



# hooked on HEREFORDS

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW ZEALAND HEREFORD ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 2013

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## Diary Dates

### 6TH-7TH NOVEMBER

NZHA COUNCIL MEETING,  
FEILDING

### 13TH-15TH NOVEMBER

CANTERBURY SHOW,  
CHRISTCHURCH

### 6TH-8TH DECEMBER

ROYAL SHOW – MANFEILD  
PARK, FEILDING



## President's Note

Spring is here with the usual mix of volatile weather. Pasture growth has been good over much of the country and we have been experiencing drier than normal conditions which have made for a much more enjoyable lambing and calving, although the winds of the last week have not been needed particularly when endeavouring to get to and from Board Meetings. My return flight from Feilding the other evening was interesting to say the least, thank goodness for the expertise and experience of the pilots coming into Kerikeri.

The spring bull sales have been successful with most having complete clearances and it is great to see many studs attaining averages equal to or better than other breeds.

Council met recently via conference call and endorsed the Tru-Test Super Sires programme, whilst acknowledging the need for change allowing more breeders the opportunity to enter bulls. To this end some of the specifications of the programme have been modified, details of which are included in this newsletter, within Council Communications.

You should have received your "Completeness of Performance" reports and found time to read them by now. Council was intending activating the "Star rating" to be displayed to all via Internet Solutions after one year, which would allow breeders twelve months to become accustomed to the system and improve their star rating should they wish to. However as this rating is based on the results over several years, I believe a longer lead in period may be required before the results are made public. I along with the Tech team would be interested to hear your thoughts on this subject, as it will be discussed further at the upcoming council meeting on the 6th & 7th November.

Nominations are again being called for the North Island Herd of Excellence and I encourage breeders to become involved, it is a great way of promoting Herefords and our top operators, so put

your name forward or someone else's (with their permission of course). Natalie also has planning well underway for a 2014 Commercial Hereford Field day in North Canterbury which is being held in place of a South Island Herd of Excellence. This promises to be a very interesting day and is being well supported by our sponsors.

This month we welcome the new sponsors of our newsletter, Silver Fern Farms and those of you who preferred the red will be pleased to see the change in colour with our new sponsor. We trust this will be a relationship, beneficial to both parties and especially to you the members. Notably, Hereford Prime NZ also endorses this relationship.

Since my last message, PBB has undergone further restructuring and Clinton Poole the Member Services manager has taken redundancy. We wish him well with his move to Christchurch. It is envisaged that this roll along with that of the CEO will be undertaken by the new General Manager, when appointed.

Early December sees the Royal Show being held at Manfeild Park in Feilding and I hope to see many of you there for what is planned to be a great event. We are fortunate to have Australian judge, Peter Sykes from the Mawarra stud in Victoria judging the Hereford section and he will be assisted by Ross Paterson from the Waikaka stud.

Also in this publication are details of The Gallagher Coast to Coast National 2014 Hereford Herd tour, being hosted by the South Auckland club. I encourage you all to plan on attending what promises to be a very interesting programme.

All the best for the coming season.

Philip Shepherd



## OFFICE ENQUIRIES

### NZHA Enquiries

Donna Abbiss is available between 9am - 4.30pm, Monday and Wednesday OR Megan Ellett Tuesday and Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm. [hereford@pbbnz.com](mailto:hereford@pbbnz.com)

### HP & NZHA Projects

Natalie Campbell is available 9am-4pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday OR [herefordprojects@pbbnz.com](mailto:herefordprojects@pbbnz.com)

### NZHA Registry

Linda Shailer, is available to assist with your Hereford registry enquiries between 8am - 4pm, Monday to Friday. [lindas@pbbnz.com](mailto:lindas@pbbnz.com)

### DNA Services

Sharyn Anderson, 8.30am - 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. [sharyn@pbbnz.com](mailto:sharyn@pbbnz.com)

### Tag Ordering

through the PBBNZ office, Monday to Friday. [tags@pbbnz.com](mailto:tags@pbbnz.com)

### Pivot Design

Adele Gray, 9am - 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. [adele@pivotdesign.co.nz](mailto:adele@pivotdesign.co.nz)

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# Calving Ease Scoring/ Lack of Calving Ease reporting.

There is a very low level of reporting of Calving Ease for NZHA animals.

The greatest vagary in the system is inaccurate reporting of actual calving ease/difficulty.

**However there are several factors involved...**

- » Breeders not scoring calving ease at all.
- » Breeders scoring calving ease inaccurately. If you hurriedly score all your cows the same calving score for example - 0 (no assist), the system defaults to a nil recording situation.
- » Breeders must have greater than 10 cows (10 calving ease scores) entered for the system to acknowledge the records.
- » The system does not accept that every cow has had the same calving experience. Those calving ease records that show no variation in scores are removed from the analysis.

