

## **1. Herd Book of the Montbeliarde Cattle Society of Ireland Ltd**

The Herd Book of the Society shall maintain:

- a) The particulars of an animal's pedigree and performance.
- b) Such other information as the council of the Society may from time to time decide.

## **2. Breed Characteristics and Breeding Objectives**

Large docile red and white animal with usually but not in all cases having a full white head with strong legs and a correct mouth. Coat colour may vary slightly to fawn and white but never more than this. A main characteristic is the ability to function as a dual-purpose animal. Breeding objective is to obtain a calf per year with improved longevity, reduced cell count and improved beefing ability.

## **3. Registration of Animals and Recording of Pedigrees**

1. The herd book will consist of a main section and supplementary section as follows:

### *Main Section:*

- a) To qualify for entry in the main section of the herd book an animal:
  - ▲ must be descended from parents and grandparents of animals in the herd book, or in a herd book of the same breed.
  - ▲ Be identified at birth according to the rules of the herd book
  - ▲ Have a pedigree established in accordance to the rules of the herd book
- b) The main section of the herd book shall be divided into two classes:
  - ▲ Class 1– animals in this class are sired by progeny tested sires with a coefficient of reliability of at least 50% for the main production traits, according to ICAR principles, in their country of origin. These production traits are defined as a dairy animal with good milk and solid traits with a beefing ability.
  - ▲ Class 2– animals in this class are sired by bulls other than those defined in Class 1 and will also include animals with any genetic peculiarities or genetic.

### *Supplementary Section:*

A supplementary section is maintained in accordance with Articles 3 & 4 of Commission Decision 84/419/EC, for female animals only and is divided into two sections: Section A and Section B.

- a) To qualify for entry in Section A of the Supplementary Section of the Herdbook an animal shall:
  - ▲ Be identified in accordance with the herdbook rules.
  - ▲ Be judged to conform to the breed standard
  - ▲ Must be able to perform as a dual purpose animal.

Females in this Section shall have the letters 'ASR' written after their name on their certificates.

- b) To qualify for entry in Section B of the Supplementary Section of the Herdbook an animal shall:
  - ▲ Be identified in accordance with the herdbook rules.
  - ▲ Be judged to conform to the breed standard
  - ▲ be a female whose dam is registered in Section A of the Supplementary Section of the herdbook, and whose sire is registered in the main section of the herdbook or in another EU

approved herdbook of the Montbeliarde breed.

Females in this Section shall have the letters 'BSR' written after their name on their certificates.

*Grading up:* A female animal whose dam (Section B) and maternal grand dam (Section A) are registered in a supplementary section of the herdbook and whose sire and two grandsires are entered in the main section of the herdbook or of another EU approved herdbook of the breed shall be eligible for entry in the main section of the herdbook.

2. Where an animal is not eligible for registration under the above rules it's owner will be issued with a credit note equal to the sum payable at notification of birth.

3. Only paid up members of the Society shall be allowed to register animals in the Society's Herd Book.

4. The request for entry of an animal in the Society's Herd Book must be tendered for registration by the breeder of such animal except in the case of an animal imported into Ireland, the request for registration shall be made before the registration of any progeny.

- For these purposes the breeder of the animal shall mean the bonafide owner.

5. Animals born in the Republic of Ireland must be registered through the Animal Events Book of the ICBF or by ICBF approved electronic registration programs. The fees charged will be that currently in as determined by the Board as per schedule of fees. A late registration is defined as an animal being named 27 days after birth.

6. Inspections shall be carried out where irregularities in herd registrations have been highlighted by random DNA testing. Where irregularities arise from a random DNA test the Society may require DNA testing on the next calf registered. Where inspection is required, an inspection fee will be charged to the breeder.

7. Calves born as a result of Embryo Transfer are registered via the Animal Events system.

8. The Board shall not sanction definite acceptance by the Society of a birth registration unless the dam of the calf or embryo concerned has been properly transferred to the breeder as required.

9. Where animals are born as a result of embryo transplant the registration should show the natural dam on the first line and the number of the genetic dam on the next line.

