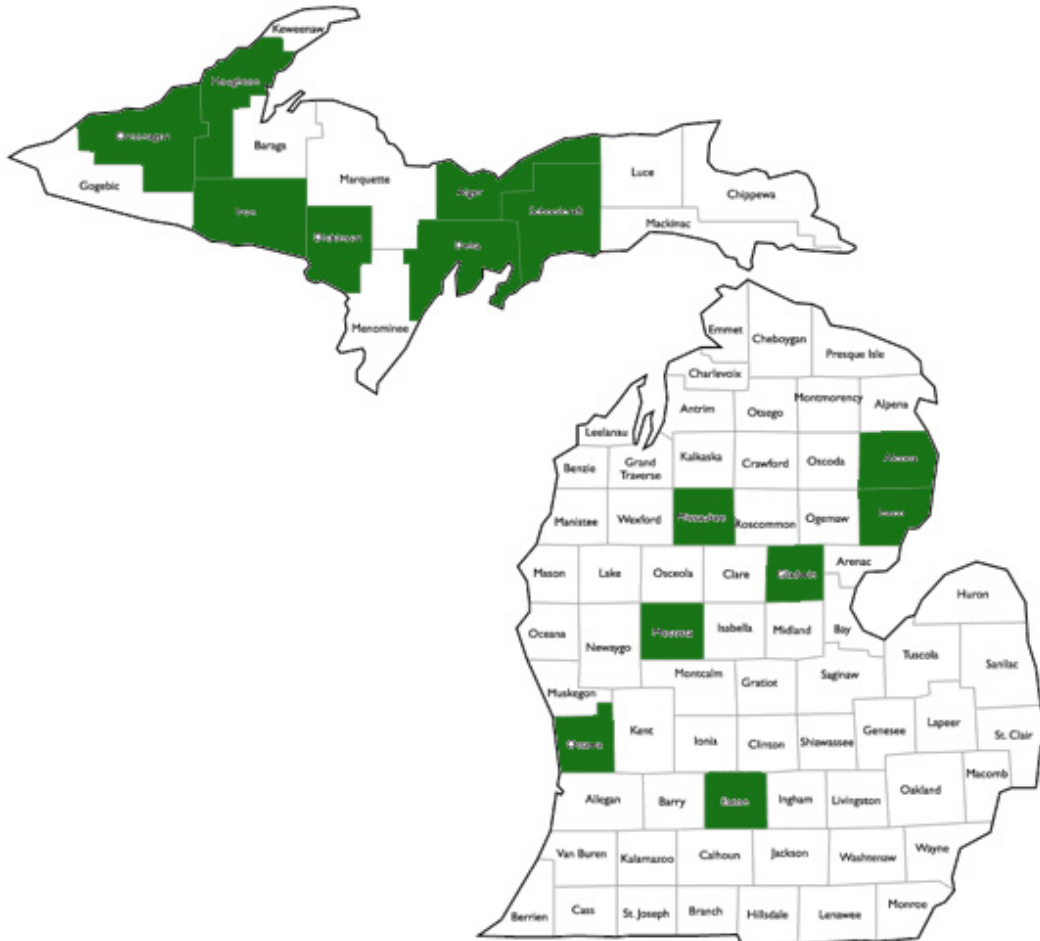




# **2014 MSUE Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Clinics**

## **Program Summary**



## 2014 Michigan Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Clinics

The MSU Beef Extension Team will once again be organizing regional Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Clinics. Last year, the program tested over 300 bulls for 110 different operations. By identifying these potential male fertility problems, producers were able to reduce the risk of a less than optimum breeding season. The MSUE Beef Team encourages you to have BSE conducted on your breeding bulls every year. Contact your veterinarian or take advantage of the following Breeding Soundness Exam Clinics organized by MSUE. Cost is \$55 per bull when done at one of the MSUE clinics. **To schedule an appointment at one of these BSE clinics, please call the appropriate contact person as soon as possible.** All Clinics start at 9:00 AM. In addition, the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine regularly schedules in house appointments for BSE's. To schedule an appointment contact the MSU CVM Large Animal Clinic at 517-353-9710.

**Location:** Gary Voogt Farm, 2831 Hayes St, Mame MI  
**Date:** Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
**Contact:** Kevin Gould @ 616-527-5357 or Gary Voogt @ 616-677-3680

**Location:** Matt Miller Fam, 2685 E. Bellvue Rd, Charlotte MI  
**Date:** Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
**Contact:** Beedle Lake Veterinary Clinic @ 269-441-9233

**Location:** Derry Breault Beef Farm, 868 Hoffman Road, Gladwin MI  
**Date:** Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
**Contact:** Kable Thurlow @ 989-426-7741

**Location:** MSU Lake City Experiment Station, 5401 W. Jennings Road, Lake City MI  
**Date:** Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
**Contact:** Kable Thurlow @ 989-426-7741 or Doug Carmichael @ 231-839-4608

**Location:** Kevin Wernnette, 9144 50TH AVE, Remus MI  
**Date:** Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
**Contact:** Kevin Gould @ 616-527-5357 or Dr. Todd Miller @ 231-832-3680

