

# WHOLE HERD REPORTING

The American Akaushi Association Whole Herd Reporting system is designed to improve the collection of performance information on all active animals in the breed and to equally spread the costs of promoting the breed across all active animals in the breed. Rather than the traditional calf-based registration fee structure that discourages the reporting of complete contemporary group information, WHR uses an inventory-based fee structure or annual assessment charged on all reproductively mature animals. WHR requires the reporting of annual production and performance records on all cattle within a herd, but the responsibility of selecting which calves are worthy of registration remains with the breeder.

Under WHR members will pay a single, annual assessment on each animal of 'assessment age'. Payment of the annual assessment on a cow entitles the cow owner (breeder) to register one calf born to the cow during that 12-month period and a single transfer of that calf to a new owner if the transfer occurs before the animal reaches 24 months of age, if a female or 30 months of age, if a male. Payment of the annual assessment on a bull allows for the subsequent registration of calves sired by the bull during that year of service, provided all other registration requirements have been met.

## **Major benefits of WHR include:**

Simplicity; one fee covers the most common breeder expenses, rather than multiple fees for routine transactions. Quality; complete reporting will improve the reliability of EPDs on all AAKA cattle by removing the effects of reporting bias.

Improved customer service; no extra fee for calf transfers will ensure more complete reporting of transfers. Improved identification of bull owners increases the likelihood of participation in commercial marketing programs which will improve demand for AAKA seedstock.

New selection tools; Whole Herd Reporting will make it possible to estimate fertility and survivability EPDs and to calculate herd-average reproduction and production management measures for within herd use. These calculations are meaningless with incomplete reporting.

## **I. Fee Structure and Registration Regulations**

1. Assessment age is defined as females at least 16 months of age and males at least 24 months of age on the appropriate Inventory Date: Spring Herd Inventory Date is March 1; Fall Herd Inventory Date is September 1.
2. Payment of the annual assessment makes that animal 'active' for the following 12 months. Progeny may only be registered to dams that are 'active' during the birth year of the progeny and sires that were 'active' during the year the progeny was conceived.
3. Payment of the annual assessment on a female entitles the breeder to a) register one calf born to that female during that 12-month period; and b) transfer that calf to a new owner if the transfer occurs before the animal reaches 24 months of age, if female, or 30 months, if male.
4. Payment of the annual assessment on a bull makes that bull active for that service year. Calves may only be registered to bulls that were 'active' during the year of service (the year prior to birth in the case of ET calves). Registrations submitted for progeny by a sire that was under the assessment age at the time of service will not be completed until the annual assessment is paid on the sire for the year of service.
5. DNA test results must be on file at the AAKA office by the time the assessments are paid for AI sires and ET donor dams not previously tested.
6. The first transfer of a bull under 30 months of age and a female under 24 months of age will not be charged a transfer fee. Any subsequent transfer of such an animal will be charged the transfer fee on the current fee schedule. Transfers of bulls 30 months of age and older and females 24 months of age and older will be charged the transfer fee on the current fee schedule. Age at transfer will be determined by date received on mailed in work and by work order date for online work.
7. Cattle of assessment age that are reactivated during the 12 months following the Inventory Date will be charged the full annual assessment.
8. Owners of A.I. sires will be invoiced for the sire's annual assessment when registrations are submitted for progeny of the sire, if the sire was not previously assessed for the service year. Association rules require that A.I. sires have DNA test results on file in the AAKA office prior to their use.
9. Any joint owner wishing to register and transfer progeny from a jointly owned female must maintain that female on his/her active inventory. In order to avoid a Reactivation Fee at least one owner must pay the annual assessment.
10. Assessments on leased animals will be charged to the recorded owner.
11. Embryo Transfer (ET) calves born to the same donor dam during the twelve month period are charged equivalent fees. The assessment fee must be paid on each ET calf unless the recipient dam is "active" (i.e., current year assessment already paid), in which case no additional assessment is due. If the annual assessment on the donor dam has been paid, the owner of the donor dam is allowed one natural calf registration.

12. In the case of a multiple birth (twins, triplets, etc.) no additional assessment beyond the cow's annual assessment will be incurred on the dam in order to register the resulting calves.  
Note: Breeders are encouraged to submit registration numbers and/or animal identification on all recipient and foster dams. Future enhancements to National Cattle Evaluations may allow for the inclusion of ET and multiple-birth calves.

