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September 2011



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**SAVE THE DATE - CSA AGM - NOVEMBER 11th, 2011**

The CSA AGM will be hosted by the Alberta Simmental Association this year on November 11th, 2011 in conjunction with the National Simmental Show and Farmfair International. You will not want to miss the great events planned for around this event.

**Schedule of events**

Thursday, November 10th

National Simmental Show - 1:00pm  
 ASA Simmental Draft - to follow 1 hour after the show

Friday, November 11th

CSA Annual Meeting - 9:00am - 12/12:30pm (Northlands)  
 CSA Luncheon - 12/12:30pm  
 Garth Sweet Simmental Foundation Auction - 1:30pm  
 Headliner Showing of Sale Cattle - 4:00pm  
 Headline Sale - 7:00pm

The Alberta Simmental Association has made arrangements for a host hotel for the CSA AGM at Farmfair. There is a block of 50 rooms reserved each night for Wednesday November 9th to Friday November 11th, under the name of Canadian Simmental at the following hotel:

Roadking Super 8 Sherwood Park  
 1-877-218-8811  
 26 Strathmoor Dr., Sherwood Park, AB  
 All needed rooms must be booked by October 9 or the block will be released to the public.

**GARTH SWEET FOUNDATION AUCTION - November 11th, 2011**

This year we will be holding the annual Garth Sweet Foundation Auction as part of the CSA AGM on November 11th in Edmonton, AB. The funds raised will be used for various CSA projects, with the main beneficiary being the Young Canadian Simmental Association. Items for auction include sporting events tickets, artwork, jewelry, Gift Baskets, Embryos & Flushes, Semen packages, weekend packages and travel vouchers.

Thank you to everyone who has generously donated items to this great event. Donation items are always welcome. If you have an item you would like to donate, please contact

Co-ordinator  
[Margo Cartwright](mailto:Margo.Cartwright@csa.ca)  
 (403) 250-5255

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If you wish to unsubscribe, please [e-mail us](mailto:unsubscribe@csa.ca)

[Emily Grey](mailto:Emily.Grey@csa.ca) at (819) 835-0284.

**SIMMENTAL NATIONAL SHOW**

The Alberta Simmental Association invites you to attend the 2011 National Simmental Show at Northlands, Edmonton, AB, November 10th. This event is being held during the Farmfair International. These three days are filled with activities for cattle enthusiasts, starting on Wednesday with the Legends of the Fall Show. Thursday starts with the Simmental National Show, followed by the ASA Simmental Draft. Friday, following the CSA AGM and Garth Sweet Foundation Auction, is the Headliner Sale. This is an event you don't want to miss!

**DR. DIXON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

The deadline for the Dr. Allan A. Dixon Memorial Scholarship and the Trevor Vance Memorial Scholarship is October 1, 2011. Please see [website](#) for details and application form.

For other scholarships offered to YCSA members, please see the [CSA Website](#) for more details.

**REGISTRY INFORMATION**

**Total Herd Enrollment 2nd Installment Billing OCTOBER 3:**

- Members with credit cards on file with CSA – please note the 2nd half of your THE fees owing will be processed at the time of billing.
- Members without credit cards on file, invoices will be mailed to you detailing the 2nd installment billing. The 2nd installment billing is payable upon receipt of your invoice.

**Credit Card Users:**

Please ensure your credit card information is current in the office. If your card expires or you change numbers, please contact the office so we can continue to process all your work with no delays.

Online.Simmental.com users are required to keep a credit card on file with the CSA, or maintain a credit balance of \$500 on account.

**Online Simmental.com Users**

Entering Calves using the Online System:

There are two ways in which you can enter your calf records using the Online system. The examples below are assuming the Online user is entering 2011-born (Y- year letter) calves.

Option 1:

My Herd

My Inventory

My Posted Inventory – 2011

- by clicking on the word "Calving" to the right of the Dam in the list displayed on your screen

- after clicking the "Save" button to save the calf record, hit the "Back" ( ) button at the top-left of your screen and continue with the next Dam

\*\*\* Note: If you are entering multiple calf records (e.g. Twins, triplets, or embryos), you must use Option 2 - as indicated below

Option 2:

My Performance

My Calving (2011 Display Year)

- click the "Add" button to enter the calf information

- click the "Save" button to save the record

If you require further explanation, please contact the Registry staff at 1 866 860 6051.

**BREED IMPROVEMENT**

Weaning Dates

It is hard to believe we are already talking about weaning dates, but that's the speed this year has flown by at.

In order to ensure the most useful information is available and can be incorporated into the EPD, it is important that calves that are managed together over the summer are weighed and grouped together. If you look at the table below, and your calving season ranges from January 1st to May 1st, then your optimal weaning date to have the most information included is between September 18th and 28th. If your calving season is longer than this time frame, you may want to weigh younger calves on a different date.

