

# Navigating the Road

## to **Registration**

For those who have been in the Galloway business for a number of years, the process of properly registering animals may come as second nature. However, to those who are newer to the Galloway world....the process may bring on a bit of confusion, if not anxiety!

First, we have a couple of herd books within the Galloway herd book, Solids and Whites.

The solid Galloway include the Blacks, Reds and Duns. The color of the animal being registered is noted on the application form.

All bull calves must have DNA sire verification completed, usually through Zoetis Animal Genetics. What does this entail? Contact Zoetis Animal

Genetics at (866) 267-9114, or their store front online at http:// www.ordergeneticstestkits.com/ storefrontB2CWEB/ and request a supply of DNA collectors. They look like this (after you've placed the hair sample in it):



When you have your calves in the chute for

vaccinations, tagging, tattooing (see below), that's a great time to go ahead and grab tail hair samples. Have pliers with you, put a small number of hairs from the tail switch in the jaws of pliers, and yank upward. It may take a few tries to get an adequate sample. Look for little black 'bulbs' on the root end. We have labeled sandwich bags on hand and put each samples in its own baggie (a MUST!) with animal ID on it, so that we can properly prepare the sample for submission later on.

The objective of all of this is to positively identify the bull calf you are testing as indeed being sired by the sire you are submitting on the registration application. Until this verification has been made, no offspring from the bull you are registering can be registered. So its kind of important to keep on top of the process! May 2016

Register Those Cattle!	1
Bits 'N Pieces	4
Regarding Semen Certificates	5
Drought's Invisible Footprint	6
Handling Facilities	11
List of Directors	14
Meet Your Directors	15

Registering, con't. from pg 1

Heifer calves do not require DNA verification of sire. Yet. But you will want to decide if you wish to Official Calfhood Vaccinate (OCV), also called 'Bangs' vaccination. This can make them easier to sell into a few states that have strict requirements for OCV. Best to do your own investigation on this aspect.

## TATTOOING YOUR CALVES

Registered animals require a tattoo in one of their ears, or both if you are really gung-ho. The 3/8 inch tattoo digits work best. You may come up with your own system for tattooing. The AGBA coordinates with the Canadian Galloway Association regarding the letter of the alphabet for a given year. We choose to incorporate the letters, others do not. Our tattoo's all start with the letter Y. Why? Because it's the last letter of my first name. See how random this can be? So for instance, when I tattooed a heifer a couple of weeks ago, her eartag is number C13, so her tattoo in her left ear (we always use left, the vet uses right ear for OCV tattoo) reads YC13. However, heifer C11 ended up with a tattoo of YC1X, because we only had one number 1 digit, and I didn't wish to do it twice. The important thing is that it is legible, and it matches what you put on the registration application.

Tattoo equipment looks like this:







Inks come in Green and Black. Roll-on, or paste. Paste comes in a tub or squeeze tube. We use rollon in hopes of walking away with less ink on the people than the animal. The jury is still out on that one. So choose a color you think would look good on your hands for a few days.

#### Galloway: The BE\$T kept \$ecret in the beef industry.

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Registering Cattle, from pg 2

ALL ABOUT WHITES!

The process for registering your white calves is exactly the same as for solid herd book animals, with one little twist: You get to check some boxes that help describe the animal's markings with more clarity. Take a look at the image above of a current AGBA Registration Application, and you see the special box, FOR WHITE GALLOWAYS, with instructions to check one box in each of (i) and (ii). Box 'i' refers to the amount of coloring on the body of the white animal you are registering. If the calf is the true White Park pattern, it will have no color on its body other than the 'points'. Points include the ears, muzzle, and ankles. If it has a smattering of colored spots anywhere on its body, you would check off i(b). Or, if for some reason the ani-



The white Galloway cow above shows the white park pattern, with only a handful of faintly colored spots across the body.

mal has a whole lot of coloring on its body, you would check i(c). Part (ii) refers to the intensity of pigmentation. Please note that this Instruction box is under revision, and will hopefully be

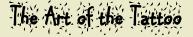


# **Bits 'n' Pieces**

Patricia Pruitt reports that the bulk of the Galloway Historical Library still resides with LeRoy Kindler, and is available for purchase. LeRoy is unable to retain all of the material. If interested, please contact LeRoy. His contact information is available on the CLRC website.

Patricia also says there are a very limited number of books available for purchase. "A Chronological History of the Galloway in America" is an awesome compendium of Galloway history, rich with photographs of well known and cornerstone animals from decades ago. Contact Patricia for purchase details. 406-579-0001

**Did you place an ad in the 2016 Annual Directory**? If you forgot to remit payment for it, please do so as soon as possible. Mail payment to Joyce Jones. 395 Double J Lane New Castle, PA 16101-9407



- 1. Secure the animal in a head catch. An older, or really feisty animal may need haltered and head tied back.
- 2. Clean the ear with a paper towel, in between the 'ribs' where you wish to apply your tattoo.
- 3. Carefully line up the tattoo digits, making sure to avoid the veins and cartilage, and give a good, firm squeeze.
- **4.** Apply ink. If bleeding is present, daub that up by holding toweling against it with pressure for several seconds. Then apply ink.
- 5. Inspect your handiwork. Is it legible? Has the ink made it into all of the needle holes? Then you're good to go.