**Understanding Calving Ease EBVs** - Calving difficulty has an obvious negative impact on the profitability of a herd through increased calf and heifer mortality, slower re-breeding performance and considerable additional labour and veterinary expense.

**Recording Information for Calving Ease** - Calving Ease EBVs are calculated from three main sources of information – calving difficulty score, birth weight and gestation length data. By far the most important of these sources is calving difficulty score.

Calving difficulty scores should be measured at birth by visually scoring females on the following scale of 1 - 6.

## Score Code Description

1. Unassisted - Cow calved unassisted / No difficulty
2. Easy Pull - One person without mechanical assistance
3. Hard Pull - Two people without mechanical assistance, One person with mechanical assistance
4. Surgical Assistance - Veterinary intervention required
5. Mal-presentation - eg. Breech
6. Elective Surgical -Surgical removal of calf before the cow has the opportunity to calve

\* Note that a blank score will not be interpreted as “unassisted”. Instead, it indicates that calving difficulty was not scored

Calving difficulty scores can be submitted to your Breed Society/ Association when submitting your calf registration details.

When recording calving difficulty scores, it is important to consider:

- » If you regularly check your cows (e.g. on a daily basis), it is reasonable to assume that a cow who calves without assistance between visits can be considered as unassisted (no difficulty) even though you did not see her calve.
- » Record a score for all calves rather than just difficult or easy births. Scores should be recorded for dead calves, if possible.

- » If calving difficulty score is either blank or [0], it is interpreted as no score recorded rather than "no difficulty".
- » There needs to be some level of calving difficulty in the herd for the scores to be used effectively by the BREEDPLAN analysis. That is, simply scoring all births in a herd with a calving difficulty score of [1] will not identify any genetic differences in ease of calving.
- » A birth management group should be recorded if there are different treatments of the females prior to calving that may affect calving difficulty. For example, where one group of cows have had different feed availability.
- » When calculating the Calving Ease EBVs, calving difficulty scores of [3] and [4] are grouped together. Calving difficulty scores [5] & [6] are excluded from the BREEDPLAN analysis as the problems are considered non-genetic in origin.

For more information, please go to the Breedplan - tipsheets link on the NZHA website.

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## Registry Report

**GROUP RUN CUT OFF** is now the 3rd of each month with the return being towards the end of the month.

**PARENT VERIFICATION** changes of an animal resulting from DNA profiling, needs to be initiated by the Breeder, even if the test has been done through PBBNZ.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE & TRANSFER** forms are available from the Hereford website. Association – NZHA Forms. Remember all male transfers must be tested for Hypotrichosis and correctly sire verified.

**\$1 SURCHARGE** per calf applies for calves entered manually from May 1 2011.

**ONLINE REGISTRATIONS & PERFORMANCE RECORDING**  
Contact me at the Office if you wish to register and performance record your herd data online. You need internet and an email address to use this system. You will receive a 50c/animal discount on registrations when submissions are accurate.

### **NZHA HYPOTRICHOSIS RULE**

**From 1 September 2013, all bulls (of any age, including calves) sold for transfer must be CORRECTLY sire verified, in conjunction with having a DNA profile and being hypotrichosis tested and declared.**

Linda Shailer  
Registry

# Council Communications

## Tru-Test Super Sires Programme 2014

Despite low entry numbers in 2013, NZHA Council believes the Tru-Test Super Sires concept for the Hereford National Sale, is a very worthwhile ‘**proven two year old sire**’ concept and wishes to continue the programme with the following modifications. Breeders are encouraged to support the programme at the 2014 Beef Expo/ AgInnovation event.

Modifications to the Tru-Test Super Sires programme are as follows -

### 1. Mating Mob Size-

Current required mating of 20 females reduces to 15 females, including a minimum of 10 registered cows. Pregnancy tested with a minimum of 75% in calf rate.

All other Super Sire specifications remain, including full set of performance records and from a management mob exceeding 20 bulls.

### 2. Tru-Test Super Sire Entry fee -

A 50% discount (\$175 +gst) in Super Sire entry fee rebated to the breeder, upon sale of their Super Sire bull at Ag Innovation.

**Management tip for Tru-Test Super Sires – take 400 day weight and scan data before putting the bull out.**

**Denotation of Tru-Test Super Sires during Expo 2014** – a Tru-Test Super Sires ‘butt’ sticker is to be developed. Super Sire bulls will wear a butt sticker on their rump, denoting their Tru-Test Super Sire status at the pre Expo paddock walk and a fresh sticker will be applied for the Expo Hereford sale.

