

The 'Shorthorn' Brief



Photo courtesy of Alana Williams, Highpoint Design

This report is the first of what will be regular summaries of Canadian Shorthorn Association (CSA) activities and notices of interest to members.

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New Registry

- The contract has been signed with Digital Beef LLC for CSA member registry services.
- The implementation timeline for the new registry is on track with January 2018 the target date for on-line member usage.
- Digital Beef is working on implementing CSA's Bylaws, Rules and Regulations into our registry system.
- The process to finalize a Registrar to handle all day to day aspects of member services is in progress.
- The initial download of current CSA registry data has been sent to Digital Beef and testing will be commencing soon.

IGS and EPD's for CSA Members

- The contract with IGS to provide the CSA with their own EPDs is not scheduled to come into effect until January 2018, after the launch of the CSA Digital Beef registry.
- IGS has confirmed that all CSA data currently in their files will remain and will be included in their Fall run of EPDs.

What should CSA members be doing to help with the implementation process?

- 1) Be sure to submit all 2017 animal registrations to CLRC as soon as possible.
- 2) Submit weaning and/or yearling weight data to CLRC as soon as it is collected.
- 3) Update contact information for your membership.

REGISTRY UP-DATE

The Canadian Shorthorn Association (CSA) are very pleased to announce that we have entered into an arrangement with the Canadian Limousin Association (CLA) who will be providing us with full Registrar services effective January 1, 2018. The CLA have been using the Digital Beef system and IGS for a few years so their knowledge and experience with those services will be invaluable to our members and will substantially reduce the learning curve for all of us at CSA.

Our Shorthorn Association's identity and uniqueness will be 100% preserved as this is a service arrangement only. We will have our own phone number and email address with the CLA staff providing services to our members working out of their office in Calgary. Mail will be addressed to CSA at that address. All services and enquiries currently provided by CLRC staff will be provided by CLA staff although we expect a significant decrease over time in paper transactions with the new web-based registry system which is very member/user friendly.

Introductions to the registrar staff will be forthcoming in our next news report along with all the details on modes of communication (phone #'s, addresses etc.). It is important to know that there is no change in our arrangement with the Saskatchewan Livestock Association and Belinda Wagner's role as our Secretary/Treasurer as she and Ruth Watch continue to work out of our Regina office and are available, as always, to assist the membership.

Transition to the new registry system - Bob Riviere, ULURU Shorthorns, has agreed to stay on as our project manager for the implementation of the Digital Beef system and coordination with the CLA Registrar staff.

The target date for all members to go live on the Digital Beef system is on schedule for January 2018. The conversion of all CLRC files (which includes all our current registry data and pedigree history) into Digital Beef is underway and Bob's initial testing of the system with our data in it is very promising. Bob's small sample shows it's all there and it's accurate... a great start. A final transfer of all registry data from CLRC to Digital Beef will be made at the end of the year. Various methods of training on using the new registry and the many reports available will be outlined in our next news reports.

IMPORTANT DATES & YOUR TO-DO LIST

All registry work such as new registrations and transfers which are received at CLRC by December 15th will be completed by them by year end. All registry work received at CLRC after December 15th will be forwarded to the CLA office for handling by the new Registrar staff.

Weaning and yearling weights should also be submitted to CLRC before December 15 as Digital Beef plans to send all CSA performance data on file with CLRC to IGS for the next run of EPDs early in the new year. If some late performance data does not get entered by December 15 and is not included in that submission, interim EPDs for 2017 calves can be specially calculated.

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