

Whole Herd TPR deadline

Nov. 1 is the closing date for all birth, weaning, yearling and ultrasound data to be included in the Spring Sire Evaluation Report. Remember a weaning weight or disposal code is required from all calves out of cows on inventory.

Birth and yearling weights are optional; however, if a weight is recorded, then all calves in the calf crop must have a weight or disposal code recorded. Remember, performance data are not required from embryo transplant (ET) calves, but if an ET calf's data are reported, each calf will incur a \$5.50 recipient inventory charge even though the calf's performance data will not be included in the sire summary data analysis nor will ET calves be indexed against natural or artificial insemination (AI) calves.

MyHerd.org: new online registry system

Utilize MyHerd to catch up on Whole Herd TPR performance data. The MyHerd home screen helps members stay organized and informed on what they need to turn in. It displays custom TPR to-do lists with one click access to specific performance data requests, which help performance members quickly identify what information is needed for TPR compliance.

MyHerd allows all members to register and transfer animals electronically in real time. It provides 24/7 access to the majority of record services. Account balances for American Hereford Association (AHA) and Hereford Publications Inc. (HPI) can be paid online with a credit card or an electronic check.

MyHerd users have the option to store their registration certificates electronically, and there is also an electronic registration discount. E-mail your AHA member number to MyHerd@hereford.org to sign up for a free MyHerd account.

MyHerd FAQs**Q: What does it cost to use MyHerd.org?**

A: Nothing, it is absolutely free to use. The only requirements are to have an active member account and to provide the Association with a valid e-mail address for important updates and information regarding your account.

Q: What is needed to operate MyHerd.org?

A: A computer or tablet with connection to the Internet. A smartphone can run MyHerd, but it may be difficult to operate and slow due to the complexity of the website.

Q: Do I still have to mail the original certificate to the office even though I transferred the animal using MyHerd.org?

A: No, you don't have to mail the original certificate to the office to complete an electronic transfer. Once the animal is transferred successfully and the transfer fee is paid, a new certificate will be mailed and the old certificate can be discarded.

Q: Can I use MyHerd.org even though I use a herd management system (CattleMax or Gem)?

A: Signing up for MyHerd doesn't mean you can't use herd management software. AHA recommends members use only one system to submit registrations and TPR data; otherwise, your herd management software could become out-of-date.

MyHerd works great in addition to a herd management system because there are features in MyHerd that a herd management system can't provide like electronic animal transfer, AI certificate release and online bill payment.

Other FAQs**Q: I have received my DNA kit. How do I collect a DNA sample from my Hereford bull?**

A: Tail hair is the preferred testing sample (80-100 hairs). The lab suggests wrapping the hair around a pencil and pulling directly from the tail. It's important to pull hair above the tail switch and not to contaminate the hair root, because it contains the material for DNA testing.

An instructional DNA collection video can be found on the Hereford YouTube channel. Go to Hereford.org and click the "Watch Us on YouTube" link to view Hereford educational videos.

Q: Does my calf have to be registered before a DNA test can be ordered?

A: No, a calf does not have to be registered, but it must be recorded at AHA as an unregistered animal. When a calf is recorded as unregistered, it receives an unregistered number (U-number). The decision to register the calf can be made once DNA results are available. **HW**