## Honda Motorcycles Led and Unled Impact Sires 2014

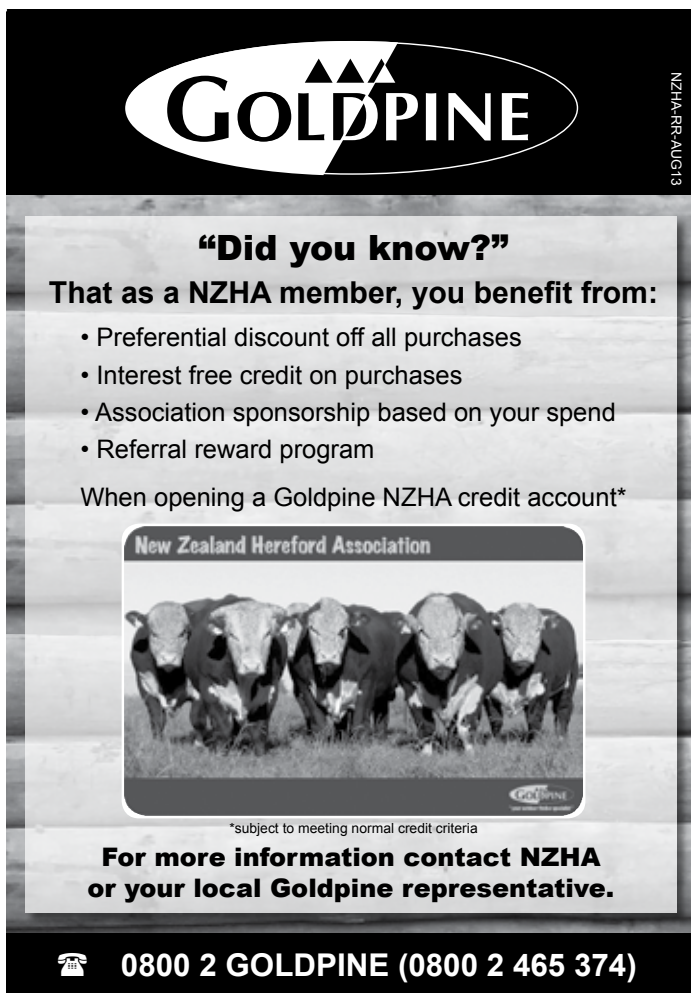
No change from previous years - Impact Sires, led and unled bulls must have a full set of performance records and yet to be joined to females.

**Note** - ALL Hereford expo entries must be BVD Vaccinated, TB tested, tested and declared free of Hypotrichosis, Dilutor and Epilepsy. Sire verified also.

## NZHA Office Staff

The NZHA office is open Monday – Thursday with Megan Ellett and Donna Abbiss assisting you with all breeder and club enquiries. Both personnel cover all aspects of NZHA administration, and member newsletter/marketing.

Natalie Campbell is the NZHA Magazine editor. She is also the Brand Manager for Hereford Prime NZ and co-ordinates the Hereford Herd of Excellence award.


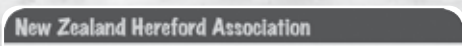


**GOLDPINE** NZHA-RE-AUG13

**“Did you know?”**  
That as a NZHA member, you benefit from:

- Preferential discount off all purchases
- Interest free credit on purchases
- Association sponsorship based on your spend
- Referral reward program

When opening a Goldpine NZHA credit account\*



\*subject to meeting normal credit criteria

**For more information contact NZHA or your local Goldpine representative.**

**0800 2 GOLDPINE (0800 2 465 374)**



## Introducing Silver Fern Farms – business partner of NZ Herefords and the Hooked on Herefords member newsletter.

You will note this issue of the Hooked on Herefords newsletter displays the logo of a new business partner, Silver Fern Farms.

Silver Fern Farms have recently come on board as sponsor and editorial contributor of the NZHA member newsletter.

Hereford Prime NZ also endorses the newly formed Silver Fern Farms/ NZ Herefords relationship going forward.

(Altum have declined to continue as an NZHA sponsor due to a change in strategic marketing direction)



**SOUTH AUCKLAND HEREFORD CLUB INVITES YOU TO :**

THE

**GALLAGHER**

**Coast to Coast  
National Hereford  
Herd Tour**

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**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

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**ACCOMMODATION:**

You will be staying at the luxurious **Novotel Tainui** in the heart of Hamilton city for the total duration of the tour.

**Room rate is \$175**

50 rooms have been booked and will be held until **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

Novotel Hotel Phone: **07 838 1366** Email: **h2159-sb03@accor.com**

When making your bookings please advise reception you are part of the **National Hereford Tour** and quote booking code **"Block ID 13454"**.



# ITINERARY

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## Pre tour

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March

Registration from 4pm at the Novotel.

NZHA AGM

Happy hour and welcoming dinner.

