



United States Department of Agriculture
Research, Education and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

February 4, 2019

It is with a heavy heart I send out this letter to all of you, our longtime supporters and customers of the Line 1 program. Due to lack of numbers moving into the future, we have optioned to no longer hold a live sale at Miles City Livestock. It has been a great tradition and something I have always looked forward to in my 10 years here as ranch manager. With scientific research always changing, priorities have shifted away from having a sale. More bulls are being kept for breeding purposes which has cut our sale number in half.

We will still have Line 1 yearlings and two-year-old bulls available through private treaty in April and May along with a set of Angus yearlings and two's. We will still mail out a catalog though it will probably come a little later than normal. There will be a floor put on the bulls, but a volume discount as well. We will continue to offer our bulls through this method until the time comes where we feel as though we can put a good quality sale back together.

I do have some exciting news for the future however, we have taken some of the best older Line 1 cows that we have and are in the process of pulling embryos from them to put in some very good recip cows in our Physiology herd. I have been working with Dr. Tom Geary on this and he has given me the go ahead to create an E.T. Line 1 herd of 100 cows among his mostly black baldy herd. This will give us a chance to make some good comparisons with the original Line 1 herd as they will be genetically identical. In addition, it will also give us an opportunity to fix some of the holes that single trait selection has created for these cows over the last 100 years.

In close, looking to the future, we are hoping to be able to use the calves from this herd to boost our numbers back up where a live sale is feasible again and be able to offer some Line 1 females again in our sale. Thank you all for the years of support to our program; we couldn't have made it so many years without all of you!!

Sincerely,
Brad A. Eik
Ranch Manager

"Fort Keogh, the original source for Line 1 genetics"

