

CANADIAN LIMOUSIN ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

September 2016

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Genotyping Discount Ended

Earlier in the year, the Canadian Beef Breeds Council (CBBC) secured funding from the Canadian Agriculture Adaptation Program (CAAP) for the genotyping of Canadian beef animals. The Canadian Limousin Association was allocated a portion of these funds based on registration numbers. This funding translated into low-density and high-density (GGP-LD and GGP-HD) genotyping, in addition to some "add-on" tests such as horned/polled, coat colour and Protoporphyria being made available to CLA members at a 50% discount for the past few months. This has been a fantastic cost savings to CLA members and has allowed over 450 animals in the Canadian Limousin population to be genotyped which will aid in breed improvement efforts.

Unfortunately, the funding for this period has been entirely used up, therefore genotyping (as well as add-on tests) will do longer be at a 50% discount. The DNA testing fee schedule, effective immediately, is listed below. Please remember your cattle must be recorded or registered with the Association before you can request DNA testing. You must request the testing you want from the Association before you send DNA sample to the lab. We will send you the paperwork that must accompany the DNA sample(s).

DNA TESTING FEE SCHEDULE - EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Basic SNP Parentage Panel: Minimum test necessary for parentage or sire verification. Will not give you genomically enhanced EPDs (gEPDs).	\$30
Basic SNP & Microsatellite Parentage: Sometimes referred to a "SNP transition" or "double testing" - this is required when an animal or it's parent has not been upgraded to SNP technology, the animal must be tested on both microsatellite and SNP panels. The Association staff will inform you if this is ever the case.	\$45
Low Density Genotype (GGP-LD): Includes SNP parentage on the GGP-LD and molecular breeding values (MBVs) necessary to generate genomically enhanced EPDs (gEPDs).	\$55
High Density Genotype (GGP-HD): Includes SNP parentage on the GGP-HD and molecular breeding values (MBVs) necessary to generate genomically enhanced EPDs (gEPDs).	\$95
Protoporphyria	\$25
Horned/Polled	\$55
Coat Colour (homozygous black)	\$22
Horned/Polled & Coat Colour	\$65
Genotype (SNP or STR) Reconstruction (per sample)	\$45/sample
Hair Envelopes	No charge

Highlights from ILC 2016 in Ireland

The International Limousin Congress took place August 20th to 27th, 2016 in the beautiful country of Ireland. 26 Canadian delegates took part in the event which hosted individuals from Australia, Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, New Caleonia, New Zealand, Scotland, South Africa, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

The technical conference took place on August 21st. Presentation topics included an overview of Origin Green, Ireland's national sustainability program and an update on how genomics is being used to advance cattle breeding. Dr. Andrew Cromie spoke about delivering genetic improvement through the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (ICBF). ICBF is a non-profit organization charged with providing cattle breeding information services to the Irish dairy and beef industries through a national cattle breeding database. Information flows in and out of the ICBF database from/to beef and dairy farms, herdbooks, genomic labs, veterinarians, Al companies, auction marts, slaughter plants, milk recording, milk co-ops, farm relief service, industry advisors, and the genetic evaluation system. This presentation was highly interesting to myself as the concept of a Canadian Beef Improvement Network (CBIN) is currently being explored to provide the analysis and information tools required to deliver optimal contributions from genetic improvement to the Canadian beef industry in a consolidated and efficient manner. We were introduced to TMVet3s linear scoring technology and lead through a presentation on validation of TMVet3s 3D animal measuring using French Limousin. The afternoon sessions included an update by Alison Glasgow on the many advances the British Limousin Cattle Society is making as well as an update by Sebastian Stamane on the advances the French Limousin Society is undertaking. Joe Epperly, Assistant Executive Director of the North American Limousin Association presented on the adoption of genomics in North American evaluation, including our multi-breed IGS genetic evaluation, and strategies on the improvement of feed efficiency.

Over the course of the eight days we enjoyed tours of a commercial operation using Limousin to cross with Belgian Blue for the Italian export market and three purebred herds (Drummin Pedigree Herd, Ardlea Elite Pedigree Herd, and Roundhill Pedigree Herd). The Limousin cattle we saw in Ireland were highly muscled and long bodied, however they tended to be larger framed than what we are used to in Canada. It was refreshing to see that Limousin is Ireland's number one suckler cow and the breed is thriving in that country. It was also interesting to note that the average herd size in Ireland was 16 head, however there are a large number of purebred breeders, commercial buyers, and dairy herds that use Limousin bulls lending to a very large national herd of Limousin cattle.