## Day 1

### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Newcastle – Noel & Betsy Smith  
Mahuta – John & Mary Allen  
Kokonga – Bruce, Margot and Pip Robinson  
Rodleen – Rodney & Colleen Nicholson  
Joshstar – Steve & Lauren Morgan

## Day 2

### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Colrairie/Kanuka - Colin & Sue Corney/ Russo family  
**Gallagher HQ and manufacturing plant**  
Gembrooke – Johnny & Tania Dorotich and family  
Glendale – Graham & Fiona Potter  
Hukaroa – Dean & Lisa / Peter & Glennis Hansen

## Day 3

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Stoney Creek – Ian & Petula Mathieson  
**Martha Gold mine Waihi**  
Maranui – Stewart & Rita Brown  
Arundel – John & Anne Howard  
Castle Douglas – Douglas McCartney  
Karamu – Michael Bayly  
**Happy hour/ farewell dinner and youth auction**

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## Registration

Cost : \$265 Inc. GST per person,  
this covers :

- All lunches, dinners and drinks.
- Breakfast on Mon, Tues, and Wed.
- Buses

### Not included :

- Accommodation (although the rooms have been block booked till the 9th of December deadline, individuals are fully responsible for booking their own rooms)
- Breakfast on Thursday 13th (if required)
- Parking - available at Sky city next door at \$15 per exit, payable at the Novotel reception (If you leave your car for the duration of the tour the total cost is \$15)

I / we will be attending the Coast to Coast tour.

Full names

.....  
.....  
.....

Herd Prefix .....

Postal Address: .....

Phone: .....

Email: .....

Arriving by Car / Airport

## REGISTRATION DEADLINE 9th December 2013

Remember the deadline for the accommodation booking is the same day.

Forward Registration and Payment to :

The Secretary                      Please make cheques payable to:  
Lorraine Peters                      South Auckland Hereford Club.  
5 Bonner Road  
R.D.6 Otorohanga 3976

Direct payment can be made to 03 1368 0126300-00  
**Please use your name or prefix as reference.**

Lorraine can be contacted at  
[peters.willowspring@farmside.co.nz](mailto:peters.willowspring@farmside.co.nz)



# Congratulations to

## Will Gibson

NZ  
Herefords  
2013 Youth  
Ambassador  
to Australia



William Gibson of Foulden Hill Hereford Stud - Middlemarch, an enthusiastic young NZHA breeder since 2009, owner of 24 registered Hereford cows and a second year Agricultural Commerce student at Lincoln University, has been selected as the NZHA Youth Ambassador to tour Australia in November 2013.

Will is the first NZHA Youth Ambassador to benefit from the reciprocal Youth Ambassador programme recently developed by Australian Hereford Society and NZ Hereford Association.

## Obituaries

Sincere sympathy is extended to the following Hereford families who have recently lost family members.

### Ivan Forlong – Netherby Hereford Stud, Frankton.

Life Member of the NZHA. Through the 1960's, 70's and 80's, the head of Waikato's first family of furnishing retailers, Ivan Forlong was a well-known Hereford breeder.

He travelled with the NZHA party to the World Hereford Conference held in Uruguay, South America in 1980. Remembered as "an honourable, trusted and 'full of fun' gentleman".

### Adolph Mathis – Springvale Hereford Stud, Tokoroa

Adolph was a current stud master of 27 registered Hereford females and a performance recording advocate. A South Auckland club member.

### Ron MacDonald – Westwyn Hereford Stud, Waiuku

An active Hereford breeder, until his death at age 89 years, Ron had a performance recorded, registered Hereford herd of 83 Westwyn females. A South Auckland club member also.

## SEMEN FOR SALE

# "POURAKINO DOWNS JASPER" 713



"I cannot stress enough of this bull's great constitution and soundness."  
- Roger Keach

Currently "Jasper" has to be one of NZ's best breeding Hereford bulls.

- Tremendous Thickness on Top & Hindquarters.
- Excellent Feet & Legs, Temperament,
- 100% Eye Pigmentation.

First 2 crops of sons have averaged \$6010 with a top \$11,000 (2012 Beef Expo) (Australian Semen Rights sold to Mawarra Herefords.)

### PACKAGES AVAILABLE -

50 straws @ \$50.00 /straw + GST  
25 straws @ \$60.00/ straw + GST

### SEPTEMBER 2013 HEREFORD GROUP BREEDPLAN

	DIR	DTRS	BIRTH	200	400	600	MCW	MILK	SS	CAR	EMA	RIB	RUMP	RBY	IMF
EBV	-0.4	+1.4	+5.0	+27	+51	+67	+62	+19	+0.9	+44	+4.0	+0.9	+1.5	+0.8	-0.1
ACC	52%	38%	90%	86%	86%	87%	76%	54%	76%	73%	59%	64%	70%	62%	64%

Enquiries to: **Roger Keach**, PGG Wrightson, 0274 325 766, 03 417 8628  
**Wayne Williams**, "Glacier Horned Herefords" 03 7510 826

### NEW ZEALAND INDEXES \$

HP	Export	Maternal	Terminal
+\$75	+\$80	+\$56	+\$44

In light, of recent media coverage concerning genetic diseases, breeders may find the following article useful

# Managing Genetic Conditions

A genetic condition is a disease or condition caused by an abnormality in an individual's DNA. These abnormalities can range from a single gene mutation to the addition or loss of an entire chromosome.