10. Only the breeder of the animal will be issued with a pedigree Certificate for that animal.

11. Where AI technicians are not using handhelds or where DIY AI is taking place, the Society may ask for, where relevant, AI statement, proof of semen purchase, records of bulls used during insemination and DIY AI licence number.

***\*NOTE RE DNA***

- *All Males presented for Pedigree Registration will require DNA parentage verification before certificates are issued of which the associated cost will be paid by the Farmer*

- *Every 35th registration notified to the Society must have its parentage verified by DNA (i.e. numbers 1, 35, 70, 105 etc) of which the associated cost will be paid by the Farmer*

**4. Embryo Collection Registration**

a) The Embryo Registration Form ET1, together with the prescribed fee shall arrive at the Herd Book Manager's Office of the Society within 21 days of the embryos being collected. Thereafter a late registration fee will be payable for each period of 30 days or part thereof that an Embryo Registration Form is received beyond the aforementioned 21 days as per schedule of fees.

b) A Breeders copy of the ET1 Form shall be retained by the owner of the embryo until submitted with the Birth Registration. The approved Embryo Collection Team will retain the Collection Units copy.

c) The society is to be informed of the following changes as soon as they occur.

1. Transfer of ownership of the frozen embryo.

2. Embryo thawed and implanted.

3. Embryo destroyed.

4. Transfer of ownership or destruction of the recipient dam.

5. Loss of the ET calf if it occurs at any time prior to registration (these details are required for record purposes only)

Changes of circumstances are to be notified on an Embryo Amendment Form ET2, copies of which are supplied to ET units.

d) In the event of a frozen embryo or recipient dam being sold, a copy of the relevant Embryo Registration Form ET1 should be given to the new owner by the breeder to assist him/her in the registration of the calf. Females which are presented for embryo transfer must be submitted for blood typing or DNA profiling at that time in accordance with procedures laid down by the Board from time to time.

e) In the case of a sire located outside of the State, the member seeking to register a calf shall supply full details of the pedigree of the sire to the Society. The onus to seek such information shall not rest on the Society

f) All calves born from ET are required to be parentage tested for sire and dam (Commission Decision 2005/379/EC)

g) All ET registration and amendment forms are available from the Herd Book Manager on request.

## **5. System of Identification of Animals in the herdbook**

a) Each herd will be identified by the herd identification number issued under the National Identification and Registration System for bovine animals.

b) Each animal shall be identified in the herdbook by their National Identification No. which has been issued in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 1760/2000.

c) Each animal must be named at registration. The first letter in each animals name shall be the year designation letter, as specified by the Council of the Society, for the year of birth of the animal.

## **6. Certificate of Registration**

a) A certificate of registration, with the animal's ancestry shall be issued to the breeder by the Society when all registration criteria is met. The onus is on the breeder to verify that all information on the certificate is correct and if not, to contact the Society's office with corrections.

b) On sale or transfer within Ireland of any animal, the vendor must supply its registration certificate. Purchasers of animals should return the official pedigree certificate together with the appropriate transfer fee to the Society, in order to change ownership details.

## **7. General Conditions**

a) At the discretion of the Board, random blood typing or DNA profiling may be carried out by the Society, in addition to that mentioned in section 3 above, with the cost borne by each breeder. In the event of this animal not having its parentage verified, the Board may then decide to have all animals proposed for registration by the breeder blood typed or DNA profiled for a period of two years.

b) The society shall be entitled either before or after the entry of any animal in the Herd Book, to make such inquires or investigations with respect to the animal as the Board shall consider reasonable in the interests of the members of the Society with the object of ensuring the accuracy of the Herd Book thereto and entries therein. The cost of these inquiries will be borne by the owner.

c) The Board may, at any time, cancel the entry of any animal in the Herd Book, which shall be found to contain any false or inaccurate particulars or statement or to have been made on the basis

of any false or inaccurate particulars as statement given or made to the Society. On cancellation of the entry of any animal in the Herd Book, the certification of Registration issued by the Society shall be retained by the Society.

d) Should any question arise concerning the meaning, interpretation or application of any of these bye-laws, the decision of the Board shall be binding.

