



» HYBRID VIGOR

“Heterosis” or hybrid vigor, is achieved by crossing two different strains, varieties, breeds or species. In the cattle world, maximum hybrid vigor is obtained by crossing totally unrelated animals, achieving the “best of both worlds”. Crossbreeding research has consistently documented higher levels of heterosis when Brahman are crossed with British or Continental breeds than when British and/or Continental breeds are crossed.

The resulting hybrid offspring is consistently superior in weight per day of age and carcass efficiency, as well as inheriting many economic characteristics of its Brahman parent, such as drought resistance, heat tolerance, disease and parasite resistance and increased longevity.

The F1 female is highly regarded by commercial cattlemen as a maternal machine with few peers. She has bred-in environmental adaptability, increased milk production, higher fertility and the heat and disease resistance of her Brahman parent. She will wean more, faster growing calves with fewer inputs over a longer period of time, thus putting more dollars in your pocket. In the feedlot, Brahman hybrid steers remain healthier and make the most rapid, efficient gains while producing heavier, higher yielding carcasses that are free of excess fat, which today’s packer and health-conscious consumer demand.

The use of Brahman bulls with European or English breed cows is one of the most popular crossbreeding practices in the United States, with the resulting F1 calf in high demand by cattlemen for replacement females or feeders in the feedlot.