

Save Time with MyHerd

The AHA's online registry system allows breeders to do more faster.

by Sara Gugelmeyer

When George Chandler called the American Hereford Association (AHA) a year or so ago with a record-keeping question, he wasn't planning to sign up for AHA's online registry system, *MyHerd.org*. But after trying it, he is sure glad he did.

MyHerd is a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week virtual office where breeders have all the tools needed to conduct business with AHA at their convenience. The system provides members with a multitude of features including real-time calf registration, electronic animal transfer, online bill paying, herd inventory maintenance, artificial

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insemination (AI) certificate release and the capability to view and download lists of animals and customers, among much more.

Chandler is the patriarch of Chandler Herefords, a multi-generational registered and commercial cattle operation near Baker City, Ore. His family has been raising cattle since 1889, so tradition is important, but when it comes to adopting technology to make things simpler, he says MyHerd sure is handy.

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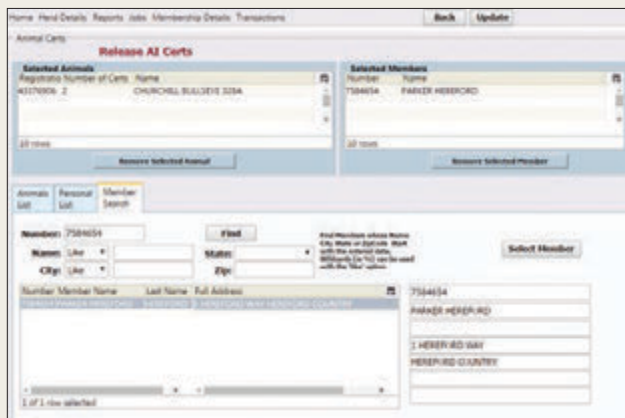
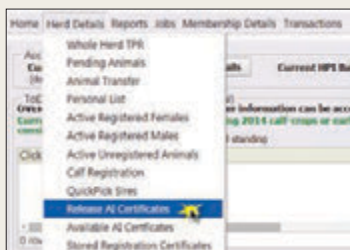
He admits there is some time involved in learning the process, but it's well worth it. "It takes a little bit of a learning curve to get going on it. When I signed up they sent me a six-page tutorial to go through. It helped and I can always go back and refer to it," Chandler says.

And, of course, if it's during business hours, any member can pick up the phone and get help from Association staff, as well.

A great example of how MyHerd helps members conduct Hereford business any time is the AI certificate release feature. For the first time, members can release AI certificates to their customers on AI-permitted bulls in real-time. Once the AI certificate is released on MyHerd, it's available immediately to the customer. No additional processing is required from the AHA. The AI certificate is available for the customer to use instantly.

How to release AI certificates:

- 1) Select the AI (artificial insemination) permitted bull from the animal list.
- 2) Enter the "Number of Certificates to Release," confirm release date and click "Select Animals" button.
- 3) Select a member to release the certificate to by clicking on the member search option (Member Search or Personal List).
- 4) Click the "Select Member" button.
- 5) Click "Update" when certificate release details are complete to release the AI certificate(s) to the selected member.





“That’s one less step that you have to do,” Chandler says. “You don’t have to contact the Association. You can do it right from your computer. It’s the same way with transfers. You can transfer cattle yourself. You used to have to fill out a paper copy and send it in and the turn around time was several days. This way you can do it and it’s done that day.”

The AI certificate release feature has proven really helpful to Pete Atkins of Atkins Herefords in Tea, S.D., as well. “Just this morning I had to release five AI certificates,” Atkins says. “Once you have some familiarity with the system, it is very easy.”

The quick turnaround and convenience are very helpful for most breeders on MyHerd, especially when releasing AI certificates. Atkins adds, “I like

the fact that it has a list of members you have previously worked with so it is very simple to find past customers or look up new ones.” **HW**

How do I sign up to use MyHerd.org?

To sign up for MyHerd, e-mail your AHA member number to MyHerd@hereford.org or contact the AHA customer service department for more information about the system and its features.

Available AI certificates

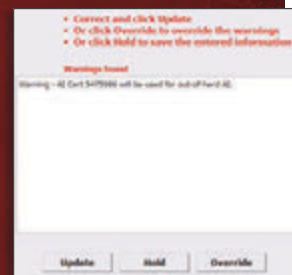
Not only can members release AI certificates from MyHerd, but they can also view their available AI certificates. The “Available AI Certificates” page lists the bulls and number of certificates available to use. The list reflects all certificates released to the primary user and linked accounts (associated herds).

How to view available AI certificates:

Click on the tab “Herd Details” and select the drop down menu option “Available AI Certificates.”

How to use an available AI certificate:

MyHerd makes it easy to register AI calves. When an AI calf is entered for registration MyHerd looks for an available AI certificate and a notification displays with a warning message the AI certificate will be used. Click the override button to use the AI certificate and to complete the registration.



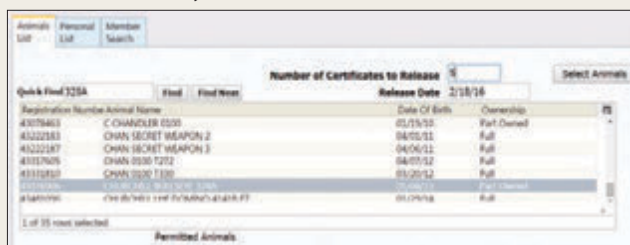
AI certificate frequently asked questions

1) What does it cost to release AI certificates with MyHerd?

The cost to release AI certificates on MyHerd is the same as releasing certificates with AHA customer service, \$15; however, members will find releasing AI certificates online to be more efficient.

2) How many AI certificates may I release at one time on MyHerd?

The AI certificate feature allows members to enter the number of certificates they want to release.



3) Why do only some of my bulls show up on the animal list?

The animal list only displays AI permitted bulls owned by MyHerd users and their linked accounts. A Hereford bull must have an AI permit issued by the Association in order for its owner to release AI certificates. The Association must have a DNA profile report on file for the bull and he must be parent verified to his sire and dam before an AI bull permit can be issued.

4) Can I use MyHerd to release AI certificates even though I use a herd management system (CattleMax, Gem, etc.)?

MyHerd works great in addition to a herd management system because it offers features a herd management system cannot provide like animal transfer, AI certificate release and online American Hereford Association bill payment. The MyHerd team recommends that producers use only one system to submit registrations and Whole Herd Total Performance Record (TPR™) data; otherwise, their herd data could become out-of-synch on their herd management system. Contact the MyHerd team at MyHerd@hereford.org to learn more about how to use MyHerd with your herd management system.

5) Does the “Available AI Certificates” page reflect the number of certificates my linked accounts have available?

The “Available AI Certificates” page lists all certificates available including linked accounts. The available AI certificates are listed by name and registration number with the number of certificates available. **HW**

Animal Name	Number Available	Registration Number
CL 1 DOMINO 166	1	10204239
CR ABOUT TIME 743	2	42797664
EPBEEF SCHU-LAR PROFCENT N699	8	42648800
KCF BENNETT 91261 R294	16	42655401
NO HVM 33N REDREM 485T ET	4	42854201
NEW 735 WLS HOMETOWN 10V ET	18	43244853
SDH MARK DORING 0125	1	42075780
SLH SILVER 526 248	1	40018899
SCHU-LAR ON TARGET 225	1	42680611
SHF RB EYE 15126 R117	8	42584003
THR THOR 4025	9	42553314
LIFE DOMINO 3027	3	42426386