

New Hereford record resources

The American Hereford Association (AHA) has new educational resources to assist members in recording calves and reporting performance data.

First check out the new Whole Herd Total Performance Records (TPR™) User's Guide in the Education Center at Hereford.org. The new guide breaks down the Whole Herd TPR system and provides step-by-step instruction to performance breeders on how to report performance records and how to maintain Whole Herd TPR compliance.

Next go to the HerefordVideos channel at YouTube.com. The channel contains new educational videos on Hereford udder scoring and the importance of the first 24 hours after calving plus instructional registration videos for both the traditional paper and online registry Hereford members.

MyHerd.org — new Hereford online registry

Calving information can now be submitted faster and easier using the new online registry system called MyHerd.org.

E-mail the MyHerd team at MyHerd@hereford.org to learn more or thumb forward to "Checking in on MyHerd" on Page 64 to learn more

about how other Hereford breeders are using MyHerd.org and what they like about it.

Upcoming Whole Herd TPR™ Spring inventory deadline

The spring 2016 herd inventories are due March 1. All spring 2016 herd inventories received after the deadline will incur an additional \$2 per head surcharge on every female maintained on inventory.

Whole herd TPR inventory tips:

- Replacement heifers won't appear on the inventory until they have reached at least 18 months of age. Heifers should only be enrolled on the inventory if they're bred to calve in the season described.
- If you sell a cow and "Transfer" her registration papers to the new owner, she will remain on your herd inventory until you remove her using the disposal code "T-sold with papers."
- Multi-owned cows should be kept on inventory if an owner intends to register calves out of them.

National Reference Sire Program (NRSP) nomination deadline

The final date to nominate sires for spring breeding in NRSP is March 1. Visit Hereford.org/NRSP for an application.

FAQs

Q: What DNA testing do I need to complete in order to show a steer this summer at the Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE)?

A: Steer exhibitors at the 2016 JNHE must submit DNA for their steers by April 1 before they can enter to show (according to new AHA rule, all steers must have a basic DNA test on file at the Association). Exhibitors should contact the AHA customer service department to request a DNA kit for their steer. The Basic Test is the only DNA test required and it's \$38 an animal. The Basic Test includes the basic profile, genetic abnormalities and parent verification (only if parent DNA is on file).

Q: How do you request a DNA test?

A: Call AHA customer service at 816-842-3757 to request a DNA test kit or send an e-mail to records@hereford.org. If you request a DNA test by e-mail, please provide your member number, the animal's registration number and the reason for DNA testing (artificial insemination permit, walking herd sire, embryo transfer permit, etc.).

Q: I keep receiving yellow failed calf recording papers in the mail because the herd IDs I have provided on my registration applications can't be found. Why can't the records department just look up my animals by tattoo number?

A: Only Whole Herd TPR participants are allowed to use herd IDs in place of registration numbers because they maintain an active herd inventory and each animal enrolled on their inventory has an assigned herd ID recorded in the performance system.

Breeders not participating in the performance system don't maintain an active herd inventory, so their calves are registered with pedigree information only; therefore, the records department doesn't have a record of what each animal's herd ID is. Technically the records department could look animals up by tattoo number, but more than one animal could have the same tattoo, and the wrong animal could accidentally be selected as the dam or sire.

If you wish to use herd ID numbers rather than registry numbers for dams and sires when reporting your calves, you must enroll your herd in the Whole Herd TPR system with the AHA customer service department. **HW**