



April 2011

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



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

Office Manager
[Barb Judd](#)

Director of Programming and External
 Relations
[Bruce Holmquist](#)

Breed Improvement
 Co-ordinator
 Sean McGrath

YCSA Co-ordinator
[Emily Grey](#)

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

Simmental Country

General Manager
[Bruce Holmquist](#)
 (403) 988-8676

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

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick McIntyre
 President
abccattleco@sasktel.net

Ron Nolan
 First Vice-President

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REGISTRY INFORMATION

Genetic Evaluation Deadline for Total Herd Enrollment (THE) herds:

In order for data to be included in CSA genetic EPD evaluations, it must be received by the CSA office no later than JUNE 1st for the Fall Evaluation and NOVEMBER 1st for the Spring Evaluation!

Spring Calving Season - Calving Data Reminder:

With the end of Spring calving season, now's the time to complete your calving data. THE participants are encouraged to submit data on their entire calf crop. Herds with multiple ownership, or herds which are operated as a single unit, should submit calving information on all animals together under a single or master herd number. This does NOT affect ownership or registration requirements, however it does ensure that calves are handled correctly in the genetic evaluation and that proper credit is given to the animal's genetic merit.

Reminder on Transferring Bulls:

The Simmental breed has once again experienced another amazing spring bull sale season! The CSA would like to remind you of the importance of transferring your bulls. A registration paper is an excellent promotional tool for Simmental genetics, plus transfers on all animals sold for breeding purposes makes statistics more accurate.

Ordering DNA kits from the CSA:

Over the past couple of months we have been receiving a number of email notifications from GenServe Laboratories stating that hair samples have arrived without the required DNA application form.

This notice is a friendly reminder to our membership that it is necessary for you to, phone, email or fax your DNA request to us beforehand. The CSA staff then orders the requested DNA form, forwards you the appropriate DNA Application form to accompany the hair sample, and electronically submits the animal information to GenServe. Normal processing time is 7 – 10 working days from the time the sample is received at the lab. *** When the results are received electronically and there are any parentage problems, you are notified immediately. Thus, if you do not receive your DNA certificates do not be alarmed. It just means that the results have been received and they will be forwarded to you when time permits.

Note: When a DNA kit is ordered, the breeder's CSA account is charged \$27 (+ applicable taxes). A non-electronic DNA fee of \$45 (+ applicable taxes) will be levied if a member sends a hair sample to the lab prior to ordering the DNA kit from the CSA office. Thank you for your attention to this important Registry matter.

BREED IMPROVEMENT

CSA Ultrasound Rebate Program

The CSA Ultrasound rebate program still has funding available and remains in effect until June 30, 2012. The program is designed to encourage the collection of ultrasound data that can be used in genetic evaluation of Canadian Simmental cattle. A rebate of \$10 is applied to the members CSA account for each scan record that ranks/indexes.

In order to qualify, records must be collected on animals between 300 and 440 days of age using a UGC certified technician and lab. In most cases this requires the animals to be clipped. Information on scanning and technicians is available at www.ultrasoundbeef.com.

Breed Average EPD

	CE	BW	WW	YW	MCE	Milk	MWW	SC	CWT	REA	Fat	Marb

Current	5.5	2.8	36.4	61.1	5.1	7.1	25.3	0.16	1.3	-0.04	0.004	0.05
Active Sire	5.5	2.8	36.2	60.8	5.0	7.7	25.9	0.16	2.6	-0.01	0.003	0.06
Active Dam	4.6	3.4	36.7	60.7	5.0	7.8	26.2	0.18	2.8	-0.02	0.003	0.07

Fullblood Percentile Rank

Members on Total Herd Enrolment (THE) are able to request a fullblood percentile ranking report on their fullblood animals. This report provides the relative ranking of fullblood cattle within the Canadian fullblood population.

Cow Herd DNA Program – An Update

CSA collected, extracted and stored DNA on 8,616 cows through the cowherd DNA program. Participants in the project are reminded that if they choose to submit DNA for parentage verification on their replacement heifers that this testing is cost shared with the CSA. The member pays for extraction and parentage panel of the submitted sample (heifer) and the CSA pays for the panel on the dam.

The project provides a great opportunity and a cost effective way for members to create parent verified cowherds over time with extremely accurate pedigree information. DNA tests on replacement heifers can be ordered through the CSA.

DNA in the News

DNA technology is rapidly evolving, with new tests coming on-stream and costs continuing to decrease. Members are strongly encouraged to save a DNA sample from every animal in their cowherd and their calf crops. This can be as simple as pulling tail hairs and placing them in an envelope with the animal's tattoo written on it. DNA should be stored in a cool dry location. Filing cabinets or filing boxes work well. This provides the insurance of being able to take advantage of new tests down the road, and also serves as a good insurance policy if you need to parent verify a sire down the road.

CSA Breed Improvement Meetings

The CSA Breed Improvement Committee met at the end of March to review CSA breed improvement programs and provide direction to the board. The meetings were productive with a lot of good input provided by participants. If you are interested in breed improvement developments and programs, please feel free to contact a committee member, a board member or the CSA office.

