

by *Laura Loschke*

It is time to start thinking about registering those spring calves. To help ensure the registration process goes as smoothly and quickly as possible, there are some tips to keep in mind.

### Initial requirements

You must have an active, up-to-date membership with the American Hereford Association (AHA) in order to register any calves. Meaning, your annual dues have been renewed and your member service fee has been billed.

### Breeder verses owner

The conception date (or embryo recovery date for embryo transfer (ET) calves) determines who the calf's breeder is. Whereas, the owner of the cow at the time of birth determines who the original owner is.

When you are registering ET calves, a recipient dam can only be entered if the cow is a registered Hereford dam. If it is a commercial dam that field must be left blank.

Whoever owns the dam at the time of the calf's birth is who must register the calf. If a calf is purchased at the side of the dam, the original owner of the calf still has to be the one to

register the calf and then to transfer it to the new owner. If the dam has been transferred recently, pay close attention to the transfer date to determine who should be the one to register the calf.

There can only be one breeder listed for an animal. If the dam is multiply owned, make sure you pay close attention to which owner is listed as the breeder. You can choose to change who is listed as the breeder among the owners, but that person must be one of the owners of the dam at the time of conception.

If a dam is multiply owned at the time a calf is born, the calf can only be registered in one of the dam's owners' names originally. If the calf needs to be registered to all the owners listed on the dam, the calf must be registered to one owner and then transferred to all owners you want listed on the calf.

### Identification protocol

Tattoos are a requirement at the time of registration. A calf must be tattooed in at least one ear, and that tattoo must be reported to the AHA at the time of registration. Remember, the tattoo must be a combination of numbers and or

letters only; no symbols can be used in the tattoos.

The herd identification (ID) number of the calf must be unique to each individual calf. No two animals in the same herd can have the same herd ID. An easy way to create a unique ID is to make the herd ID the same as the animal's tattoo. This is common practice with most breeders.

### Registration fees breakdown

Registration fees are calculated based on the age of the calf when it is submitted for registration. Remember that registering your calves electronically — either through MyHerd, HerfNet or imported files from Herd Management programs (CattleMax or GEM) — saves you money. See the table below for the rates of calf registrations.

Registration fees		
Calf's age at registration	Paper	Electronic
Up to 4 months	\$14.50	\$12.50
4-8 months	\$20.50	\$17.50
8-12 months	\$27.50	\$22.50
More than 12 months	\$52.50	\$52.50

### Items to note

The spring 2020 inventory deadline is March 1. Any submitted after March 1 will incur the \$2 per head surcharge.

DNA samples take three to four weeks from the time they are received at the lab in Lincoln, Neb., to be processed and for results to be sent on to you. Be sure if you are needing DNA testing and GE-EPDs that you give yourself plenty of time for the sample to be processed and results to be received.

Your Hereford Publications Inc. bill can be viewed and paid on MyHerd. Remember, if you are a MyHerd user, you will no longer receive a statement from AHA or HPI in the mail. Statements will be sent via email at the beginning of each month. **HW**

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