

Back to Basics — Registration Know-How



Photo by Lori Kaczmarek

It's time to start thinking about registering those spring calves. When a calf's registration forms are missing required information, the calf's registration is placed on hold until the correct information or data is provided by the breeder. Keep the following tips in mind to ensure the registration process goes smoothly and quickly.

Registration tips

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

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

When registering ET calves, a recipient dam can only be entered if the recip 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 birth must register the calf. If a calf is purchased at the side of the dam, the original owner of the calf must register the calf and transfer it to the new owner. If the dam has been transferred recently, pay close attention to the transfer date on the dam, to determine who should register the calf.

There can only be one breeder listed for an animal. There cannot be multiple breeders listed. If the dam is multiply owned, pay close attention to which owner is listed as the breeder. You can choose to change who is listed as the breeder between the owners, but it 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 original dam owner's names. If the calf needs to be registered to all the owners that are listed for the dam, the calf must be registered to one owner, and then transferred to all owners that should be listed on the calf's papers.

Tattoos are a requirement at the time of registration. It is not required in both ears, but the calf must be tattooed in at least one ear, and that tattoo must be reported to AHA at the time of registration. The tattoo is up to you, the breeder; but remember, the tattoo must be

a combination of numbers and/or letters only — no symbols can be used in the tattoos.

The herd ID 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 do this is simply make the herd ID the same as the animal's tattoo. This is common practice with most breeders.

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

Happy to help

Having trouble navigating MyHerd? Visit [Hereford.org/member-services](https://www.hereford.org/member-services) to view more than 20 tutorials that show you the ins and outs of MyHerd or contact AHA Customer Service at 816-842-3757. To sign up for MyHerd, email your member number to myherd@hereford.org. **HW**

Laura Loschke is the records supervisor and education and information service coordinator of the American Hereford Association. She can be reached at lloschke@hereford.org.

Member cattle registration fees

Calf's age at registration	Paper forms rate	Electronic rate
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