Genetic conditions have been identified in most species, including humans, and over 400 genetic conditions have been identified in beef cattle. Approximately one quarter of these are caused by a single gene mutation, making them easy to manage through DNA testing. Historically, genetic conditions were managed by extensive progeny testing or by eradicating all known relatives of the affected animal. This resulted in production losses and the potential loss of superior genetics.

Developments in DNA testing and gene probability technology now allow breeders to more easily manage and identify genetic conditions such that production losses and spread of the mutation can be minimised.

## Recognising Genetic Conditions

Genetic conditions generally result in:

- » *Poor growth and fertility performance.* For example, calves with Protoporphyrria (photosensitivity) develop scabs and open sores when exposed to sunlight and have reduced liver function, which in turn decreases their overall performance.
- » *Structural unsoundness.* For example, animals with Snorter Dwarfism have a short, blocky appearance with deformed bone growth in the nose, causing difficulty breathing.
- » *Semi-lethal - Not all affected individuals survive to maturity.* For example, many calves affected by Contractural Arachnodactyly (CA) will die shortly after birth because they are unable to stand and suckle. Those calves who are able to stand will often survive to maturity but have poor growth performance.
- » *Lethal - No affected animals survive to maturity.* For example,

animals affected by Pompes will typically die between 6 to 12 months of age after displaying progressive muscular weakness.

The symptoms of genetic conditions can be quite nonspecific. When large numbers of calves are dying or being born with similar abnormalities, both environmental and genetic causes are suspected. Consequently, there is a need for the surveillance and reporting of abnormal calves to breed societies, veterinarians or beef technical officers if genetic conditions are to be identified. Photographs and DNA samples from affected animals should be collected to aid in the identification of the condition.

## Mode of Inheritance

Genetic conditions have different modes of inheritance. Many have a simple recessive inheritance of a single gene mutation making them easy to manage. These single gene recessive genetic conditions result in 3 possible genotypes:

- » *Free* – animal carries two normal genes and no copies of the mutation
- » *Affected* – affected or abnormal animal which carries two copies of the mutation
- » *Carrier* – animal which looks normal but carries one copy of the mutation which can be passed onto offspring

**Figure 1** provides an illustration of the possible mating outcomes from different mating combinations for a single gene recessive genetic condition.

As illustrated in the diagram, mating a carrier animal to a free animal will avoid production losses, with 100% of calves being unaffected by the genetic condition. But, 50% of the resulting offspring will still be carriers. Mating carrier to carrier will result in 75% normal calves and 25% affected, with two thirds of the normal calves being carriers.

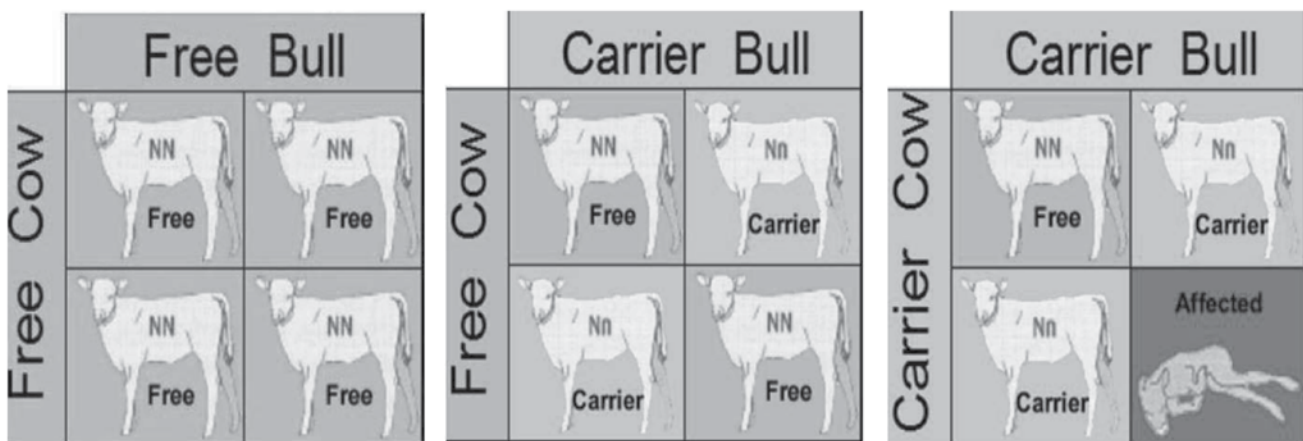


Figure 1. Possible mating outcomes for different genetic condition genotypes

## Tools Available to Manage Genetic Conditions

Developments in DNA technology have resulted in diagnostic tests being available for several single gene recessive genetic conditions.

