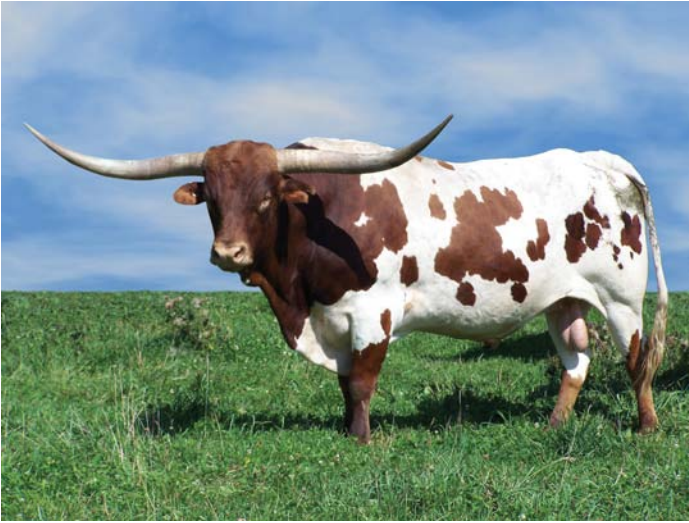
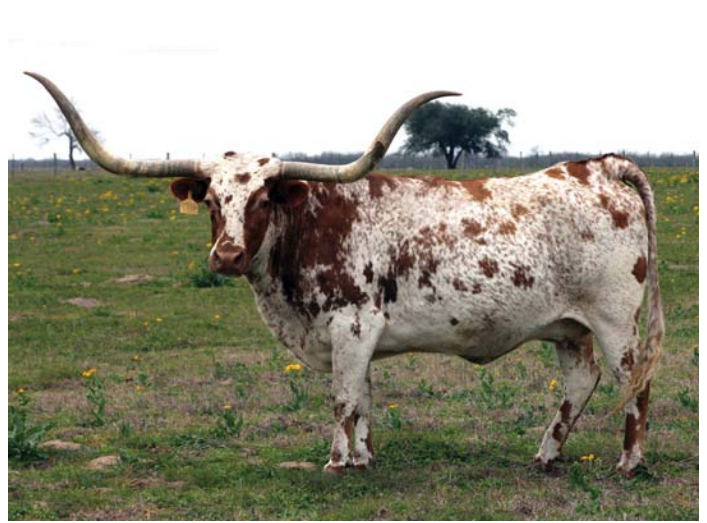


TEXAS LONGHORN CATTLE (UNITED STATES)

Texas Longhorn Cattle Bull



Texas Longhorn Cattle Cow



Origin: Texas Longhorn cattle originated from Spanish cattle brought to the New World in the late 1400s. In 1690, the first Longhorns into the United States came from Mexico to the area that would become the state of Texas. Due to the harsh environment, ranch failures and Indian and other wars, many Texas Longhorns left to fend for themselves in wild herds until the late 1800s when post-Civil War ranchers began driving them to northern grass and raising them for beef, which was often shipped by rail, mostly for the northeastern United States.

Within 40 years the Longhorn breed was almost driven to extinction until in 1927 the Federal government helped preserve the breed. Herds were put together in Oklahoma and Nebraska, and in the early 1930s the state of Texas formed its own herd, in addition to more breeders raising private stock.

Characteristics: Longhorns are very resilient cattle that could travel incredible distances without water, rustle their own food, fend for themselves, swim rivers, survive the desert sun and winter snow. They have an elliptical shaped body for heat adaptation and are efficient browsers of scrub and forage.

Longhorns are long-lived, disease and parasite-resistant, reproductively efficient, docile in temperament and adaptable to different climates.

Longhorn coat patterns and horn size vary tremendously. They can be brindle, blue, black, solid and splotched with various colors, white and speckled, Sabina and shades of reds. Often they will have a dark line down the back. Tip-to-tip, horns on Longhorn cows and bulls can reach more than 80 inches. They can be twisted outward or with an upward sweep.

Products: Lean beef, horns, hides, skulls and rodeo stock.

Population number: 850,000 in the U.S.

Contact: Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America <http://www.tlbaa.org/>

Photos: Bull - JP Rio Grande (photo courtesy of Hubbell/Hudson/Valentine Partnership, Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America).

Cow - Delta Vixen (photo courtesy of El Coyote Ranch in Kingsville, Texas, and Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America).