### **8. Imports**

a) Each imported animal must be registered with the Society as soon as possible after importation, by submitting the official Herd Book Pedigree certificate of the country of origin together with the normal registration fee to the Society's office.

b) Imported embryos should be registered with the Society, applying the same criteria and fees as home produced embryos. Copies of official documentation must be applied as appropriate, including copies of the official Herd Book. Both donor animals must be DNA typed and the resulting calf's parentage verified.

### **9. Exports**

Where a purchaser of an animal requires an Export Certificate duly certified by the Society, such a Certificate will be supplied only to paid up members of the society. The fees for such Certificates shall be as the Board of the Society may from time to time decide.

### **10. Schedule of Fees**

The schedule of fees shall be as determined by the Board from time to time and are available from the secretary on request

### **11. Membership**

To be admitted a member of the Society by the Board, an applicant shall be approved by the board to become a member and/or be the owner of a purebred Montbeliarde animal eligible to be registered in an EU approved herd book. Each person on being admitted a member shall be given a copy of the current Herd Book Rules. Membership fees are paid on annual basis and if a member does not pay their fees they are treated as a non member of the society. All members have to be on Direct Debit System.

### **12. Non discrimination**

The Society shall operate in a non-discriminatory fashion towards its members.

### **13. Appeals**

Where a member considers he or she has been unfairly treated, on payment of the appropriate fee as per schedule, they may have their case considered by an appeals committee. The appeals committee shall be composed of members not involved with the dispute decision and/or experts appointed by the board.

#### ***Appeals procedure***

The procedure to apply shall be as follows:

#### **Stage 1**

A member who feels aggrieved in relation to any matter pertaining to Society business should, in the first instance, write to the Chairman of the Council of the Society, making it clear, that stage 1 of the appeal procedure is being invoked. The Chairman will reply as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any case within thirty days from receipt of the letter from the appellant.

#### **Stage 2**

If the grievance is not resolved at Stage 1, or a reply is not forthcoming from the Council Chairman within 30 days, the member(s) may request in writing that at their next Council meeting, the Council allow the member(s) to attend the meeting during the period that the grievance is being considered. The member will be allowed to make an oral submission on the grievance. The Council

will then reconsider the issue and must communicate its decision to the appellant within thirty days.

### **Stage 3**

If the issue remains unresolved after stage 2, the member(s) may request an independent hearing. The Council shall grant such a hearing. Appeals at stage 3 will be heard by an individual or group of individuals with appropriate expertise, agreed by both parties to the dispute. From the date of appointment of the person(s) hearing the appeal, the case will be heard and the decision taken will be communicated to both parties within three months. The person(s) hearing the case will decide on the appointment of costs, as appropriate.

### **Stage 4**

Any dispute that remains unresolved after stage 3 may be pursued by invoking provisions under the legal personality of the Society: ICOS. (1963 Companies Act as well or just ICOS)

The Society expects all its members to abide by the rules, regulations and standards established by the Society.

## **14. Livestock Performance**

Livestock Performance with regard to the Montbeliarde Breed shall be measured using the French ISU system. Details of French ISU grading system can be found at [www.montbeliarde.org](http://www.montbeliarde.org).

The ISU of the top bulls available can be found at <http://montbeliarde.ie/top-bull-index>.

The society and most Montbeliarde breeders use the French ISU as a performance marker over the Irish EBI because the EBI does not give a fair representation of the proven bulls performance as there is not a big enough quantity of the calves on the ground to make enough of an impact to give a correct EBI figure.

ICBF also measure performance by means of the EBI which is a single figure profit index. It comprises of information on seven sub-indexes related to profitable milk production. These are; (1) Milk production, (2) Fertility, (3) Calving performance, (4) Beef Carcass (5) Cow Maintenance (6) Cow Management and (7) Health. The EBI is provided on the zootechnical certificate and is relevant on the date of print of that certificate. Updated evaluations are available from the Secretary on request.

## **15. Alteration of Herd Book Rules**

These Herdbook Rules may be altered by the Board from time to time provided Board Members shall have received notification of the intention to propose an amendment at the same time as notification of the relevant Board meeting is received. Any alteration, addition, deletion or other amendment of these Herd Book Rules shall be notified to each member within two weeks of the change being approved by the Board. These rules shall also be notified to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for approval to ensure adherence to EU Zootechnical Legislation.

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