



January 2010

[CSA website](#) | [Contact Us](#)



#13 - 4101 - 19th St. NE  
 Calgary, Alberta Canada  
 T2E 7C4  
 Toll Free: 1-866-860-6051

Office Manager  
[Barb Judd](#)

Industry/Member Liaison  
[Bruce Holmquist](#)

Breed Improvement  
 Co-ordinator  
 Sean McGrath

YCSA Co-ordinator  
[Emily Grey](#)

Registration / Member Services  
[Perry Welygan](#)  
[Beth Rankin](#)

Receptionist  
[Lisa West](#)

Commis bilingue  
[Denise Dorosz](#)

**Simmental Country**

Sales Representative  
[Darryl Snider](#)  
 cell – 403-803-6532

SC/CSA Marketing  
 Co-ordinator  
[Margo Cartwright](#)  
 403-250-5255

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Everett Hall  
 President  
[eahall@bmts.com](mailto:eahall@bmts.com)

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**SAVE THE DATE - CSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Mark October 8 – 10, 2010 on your calendar and plan to join the CSA for the 2010 CSA AGM at the Victorin Hotel in Victoriaville, Quebec. This event is being held in conjunction with Expo Boeuf, Quebec's largest beef show. The details around this event are being finalized, so mark your calendar, as you do not want to miss this event. Details will be posted on the CSA website, put in the Simmental Country, and the Enewsletter, once they are available.

A block of rooms has been reserved for CSA members, however please call early to reserve your room. This is a very popular event and the hotel will fill up fast.

Hôtel Le Victorin  
 19, boul. Arthabaska Est  
 Victoriaville (Qc) Canada G6T 0S4  
 Phone : (819) 758-0533  
 Fax : (819) 758-9914  
 Toll Free : 1 877 845-5344  
[info@levictorin.com](mailto:info@levictorin.com)

**BREED IMPROVEMENT**

**Date Reminders:**

Many CSA members are busy calving cows, taking yearling weights and ultrasounding. It is useful to know the date ranges that are associated with these measurements, so that adjusted values and indexes can be provided and the data can be used in the EPD evaluation for selection and marketing purposes.

| Age Range | Weaning Weight |          | Yearling Weight |          | Ultrasound |          |
|-----------|----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------|----------|
|           | 160            | 250      | 320             | 410      | 300        | 440      |
| Birthdate | First Day      | Last Day | First Day       | Last Day | First Day  | Last Day |
| 01-Jan    | 10-Jun         | 08-Sep   | 17-Nov          | 15-Feb   | 28-Oct     | 17-Mar   |
| 01-Feb    | 11-Jul         | 09-Oct   | 18-Dec          | 18-Mar   | 28-Nov     | 17-Apr   |
| 01-Mar    | 08-Aug         | 06-Nov   | 15-Jan          | 15-Apr   | 26-Dec     | 15-May   |
| 01-Apr    | 08-Sep         | 07-Dec   | 15-Feb          | 16-May   | 26-Jan     | 15-Jun   |
| 01-May    | 08-Oct         | 06-Jan   | 17-Mar          | 15-Jun   | 25-Feb     | 15-Jul   |
| 01-Jun    | 08-Nov         | 06-Feb   | 17-Apr          | 16-Jul   | 28-Mar     | 15-Aug   |
| 01-Jul    | 08-Dec         | 08-Mar   | 17-May          | 15-Aug   | 27-Apr     | 14-Sep   |
| 01-Aug    | 08-Jan         | 08-Apr   | 17-Jun          | 15-Sep   | 28-May     | 15-Oct   |
| 01-Sep    | 08-Feb         | 09-May   | 18-Jul          | 16-Oct   | 28-Jun     | 15-Nov   |

Rick McIntyre  
First Vice-President  
[abccattleco@sasktel.net](mailto:abccattleco@sasktel.net)

Ron Nolan  
Second Vice-President  
[nolan@hatch.ca](mailto:nolan@hatch.ca)

