



October 4, 2010

Dear CSA Member:

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Simmental breed and your involvement with the Canadian Simmental Association. Your association continues to attempt to meet all your service needs in the registry and genetic improvement areas as well as maintain general market awareness within the industry. During spring board meetings, the CSA directors discussed the association's financial affairs and concluded that after ten years without an increase in total herd enrollment and registry fees, a small fee increase was reasonable to maintain required services.

Over the last four years the association has been making a number of adjustments to overall operational effectiveness with member finances with a variety of actions including a reduction in administrative staff complement and renting excess office space to generate additional revenues. We have reached a point in our operations where there is little room to increase efficiencies, so following a ten year absence in raising the THE or registry fees, we have adjusted the fees effective January 2011 in the following manner.

CSA members have a choice of two options of processing work with the office; THE or registration/transfer fees:

Option 1. Total Herd Enrollment (THE) Option

THE participants - enclosed please find your 2011 total herd enrollment forms and instructions. **Deadline for submission is December 15, 2010.** The new fee for enrollments received by this date is \$22/head for Purebred and Fullblood, and \$12/head for Percentage females. You will be invoiced in two equal installments: the first on April 1, 2011 and the second October 1, 2011. Enrollments received between December 16, 2010 and February 15, 2011 will be charged an additional \$5/head enrollment fee. Cost to enroll after February 15, 2011 is \$38/head. (applicable taxes will be added to all prices.)

In order to simplify data collection and improve service, breeders simply need to review their inventory and identify those animals that have been disposed with a disposal code. All remaining females will automatically be enrolled if a disposal code is not included. (Please note: Breeding Code 109 – Bred Commercial – does not constitute as a disposal code. Thus, the female will be enrolled if given this code.)

The enrollment form also enables us to capture heifer pregnancy data. All non-disposed yearling heifers appear at the end of the enrollment listing, and breeders wishing to participate in heifer pregnancy work can enter either a disposal code, or a breeding code and resulting pregnancy test result. Heifers kept as replacement females can be enrolled as per the enclosed fee schedule. It is important that breeding and resulting pregnancies are reported on all heifers, not just those kept for replacement purposes.

As before THE members can submit all data and register and transfer offspring born to THE cows during the enrollment year. **Complete** herd data submitted through the THE program will continue to be sent to the genetic evaluation and will be the driving force behind EPDs for the Canadian Simmental breed.

Online Simmental.com users – 43% of CSA members are now using the online computer system representing 60% of THE cows. Online Simmental.com users also benefit by saving \$2/head for each Purebred and Fullblood cow enrolled online. The new online THE fee will be \$20 as of January 2011.

ONLINE USERS WILL NOT RECEIVE FEMALE ENROLLMENT FORMS IN THIS PACKAGE. THE participants using the online system are required to submit enrollments by the above THE deadlines through the online program.

Option 2. Registration Option

Breeders selecting the Registration Option can submit data on those females that they choose and for members selecting this option we have included a blank calving sheet which you may copy as often as you wish to register individual animals. The data will be shown on the registration paper along with any relevant EPD, as is currently the case. Data through this option will not be included in our Genetic Evaluation or in future maternal trait EPD development or other research projects. Please note new fees for CSA members not in Total Herd Enrollment as per enclosed Canadian Simmental Association Fee Schedule.

Breeders may elect to enter into THE option at any time. If you wish to participate, please contact the office for your total herd enrollment forms. The reenrollment fee schedule will apply to those females that have previously been enrolled.

The Association is owned and directed by Simmental members to serve themselves and their customers. We offer services including promotion and marketing of Simmental genetics, registry services, breed improvement programs, information technology (On-Farm, web services, and management reports) and publication of our breed magazine “Simmental Country” along with the “Commercial Country”.

By your participation in Total Herd Enrollment, you are not only contributing to more accurate and timely data for your in-herd use and by your Association for breed improvement and promotion, but also ensuring that your Association can continue to maintain our current service levels and pursue new services.

Sincerely Yours,

Canadian Simmental Association