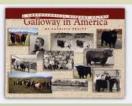




"WE ARE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR NEW HOMES THIS FALL!"

Check with us this fall for heifer and bull calves, maybe even a few bred heifers.

Russ and Susan Waples Box 544 Terry, MT 406-635-2114 brgalwap@midrivers.com



Registering Cattle, con't. from pg 7

of your registered cattle enterprise. Keeping in mind the 25 character limit for animal names, it is prudent to choose a prefix that reflects on your farm or personal name, but also is not too long. For instance, our farm is Renaissance Farms Ltd, which we have abbreviated as RFLTD for our prefix. Some people use their own initials, some abbreviate their farm name. But...choose a prefix, and stick with it!

Then it is a matter of filling in each box with the required information. The AI date box is not to be used for Natural service dates. Those go to the right. However, about one out of three times I manage to first use the Service Date box, which is for AI, when what I want to use is the OR FROM box. I'm sure the nice people at the CLRC are used to my application forms with their violently scratched out data fields by now. The more I think about this, the more appealing the 5 O'Clock somewhere mindset becomes.

\*(Its great to have a scale as part of your operation's basic equipment. It is a great asset to quantifying productivity! However, if you are unable to weigh at weaning, leave this part blank. The scale police will not be knocking at your door).

#### **MEMBERSHIP** Has its Privileges

One of the primary benefits of being an annual member of the AGBA is a reduction in cost of registering animals. For annual members, the cost of registering or transferring an animal is \$20. For Associate Members, or non-members, that fee triples. No calculator required. (Come

See pg 10

## A word about SEMEN CERTIFICATES

So, you went the AI route, and find yourself with some wonderful calves you wish to register. To complete the registration of these calves, you will need a non-existent 'semen certificate' or semen release from the seller of the semen. Yes. You read that right. Actual semen certificates don't exist. Essentially, when you go to register the calves, and write down the sire as Ferdinand the Bull, the CLRC will note that you are not the owner of Ferdinand, and cannot therefore register the calves. However, if you simply contact the seller of the semen, and inform him or her that you wish to register 7 of the calves you produced from Ferdinand semen, the seller will contact CLRC and tell them that you have clearance to register 7 head as sired by Ferdinand the Bull. The CLRC assesses a \$15 per head fee, which is usually paid by the semen buyer.

Please NOTE: Some semen sellers assess their own fee for registering an animal. They may sell the semen at a reduced price, but those calves you wish to register will be assessed a fee by the semen seller on top of the \$15 CLRC fee. *Therefore, as a semen buyer, you need to ask up front what, if any, additional registration fees will be required by the semen seller. And semen sellers, you need to be up front about this cost with your semen purchasers.* 

# The Invisible Fallout of Prolonged Drought

Many parts of the USA have been experiencing significant drought for the last 5 plus years. The immediate and obvious effects of drought on a beef cattle operation are the impacts on stock water availability and quality, as well as forage quantity and quality. However, a third, invisible co-conspirator in the drought equation may well be lurking in the shadows: mineral status of the herd.

Many areas of the country water cattle from ponds, and probably the vast majority of ponds are not fenced off to prevent cattle from loafing in the water. And doing their business in the water. As nutri-

See Drought, pg 8



Call us for Embryos, Semen, Bulls. Semen on hand from 3 bulls and embryos from a number of different mating's.

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#### ELI BERRY

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#### Galloway: The BE\$T kept secret in the beef industry.

Registering Galloway, con't from pg 3

easier to navigate very soon.

Within the White herd book, one will find an Appendix herd book, which is where solid colored animals (i.e. solid red, dun or black) out of at least one registered <u>white</u> parent will be recorded. The CLRC will automatically record such an animal in the appendix when the color is anything other than white.

If you have specific questions about filling out the registration form, you may want to contact Joyce Jones or Joan Hoffman for assistance. Numbers are listed under Directors on page 14.

#### Completing THE FORM!!

Congratulations! You've managed to ear tag, tattoo and possibly collect DNA samples from your calves. Glad you got the easy part over with. Now it is time to get out your records, and either set up by your computer or tablet for access to the CLRC website, or be prepared to dig through your registration papers to access sire and dam registration numbers. Pour yourself a cup of coffee. Or if its after 5 PM, pour something else. Just remember, 'its 5 O'Clock somewhere', and the real fun is just beginning.