Andrew Godfrey  
[agodfrey@ogilvyrenault.com](mailto:agodfrey@ogilvyrenault.com)

Don Lundberg  
[x-tsimmentals@xplornet.com](mailto:x-tsimmentals@xplornet.com)

John Sullivan  
[Sullivan.simmentals@bell.net](mailto:Sullivan.simmentals@bell.net)

Randy Mader  
[rrmader@xplornet.com](mailto:rrmader@xplornet.com)

Judy Sweet  
[judsweet@telus.net](mailto:judsweet@telus.net)

Fraser Redpath  
[redsim@xplornet.com](mailto:redsim@xplornet.com)

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|        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 01-Oct | 10-Mar | 08-Jun | 17-Aug | 15-Nov | 28-Jul | 15-Dec |
| 01-Nov | 10-Apr | 09-Jul | 17-Sep | 16-Dec | 28-Aug | 15-Jan |
| 01-Dec | 10-May | 08-Aug | 17-Oct | 15-Jan | 27-Sep | 14-Feb |

**To use the table:**  
**Select the Birthdate of your earliest calf**  
 Last Day represents the latest you can collect data for inclusion in genetic evaluation  
 Select the Birthdate of your last calf  
 First Day represents the earliest you can collect data for inclusion in genetic evaluation  
 For maximum data inclusion try to select measurement dates between the first and last day  
 If First Day is after Last Day, then you may need to collect data on more than one date

Example: Weaning Date  
**January 1**  
 September 8  
 April 1  
 September 8  
 Optimal Weaning Date -  
 September 8th

At least 2 calves of the same sex that have been managed together since birth are required to form a contemporary group.

**Ultrasound Rebate Program**

Members are reminded that the ultrasound rebate program is still in effect. Members receive a \$10 credit to their CSA account for all cattle scanned using UGC technology (data must be processed through the lab) that are part of a valid contemporary group. Appropriate scanning age ranges are 300 to 440 days of age, weaning weights must be reported, and at least 2 calves of the same sex must have been managed together since birth to form a useful group.

There are now 10 certified scanning technicians in Canada. Their updated contact information, as well as other certified technicians, can be found at [www.ultrasoundbeef.com](http://www.ultrasoundbeef.com)

**DNA**

While the cowherd DNA program is ended, members who chose not to participate in this free offering are still encouraged to collect and store DNA on their cowherd. Hair (ensure you obtain root bulbs) can be pulled and stored in an envelope marked with the cow's tattoo. As well, don't throw away that old semen. As CSA moves forward the importance of having a DNA databank for research and development is growing increasingly important.

**Breed Average EPD**

Just a reminder of the breed average EPD for the Spring 2010 Evaluation.

|                    | CE         | BW         | WW          | YW          | MCE        | Milk       | MWW         | SC          | CWT        | REA          | Fat          | Marb        |
|--------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>Current</b>     | <b>7.2</b> | <b>2.8</b> | <b>36.1</b> | <b>60.3</b> | <b>5.5</b> | <b>7.0</b> | <b>25.1</b> | <b>0.13</b> | <b>1.7</b> | <b>0.01</b>  | <b>0.005</b> | <b>0.04</b> |
| <b>Active Sire</b> | <b>7.2</b> | <b>2.8</b> | <b>35.9</b> | <b>60.1</b> | <b>5.5</b> | <b>7.7</b> | <b>25.6</b> | <b>0.13</b> | <b>2.5</b> | <b>-0.01</b> | <b>0.002</b> | <b>0.06</b> |
| <b>Active Dam</b>  | <b>6.5</b> | <b>3.4</b> | <b>36.5</b> | <b>60.1</b> | <b>5.5</b> | <b>7.8</b> | <b>25.9</b> | <b>0.18</b> | <b>2.7</b> | <b>-0.03</b> | <b>0.002</b> | <b>0.07</b> |

CE/MCE EPD – calving ease and maternal calving ease EPD are now on a 10 point scale (0-10). Members are strongly encouraged to look at the percentile ranks associated with the EPD to get a feel for where sires can be used most appropriately.

