NASDA
from 2019 and beyond

By Sherry Doubet

Registry software upgrade to ILR2

The year 2019 seemed like a whirlwind here at the North American South Devon Association. As you know, three breeds are being processed by the same registry staff. The North American South Devon Association, the American Salers Association and the American Aberdeen Association. All three breeds upgraded the registry software to the new International Livestock Records software (ILR2) as provided by the Agricultural Business Research Institute in Armidale, Australia. The ILR2 software is used by a multitude of cattle and other species as the registry software in over 30 countries.

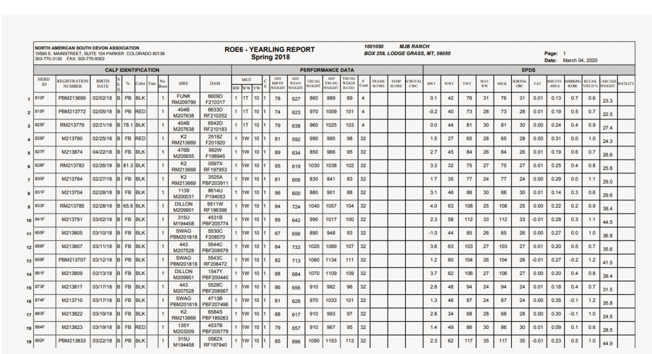
For those of you not familiar with software conversions, they can be challenging. Aberdeen was the first breed to convert in early January 2019. That breed has the smallest database and has the least amount of performance data, so it was the logical beginning to sort out programming modifications. We then moved to South Devon in early May, and followed with Salers in July.

The new software does offer some great enhancements for South Devon breeders.

Upload and download registration and registry spreadsheets

For those operations not using a ranch management computer software system, South Devon producers can now receive a comma delimited file (csv) to open in applications such as Excel or Google Docs to fill in registry and performance data. That file can then be uploaded direct to the registry system for much quicker and more accurate registry information. Members can then log on to their on-line account and retrieve PDF reports of processed data.

Additional enhancements include quicker upload and download of ultrasound scanning spreadsheets and turn-key sale catalog download files.



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ROE6 - YEARLING REPORT
Spring 2018

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	CALF IDENTIFICATION										PERFORMANCE DATA														EPDS											
											MGT																								
	HERD ID	REGISTRATION NUMBER	BIRTH DATE	SEX	%	Color	Fate	No. Born	SIRE	DAM	BW	WW	YW	CE	ADJ BIRTH WEIGHT	ADJ WEAN WEIGHT	YRLNG WEIGHT	ADJ YRLNG WEIGHT	YRLNG WEIGH RATIO	# Cont	FRAME SCORE	TEMP SCORE	SCROTAL CIRC	BWT	WWT	YWT	MAT WW	MILK	SCROTAL CIRC	FAT	RIB EYE AREA	MARBLING SCORE	RETAIL YIELD %	CARCASS WEIGHT	DOCILITY
1	810F	PBM213699	02/02/18	B	PB	BLK		1	FUNK RM209799	6609D F210317	1	1T	10	1	78	627	860	889	89	4				0.1	42	76	31	76	31	0.01	0.13	0.7	0.6	23.3	
2	815F	PBM213772	02/05/18	B	PB	RED		1	404B M207638	6633D RF210252	1	1T	10	1	74	623	970	1009	101	4				-0.2	40	73	28	73	28	0.01	0.19	0.5	0.7	22.5	
3	825F	RM213779	02/21/18	B	78.1	BLK		1	404B M207638	6542D RF210183	1	1T	10	1	79	638	960	1025	103	4				0.0	44	81	30	81	30	0.00	0.24	0.4	0.9	27.4	
4	826F	M213780	02/25/18	B	FB	RED		1	K2 RM213669	2518Z F201920	1	1W	10	1	81	592	990	995	98	32				1.5	27	65	28	65	28	0.00	0.31	0.0	1.0	24.3	
5	827F	M213874	04/22/18	B	FB	BLK		1	476B M205655	992W F198945	1	1W	10	1	89	634	850	966	95	32				2.7	45	84	26	84	26	0.01	0.19	0.6	0.7	26.6	
6	828F	RM213783	02/26/18	B	81.3	BLK		1	K2 RM213669	0597X RF197953	1	1W	10	1	95	619	1030	1038	102	32				3.3	32	75	27	75	27	0.01	0.25	0.4	0.8	25.8	
7	830F	M213784	02/27/18	B	FB	BLK		1	K2 RM213669	3525A PBF203911	1	1W	10	1	81	606	830	841	83	32				1.7	35	77	24	77	24	0.00	0.29	0.0	1.1	29.0	
8	831F	M213704	02/28/18	B	FB	BLK		1	1139 M200031	8614U P194053	1	1W	10	1	96	600	880	901	88	32				3.1	46	88	30	88	30	0.01	0.14	0.3	0.6	29.6	
9	833F	RM213785	02/28/18	B	65.6	BLK		1	DILLON M209901	9511W RF196396	1	1W	10	1	94	724	1040	1057	104	32				4.0	63	108	25	108	25	0.00	0.22	0.2	0.9	39.4	
10	841F	M213791	03/02/18	B	FB	BLK		1	315U M194458	4531B PBF205774	1	1W	10	1	89	642	990	1017	100	32				2.3	58	112	33	112	33	-0.01	0.28	0.3	1.1	44.5	
11	855F	M213805	03/10/18	B	FB	BLK		1	SWAG PBM201818	5530C F208570	1	1W	10	1	67	656	890	948	93	32				-1.0	44	85	26	85	26	0.00	0.27	0.0	1.0	36.8	
12	856F	M213807	03/11/18	B	FB	BLK		1	443 M207528	5544C PBF208579	1	1W	10	1	84	733	1020	1089	107	32				3.6	63	103	27	103	27	0.01	0.20	0.5	0.7	35.6	
13	859F	PBM213707	03/12/18	B	PB	BLK		1	SWAG PBM201818	5543C RF208472	1	1W	10	1	82	713	1060	1134	111	32				1.2	60	104	26	104	26	-0.01	0.27	-0.2	1.2	41.5	
14	861F	M213809	03/13/18	B	FB	BLK		1	DILLON M209901	1547Y PBF200440	1	1W	10	1	88	684	1070	1109	109	32				3.7	62	106	27	106	27	0.00	0.20	0.4	0.8	39.4	
15	873F	M213817	03/17/18	B	FB	BLK		1	443 M207528	5528C PBF208567	1	1W	10	1	86	656	910	982	96	32				2.8	48	94	24	94	24	0.01	0.18	0.4	0.7	31.5	
16	874F	M213710	03/17/18	B	FB	BLK		1	SWAG PBM201818	4713B PBF207496	1	1W	10	1	81	628	970	1033	101	32				1.3	46	87	24	87	24	0.00	0.35	-0.1	1.2	35.8	
17	883F	M213822	03/19/18	B	FB	BLK		1	K2 RM213669	6584S PBF189263	1	1W	10	1	88	617	910	993	97	32				2.8	34	68	28	68	28	0.00	0.30	-0.1	1.0	24.5	
18	884F	M213823	03/19/18	B	FB	RED		1	135Y M203209	4537B PBF205779	1	1W	10	1	79	657	910	967	95	32				1.4	49	86	30	86	30	0.01	0.09	0.1	0.6	28.5	
19	892F	PBM213833	03/22/18	B	PB	BLK		1	315U M194458	0582X RF197940	1	1W	10	1	85	696	1090	1153	113	32				2.3	62	117	35	117	35	-0.01	0.23	0.5	1.0	44.9	

