

Remember These Dates, Options



Jack Ward

May is when everyone's schedules seem to speed up, even faster than normal. I'm sure most breeders are in the middle of spring breeding season and the beginning of haying season, and still probably finishing up fieldwork and planting.

Moisture seems to have found its way into a lot of regions that have desperately needed it over the past few years. I hope

this continues and everyone has bumper crops so we can see an upswing of attitudes and bottom lines. This month I want to remind breeders of a few important dates and activities.

Fall genetic analysis

June 1 is the last date we can accept data for the fall genetic analysis. This is important as we continue to look at genetics that can move the breed in the right direction.

Good clean data sets that properly split contemporary groups will give us added information on sires and

consequently give the genetic analysis more strength. If you do not meet this deadline, it is still vitally important that you report all performance information for the next analysis run.

Progeny information should include calving ease scores, birth weight, growth (weaning and yearling), ultrasound and scrotal circumferences on bulls or a proper disposal code explaining why a calf is no longer part of a contemporary group.

In addition to progeny data, breeders need to

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Spring 2007 Gold TPR Breeders announced

Established in 2005, the Gold TPR™ (Total Performance Records) Breeder recognition is presented to progressive Hereford breeders who have measured traits, collected and promptly submitted performance data at all levels of production including calving, weaning weight, yearling weight, scrotal circumference and carcass. The following Hereford breeders have been named Spring 2007 Gold TPR Breeders:



David or Juanita Jennings, Rogers, Ark.
 Triple S Ranch, De Queen, Ark.
 Gino Pedretti, El Nido, Calif.
 Wild Rose Ranch, Red Bluff, Calif.
 Coyote Ridge Ranch, LaSalle, Colo.
 Evergreen, Old Town, Fla.
 Hill-Vue Farm, Blairsville, Ga.
 Van Weelden Herefords, Lynnville, Iowa
 McCarty Polled Herefords, Rock Rapids, Iowa
 Colyer Herefords, Bruneau, Idaho
 JBB/AL Herefords, Gooding, Idaho
 Shaw Cattle Co. Inc., Caldwell, Idaho
 Ellis Farms, Chrisman, Ill.
 Reeser Herefords, Monticello, Ill.
 Brannan & Reinhardt, Otis, Kan.
 Mike Flory, Lawrence, Kan.
 Springhill Hereford Farms, Blue Rapids, Kan.
 Sandhill Farms/Kevin Schultz, Haviland, Kan.
 Bookcliff Herefords, Russell, Kan.
 CK Ranch, Brookville, Kan.
 Gustafson Herefords, Junction City, Kan.
 Lonker Herefords, Medicine Lodge, Kan.
 Mill Creek Ranch, Alma, Kan.
 Oleen Cattle Co., Falun, Kan.
 Allan Shumaker, Wetmore, Kan.
 Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan.
 A.W. Plainfield Farm, Newburg, Md.
 Phil & Chris Rottman, Fremont, Mich.

Frederickson Hereford Farm, Starbuck, Minn.
 Lester Schafer, Buffalo Lake, Minn.
 Bellefy Herefords, Bagley, Minn.
 Harold Day, Pilot Grove, Mo.
 E.L. Mobley, Fairdealing, Mo.
 Hendrix Cattle Co., Bismarck, Mo.
 CA Cattle Ranch, West Plains, Mo.
 Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, Miss.
 Churchill Cattle Co., Manhattan, Mont.
 Mark Cooper, Willow Creek, Mont.
 Courtney Herefords, Alzada, Mont.
 Ace Diemert, Lothair, Mont.
 Holden Herefords, Valier, Mont.
 J Bar E Ranch, Plentywood, Mont.
 Richard & Shirley Thomas, Gold Creek, Mont.
 Carter's Polled Herefords, Rocklake, N.D.
 David Nelson, Valley City, N.D.
 Flying J Polled Herefords, Underwood, N.D.
 Olson Hereford Ranch, Argusville, N.D.
 Jeffrey Boehnke, Kramer, N.D.
 Friedt Herefords, Mott, N.D.
 Helbling Herefords, Mandan, N.D.
 Lodoen Hereford Farm, Westhope, N.D.
 Perman Herefords, Streeter, N.D.
 Stuber Ranch, Bowman, N.D.
 Alfred Schutte & Sons, Guide Rock, Neb.
 Alexander Farms, Lyons, Neb.
 Joe Brockman, Lawrence, Neb.
 KEG Herefords, Valentine, Neb.
 Monahan Cattle Co., Hyannis, Neb.
 Ridder Hereford Ranch, Callaway, Neb.
 Bell Ranch, Paradise Valley, Nev.
 Meadowlark Farm, Kirtland, N.M.
 NS Polled Herefords, Shaker Heights, Ohio
 Douglas Banks, Hamilton, Ohio
 Finnegan Family Farm, Berlin Heights, Ohio
 Gillespie Herefords, Oxford, Ohio
 George Mangham, Forgan, Okla.
 Turner Bros., Oklahoma City, Okla.
 Quentin/Gayle Cook, Vale, Ore.
 Bar JZ Polled Herefords, Holabird, S.D.
 Larry & Carol Gildemaster, Virgil, S.D.
 Baker Hereford Ranch, Rapid City, S.D.
 Dvorak Herefords, Lake Andes, S.D.
 JBN Livestock, Box Elder, S.D.
 K&B Herefords, Onida, S.D.
 Blacktop Farms, Mitchell, S.D.
 Burns Farms, Pikeville, Tenn.
 Ledbetter Cattle Co., Amarillo, Texas
 Indian Mound Ranch, Canadian, Texas
 Knoll Crest Farm, Red House, Va.
 J.B. Persinger Jr., Covington, Va.
 Bay Brook Farm, Dabneys, Va.
 Deer Track Farm, Spotsylvania, Va.
 Ottley Herefords, Quincy, Wash.
 Huth Polled Herefords, Oakfield, Wis.
 Ramer's Herefords, Fitchburg, Wis.
 K7 Herefords, Hollandale, Wis.
 Terry Boggess, Lewisburg, W.Va.
 Lloyd Brown, Powell, Wyo.
 Ned & Jan Ward, Sheridan, Wyo.

continue to collect information on dams. This information includes cow weights and body condition scores at weaning and udder quality scores at calving or a proper disposal code. This cow information is vital in the development of tools to measure survivability, stayability and efficiency.

Register early

Take advantage of the cost savings when registering calves early (up to 4 months of age). Registering all calves will give you the opportunity to receive expected progeny differences (EPDs) on the entire calf crop, which in turn will allow you to make management decisions.

Remember, if you are questioning a calf's sire, you need to go ahead and submit the calf for registry and then request a DNA kit to validate the sire. It is impossible for us to submit a DNA kit unless we have some idea of the genetic makeup of the calf. This will also let us know the genetic makeup of the dam, making it easier to validate the sire.

Update cow inventories

Take the time to update your cow inventories as soon as you receive them either electronically or through the mail. This simple process really allows you to keep current on your recordkeeping.

The process does not take long and it is the first step in keeping your records current, which in turn will keep you compliant with Whole Herd Total Performance Records (TPR™) reporting.

Utilize the database

Continue to search the American Hereford Association (AHA) database to make sire selections. This means incorporating artificial insemination (AI) into your program to help prove and document all genetics. Remember, the breeding decisions you make today will influence your herd for several generations.

If you ever have questions concerning recordkeeping or data submission, feel free to call on any of us at the AHA. We are here to work with you to make your job as breeders as easy as possible. Keep up the good work. I hope the rain will continue to fall on your farm or ranch. **HW**