**Location:** Upper Peninsula of Michigan  
**Date:** April 21-25<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
**Contact:** Frank Wardynski @ 906-884-4386

**Location:** Chuck Preston Farm, 4780 County Line Road, Prescott MI  
**Date:** Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
**Contact:** Phil Durst @ 989-387-5346 or Chuck Preston @ 989-873-4164

**Location:** Apple Hill Angus Farm, 1591 S. King Rd., Harrisville MI  
**Date:** Saturday, May 10, 2014  
**Contact:** Phil Durst @ 989-387-5346 or John MacMaster @ 989-736-8020

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY** | Extension

## Summary of BSE Results 2007-2014

	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Locations	9		11		12		12		12		14		15		17	
Owners	47		86		97		84		85		87		93		106	
Non MSU DVM's Involved	0		1		1		1		4		3		4		5 <sup>a</sup>	
MSUE Educators Involved	4		4		4		4		5		5		5		5 <sup>b</sup>	
MSUE Campus Faculty	2		1		1		1		1		1		3		2 <sup>c</sup>	
Total	159		272		286		282		298		292		331		283	
Passed BSE	120	<b>0.76</b>	201	<b>0.74</b>	226	<b>0.79</b>	230	<b>0.82</b>	247	<b>0.83</b>	254	<b>0.87</b>	254	<b>0.77</b>	204	<b>0.72</b>
Did Not Pass BSE	39	<b>0.24</b>	71	<b>0.26</b>	60	<b>0.21</b>	52	<b>0.18</b>	51	<b>0.17</b>	38	<b>0.13</b>	77	<b>0.23</b>	79	<b>0.28</b>
<i>Deferred</i>	31	<b>0.19</b>	51	<b>0.19</b>	39	<b>0.14</b>	40	<b>0.14</b>	42	<b>0.14</b>	33	<b>0.11</b>	63	<b>0.19</b>	66	<b>0.23</b>
<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	8	<b>0.05</b>	20	<b>0.07</b>	21	<b>0.07</b>	12	<b>0.04</b>	9	<b>0.03</b>	5	<b>0.02</b>	14	<b>0.04</b>	13	<b>0.05</b>

<sup>a</sup>Drs. Barbu, Heinze, Miller, Kroll, Coyer

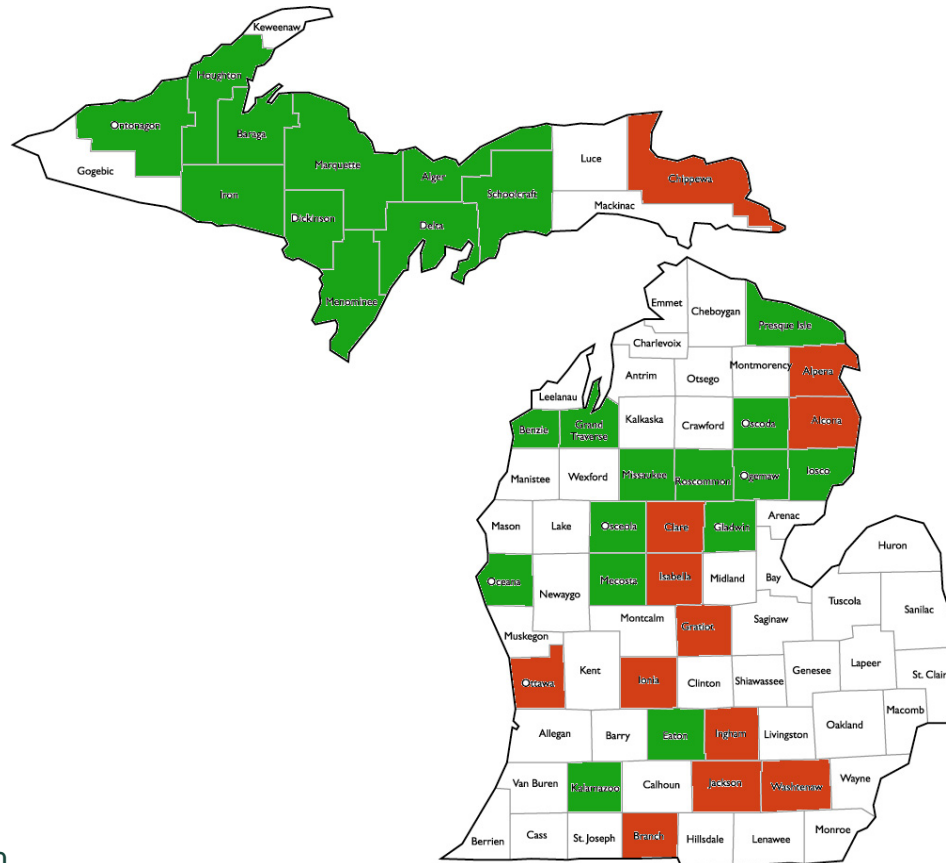
<sup>b</sup>Gould, Thurlow, Lindquist, Wardynski, Durst

<sup>c</sup>Drs. Grooms, Ames

## Summary of BSE Clinic Survey Results 2007-2014

A survey was prepared to gather demographic information on those participating in the BSE clinics. The survey was completed by 53 of 106 (50%) owners who participated in the BSE clinics.