Initial Data Implementation to International Genetic Solutions (IGS) for EPD Calculations

In 2018, the Board of Directors from the North American South Devon Association, American Salers Association and the Salers Association of Canada, decided to pool our funds together and join the database of International Genetic Solutions. Each organization was interested in getting the most accurate EPDS for each of our respective Breed Associations which would also include the availability of Genomic Enhanced EPDS for those animals having a 50K or greater genomic test on file.

In early September 2019, NASDA embarked on that journey with our first download of Performance and Genomic information from all of our respective groups through the newly established pipeline to IGS.

Once the programming snags were identified and corrected, all of the organizations began weekly transmissions of data to and from IGS. The South Devon data then entered the beta testing phase. Dr. Bruce Golden at Theta solutions had to add additional programing to the Bolt software to be able to properly identify both breeds of cattle. All available research regarding breed difference and identification was also used to be able to get

where we are today. As I write this article, NASDA has just received the first EPD/Genomic data from the Beta test run. We are nearly able to provide North American South Devon producers the most accurate EPDs ever provided for our breed. We are now part of the largest beef cattle database in the world of nearly 19 million animals representing 17 different breed associations in the US, Canada and Australia. To date, over 230,000 genotypes are now included and the South Devon DNA can now be included in this process. The more we know about our cattle, the better decisions we can make as cattle breeders. NASDA will distribute information to all breeders upon completion of the evaluation of the final DNA run. EPDs will then be calculated in a weekly run for each organization.

For those breeders interested in future genotyping, you will now begin to see the rewards from your participation. The chart below lists the number of progeny it would take for each trait to reap the benefits of one genomic test. Exciting times are ahead for the South Devon breed to now have this type of information for our seedstock and commercial producers.

2020 Estimated Progeny Equivalents

An estimated progeny equivalent is the average number of progeny records it would take to see an equivalent change in accuracy from a genomic test. For example, if a non-parent animal is genotyped, the accuracy of his/her EPD is akin to an animal that has already produced 5 offspring with a carcass weight record (see table below). Over time, these estimates will change as statistical models are improved, the number of phenotypes increases, and the information from genomic data improves.

Trait	2020 Estimated Progeny Equivalents
Calving Ease (Direct)	25+
Calving Ease (Total Maternal)	4
Birth Weight	22
Weaning Weight	25+
Yearling Weight	25+
Milk	19
Stayability	15
Docility	25+
Carcass Weight	5
Marbling	8
Rib Eye Area	6
Back Fat	8

NASDA Enhancements for Seedstock Producers in 2020

Additionally, the NASDA board of directors has made some significant modifications to allow South Devon seedstock producers more flexibility when it comes to the record keeping process.

The NASDA board has expanded Animal ID systems for Registry. Breeders now have a choice between three different methods to uniquely identify registered seedstock.

Tattoos - Producers can still use a tattoo as a means of official identification. The tattoo still must include a number and the year letter, but herd letters are now optional.

1. ***Tattoo Freeze Brand or Hot Iron Brand*** - A brand including the number and the year letter in now also considered an official means of identification.

2. ***Electronic Identification (EID)*** - A UDSA approved RFID Electronic Identification tag is now an official means of identification for the registration of South Devon cattle. Producers will be required to obtain a Premise Identification number to purchase RFID EID tags through an official vendor. Producers can enter EID numbers on any and all electronic spreadsheets when registering cattle. A provision will be in place in case of a lost EID.

South Devon producers can now choose to utilize one or all three methods of identification for registered cattle. NASDA would like to encourage more than one method to better allow for a lost EID or an illegible tattoo or freeze brand.

NASDA is excited for the new opportunities that exist to better identify South Devon cattle and the great leap ahead we will have made when we finalize the IGS Genomic Enhanced EPDs. It is an exciting time to be involved with a great breed of cattle that are more right for the industry and cattle producers everywhere.