Glencoe Fair Limousin Show September 24 Glencoe, ON

Lindsay Fair Limousin Show September 24 Lindsay, ON

Olds Fall Classic September 30-October 2 Olds, AB

Markham Fair Ontario Limousin Provincial Show October 2 Markham, ON

Livestock Gentec Conference October 18-19 Edmonton, AB

National Limousin Show & Sale at Manitoba Ag Ex October 25-29 Brandon, MB

Lloydminster Stockade Roundup November 2-5 Lloydminster, SK

Royal Agricultural Winter Fair November 4-13 Toronto, ON

Farmfair International November 9-13 Edmonton, AB

Canadian Western Agribition November 21-26 Regina, SK

Forged in Fire Elite Heifer Sale December 2 Olds, AB

Colour of Autumn Limousin Sale December 3 Cookstown, ON

Western Select Limousin Sale December 7 Lloydminster, SK

Highlights from ILC 2016 in Ireland Continued

In addition to the cattle tours the attendees also had the opportunity to see the Bunratty Castle, the Cliffs of Moher, the Wild Atlantic Way, the Newbridge Silverware Visitor Centre, the Guinness Storehouse, Coolmore Stud, the Jameson Distillery, and the Blarney Castle. We also attended a local Limousin show, a multi-breed show that included a large Limousin division, and the National Limousin Show and ILC Elite Sale.

On behalf of myself and the entire Canadian delegation that took part in ILC 2016 in Ireland I would like to extend my gratitude to the Irish Limousin Cattle Society and all of the staff and volunteers who worked tirelessly to put on an outstanding event. They certainly made us feel very welcome and treated us to outstanding cattle, tours, and hospitality! You can read a full report on the trip in the Fall issue of the Limousin Voice that will be coming to your mailbox next month.

-Tessa Verbeek, CLA General Manager



*** Please Note ***

If your animals already have an approved (generic) CCIA tag, tampering with and/or cutting them out is prohibited by Canadian Food Inspection Agency regulations. The CLA show point rules begin with 2016 born calves and beyond. Older animals, already identified with a CCIA tag, will earn points as before, without having a Limousin CCIA tag.

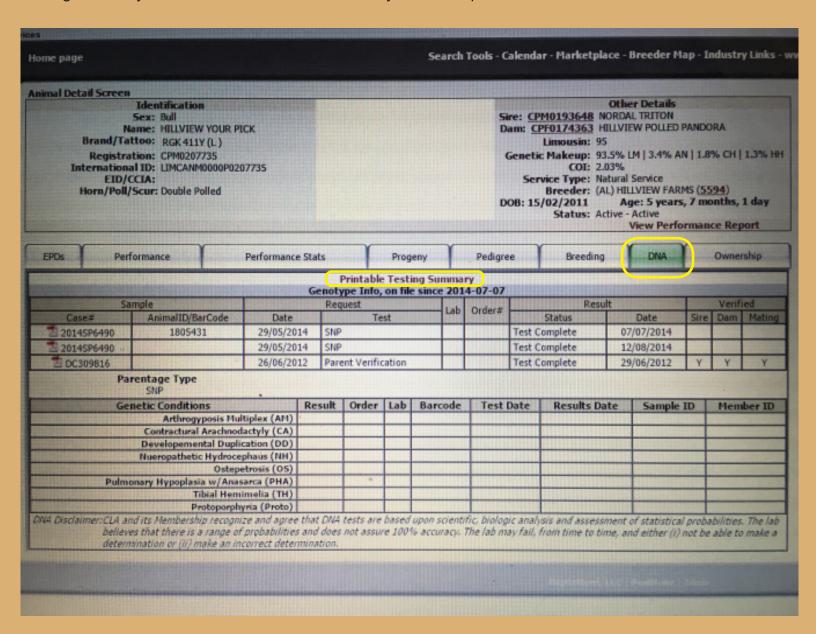
Welcome AJ Smith to CLA Office Staff

Dallas Wise and Laura Ecklund have been very capably handling Registry and Member Services part-time alongside General Manager, Tessa Verbeek. Laura is welcoming a new baby this fall and therefore will be taking 12 months off of her CLA duties. She will be carrying on in the capacity of CJLA Coordinator during this time. We are very pleased to announce that we will be welcoming AJ Smith to the CLA staff beginning September 26th. Purebred cattle are nothing new to AJ as her family has a purebred Simmental herd near Carstairs, AB. She has a passion for cattle and is a familiar face around many shows in western Canada. We wish Laura all the best with her growing family and look forward to having AJ as part of the team available to assist CLA members!



How Do I Find DNA Results?

DNA results can always be searched on an animal's profile on DigitalBeef under the DNA tab. The CLA staff will only contact you if there is a problem with your DNA result, otherwise, you will not hear from us if all is well. You can also now download and print a complete DNA testing summary on any animal – simply click "Printable Testing Summary" under the DNA tab of the animal you wish to print the document for.



You Spoke... We Listened and Responded! CLA Membership Q & A

A membership survey was circulated online to members between March and July 2016. The results and all comments made in this survey were circulated and discussed at the CLA board of directors meeting. Many suggestions for improvement will be explored further, and many positive comments were also greatly appreciated. In an effort to give responses to some of the comments we are going to be selecting a few comments to feature in each newsletter and giving CLA's response to the comment.

Member Comment: Shutdown and they closed the accounts for billing not allowing us to access them - no notice given in regards to that.