Beef Improvement Federation

The Beef Improvement Federation meetings are in Bozeman, MT from June 1-4. The BIF conference is a great learning opportunity and the crowd generally consists of industry, research and producers, and takes a very practical and innovative approach to the genetic improvement of beef cattle. Information on the conference is available at www.bifconference.com.

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YCSA NEWS

YCSA National Classic 2011

The 2011 YCSA National Classic is being held in conjunction with the 2011 Manitoba Youth Beef Round Up in Neepawa, MB on July 29th - 31st. Stay tuned for registration and scheduling details of this great event.

[YCSA National Classic 2011](#)

Summer Classic Dates

Alberta Summer Synergy - July 9-12, Olds, AB
 Manitoba Youth Beef Round Up and National YCSA Classic - July 29-31, Neepawa, MB
 Tiger Lily Classic - August 3-6, Prince Albert, SK
 Maritime Classic - August 26th, Truro, NS, in conjunction with the Salt Water Classic.
 Ontario Trillium - August 27 - 28, Cobden, ON, In conjunction with Cobden fair
 Quebec Classic - October 8th, Victoriaville, QC, in conjunction with Expo Boeuf

YCSA Fundraising Calendar Auction

This year the YCSA Fundraising Calendar Auction is going to be ONLINE. Stay tuned to the YCSA website, Simmental Country Magazine and the CSA e-newsletter for further details.

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.

Congratulations to Allison Porter, who was announced one of the [Cattlemen's Young Leaders 2011 Mentorship Recipients](#).

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.

rnolan@hatch.ca

Fraser Redpath
 Second Vice-President
redsim@xplornet.com

Lacey Fisher
timberwoodfarms@seasidehighspeed.com

Don Lundberg
x-tsimmentals@xplornet.com

John Sullivan
Sullivan.simmentals@bell.net

Randy Mader
rrmader@xplornet.com

Judy Sweet
judsweet@telus.net

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If you wish to unsubscribe, please [e-mail](#) us

The YCSA is looking for New Members

Go online at 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.

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YCSA MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

It is with great pleasure that the National YCSA program launches it's pilot for a National Mentorship Program. This program would span over a two week period and provide a YCSA member with the opportunity to travel to another province and explore a Host Farm's Simmental operation.

Looking for Host Farms

The YCSA program is looking for Host Farms to participate in this pilot program. If you are interested in hosting a YCSA member in a work program this summer, please contact Emily Grey. The particulars of this project can be further explained.

It is our hope that this project will blossom so that other YCSA members have the opportunity to experience the Simmental industry from different perspectives across our country.

[CSA Member Letter](#)

SIMMENTAL COUNTRY NEWS

Spring Issue of the Simmental Country

The deadline for the next Simmental Country is April 1st. Please contact Darryl or Margo to reserve your page in this issue.

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.

CSA HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

It is that time of year again to think about your nominations for the CSA Hall of Fame Award. As in the past, we are accepting nominations from the CSA membership and Provincial Associations.

Please see the CSA website for selection criteria and nomination form, <http://www.simmental.com/history.htm>.

The CSA board will be reviewing the applications in September, so please have your nomination into the CSA office by September 1st, 2011.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the CSA office or email: ncartwright@simmental.com.

CSA FACEBOOK PAGE

The CSA is now on Facebook. Become a Fan of the Canadian Simmental Association and keep up to date on the latest happenings at the CSA.

How do become a Fan? It is easy! If you have a Facebook profile, search Canadian Simmental Association. On the CSA page, directly under the Name, there is a little box that has a "thumbs-up" image and the word "LIKE" . Click on this box.

INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK CONGRESS - BEEF 2011

Mark your calendar for the ILC Beef 2011 and the Canadian Cattlemen's Association Semi Annual meeting. For more information and to register visit www.ilccalgary.com , email ilcreg@imcievents.com or call (403) 686-8407. Click [here](#) for a schedule of events.

BEEF IMPROVEMENT FEDERATION ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM & ANNUAL MEETING

The 2011 Beef Improvement Federation annual research symposium and annual meeting will be held from June 1-4th, 2011 in Bozeman, Montana. The Wingate Inn has a block of rooms set aside for Simmental attendees. Just ask for the BIF block; the rate is \$75, and the phone number is 406-582-4995

[Click here for a registration form.](#)

[Click here to view the Program.](#)

"RANCHPLAN" GROUP BENEFIT PROGRAM FOR CSA MEMBERS

The Canadian Simmental Association is pleased to introduce a group insurance program for CSA members, their families and dependents. RanchPlan is marketed by Unigroup Inc. and administered by Canadian Benefits Administrators Ltd., both of whom are experienced in the Association group insurance market. For more information on RanchPlan, please go to <http://www.unigroup.ca/associations/ranchplan.php>.

CSA MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Porter Ivan Stone

Congratulations to Blaine and Susann Stone, Stone Simmentals, on the birth of their son Porter Ivan Stone on April 6th, weighing 8lbs 1oz and measuring 58cm long.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The state of your life is nothing more than a reflection of your state of mind". - Wayne Dyer

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