



# Transfers of Animal Ownership

The importance and value of reporting transfer of ownership details should never be underestimated. There are many benefits to filing animal transfers in a timely manner:

- TO AVOID DELAYS DURING REGISTRATION OF PROGENY
- TO ENSURE RECOGNITION IS CREDITED TO THE CORRECT PREFIX (BREEDER AND OWNER), E.G. AWARDS
- TO MAINTAIN SEQUENTIAL LINEAGE INFORMATION, WHICH AVOIDS INBREEDING AND LOSS OF PUREBRED STATUS
- TO FURTHER SUPPORT TRACEABILITY INITIATIVES, RECORDING OF MOVEMENT AND AGE VERIFICATION DATA

**ON FARM**, producers can use the Herd Event Recording Calendar or daily events log to record new animals entering the herd; new animals co-mingling with animals within the herd; and animals sold, disposed of, or exiting the herd.

Today, many Certificates of Registry are released by sellers upon sale and travel with the animal. The responsibility for filing of ownership updates often rests with the buyer. Subsequent ownership changes and registration of resulting calves can be unnecessarily delayed when transfers of ownership are not on file with the Association.

Without current, complete ownership records, registration of resulting calves are delayed or breeder and prefix could be incorrectly assigned. A calf must be registered in the same name as the recorded owner of the dam at the time of calving. Timely transfers helps ensure that the animal's complete movement is known and inbreeding and loss of purebred status is avoided.

Sellers have the responsibility to look after their own interests. They can protect themselves by adopting good business practices and dealing with reputable people. Prior to releasing animals or embryos, completed sales agreements—including payment terms—should be finalized.

The Association's By-laws state: "Upon the sale of an animal as registered or purebred, it is a responsibility of the seller to ensure a duly transferred certificate, issued by the Association, is provided to the buyer. A seller shall initiate the transaction by filing a transfer in approved manner with the Association and ensuring arrangements are complete for the payment of any necessary fees. In the event that the buyer and seller intend for a sale agreement to supersede this protocol, the responsibility for payment of the transfer fee and responsibility for filing a transfer may be established amongst the parties themselves."

To remain in an enviable position in the world with leading-edge dairy genetics, we as an industry need to expand on our traceability and transfers from herd to herd. This can be accomplished by ensuring transfers are done effectively and in a timely manner, ideally at time of sale. 🐄