

1. What type of DNA is required in the CSA?

All Sires (including AI sires) and donor females must be DNA tested before their progeny can be registered. These are the required tests for each type:

All Sires: **Parentage DNA Test on File** and a **TH result reported**.

A TH result can either be from a TH test or being “free by pedigree” due to both dam and sire being TH free.

Donor Females: **Parentage DNA Test on File**

ET progeny: **Parentage Verification** (*DNA must verify to both dam and sire*)

The CSA currently offers 100K tests as their form of parentage. All other testing is voluntary if members wish to order.

2. How long does DNA testing take?

It is a 21 calendar-day turnaround **from the day that the lab has received your sample(s)** for all tests until you can expect to see results.

3. How do I know where to send my samples?

Once the CSA has set up your DNA request (*either by completing and submitting a DNA Order Form or contacting the office*), you will then be given a CSA DNA Submission Form. The lab’s address will be located on the top-right corner of this form.

4. How will I know my tests are finished? / Where can I find my results?

Once the lab has completed the DNA tests, they will be reported directly to the CSA. You will be notified by email with a certificate of the results attached. If you do not have an email on file, a copy of the results certificate will be mailed to you. You can also find the results in the DigitalBeef registry at any time. Simply pull up the profile of the particular animal and select its “DNA” tab.

5. Can I send a hair sample without using a hair card?

All hair samples not submitted in a Neogen hair card will be subject to a \$5 “Loose Hair Fee” on each sample sent in. Each hair card contains a unique barcode that is used for traceability purposes at Neogen. Be sure to order hair cards prior to making DNA requests in order to avoid delays in testing. You can order hair cards by contacting the office or by submitting the DNA Order Form.

6. What happens if there is a problem with testing?

A couple of problems can arise in testing. Occasionally, a sample will “fail” testing meaning no results can be obtained from the sample. Two common reasons for a retest are a “contaminated sample” or a sample with not enough DNA material. Please ensure your samples are free of manure or other debris and to include plenty of hair follicles (40-50) if sending a hair sample.

A secondary problem that might occur is “disqualification of parents” with parentage testing. In the event that this happens, you will be notified directly by the office.

NOTE: In the case that a sample fails, you will be required to send in a new sample and are responsible to pay for the retest. The new sample will still be subject to a 21-day turnaround. This is why if you are needing results for a specific deadline, we suggest allowing plenty of time as sometimes a retest is needed.

7. How come my bull was not DNA’d when I purchased it?

While the CSA *strongly encourages* its members to DNA bulls before they are sold and delivered, it is not a mandatory CSA rule. Please be sure to **confirm if your bull has been DNA’d** before using him for breeding as progeny cannot be registered until their sire has DNA on file. You can confirm a bull’s DNA records in the online DigitalBeef registry or by contacting the CSA directly.

8. What do I do if I’m not sure of a calf’s parents?

If you are not completely certain as to who a calf’s parents are, you are obligated to complete a parentage test on the calf. If there is more than one potential sire or dam, please advise the office at the time of placing the request- there is no charge when listing additional parents.

Since animals cannot be DNA’d until they are in the herdbook, we ask that you just “record” the calf and list one of the potential sires/dams at this stage. Once the parents have been confirmed from testing, we will have the calf upgraded to registered and can issue you a registration certificate.

If you have any further questions in regards to DNA or placing requests, feel free to contact the CSA Office directly (info below).