Every calf will require the following information to be entered onto the registration application:

Date of birth. Birth weight. Weaning weight\*. Weaning date. Sire's name and registration number. Dam's name and registration number. If the

mating was Natural (i.e. pasture mating), you will record the range of dates that the bull(s) were running with the dam. If the mating was AI, simply record the date of insemination.

Also, have a name ready for the calf. Please note that there is a 25 character limit on names, including spaces. Creating a prefix for your farm's own registered animals is an important part

Continues pg 5





Drought, con't from pg 6

ents and temperatures increase, blue-green algae blooms become a very real threat to cattle in many parts of the country. Even some recreational lakes and reservoirs have to close during high blue-green algae blooms due to the human health hazard. Blue-green algae blooms can kill cattle.

Drought also affects water quality by increasing the concentration of nitrates and sulfates. Increased sulfate levels can tie up trace minerals such as copper and zinc, leading to reduced calf

weight gains and lowered immunity, and fertility problems in the cowherd. Add to that the likely scenario that forages have lignified early in the season, making foraging for a diet

Continues pg 9

# UNEMPLOYED: WIII Work for Food

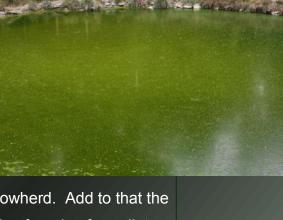
WE HAVE YEARLING BULLS READY FOR WORK IN <u>YOUR</u> HERD!





Joan and Dale Hoffman Grand Ledge, MI 517-627-2310 jhfmnatgrlg@aol.com





Below: pond with overgrowth of

blue-green algae.



Making Your A Plans? Bramble Sez, "Choose My Daddy"

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#### Drought, con't from pg 8

adequate in protein and digestible nutrients an even more energy-intensive task for the cattle.

One side effect of drought-affected ponds is the increasing amount of total dissolved solids, or TDS. As TDS increases, water intake decreases, which then leads to a decrease in forage intake. Couple a decrease in forage intake with increasing sulfates and nitrates tying up specific minerals, and the stage is set for some serious repercussions. Many of the elements now dissolved in the water actually cause the animal to reduce her voluntary intake of free choice mineral, only exacerbating the problem. A very high quality mineral program is important during periods of drought! Sure, you might sneak by for the first year or two, but

## Registering, con't from pg 5

on, join us!!) You will use your membership number, assigned by the CLRC, in the upper right hand corner of the registration application.

## BREEDING UP.

Easy enough: The AGBA doesn't do that. There is no provision for recording percentage animals, period. The Galloway breed is one of the few cattle breeds to abstain from allowing outside blood into their herd book. If an animal is going to make a contribution to the breed, its going to come from within the breed.

### How Do I Enter a Percentage Galloway in Shows?

The AGBA authorizes Show Certificates for use in entering shows requiring registration papers. These are available to anyone who owns an animal that is at least 50% Galloway, from an animal registered in either the AGBA or the Canadian Galloway Association (CGA).

These Show Certificates are available for steers and heifers only. Contact Michelle Blegen to obtain a numbered certificate. This number can then be used on your entry forms.



## And That's a WRAP!

Hopefully this provides breeders of all levels of experience with a helpful review of the registration process within the American Galloway Breeders' Association. If you have questions, contact a fellow breeder for information. People in this organization are always ready to help!

## COMING SOON TO THE AGBA WEBSITE

In the near future, we plan to have a PDF of the registration process, in a much more succinct form, on the americangalloway.com website for easy downloading and printing.

# **CATTLE HANDLING EQUIPMENT**

I recently watched the movie The Temple Grandin Story. It is a full length film that picks up Dr. Grandin's life having just graduated high school and arriving at her aunt's ranch for the summer. If you don't know, Temple Grandin was born in 1947 and diagnosed as autistic at the age of four. Pre-vailing wisdom at the time recommended institutionalization, but Temple's mother knew her daughter (who had yet to utter a word by age 4) was bright and aware, and so she persevered in pushing her daughter along.

The summer at the ranch provided her with many opportunities to work with her hands, and also opportunities to observe cattle and interact with them. This experience would prove to be a pivotal experience in her life, and ultimately for the entire beef industry.

If you haven't yet seen this movie, I highly recommend it. It is very rich on many levels, and laugh out loud funny at times. Check out Netflix or your local video store.

All of this got me to thinking about cattle handling equipment in general, and how important it is to the well-being of our cattle. I know we went for years without proper handling facilities. Eventually we bought a used head gate that we could maneuver animals into with a panel used to press them forward. It wasn't suitable for the more independent minded cows, and certainly not for working cattle, but was adequate for docile animals requiring a mild treatment of some sort, or getting started in a halter. A couple of years later we bought a used squeeze chute with palpation cage at an auction, then sprung for an alley and sweep, and installed them at the main pasture. Suddenly we were able to do much more of the cattle work for ourselves, and the safety factor for both animals and handlers went way up. There is a certain degree of relief to be had by knowing you can catch, and properly restrain your animals for treatment when that day comes that they need medical attention, and without the anxiety of wondering what kind of fiasco the project will turn in to.