EF EPD – we have had some calls regarding EPD with “EF” accuracy values. EF EPD are based strictly on the breed average EPD for the birth year of the parents and contain no inherent pedigree or performance information from the individual. For example a Calf with a sire born in 2005 and a dam born in 2003, with no other information would receive EF EPD that are the average of the Simmental cattle in the evaluation that were born in 2005 and 2003 respectively.

**REGISTRY INFORMATION**

**THE HERD LETTER FOR 2010 IS "X"**

**Transferring Ownership for Registered Animals**

When completing transfer information on your sale animals, please remember to provide the following Buyer information:

- Buyer's CSA member # (when at all possible)
- Buyer's first & last name (& Farm Name if applicable)
- Buyer's complete mailing address, including postal code
- Sale Date of animal.
- If females have been “bred”, please provide the Name & Registration number of the Service Sire &/or AI Sire
- Lastly, remember to sign where applicable (e.g. for both the transfer & the breeding information)

**Are you collecting semen on a bull?**

AI sires must be parentage verified in order to register their progeny. If you are putting a bull into an AI facility, drawing

semen on-farm, or even considering drawing semen on a bull in the future, please make sure your bull is or can be parentage verified. A good practice is to pull hair samples on your entire cow herd when they go through the chute for preg checking, vaccinations, parasite control, etc. Place the hair sample (ensure you obtain root bulbs) in an envelope and identify each envelope with tattoo or registration number. Store envelopes in a dry place out of the sun, where you will have them for future reference. If you wish to use pre-printed GenServe Laboratories hair envelopes, please call the CSA office today for a supply of them.

#### [Percentage required for purebred status](#)

Producers purchasing bulls from the United States or semen from American bulls should be aware of differences that exist between Canada and the United States in the percentage of Simmental required to qualify for purebred status. The Canadian Simmental Association requires a male to be 15/16 Simmental to reach purebred status while the American Simmental Association accepts males who are 7/8 Simmental as purebred. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to ensure that these bulls meet the requirement of being 15/16 Simmental if they wish to register that animal in the Canadian Simmental herd book as a purebred.

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#### **YCSA NEWS**

Happy New Year and best of luck in the 2010 calving season from the YCSA.

#### [YCSA member to represent Canada at the 2010 World Congress in Australia](#)

The CSA will be selecting representation from the YCSA to attend the 2010 World Simmental Congress in Australia. If you are interested in participating in this trip, please contact Emily Grey, and stay tuned for further details.

#### [Thank You](#)

The YCSA would like to say a big thank you to all participants in the first ever YCSA calendar. It was a huge success and 2,500 copies have been distributed across Canada. This will be an annual fundraiser for the YCSA, so stay tuned for the 2011 details.

#### [The YCSA is looking for New Members](#)

Go online at [www.simmental.com](http://www.simmental.com) for a member registration form or contact [Emily Grey](#), (YCSA Coordinator). Contact your nearest [YCSA representative](#) to find out more about upcoming events in your local area. They would love to hear from you.

#### [YCSA News Makers](#)

The CSA is proud to share the accomplishments of our YCSA members. Youth members learn a great many developmental skills through their involvement with this program and credit their success to the lessons they've learned through the YCSA and the experiences they have had. If you have a story that you would like to share, please send it to [Emily Grey](#) or [Margo Cartwright](#). We know there are more stories out there, and would like to feature as many as possible.

