls were sired by a maternal brother to Doc and the 2<sup>nd</sup> high selling bull was a maternal brother. In that sale, 15 sons of the dam, TC Marcia 1069, sold for a \$10,500 average. We have always liked to use sons of great cows, feeling that he will sire heifers like his mother. His disposition is off the charts. You could walk up to month old calves to treat them if you needed. As we get older, that is one of the great economic traits we enjoy. Much better to work with a bull and his progeny that are calm, and easy to work with.

This year our good friends and partners, Adam and Tracy Brayton, of Rowley, Iowa traveled to the TC sale again and they purchased a new herd sire that is very impressive. His name is TC Shakespeare; we will have sons of him available next year. He had a weaning wt. of 724 lbs., a yearling wt of 1518 lbs.; he gained 4.96 lbs. a day on test. His birth epd is 1.9 and his yearling epd is 135 lbs. He is one of the biggest curve bender bulls you will find in the Angus breed. He is all new genetics for both herds -- his sire is TC Romeo and out of a dam by TC Freedom. Romeo was the highest yearling wt. bull that TC had raised when he was a yearling bull coming in at over 1700 lbs. at a year.

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We are once again offering out December bull special. Buy a bull and pay for him by 1/1/14 and receive a 10% discount. Plus other discounts for pickup and multiple bull purchases can be applied. We sell a large number of the high-end bulls during this time. You can step up to a better set of genetics and know you've got a bull bought for the next breeding season. We feed him free of charge until you need him. If anything happens to him while at our farm; we replace him with a bull of equal value. There are tax advantages in that you can expense the bull on this year's business, and save more. It's time to move that old bull and replace him with the best young genetics available.

Discount details December—10%  
January-----7.5 %  
February----5 %  
March-----2.5 %

Offering: 2 year old bulls - 12 head, sons of Musgrave Finalist, and TC Total. One of the Total sons had a weaning wt. of 824 lbs, and is one of the great strong, aged bulls you will find anywhere. I had him here for insurance in case one of the herd bulls got hurt.

Fall yearling bulls - 16 head, all are sons of Finalist. They are a very impressive set of bulls. Many could be used on heifers. If you need a set of half brothers for your cow herd this would be a real good opportunity to acquire a set of closely bred genetics.

2013 bulls: Sons of Finalist and the first sons of Doc Holliday. We have a son of Doc with a weaning wt. of 808 lbs., several impressive sons of him. We also have a son of Sitz Upward out of a Sitz Tradition daughter that is a powerhouse outcross bull for our genetics. This mid-Jan. bull weighed 1000 lbs. in Oct.

Call or e-mail for a spreadsheet on the bulls. We can send it to you via e-mail.

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FEMALES—have 3 cows bred for spring calves, bred to Finalist, one 2008 daughter of WAR Alliance 9126, and two 2011 daughters of TC Total.

Also 1 fall 2011 cow with a fall Finalist heifer calf at side.

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I want to thank all of those that have purchased bulls and females from us this past year. So many of our buyers are repeat buyers, many have gotten their bulls from us for 15-20 years. That means so much to us. We try to produce the best genetics for our customers; we want them to be successful so we can be successful in our operation. And I really enjoy visiting with the good folks that come by.

Give me a call and we can set up a time to show you the bulls, and if you don't have time to come by, we can set a bull aside for you. Many of the bulls sell each year sight unseen, and I've never had one turned down. If I don't take good care of our customers, they won't be back, so we try our darndest to make your operation better.



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