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BLACK OPAL EXPANDS THEIR OPERATIONS IN FAZENDA SANTO ANTÔNIO

Bage, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, April 2016: Black Opal continues its expansion in Brazil, bringing its 130 years of experience and exclusive genomic DNA tested genetics from the United States to create an elite breeding herd and to satisfy the growing international beef demand for Premium Angus Beef.

The pasture to plate enterprise, now operates in Fazenda Santo Antonio, located in Rio Negro, near the town of Bagé, and bordering with the Republic of Uruguay. The farm of prime pasture and farmland has fertile soils, water reserves and an ideal climate. 95% of its land is usable, with native and improved pastures and cropland ideal for forage and silage. An intensive pasture management system will be used to maximize the carrying capacity of the cattle.

Fazenda San Antonio will be the Genetics Operation of Black Opal. This breeding program is market-driven, as the genetics are chosen based on the specific needs of the end-users. Matings are designed using the most advanced genomic (genotyping and sequencing of the DNA) performance testing and indexes in the world, to improve quality, predictability and profitability. Semen and embryos are being imported from the United States to create an elite breeding herd in-country and to provide superior genetics to the local allied producers. Recipient cows will then be implanted with these elite genetics.

“The key to having quality meat, is to start with the right genetics” said Jay Ewald, CEO of Black Opal Group.

[In the picture, Jay Ewald, CEO of Black Opal and Gustavo Moglia Dutra at Fazenda Santo Antonio.](#)

Black Opal Group is a diversified investment organization implementing focused investment strategies in agriculture in the Americas. The firm is regarded for deeply entrenched capabilities in purebred beef cattle business; a unique understanding and contacts in premium beef processing and marketing; and an embedded knowledge in South America.



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