

## **HIRING ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **New Research Geneticist at the Animal Improvement Programs Laboratory**



**Dr. Derek M. Bickhart** will join the staff of the Animal Improvement Programs Laboratory (AIPL), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), USDA, in Beltsville, Maryland, on December 2, 2012, as a research geneticist. Previously, he was a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. George E. Liu at ARS's Bovine Functional Genomics Laboratory, where he has worked since August 2010 primarily on copy number variation. Bickhart received his M.S. (2009) and Ph.D. (2010) degrees from the University of Connecticut with a major in genetics and genomics. His skill in identifying useful genetic variants in full-sequence genotypes and his proficiency in managing large data sets will be important assets to AIPL.