Birthdate	Weaning		Yearling		Scanning	
	First Day	Last Day	First Day	Last Day	First Day	Last Day
January 1, 2011	May 21, 2011	September 28, 2011	October 28, 2011	March 6, 2012	November 27, 2011	March 16, 2012
February 1, 2011	June 21, 2011	October 29, 2011	November 28, 2011	April 6, 2012	December 28, 2011	April 16, 2012
March 1, 2011	July 19, 2011	November 26, 2011	December 26, 2011	May 4, 2012	January 25, 2012	May 14, 2012
April 1, 2011	August 19, 2011	December 27, 2011	January 26, 2012	June 4, 2012	February 25, 2012	June 14, 2012
May 1, 2011	September 18, 2011	January 26, 2012	February 25, 2012	July 4, 2012	March 26, 2012	July 14, 2012
June 1, 2011	October 19, 2011	February 26, 2012	March 27, 2012	August 4, 2012	April 26, 2012	August 14, 2012
July 1, 2011	November 18, 2011	March 27, 2012	April 26, 2012	September 3, 2012	May 26, 2012	September 13, 2012
August 1, 2011	December 19, 2011	April 27, 2012	May 27, 2012	October 4, 2012	June 26, 2012	October 14, 2012
September 1, 2011	January 19, 2012	May 28, 2012	June 27, 2012	November 4, 2012	July 27, 2012	November 14, 2012
October 1, 2011	February 18, 2012	June 27, 2012	July 27, 2012	December 4, 2012	August 26, 2012	December 14, 2012
November 1, 2011	March 20, 2012	July 28, 2012	August 27, 2012	January 4, 2013	September 26, 2012	January 14, 2013
December 1, 2011	April 19, 2012	August 27, 2012	September 26, 2012	February 3, 2013	October 26, 2012	February 13, 2013

**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-01-11

September-28-11

May-01-11

September-18-11

Optimal Weaning Date - September 24<sup>th</sup>

**Ultrasound**

A reminder that the CSA ultrasound rebate program is ending in 2012. Funds are available on a first come/first served basis. Consider booking your ultrasound technician now for spring scanning.

A list of available techs can be found at [www.ultrasoundbeef.com](http://www.ultrasoundbeef.com)

**Heifer Pregnancy Information**

Your upcoming THE listing contains all 2010 born heifers (registered and unregistered) that have not been disposed of from your inventory. These heifers are included on the end of the listing so that breeders can submit heifer pregnancy information. This is an essential component of lifetime female fertility, and breeders are asked to indicate:

1. if the heifer was exposed
2. if the female was pregnant or open at preg checking

This information may be used in development of genetic evaluation or to assist in identifying genetic markers for female fertility.

**EPD Percentiles**

EPD percentiles are now displayed graphically on the Simmental search site. This gives a rapid visual of where the animal fits in the Simmental population for any given trait. The CSA search site is available at <http://search.simmental.com>. The search site also provides link to help find Simmental members, search for registered cattle that fit specific criteria and link to Sire Summary publications. Members can also upload photos of their animals to the search site for marketing purposes (interested members should contact the CSA office).

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**CSA GENOMIC INNOVATIONS RESEARCH PROJECT**

The CSA Genomic Innovations research project is well underway with the first group of cattle on feed at the University of Guelph. The project examines sustained fertility, feed efficiency and carcass/meat quality traits in Simmental and Simm-influenced cattle with a focus on genomic application.

This is a three year project and within that time-frame there is an opportunity for participation by the CSA membership and their commercial customers at various levels. There are numerous areas where interested CSA members can become involved in the Genomic Innovations project and/or one of the complementary projects. Some of the current opportunities are as follows:

**Under the Hide**

The CSA is seeking to collect DNA and ultrasound data on 2500 feeder cattle in Western Canada prior to August 2012.

Cattle must be:

- Simmental sired,
- have been on feed at least 30 days, and
- be within 200 days of harvest.

Scan information will be provided to the participants on their cattle within a few days of scanning. Cattle are already being booked for participation in this project. The project covers the cost of scanning and DNA collection so if done at the time of regular processing no additional costs are incurred by the cooperating herd. If you have or your customers have cattle and feeding programs that may fit please contact Sean McGrath at (780) 853-9673 or [sean@ranchingsystems.com](mailto:sean@ranchingsystems.com).

**Feeder Cattle**

As part of our Genomic Innovation project, the CSA is coordinating the purchase of feeder cattle (steers/heifers) for the University of Guelph net feed intake pens. Fills will occur in July and November each year of the project and require 1150 lbs and 750 lbs cattle respectively.