- ☐ Number of surveys completed – 53
  
- ☐ Number of counties represented by respondents – 24
  - Green – Counties where bull owners came from that completed survey (n=24)
  - Red – Counties where bull owners came from that surveys were not completed (n=12)



- Total number of cows exposed to bulls in 2014 – 3,716
- Average number of cows/herd in 2014 – 73
- Range of cows/herd in 2014 – 8 to 270
- Number of cows exposed to bulls in 2013 – 3740
- Average number of cows/herd in 2013 – 71
- Number of open cows that were exposed to bulls in 2013 – 347
- Average percent open cows exposed to bulls in 2013 – 5.0%
- Range of open cows exposed to bulls in 2013in 2013 – 0% to 44%
- 30 of 53 (57%) of those surveyed has had at least 1 bull classified as an unsatisfactory breeder
- 10 of 53 (19%) of those surveyed have had more than on bull classified as an unsatisfactory breeder
- The economic impact of an infertile bull as estimated by respondents was:
  - Average – \$2,784
  - Range – \$0 to \$40,000
  - Mode – \$1,000
  - Median – \$700
- The economic value of a BSE as estimated by respondents was:
  - Average – \$2,129
  - Range – \$0 to \$22,000

- Mode – \$50.00
  - Median – \$400.00
- 25 of 32 respondents said they learned something at BSE clinic. 7 of 32 respondents claimed they had not learned anything, Here are some of the items that respondents reported to have learned:
- Characteristics of healthy sperm cells
  - Different things that can go wrong
  - Herd health
  - Viable sperm, sperm counts
  - About sick calves
  - Procedures
  - Importance of the BSE
  - Dr. Grooms always gives more info on every question we have for him
  - We learned what can cause fertility issues
  - What yearling bulls testicular size should be
  - Vaccination programs, MSU projects
  - Sperm deformities, growths on penis
  - Trichomonas info, nutrition info, general management info
  - The different abnormalities of sperm
  - Some bulls will not pass test
  - Talking with other producers, technical info from vet on processes
  - Good to visit others
- 19 of 36 respondents say they have made management changes based on things they have learned at BSE clinics. Here are some of the management changes reported to have been made:
- Better wintering of bulls
  - Vaccination program
  - Have them tested
  - Try to have a warm dry area for bulls

- More grain per bull
- Important to have bulls tested every year
- Buying bulls with high maternal EPD's
- Confident in shortening breeding season & vaccinations
- Feed more minerals
- Calving period, body scoring
- Keep bulls drier in winter and more wind protected
- Didn't know prior about BSE testing and importance of fertility
- Sold infertile bulls
- Provide bedding for bulls
- Management changes for Johnes/Leucosis
- Good winter bedding, good feed
- Feeding programs

□ The following topics were suggested to be addressed by MSUE:

- Back grounding
- Better access to markets
- TB
- Health
- Bull purchasing- how to?
- Local markets
- Doing a good job know
- Selenium and vitamin deficiencies
- Reproductive improvement
- Forage based low/no antibiotic protocol
- Marketing calves
- Ways to market cattle, internet, advertising
- Vaccination, visual inspection- what to look for (positive/negative)
- Program beef - variation protocols, deworming

- Chute rental for handling/processing cows
  - Forage raised beef, medium framed cows
  - Nutrition
  - Maybe a bred heifer market?
  - TB eliminated in deer
  - Frame size
  - Keeping cows for future, holding cost down to max profitability
- The following were topics to be considered as part of an MSUE led Beef Cattle College:
- See University of Minnesota (excellent outreach program by mail & on the web)
  - Herd fertility, having availability of a ultra sound service
  - Nutrition, long/short suffrage fiber, measuring calving ease
  - Optimum over maximum
  - Good herd
  - Minerals, bulls
  - Herd health
  - Cost of cattle profit
  - Genetics
  - Fed beef
  - Hay management, marketing
  - Peg check, AI class, collection
  - A.I.
  - At hat stage do we have too many crosses
  - AI breeding synchronizing
  - Fly control, vaccines, forage based organic products
  - Selections AI sires based on cow type
  - Marketing, containing input costs
  - Marketing, vaccines, ration economics
  - Maybe



- Calving issues, health with calves, vaccination protocols, cattle trends (type & kind)
- All everything
- BQA
- Marketing, nutrition, how genetics effect cutouts
- Yes
- Herd health, timed A.I., pasture info
- Peg Checking, AI breeding
- Profitability
- Quality of feed vs. marginal feed acres needed
- Keeping cows for future, holding cost down to max profitability
- All "new" research



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## **MSUE BSE Team**

Dr. Dan Grooms DVM, MSU CVM

Kevin Gould, Ionia County

Kable Thurlow, Gladwin County

Frank Wardynski, Ontenogon County

Phil Durst, Ogemaw County

Jerry Lindquist, Osceola County