The ability for beef producers to collect a DNA sample (either hair, semen, blood or tissue) and send it to a DNA lab for testing has significantly assisted the management of genetic conditions.

In addition to the development of DNA tests, a range of gene probability software (such as GeneProb) is now available to estimate the probability that an untested animal is a carrier, based on their pedigree and the known DNA test results for animals within that pedigree.

Results from gene frequency software such as GeneProb identify animals as either being free untested (XXFU) or the percentage chance of being a carrier (XX\_\_%) as illustrated in the example in Figure 2.

Code	Description
AMF	Tested Free
AMFU	Not tested, based on pedigree expected to be free
AM__%	Not tested, based on pedigree the animal has the indicated percentage chance to be a carrier
AMC	Tested Carrier
AMA	Tested Affected

**Figure 2.** The possible genotype results for the genetic condition Arthrogyrosis Multiplex (AM). DNA testing reports AMA, AMF and AMC while the GeneProb predictions report AMFU and AM\_\_% (eg. AM25%).

## Managing Genetic Conditions

There is no “one size fits all” strategy for managing genetic conditions. Before embarking on a management strategy producers should consider:

- » the economic impact of the condition
- » the frequency of the condition within the herd
- » the availability and cost of DNA tests
- » researching the genetic condition status of any animals being brought into the herd
- » their legal obligations about disclosing the carrier status of sale animals
- » the relevant Breed Society regulations

Generally, the management of genetic conditions can be broken into two components.

*Managing the Incidence of Affected Animals* – In simple terms, the incidence of animals affected by the genetic condition can be managed by avoiding mating carrier dams to a carrier sire. This may be relatively easy to manage in seedstock herds, but can be extremely difficult in commercial herds which keep no pedigree records. For this reason it is recommended that commercial herds, or seedstock herds that have done minimal DNA testing, should always use bulls that are tested free.

*Managing the Incidence of Carriers* – Managing the frequency of carrier animals is important in seedstock operations. Where available, the use of DNA testing to determine if an animal is either free or a carrier for a genetic condition broadens the options for breeders looking to manage or eradicate the mutation. Use of software like GeneProb to calculate the risk of particular untested individuals being carriers enables DNA testing efforts to focus on the most high risk animals.

Breeders should carefully consider and develop a management strategy that will be used to manage each genetic condition.

### Some examples of management strategies are as follows:

- » DNA test all animals in the breeding herd to identify and cull carrier animals. Rather than being sold, carrier females can be retained for use as recipient dams in embryo transfer programs.
- » Conduct strategic DNA testing of highly influential animals (eg. sires, donor dams) to calculate the probability of animals being carriers, and better identify the “at risk” bloodlines. Further testing can then be conducted to better isolate the carriers present in the herd.
- » Continue to use carrier animals in the breeding program by joining them only to tested free sires/dams and routinely testing the progeny. As outlined previously, mating a carrier to a free animal will result in 100% of calves being unaffected by the genetic condition, with 50% of the resulting offspring being free of the condition and 50% being carriers. This approach is of particular benefit when the carrier animal is of high genetic merit and the producer wants to utilise these desirable genes in the breeding program.
- » Only use sires that are tested free or are expected to be free by inheritance to ensure that the incidence of the condition does not increase. This is a common approach for genetic conditions of low economic impact.

In all situations, if carrier animals are sold, full disclosure of their genetic condition status should be provided.

## Fast Facts

- » There are over 400 genetic conditions identified in beef cattle.
- » There are currently DNA tests for several of the most prevalent genetic conditions.
- » DNA testing identifies 3 possible phenotypes - Free, Carrier and Affected.
- » The incidence of affected offspring can be eliminated by avoiding carrier to carrier matings.





## Hereford Prime

Hereford Prime is gaining momentum thanks to celebrity chef endorsement and the development of new brand Hereford Farms, launched earlier this year.

The quality branded beef programme was recently endorsed by Food Truck chef Michael van de Elzen and Masterchef NZ series two runner up Jax Hamilton.

Michael van de Elzen visited Southland Hereford breeder Alex Holms for his new TV series, "Family Recipes" and was treated to a traditional Hereford Prime roast which he thoroughly enjoyed.

"...the meat itself was fantastic, it was a great piece of Hereford Prime..." says Michael. Visit the Hereford Prime website to view the programme – [www.herefordprime.co.nz](http://www.herefordprime.co.nz).

The very next day Hereford Prime received more endorsement. This time from celebrity chef Jax Hamilton on social media site Twitter who sent a message to HP saying "love your work."

Our processors have continued to be reasonably busy even though supply during winter sometimes proved difficult.

Magills have been working on and developing new avenues thanks to the recently launched Hereford Farms brand which has seen them develop new markets for sub-primal cuts in Auckland and Rotorua. To supply Magills please phone David Whelan 0274 784 941.

