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# NALF NEWS

## NALF Monitors Curly Calf Syndrome

The North American Limousin Foundation (NALF) is monitoring developments regarding Curly Calf Syndrome in the Angus breed. Affected calves typically are stillborn; exhibit limited muscle development and bent, twisted spines; and sometimes have rear legs that are rigid, hyperextended or contracted.

Nearly all of the affected calves have had G A R Precision 1680 on both sides of their pedigrees. Until a definitive DNA test is available to identify carriers, breeders should consider the potential liability of propagating seedstock with him in their pedigrees.

## Election Process Continues

The Nominating Committee has slated Harley Coleman, Montana (second term); Mike Smith, Kansas (second term); John Goodish, Pennsylvania; Mat Lewis, Colorado; and Charles Linhart, Iowa, as candidates for the NALF Board of Directors. The NALF office also has been collecting at-large nominations, which were due October 15. The December *Limousin World* will identify all nominees.

Those unable to attend the NALF Annual Meeting (January 12, 2009, in Denver, Colorado) may write the office to request absentee ballots until **December 1**.

## CyberCampfire Reignites This Month

NALF, *BEEF* magazine and the National Beef Cattle Evaluation Consortium (NBCEC) are planning a producer-outreach webcast for each Tuesday evening from November 4 to December 2. The new CyberCampfire series will address a variety of genetic advancements and tools.

Watch your e-mail inbox and the NALF home page for details.

## KC to Host 'Vision' Conference

NALF will conduct a leadership and breed-improvement conference December 12-13 at the Hilton Kansas City Airport. Titled "Vision in Action," the conference agenda includes adapting to change, decision-making, overcoming sales resistance, understanding the

best uses of straightbred and hybrid seedstock, data analysis, and sire selection.

The conference is open to all NALF members, but it is limited to the first 50 people to register by **November 15**. Registration is \$180 per person, which includes a NALF performance review. To register, contact Frank Padilla in the NALF office.

More information is on the NALF Web site.

## Strong EPDs Rely on Breeders' Submissions

The deadline to submit data for the next international Limousin genetic evaluation is **November 15**.

That deadline is especially important for producers of Lim-Flex® progeny from Angus or Red Angus parents that are not in the NALF herdbook yet. Without the data, their expected progeny differences (EPDs) will not be available for winter show programs or spring marketing materials.

Birth, weaning and yearling performance data are necessary for reliable EPDs, and breeders' data is the raw material from which NALF computes genetic predictions. The breed's competitive advantages and genetic improvement depend on breeders' data collection and submission.

New EPDs will be available by mid-January.

## MOE Data Due December 1

To remain eligible for the Medal of Excellence (MOE) year-end recognitions, exhibitors must submit their animals' required performance data by **December 1**. Direct all MOE questions and data to Kate Maher in the NALF office.

## NWSS Schedule Announced

Most National Western Stock Show (NWSS) entries are due November 20. The junior show will begin at 1 p.m. Sunday, January 11. The sale-cattle parade starts at 3 p.m. the same day; the sale itself will be Monday, January 12, at 6 p.m. The open show will start at 8 a.m. Tuesday, January 13. The pen and carload shows are Wednesday, January 14, beginning at 8 a.m.

The Yard shows will begin with the Limousin bull pens, and the Lim-Flex bull pens will follow.

# North American Limousin Foundation

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Office hours are Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. MST.

The Lim-Flex female pens will then show and sell. The Limousin bull carloads will conclude the day's events.

## Do You Have a Reservation?

The Doubletree Hotel Denver will be the Limousin breed's headquarters during the NWSS. Rooms are \$81 per night if you mention the "North American Limousin Foundation" when you call 800/222-TREE to make your reservations before December 7. Book ahead to ensure a room near the breed's main events—including the member social, where NALF will recognize its past presidents.

## Nominations Sought for Commercial Program Awards

NALF honors a Commercial Marketing Booster of the Year, a Commercial Producer of the Year and a Limousin Promoter of the Year during the NWSS pen and carload shows. Download nomination forms from the NALF Web site, or request copies from the NALF office. Nominations are due in the NALF office **December 5**.

## National Sale Animals Need Tests

The NALF Board has appointed the National Limousin Sale management team. Contact American Cattle Services, KK Seedstock Consultants or R&R Marketing Co. to consign cattle.

All animals in the national sale must be parent-verified and proto-tested before December 1; and consignors must register all embryo-transfer (ET) calves, which requires parent verification, by December 1. Because MMI Genomics (the DNA-typing laboratory) operates on a limited holiday schedule, it must receive samples before November 15 to help meet those requirements.

## DNA Kit Now Is \$2.50

Due to the supplier's price increase, the cost of FTA kits for DNA testing is now \$2.50 each. They capture DNA in one step and keep it stable for years at room temperature. Contact the NALF office to order.

## Help Your Customers Help Themselves

As the fall feeder-cattle-marketing season advances, help your bull customers market their calves through the Limousin Exchange. Go to the NALF home page, click the "Feeder Calf Classifieds" link, then follow the directions to list calves for sale. Whether consigning to an auction or selling by private treaty, the online classifieds are a free, easy way to help ensure every bidder possible competes for those calves.

NALF also is promoting a number of special Limousin-influenced feeder-calf sales around the country. The "Sales & Events" section of the *Limousin World* Web site lists them.

## Find Holiday Cards, Gifts Online

Visit [www.boelte.com/cards](http://www.boelte.com/cards) on the Web to order Limousin greeting cards. Several designs (including a couple of new ones) are available. A portion of the proceeds from each order benefits the North American Limousin Junior Association (NALJA).

Also check out the "Promotional Merchandise" section of the NALF Web site. Farm signs, business cards and jackets are some of the great gifts available.

## COOL Affidavits Recommended

Country-of-origin labeling (COOL) went into effect September 30. The law requires anyone producing a covered commodity to maintain records that identify their sources and recipients. Such records must uniquely identify the product, and they must remain accessible for one year after the transaction.

While the COOL requirements for seedstock are unclear, NALF advises sellers to provide a "Recommended Country of Origin Affidavit" (available on its Web site). Breed associations and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are discussing how to include that information in ownership-transfer records.



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The year-letter code for 2008 is

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The year-letter code for 2009 is

V