DATA ANALYSIS PROCESS

From the collection of data a number of analysis are performed. In 2015 we developed a process to identify any cow that is not within what we believe is an acceptable range on any one or more of a set of measures we believe are the most economically significant. This then allows us to make a more objective value based assessment of cows and those heifers that we would select for development. The measures we have identified for this process are below.

If the value on a cow in a measure is outside the acceptable range, then the cow gets a "red flag" on that measure. In the case of "Low value calf" the cow gets a flag for every calf that does not meet the following requirements: must produce a return in the feedlot or must be selected for the heifer development program. Calves that do not grow well enough to go to these two programs are not considered "value calves".

Only females that get pregnant make it to this assessment. However we look at the performance/measures of the dams of all current calves to assess whether the calf should be sent to one of the two programs or just sold at the sale barn.

We then add up the total "red flags" a cow has gotten. This helps us identify the cows that should be closely evaluated as well as those that are meeting all performance requirements.

Using this process and the individual performance of each calf in the stocker and heifer development process, we select which calves to send to the feedlot and which heifer calves to put into the breeding program.

Red flags for low value calf	API ($) flag <50	TI ($) Flag <40	Foot Angle Best 5 Flag 1,2 or 7,9	Claw Set (Best 5) Flag 1,2 or 7,9	Frame Score- Flag >6	Udder Score Suspe nsion Best 7-9 Flag 1-3	Teat Score Best 7-9 Flag< 5	Avg Ratio WW Flag <85	EPD YW Flag< 40	EPD REA Flag < -0.5