CLA Response: On January 1, 2016 DigitalBeef automatically renewed all CLA memberships and charged lifetime members the \$50 annual administration fee, and annual members the \$50 annual membership fee plus the \$50 annual administration fee. Unknown to CLA staff, DigitalBeef was set up to lock members out of their account until the membership dues were paid. Thus, CLA members who tried to log into their DigitalBeef account on Friday, January 1st, Saturday, January 2nd or Sunday, January 3rd were locked out until I could have this issue corrected on Monday. CLA staff were given no warning that this would happen, however we have explained to the programmer that locking members out of their accounts en mass until they have paid their membership dues is not necessary as we have the ability to do this on a case by case basis if necessary. We apologize for the inconvenience this caused members, especially so close to the WHE deadline, and we will be ensuring it does not happen again this year.

Member Comment: Changeover to new lab took too long - all plans should of been put in place prior to making the switch - prime bull sale season and all testing was held up for over a month.

CLA Response: While I certainly agree that the timing of the lab change was highly inconvenient, a variety of reasons attributed to this decision; primarily, the Canadian Beef Breeds Council negotiated on behalf of all Canadian beef breed associations for a one-time bulk transfer of all physical DNA samples at no cost to the breed associations. Considering the costs associated with this that would have had to be incurred if down the road we decided to move, it was a "now or never" decision that we had to act quickly on. The timing was poor with bull sale season in the works, and we did not have any lead time to inform the membership of an impending change, but the change was necessary and will be beneficial to our membership tenfold. All DNA testing was haulted as any samples sent to GenServe after December 28, 2015 were not included in the bulk transfer agreement, therefore the CLA may never get those physical samples transferred to Delta Genomics. Therefore, we had to ask members to stop sending DNA samples to GenServe and patiently wait for the Delta Genomics electronic exchange system to be set up with DigitalBeef before the CLA could generate sample submission forms and lab requests and members could send their physical samples to Delta Genomics. Unfortunately for everyone, this took much longer than expected, however the worst of it is all behind us and things are up and running now. The benefits of Delta Genomics include the ability to produce genomically enhanced Expected Progeny Differences (gEPDs), a larger variety of tests offered and at the same or lower prices, the ability to automatically report homozygous/heterozygous results for horned/polled and coat colour into the DigitalBeef registry system, and the ability to receive thousands of dollars in government funding which allowed the CLA to give members a huge discount genotyping. Feedback we have heard so far is that the majority of members are very pleased with the switch to Delta Genomics now.

Member Comment: Not a staff issue, but more process and policy.

CLA Response: The CLA Board of Directors would welcome your specific suggestions for process and policy that you would like to see put in place. You can always contact a CLA director with your suggestions for improvement to any aspect of the CLA, their contact information is listed on the CLA website under Association -> Contact. We would also welcome you to run for the board of directors when we hold our elections at the Annual General Meeting each summer, as this is the best way to play an integral role in shaping the future of the Limousin breed.

Change to National Show & Sale Schedule

In the August 2016 newsletter it was published that "All cattle must be in the barns by 8:00 AM on Tuesday, October 25th however this has since changed. THIS TIME HAS BEEN REVISED TO: ALL CATTLE MUST BE IN THE BARNS BY 12:00 NOON ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25TH.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, October 24th 12:00 NOON - Stall set up begins, cattle must be left in tie-outs

Tuesday, October 25th 12:00 NOON - All cattle MUST be in barns by 12:00 NOON

Friday, October 28th 10:00 AM - National Limousin Show 6:30 PM - National Limousin Sale

ENTRIES

Enter online at http://manitobaagex.com/

Have your name entered in a draw for 2 tickets to the rodeo if you enter by September 17th *Entry deadline September 30th*

Apply Now for CJLA Scholarships & Australian/Canadian Limousin Youth Exchange

Two \$500 scholarships and two \$250 scholarships are awarded to CJLA members annually. To apply please e-mail limousin@limousin.com describing your involvement in the Limousin breed. **Deadline to apply is October 31st** annually. Successful applicants will receive their funds in the year they are awarded. As of August 2015, scholarship recipients may only receive a CJLA monetary scholarship once.

In an effort to both attract new junior members to the Limousin breed and support and encourage our current junior membership the CLA has worked out an agreement with an Australian school and Limousin breeders to assist young Limousin enthusiasts in travelling to each other's country to gain new experiences, knowledge and connections. We will be welcoming Brenden Lydford to Canada in November as the Australian delegate, and we now need to select our two Canadian delegates who will be going to Australia! If you are a CJLA member age 16-21 we encourage you to apply for this opportunity!



You will have your choice of travelling in February/March (during the Sydney Royal Show, Sydney, New South Wales) or in August (during the Ekka Royal Queensland Show, Brisbane, Queensland). A host family or multiple host families will be arranged for you to stay with during your time in Australia. The successful applicants will be awarded \$1,000 CAD each from the CJLA to assist with travel expenses.

The 2017 **application deadline is October 31, 2016** and the successful applicants will be chosen and notified by November 15, 2016.

Full details and criteria are listed on the application form which is available on the CLA website under Juniors -> Scholarships & Travel Opportunities



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AGENDA FEATURES

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- Panel Discussion: Managing Risk in Agriculture How can we confront change with confidence?
- Bridging the Gap: Young Farmer Bear Pit / Young At Heart Forum
- ➤ Roundtable Discussion: Towards the Next Ag Policy Framework
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