
Board of Trustees' Meeting
American Simmental Association
Teleconference
July 31, 2017

Chairman Brian DeFreese called the meeting to order 5:08 pm.

Roll Call: Brian DeFreese, Barry Wesner, Gordon Hodges, Randy Moody, Claye Kaelberer, John Irvine, Steve Eichacker, Erika Kenner, Fred Schuetze, Jon Willis, Tim Smith, Gary Updyke, Mike Forman, Tim Curran, Clay Lassle, Tom Nelson, and Dale Miller.

Legal Counsel: Gene Summerlin

Staff: Wade Shafer, Steve McGuire, Chip Kemp, Jackie Atkins, Mahdi Saatchi, Luke Bowman, Sheldon Ross, Leoma Wells, and Linda Kesler

Note: Breed Improvement: Resolutions #1: DNA Roundup and Directive #1: Parentage Validation – Bring Process In-house. Resolutions were emailed to the Board of Trustees on July 29, 2017 for review prior to the board teleconference.

Breed Improvement.

Directive #1: For Staff to develop the information flow, protocol and programming to allow parentage tests from any laboratory. This will allow for in-house parentage verification. Moved and seconded in committee.

Points of Discussion:

- Goal is to advance services, secure all genotypes within ASA's database, and allow the flexibility, if desired, to receive genotypes from any laboratory and verify parentage.
- Full implementation of BOLT is the first priority; once satisfactorily up and running, staff to implement flow into BOLT/ASA's database, programming/development for a parent analysis tool and results communication to breeders.
- Financial report with recommendation to provide funding for this project to be presented to the full board as well as the finance committee.

Roll call discussion.

Roll call vote: Yes – 12 / No – 3 1 abstain. Motion passes.

Resolution #1: Approve a DNA Roundup Research Project to largely increase the number of genotyped females in a short amount of time. This project would offer breeders a 50K test including parentage markers for:

- \$20.00 per test for members who submit DNA samples on 90% of their active female inventory.
- \$15.00 per test for members who submit DNA samples on 90% of their active female inventory, supply cow weights, and either body condition scores and/or hip heights.

DNA sample collection would commence immediately with ending on June 15, 2018, or until appropriated funds are depleted.

Recommended investment (funds): \$75,000. Moved and seconded in committee.

Points of discussion.

- Goal is to gather the largest quantity possible of possible DNA from whole-herds for genotyping and incorporation into the genetic evaluation.
- As the number of genotyped cattle in our evaluation grows, the genomic predictions become more accurate. Furthermore, predicting maternal traits such as maternal calving ease and stayability will be improved by bolstering the number of females genotyped. Also, by submitting samples from the entire herd, there is less bias introduced from only selecting the top performing animals.
- Promotion and collection of DNA samples would start immediately with a signed document from each breeder acknowledging the DNA samples submitted for this project; no timeline will be given for completion of testing, parentage, or to incorporate the genotypes into BOLT.
- DNA samples submitted for this project will be sent to the ASA office and banked until ready to incorporate into EPDs/BOLT. Full implementation of BOLT is the first priority. Staff to set up protocols, storage, invoicing, infrastructure, and promotion for this project.
- Yearling heifers would be eligible for this discount (but no turn-around timeline provided).
- Animals with deadlines or registration requirements must use current/normal DNA testing procedure; add-ons are offered through the current/normal DNA testing procedure. This may require a second sample.
- Financial report with recommendation to provide funds up to \$75,000 presented to the full board as well as the finance committee.

Breed Improvement – Resolution #1 continues.

Moved Fred Schuetze seconded Tim Smith to amend resolution #1 to extend the deadline to December 15, 2018 and withdraw the \$15.00 option.

Roll call discussion.

Proposed amended Resolution #1:

Approve a DNA Roundup Research Project to largely increase the number of genotyped females in a short amount of time. This project would offer breeders a 50K test including parentage markers for:

- *\$20.00 per test for members who submit DNA samples on 90% of their active female inventory.*

DNA sample collection would commence immediately with ending on December 15, 2018, or until appropriated funds are depleted. Recommended investment (funds): \$75,000

Roll call vote: Yes – 6 / No – 9 1 abstain. Motion failed.

Moved Fred Schuetze seconded Tim Smith to amend resolution #1 to extend the deadline to December 15, 2018; change the \$20.00 fee to \$25.00 (with weights) and \$15.00 fee to \$20.00 (with weights).

Roll call discussion.

Proposed amended Resolution #1:

Approve a DNA Roundup Research Project to largely increase the number of genotyped females in a short amount of time. This project would offer breeders a 50K test including parentage markers for:

- *\$25.00 per test for members who submit DNA samples on 90% of their active female inventory.*
- *\$20.00 per test for members who submit DNA samples on 90% of their active female inventory, supply cow weights, and either body condition scores and/or hip heights.*

DNA sample collection would commence immediately with ending on December 15, 2018, or until appropriated funds are depleted. Recommended investment (funds): \$75,000.

Roll call vote: Yes – 6 / No – 9 1 abstained. Motion failed.

Moved Tim Smith seconded Gordon Hodges to extend the deadline to December 15, 2018 and leave the pricing as is.

Roll call discussion.

Proposed amended Resolution #1:

Approve a DNA Roundup Research Project to largely increase the number of genotyped females in a short amount of time. This project would offer breeders a 50K test including parentage markers for:

- *\$20.00 per test for members who submit DNA samples on 90% of their active female inventory.*
- *\$15.00 per test for members who submit DNA samples on 90% of their active female inventory, supply cow weights, and either body condition scores and/or hip heights.*

DNA sample collection would commence immediately with ending on December 15, 2018, or until appropriated funds are depleted. Recommended investment (funds): \$75,000.

Roll call vote: Motion passes unanimously.

Adjourn. Moved Tim Smith seconded Gordon Hodges to adjourn. Motion passes.