## II. Reporting Requirements

1. During each 12-month period one of the following must be received for each 'active' female on inventory:
  - A calf record (regardless of whether or not the calf will be registered) with all required information, including weaning data or a pre-weaning disposal code for the calf.
  - A disposal code for the female indicating that she is dead or has otherwise been culled from 'active' inventory
  - A reason code for the cow's failure to produce a calf (open, embryo transfer program, moved to the next calving season, etc.).
2. If a female is removed from a member's inventory by a breeder designated disposal code, and subsequently reappears in a later year, the Reactivation Fee plus the current and past annual assessments will be required to reinstate the cow even if the animal is sold to a new owner. Cattle may also be deactivated by the Association if a member's account becomes delinquent.
3. If the calf dies before weaning, the breeder is required to provide the appropriate calf disposal code plus sire information, calf sex, birth date, mating, color, and horn status code.
4. Bulls can be deactivated and reactivated without charge. Date of death will be required on dead bulls to terminate natural service registrations at the appropriate time.
5. Adjusted weights, ratios, and EPD calculations are part of services received through the WHR program.

## III. Breeding Herd Inventory and WHR Schedule

1. Spring Herd Inventory is defined as females calving January 1st - June 30th. The Spring Herd Inventory Date is March 1 of each year. Fall Herd Inventory is defined as females calving July 1st - December 31st. The Fall Herd Inventory Date is September 1 of each year. Bulls may be assigned to either herd as desired by the breeder.
2. At least thirty (30) days prior to each Inventory Date each breeder will receive an inventory report for his/her appropriate (Spring or Fall) inventory identifying all animals of assessment age in that herd.
3. Each breeder will identify by the use of disposal codes those animals to be removed from inventory, add new animals of breeding age not found on the inventory report (e.g., new purchases, leased animals, etc.), and return the completed inventory report to the national office prior to the Inventory Date. Disposal codes may also be submitted via the AAKA BARN system on the AAKA website prior to the inventory date. Transfers made prior to the inventory date will automatically remove and/or add animals to breeder inventories when the transfer is processed.
4. **IMPORTANT: On the Inventory Date for the appropriate herd, breeders will be invoiced for the WHR fee on all animals shown on inventory in that herd. No credit will be issued for animals disposed of after the Inventory Date, and a Reactivation Fee will be required on all previously removed animals that are returned to inventory after the Inventory Date.**
5. If assessments are not paid within 60 days of the date of the invoice, no further services will be provided by AAKA until the account is paid in full.
6. A member may have both spring-calving and fall-calving herds. An animal may be moved from one herd to another only once in any 18 month period by designating the move as a Reason Code (moved to Next Calving Season) on the inventory report.

## IV. Performance Option- A<sup>4</sup> Advantage Upgrading Program Only

1. The Performance Option can be used by breeders who do not wish to register calves but want to record data.
2. The Performance Option is intended for progeny test data from commercial cattle, or animals from other breeds or registries.
3. All complete records on Performance Option animals will be entered into the Association database and used in the National Cattle Evaluation and other performance calculations where appropriate.
4. No Performance Certificates will be issued on Performance Option animals, and they will not receive EPDs.

## Whole Herd Reporting Annual Schedule

EVENT	SPRING HERDS	FALL HERDS
The Association sends each member a preliminary inventory based on the previous year's inventory that has been adjusted for disposal and transfer information reported to the association by this date.	January 15th	July 15th
Member returns the inventory to the Association with all changes, additions and corrections. <b>Inventory adjustments can be made online.</b>	Online: February 28 Mail: February 14	Online: August 31 Mail: August 15
<b>INVENTORY DATE</b> Association invoices members for annual WHR assessments based on your herd inventory. (Terms 50% due at invoicing and 50% due at 60 days.)	<b>March 1st</b>	<b>September 1st</b>
Association sends "No Progeny Report" to those members who have active cows with no calf record or reason code.	January 15th	July 15th
"No Progeny Report" due back to Association. Cows with no calf record or reason code reported are deactivated.	Online: February 28th Mail: February 14th	Online: August 31st Mail: August 15th
Association sends inventory worksheets to members to report the production of each cow for the WHR calendar year.	August 1st	February 1st