Cattle required:

- 750 lbs in November 2011 and 2012
- 1150 lbs in July 2012 and 2013

Cattle must be:

- Simmental sired,
- have herd of origin information available.

Feeder cattle weighing 750 lbs are being sourced now for the November 2011 fill. If you have, or have customers with this type of cattle available for purchase by the University of Guelph, please contact Bruce Holmquist at (403) 988-8676 or [bholmquist@simmental.com](mailto:bholmquist@simmental.com)

**DNA**

The CSA is also looking for DNA samples on influential animals in the Simmental population. If you have or know of where DNA samples (eg: straw of semen) can be found on the following animals please contact Bruce Holmquist at (403) 988-8676 or [bholmquist@simmental.com](mailto:bholmquist@simmental.com)

120	SIGNAL	1969
US_146340	SIEGFRIED	1971
12365	MR CLEAN	1976
38	LACOMBE ACHILLES	1969
11	GALANT	1968
4803	SIM-ROC C&B WESTERN	1974
357	WBL EXTRA 1A	1969
5811	KING ARTHUR	1971
US_146330	ABR SHINAGH VIOLET	1973
441	KINGFIELD ABRICOT	1971
795	BOLD	1971
425	CANADIAN SALVATOR	1971
341756	ANCHOR "T" METRO 4E	1995
376439	CIRCLE S LEACHMAN 60	1986
34899	ANTONIUS	1979
71722	PERFORMER	1982
41	BEAT	1968
262974	ROGANT	1989
DD_5462_1	NEFF	1966
502869	LCHMN BODYBUILDER 73	1996
US_967741	BIG SANDY RANCH R821	1983
1	PARISIEN	1966
80720	MFL PETRA 95P	1982
632589	CNS DREAM ON L186	2001
4310	ADRIAN	1974
58637	MONET	1980
DD_56283	THERRI	1961

US_831869	HERCULES 538P	1982
578230	TNT DYNAMITE BLACK L	2001
438	CET TINDA 1B	1970
90971	BUCK	1981
306515	GW-CPL RED ALERT	1991
349795	NLC 64Y TOMCAT	1989
182	RFG TOSCA 1B	1970
355743	BBS ZIMA D55	1994
397427	BHR DOORN G629E	1997
4318	MISS KNIGHT 100F	1974
266322	STEWARD	1991
936	SV BAVARIAN 7C	1971
133283	LANDRIDGE JET BLACK	1981
US_411852	BLACK DIAMOND	1976
566917	BS MR ARAPAHOE 811A	1991

The more of these samples we are able to access, the better job we can do of finding informative DNA in the Simmental population.

#### **Carcass Data**

Any Simmental members with carcass data on Simmental or Simm-influenced cattle are strongly encouraged to contact Sean McGrath at (780) 853-9673 or [sean@ranchingsystems.com](mailto:sean@ranchingsystems.com). Data may be included in the EPD evaluation, and also in the research project.

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#### **YCSA NEWS**

##### **YCSA Photo Competition**

This year each province will be featuring a photo competition at their Classic in order to find that perfect shot! The winning National shot will be featured on the cover of the 2012 YCSA Calendar. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to show what you've got behind a camera!

Criteria: The photo must be taken by a YCSA member and feature Simmental influenced cattle and kids. All photos must be available in digital format and any entries automatically become the property of the Canadian Simmental Association.

##### **Summer Classic Dates**

Quebec Classic - October 8th, Victoriaville, QC, in conjunction with Expo Boeuf

##### **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.

##### **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.

#### **SIMMENTAL COUNTRY NEWS**

September Commercial Country now Online at [www.simmentalcountry.com](http://www.simmentalcountry.com)

Please make sure to note the following deadlines!

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
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.

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### **LIVESTOCK GENTEC'S 2ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Livestock Gentec's 2nd Annual Conference will be held in Edmonton on October 19-20th. The Theme for this year is "Addressing the Gap Between Discovery and Profitable Adoption, and the potential for impact across the value chain". View [ATTACHED](#) for further details.

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### **OLDS FALL CLASSIC**

Olds Agricultural Society is pleased to present the 2nd annual Olds Fall Classic September 29th – October 2nd, 2011 showcasing top quality beef cattle in all of Western Canada. [OFC PRESS RELEASE](#) [ALBERTA SUPREME PRESS RELEASE](#)

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### **CSA MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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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### **PROVINCIAL HAPPENINGS**

Stay in touch with your local Provincial Association Happenings.

BC Simmental Association

[Alberta Simmental Association](#)

[Saskatchewan Simmental Association](#)

[Manitoba Simmental Association](#)

[Ontario Simmental Association](#)

[Quebec Simmental Association](#)

[Maritime Simmental Association](#)

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### **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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