

Montbeliarde Cattle Society of Ireland Breeding Programme

(1) The aim of the Montbeliarde Cattle Society

To preserve the breed, maintaining its main characteristics; the ability to function as a dual-purpose animal while continuing to improve dairy abilities, longevity, reduced cell count and keeping beefing ability, also to have a breeding objective of obtaining a calf per year.

(2) Name of the Breed

The name of the breed shall remain and only be Montbeliarde

(3) Breed Characteristics

A Montbeliarde shall be in general a large docile animal. They are red and white in colour with a full white or mainly white head standing on strong legs and have a correct mouth. A Montbeliarde coat may vary slightly to fawn and white but not any more than this. As a breed they will strive to maintain their beefing ability and higher protein percentage.

(4) Geographical Territory

The Montbeliarde Cattle Society will keep a herd book for animals residing on the island of Ireland.

(5) System of Identification of Animals in the Herd book

- a) Each animal to be identified by the herd identification number under the National Identification and Registration System for Bovine animals.
- b) Each animal will be identified in the herd book 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.
- d) A Herd name prefix will be picked on initial registering with the society, prefix and animals name will not exceed 30 characters.
- e) The society shall be entitled either before or after the entry of any animal in the Herd Book, to make such inquiries or investigations with respect to the animal as the Board will 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.
- f) 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 issued by the Society shall be kept by the Society.
- g) Should any queries arise concerning the meaning, interpretation or application of any of these by-laws, the decision of the Board shall be binding.

6) Registration of Animals and Recording of Pedigrees

The Herd Book will be divided into two sections. Main Section and Supplementary Section.

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

The main section of the herd book shall be divided in to 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 the country of their 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 identified in Class 1 and will also include animals with any genetic peculiarities.

A certificate of registration, with the animals 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 societies office with corrections.

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 the ownership details

7) Selection and Breeding objectives of the breeding programme.

To achieve an ideal animal a breeder should aim to achieve a strong, large, docile animal with good dairy ability but also maintaining the beefing ability characteristic of the breed.

Livestock performance with regard to the Montbeliarde Breed shall be measured using the French ISU system. Details of this system can be found at

www.montbeliarde.org

The ISU of the top bulls available can be found at www.montbeliarde.ie/top-bull-index.

The society and most Montbeliarde breeders use the French ISU system 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 calves on the ground here in Ireland 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 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.

8) Performance Testing or Genetic Evaluation

Every one in twenty four heifers registered will be selected for DNA profiling. This is to ensure correct parentage is being registered.

In the event of this animal not having its parentage verified, the Board could decide to have all animals proposed for registration by the breeder blood typed or DNA profiles for a period of two years.

In the case of Breeding Stock bulls being registered DNA profiling of the bull and the Dam of the bull is required.

9) 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 unit's copy.

c) The society is to be informed of the following changes are seen 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 or 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 cow 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 ETA are required to be parentage tested for sire and dam (Commission decision 2005/379/EC)

g) All ETA registration and amendment forms are visible from the herd book manager on request.

10) 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 Herd book an animal shall:

- Be judged in accordance with the Society's Breeding Programme
- 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 Herd book an animal shall:

- Be identified in accordance with the Society's Breeding Programme.
- Be judged to conform to the breed standard
- Be a female whose Dam is registered in Section A of the Supplementary Section of the herd book, and whose sire is registered in the main section of the herd book or in another EU approved herd book 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) or registered in a supplementary section of the herd book and whose sire and two grand sire are entered in the main section of the hardback or of another EU approved hard book of the breed shall be eligible for entry in the main section of the herd book.

Where an animal is not a legible for registration under the above rules its owner will be issued with a credit note equal to the sum payable at notification of birth. Only paid up members of the society shall be allowed to register animals in the societies heard book.

Their request for entry of an animal in the societies heard 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 the registration shall be made before the registration of any progeny.

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

Animals born in the Republic of Ireland must be registered through the animal events book of the ICBF more by ICBF approved electronic registration programs the fees charged will be that currently in at the term and by the board as per schedule of fees are late registration is defined as an animal being named 27 days after birth.

Inspections shall be carried out where regularities in heard registrations have been highlighted by random DNA testing where regularities arise from a random DNA test the society may require DNA testing on the next Registered where inspection is required on inspection fee will be charged to the breeder.

Calves born as a result of Embryo Transfer a registered by the animal event system.

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.

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

Only the breeder of the animal will be issued with the pedigree certificate for that animal.

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 use during insemination and DIY AI license number.

11) Outsourcing of technical activities

DNA profiling will be carried out by a Weatherbys Ireland GSB Ltd.

Genomic testing will be carried out by ICBF.

Updated August 2020