



ONE CHOICE
COULD MAKE YOUR
FEEDLOT STEERS
**21% MORE
EFFICIENT***

Feedlot Test Shows Efficiency

This 2012 performance data proves the efficiency Irish Black® genetics can bring to a cow herd. Half-blood Irish Black cattle are 21% more efficient than other beef cattle – a trait that’s positively impacting Irish Black producers’ bottom lines.

In January 2012, Diamond H Livestock, Saint Ignatius, MT, bought 106 half-blood Irish Black steer calves from 3 of its Irish Black bull customers. The calves, out of Angus-based cows, were weaned for 45 days, vaccinated with a modified live vaccine series and shipped to a commercial feedlot. The calves averaged 542 lbs. when they arrived at the feedlot (including a 5% shrink). The entire pen was harvested during a 3-week period, at which time the steers were 12-14 months of age with an average gross out-weight of 1,326 lbs.

The Results

	Diamond H Half-Blood Irish Blacks	Average U.S. Feedlot Steer
Average Daily Gain	3.96 lbs.	3.30 lbs.
Conversion *pounds of feed required for 1 pound of gain	4.79	6.09
Feed Cost/Pound of Gain	\$0.83	\$1.08

Diamond H Half-Blood Irish Blacks
Average In-Weight: 542 lbs.
Average Out-Weight: 1,260 lbs. with 5% shrink (1,326 pounds gross average out-weight)

Carcass Information for Entire Diamond H Pen

105 Head Harvested (1 Death Loss)

Yield Percentage: 64.51%

Carcass Grades: 60% Choice (63 head) | 40% Select (42) | 9 head met Certified Angus Beef criteria

Yield Grades: #1-16 head | #2-55 head | #3-33 head | #4-1 head

Impressively, these Irish Black steers cost \$115 less per head to feed compared to the national average steer finished in June 2012. In fact, the Diamond H steers saw \$66 per head of profit even though they were purchased at a premium. The national average feedlot steer lost nearly \$50 per head in the feedlot during the same timeframe.