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#### **SIMMENTAL COUNTRY NEWS**

Please make sure to note the following deadlines!

| ISSUE  | DEADLINE      |
|--|---------------|
| January Commercial Country                                     | December 1st  |
| February Herdsire Simmental Country Issue                      | January 1st   |
| March/April/May Spring Simmental Country Issue                 | April 1st     |
| June/July/August Queens of the Pasture Simmental Country Issue | July 1st      |
| September Commercial Country                                   | August 1st    |
| October Simmental Country                                      | September 1st |
| November/December Simmental Country                            | October 1st   |

Should you have any questions regarding the new online version of the magazine, or the new electronic options for advertising please do not hesitate to contact [Margo](#), [Darryl](#) or [Bruce](#). We would be happy to hear from you.

#### **SIMMENTAL ON THE MOVE**

As part of his role as the CSA Industry/Member Liaison, Bruce Holmquist attends and participates in many functions that are on the leading edge in the Beef Industry. To keep our membership informed on the different events he attends, Bruce

is now on TWITTER. Tune in for the latest news from Bruce's travels.

<http://twitter.com/#search?q=bruceholmquist>

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### **DR DIXON SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

Congratulations to Nikki Armstrong, MB, Melissa McRae, MB and Ashley Proctor-Berkholtz, AB on receiving the 2009 Dr. Dixon Scholarship Award. ([Press Release](#))

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### **2010 WORLD SIMMENTAL CONGRESS IN AUSTRALIA - DETAILS NOW AVAILABLE**

[WSC2010 Program](#) [WSC2010 Registration & Booking](#)

#### **Invitation to Attend**

Dear Breeders,

Australia will host the World Simmental Congress in Melbourne in September 2010.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you, your partner, friends and industry colleagues to attend the 2010 Simmental World Congress.

Many international and Australian delegates are expected to attend this important event to increase their knowledge of Simmental cattle and the Australian beef cattle industry. The Congress and the pre and post Congress tours will include a range of activities to inform and entertain delegates. It will also cover topics on innovations in cattle genetics, stud and commercial herd breeding, product quality, management technology and marketing.

The Congress will be held in conjunction with the Simmental Feature Breed Judging at Royal Melbourne Show. A special Congress feature will be an International Young People's Program.

We invite you to enjoy the Welcome Reception, interactive networking sessions, a Congress dinner, a themed Australian farewell dinner, partners program during the Congress and other tour events.

In addition, the overall Congress program will provide a memorable rural Australian experience and an insight into Australia's hidden wonders and attractions as delegates journey through a diverse range of terrain, cultures and environments.

We look forward to welcoming you to the 2010 Congress.

Kind regards,

Bill Almond, Chairman, 2010 World Simmental Congress

Web: [www.worldsimmentalcongress2010.com](http://www.worldsimmentalcongress2010.com)

Phone: +61 2 6772 9066

Email: [simmentals@quadrantaustralia.com](mailto:simmentals@quadrantaustralia.com)

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### **CSA MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Birth Announcements**

##### **Cassidy Makayla Beres**

Oak Hill Farms, Trent, Colleen & Trinitie Beres, have added a second little cowgirl to their herd. Her name is [Cassidy Makayla Beres](#). She was born Friday, December 4, 2009 at 9:19am. She weighed 8lbs, 13.5oz and was 20.25" long.

##### **Kayla Mae Ann McEney**

Proud grandparents, Ron and Carla Nolan, Bar 5 Stock Farms, announce the birth of their granddaughter, [Kayla Mae Ann](#), born on December 17th, 2009, weighing 7lbs 7 ozs and 21 inches. Kayla is the daughter of Joanne Nolan and David McEney, Acton, ON.

#### **Our Sympathies**

##### **Sandra Buschbeck**

Our condolences go to Andreas, Sam, Matthew, and the family of Sandra Buschbeck who passed away on January 1st, after a year long battle with cancer. Sandra will be sadly missed by her family, many friends and coworkers at Holland-Chatsworth School where she was a dedicated teacher.

Please [send us](#) your Membership Announcements to have them included in the next Enews.

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

[Click here](#) for complete calendar of events

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**QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

**"Without faith a man can do nothing; with it all things are possible."**

*Sir William Osler*

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