Cabernet have begun processing and will be killing 20 head a week. They are running a booking system for HP cattle with strong interest and spaces are filling fast. To supply and to book killing space with Cabernet please contact Lyndon Everton 021 500 492, Richard Williams 021 519 153 or Natalie Campbell, 0277 323 448.

Clover is processing again in Gore having returned from a maintenance shut down and growth prior to that was significant. Bowmont Wholesale Meats continue to consolidate their position in the market. To supply Bowmonts phone Robin Gamble 0274 338 941.

**The success of the Hereford Prime brand, which belongs to the breed needs the support and backing of members – whether that's supplying cattle, asking your clients to supply cattle, dining at restaurants serving Hereford Prime or buying the product.**

**Be proud of your brand which specialises in high-end fine dining. We see ourselves as specialists and professionals at what we do – producing high quality consistently mouth watering NZ beef.**

Regards,  
Laurie Paterson and the Hereford Prime Team.

[herefordprime.co.nz](http://herefordprime.co.nz)



## Hereford Prime Chopping Boards

*Great XMAS presents!*

*Rimu chopping boards are now available  
for members to purchase.*

These very smart, recycled rimu boards would make great gifts, or fit very nicely with your own kitchen accessories!

### Board Sizes

Small 380 mm x 250mm @ \$35 plus postage

Large 450mm x 270mm @ \$45 plus postage



To purchase, please email Philip Barnett at  
[kaitoa@farmside.co.nz](mailto:kaitoa@farmside.co.nz)

New Zealand

### Award Winning Hereford Prime

Available at:

BOWMONT WHOLESALE MEATS,  
Otepunu Ave, Invercargill — Ph 0800 146 328

MAGILLS BUTCHERY,

Jacob St, Te Awamutu — Ph 0800 624 455

FARRO FRESH,

Lunn Ave, Mt Wellington, Auckland — Ph (09) 570 7071

FARRO FRESH,

Parkway Drive, Mairangi Bay, Auckland — Ph (09) 478 0020

FARRO FRESH,

Westmoreland St, Grey Lynn, Auckland — Ph (09) 360 0499

MEDITERRANEAN MARKET,

Robins Rd, Queenstown — Ph (03) 4424161

RAREFARE,

Main North Rd, Papanui, Christchurch — Ph (03) 352 9047

[www.herefordprime.co.nz](http://www.herefordprime.co.nz)



[www.youtube.com/herefordprimenz](http://www.youtube.com/herefordprimenz)



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follow us on  
[www.twitter.com/herefordprimenz](http://www.twitter.com/herefordprimenz)

# Recording Mating Details for Female Reproduction in a Seedstock Enterprise

With summer mating for spring calvings not too far away, it's important for seedstock producers to understand how to record and submit their herd's mating details to BREEDPLAN. The reason for this is simple - a very important trait for any maternal breed is female reproduction. Improving female reproduction through BREEDPLAN is facilitated by the Days to Calving EBV. This EBV provides a useful tool that breeders can use to improve the genetics of their females for fertility, in association with their routine management and culling strategies.

Days to Calving EBVs are estimates of genetic differences between animals in time from the start of the joining period (i.e. when the female is introduced to a bull) until subsequent calving. The Days to Calving EBV identifies sires whose daughters calve earlier in the season compared to those that calve later, or do not calve at all. Variation in days to calving is mainly due to differences in the time taken for females to conceive after the commencement of the joining period. Females with shorter Days to Calving EBVs also tend to be those that show early puberty as heifers and earlier return to oestrous after calving.

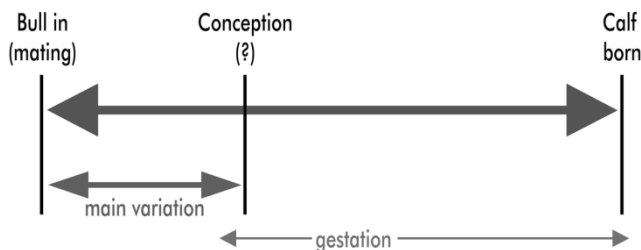


Figure 1. Days to Calving EBVs are based of natural joining records that measure the days from when the cow is exposed to the bull to when the calf is born

Presently, only information from natural joining programs is included in the calculation of Days to Calving EBVs. This includes only those females that have been joined naturally within a breeding season, and have not previously been included in artificial insemination/embryo transfer programs, or artificially induced to cycle prior to joining with the bull outside of such programs.

Broadly, the information to be collected in a seedstock enterprise for Days to Calving EBVs should include:

1. Joining details of all females naturally mated within the herd. This includes details of the bull/s the female was joined to and bull in and out date/s.
2. Details of all calves (dead or alive) that are born as a result of these joinings.
3. Details of all females disposed of from the herd, particularly those present at joining that were no longer within the herd by the time of the subsequent calving.

