

**Journal of Central European Agriculture, Volume 6 (2005) Number 2****EVALUATION OF CROSSBRED CALF AND COW TYPES; SUBJECTIVE TRAITS****Akin PALA\*1, Roger MCCRAW2, Odis WAYNE ROBISON2**

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**ABSTRACT**

Data in this experiment consisted of birth weight, calving score, thickness and grade records of 600 crossbred calves. Angus, Brangus, and Gelbvieh sires were mated to purebred Hereford cows. Yearling and 2-yr-old Angus-Hereford, Brangus-Hereford, and Gelbvieh-Hereford daughters then were bred to Polled Hereford bulls (Data Set 2). Later-parity Angus-Hereford, Brangus-Hereford, and Gelbvieh-Hereford daughters were mated to Salers or Simmental sires (Data Set 3). The traits evaluated were birth weight, thickness and feeder grade of calves and degree of calving difficulty. Calving difficulty, grade, muscling or thickness evaluation is a subjective assessment. Progeny of Angus cattle were lighter at birth and were born easier than progeny of Brangus and Gelbvieh cattle. Angus-Hereford cows were more likely to have medium grade calves than Brangus-Hereford cows (odds ratio=1.69) and that was the only significant difference for grade in all data sets. Brangus calves had thicker muscles than Angus and Gelbvieh calves. Adding Bos Indicus genes to a cross may increase birth weight, calving difficulty and muscle thickness.

**Keywords:** calving difficulty, thickness, grade, Angus, Brangus, Gelbvieh, crossbreeding, multinomial data

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