

Whole Herd TPR™ upcoming deadline — June 1

Performance members, the fall 2015 Pan-American Cattle Evaluation (PACE) is just around the corner. Remember the closing date for all birth, weaning, yearling and ultrasound data for fall 2013 calf crops is June 1. Please be mindful of the Whole Herd TPR (Total Performance Record) compliance requirements for the genetic evaluation.

Birth weight

If birth weights are submitted, all calves in the calving group must then have their actual birth weights or calving ease codes that specify otherwise (stillborn, aborted, etc.) reported. If the calves are unregistered or are crossbred calves, birth weights will not be required to be compliant with Whole Herd TPR. Embryo transfer (ET) calves aren't required to report birth weights unless they are recorded out of an inventoried registered Hereford recipient cow.

Weaning weight — optional

Reporting of all weaning weights or appropriate disposal codes on offspring of all cows enrolled is required for Whole Herd TPR compliance. Every dam enrolled on a breeder's Whole Herd TPR inventory must have a weaning weight submitted for her calf or an appropriate disposal code must be recorded in place of a weaning weight. Again, ET calves are not required to submit weaning data unless they are recorded out of an inventoried registered Hereford recipient cow.

To ensure the maximum effectiveness of contemporary grouping from your cow herd's calf crop, all calves should be weighed within seven days of one another and be within the range of 110 to 300 days of age.

Weaning weights must be reported before an ultrasound barn sheet can be generated.

Yearling weight — optional

If the breeder chooses to submit yearling weights, all live calves must have a yearling weight or disposal code recorded in order for the data to be included in the genetic evaluation. Yearling weights should be taken between 301 to 530 days of age. Animals weighed outside of the age span will be marked irregular for yearling weight ratio.

Ultrasound — optional

Ultrasound should be done at the same time as yearling data is collected. The ultrasound data must be sent from the processing lab directly to the American Hereford Association (AHA).

Calf registration tips

Tattooing calves: Tattoos are a requirement for registry in the AHA record. It is strongly advised that breeders place the tattoo in both ears to enhance the chances that a complete tattoo identity can be established. The Association doesn't assign tattoos, and the tattoo is completely up to the breeder. However, it is recommended to use a "year letter" to indicate the calf's year of birth (2013-A, 2014-B, 2015-C, etc.).

Naming a calf: It's the responsibility of the original owner to name the calf to be registered. The name cannot be more than 30 spaces long, including spaces between words. Brands, symbols and commas can't be used. Names should be unique to each animal and appropriate for its gender. It's also recommended for names to reflect the line of breeding and tattoo number.

ET calf registration: ET calves can be registered from the "Application for Registration" or through *MyHerd.org*. Calves resulting from embryo transfer must carry the ET designation following their registered names. The embryo recovery date should be supplied at the time of registry, and all ET calves will be charged an additional \$10 per head over and above the normal registry rate.

FAQ

Q: How do I change my registry type from pedigree to performance?

A: Contact the AHA customer service department to enroll your herd in the Whole Herd TPR system. The department will need to know what calf crop you want to start with and your calving season.

Q: Why is "feedlot" not utilized as a valid disposal?

A: The disposal code 2 – sold for feeding should be used to indicate the animal was sold to a feedlot.

Q: If calves are sold before they reach a year old, how do I report a yearling weight?

A: When calves are sold before they are old enough to collect a yearling weight, a disposal code should be reported in place of the weight, providing a reason they left the herd (T – sold with papers, 1 – sold for breeding, 2 – sold for feeding, etc.). **HW**