## 1. Recording Details from Natural Joining Programs

Record each natural joining event to which a female (cow or heifer) is exposed within the breeding season whether this was the successful joining or not. For situations where females are joined to several bulls in a mating season, record all joinings for the female, not just the first or successful joining. (See consideration section for comments on multiple sire matings)

For each natural joining event within the breeding season, record the bull the female was joined to, the date she was joined ('bull in' date) and the date the bull was removed ('bull out' date). Knowing the end of the joining period is important. The joining event code to be used when recording natural joining events is 'N' (Natural/Paddock mating).

Ensure record management group information is recorded to identify any cow/s within a joining group whose fertility may have been affected either prior to or during the joining program due to non-genetic factors e.g. significantly different nutrition, sickness, injury.

## 2. Recording Calf Details

Record all calves, including dead calves that are born in the herd, with the Breed Society. Not recording all calves with the Breed Society will result in reduced accuracy of the EBV's.

## 3. Recording Female Disposal Information

Record the date and reason for any female removed from the herd, particularly those present at the start of joining that are no longer within the herd by the time of the subsequent calving. The fate/disposal code information is used to determine whether females that have a joining record but no subsequent calf should be penalised for being "culled for infertility" or not penalised because they were culled for other reasons e.g. structure, performance etc.

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# 2013 Stud Bull Sale Results

Robert and Marion Port of Bushy Downs Herefords are celebrating 70 years stud breeding and their on farm bull sale saw brisk and spirited bidding on September 25th.

70 two year bulls were keenly sought after and snapped up by buyers, from the greater Waikato region to as far north as Waiuku. Fagan Holdings, Te Kuiti, purchased seven very good bulls including the top priced bull of the day at \$3600, a son of Taunoka Wildcard with a birthweight of +2.6. Two other top bulls went to Moata Station, Taumarunui for crossing over Angus cows. One with 600 day EBV of +84 sold at \$3,400 and another at \$2,900. JTR Farms, Te Awamutu paid \$3,400 for a bull with a birthweight of +1.5. Handy Farm of Cambridge who have purchased Bushy Downs bulls for many years purchased eight bulls, with their highest priced bull at \$3,400 and an average \$29,875 overall. The two year bulls all sold to average \$2,706. Yearling bulls sold to average \$1,676.

## Other recent stud sale highlights include...

### 6th Sep, 2013

MAHUTA, JV & ME ALLEN	No.	Avg	Top
	56	\$2,711	\$3,600

Comments: Total clearance. 2 bulls sold with transfers to Sandstone and Te Ahuroa Studs.

### 10th Sep, 2013

KAIRAUMATI, R & K WARD	No.	Avg	Top
Top price purchaser:	20	\$1,760	\$3,000

Clements Family - Matapouri Herefords

Comments: 3 yearlings sold to S & D Knight - Knightlands Herefords. Also sold 20 x 18 month bulls, average \$2,180, top price \$2,800 to B & C Donald - Ngakouka Herefords. 9 bulls were sold to Stud breeders.

### 11th Sep, 2013

KOKONGA, B & M ROBINSON	No.	Avg	Top
Top price purchaser:	32	\$2,000	\$3,600

Honnington Stud, Christchurch

Comments: Total clearance. 5 bulls sold to stud.

### 13th Sep, 2013

HUKAROA, DP & LD HANSEN	No.	Avg	Top
Yearling bulls	56	\$2,550	\$3,200

HUKAROA, DP & LD HANSEN	No.	Avg	Top
	13	\$3,200	\$5,400

Comments: Total clearance of all bulls. Also sold 7 x 20 month bulls average \$2,415, highest price \$2,700. Sold 7 bulls for Stud duties.

## REMINDER Honda Motorcycles Hereford Herd of Excellence 2013-14

The Honda Motorcycles NZ Herefords Herd of Excellence is open to nominations from clubs or individuals for the 2013 competition. Breeders from anywhere in NZ can make a nomination, but the nominee must be a North Island breeder – irrespective of herd size.

**Nominations close Friday 25th October,  
nomination forms can be found on the  
NZ Herefords website homepage.**

## Time Line

Friday 25 October 2013

Nominations close.

Monday 4 November 2013

Written profiles sent to entrants.

Monday 9 December 2013

Deadline for return of written profiles.

Early January 2014

Copies of written profiles sent to judging panel for consideration.

Late January 2014

Judges lodge list of herds to be judged with NZHA office and all entrants to be notified of outcome of first judging round (if applicable).

February-April 2014

Judging panel to visit finalists at a time convenient to all parties.

Late April 2014

Judges to have lodged final decision with NZHA office.

May (AgInnovation/Beef Expo) 2014

Winner announced!







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For more information, or if you would like to join Silver Fern Farms Backbone® Hereford Partnership Programme, please contact:  
[jason.graham@silverfernfarms.co.nz](mailto:jason.graham@silverfernfarms.co.nz)

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