Temple Grandin certainly changed the beef industry's cattle handling practices for the better. In the movie she is seen chastising industry titans, reminding them that cattle wouldn't be in their hands except that humans raise cattle for their own consumption. Exasperated, she blurts out "We owe them some respect!". And of course she is correct.

Having a simple alley and chute set up will simplify your life, and assure your cattle receive the kind of attention they may need from time to time. If your facilities have been in the planning stage, why not make this the year you implement Phase One? You will never regret it.

Meet the Directors, con't. from back page

more than willing to answer questions regarding animal selection, halter breaking, feeding, showing, etc. for our young Galloway folks. Reach out to me and I can forward you to those individuals. These individuals had the opportunity to experience great success with their Galloway projects.

I urge everyone to contribute to the success of the American Galloway Breeders Association and the Galloway breed. We need individuals that have interest and talents in every aspect of the cattle industry. Contact your area director or any director or officer and share your thoughts and ideas for moving our breed forward. Better yet, attend the NILE and the annual meeting in October in Billings, Montana. Your participation will help your Directors help you be more successful.

From the Big Sky Country of Montana Shawn Schumacher CK Galloways - Fort Benton, MT

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Drought Fallout, con't from pg. 9

personal experience has shown us that eventually a price will be exacted. We are now feeding a

mineral that costs exactly twice what we had been paying for an off the rack mineral from our local elevator, a mineral that had served us well for many years.

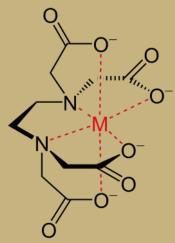
When we first made the switch the cows began inhaling the new mineral. Every 7 days we were dumping another 50lbs in their feeder. This figured out to around 5 to 5.5 ounces per head per day. After about 6 weeks things leveled off. Considerably.



What's in YOUR mineral feeder?

Trace minerals are essential minerals needed by the cow for her

body to function properly at the cellular level. Typically the trace minerals are considered to be iron, zinc, manganese, copper, iodine, cobalt and selenium. Most mineral mixes have the trace minerals included in varying amounts, depending on location. **So what makes some mineral mixes superior to others?** A lot of standard, and less expensive, mineral mixes use inorganic salts - the oxides, sulfates and carbonates you may see on your mineral label - to deliver the mineral. These are not very stable, and can easily be degraded in the rumen, and the trace mineral (usually a metal) they are transporting becomes susceptible to being chemically bound by



antagonists, making them non-absorbable, and hence excreted. The net result is very little of the desired element, be it Zinc, Copper, or Selenium, etc, remains present in an available form for absorption by the cow's body.

So what is the solution? Organic chelation. Think of sandwiching the trace mineral, say Zinc, in a kind of cow-friendly molecular bubble wrap, protecting it from degradation in the rumen. If there are chemical antagonists present in the rumen, they cannot bind to the protected mineral, and it remains in a form that is readily absorbed by the cow's body.

Mineral status of the cowherd has serious ramifications for the fertility and productivity of the animals. Its certainly worth the investment to make sure that changing environmental conditions haven't put your herd at risk. Galloway: When you are ready to think outside of the BOX.

Would you pay someone \$6-10 per month to market your cattle 24/7/365? That's exactly what your own website does for you!



It's a great big World Wide Web out there. And if you don't have a website, it won't find you.

Get a Website!

**Registered** Galloway **Breeding Stock Available** 

BRED HEIFERS

HEIFER CALVES

BULLS FOR SALE

## **2016 DIRECTORS**

Harley Blegen - ND	701-645-9073
Eli Berry - MN	612-390-2249
Jon Brown - OK	405-785-9115
Will Wheeler - OK	405-274-1799
Joan Hoffman - MI	517-627-2310
Bill Johnson -MT	406-207-0074
Joyce Jones - PA	724-924-2938
Shawn Schumacher -MT	406-622-5601
Richard Serr - WA	509-258-6776
Sarah Bowman - WY	307-752-7457
Susan Waples - MT	406-635-2114

## **Mailing Addresses**

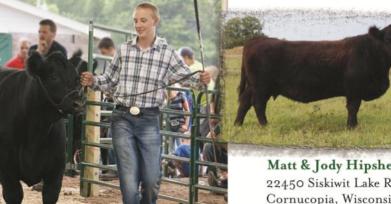
Mail Registrations and Transfers to:

CLRC 2417 Holly Lane Ottawa, Ontario K1V 0M7 CANADA

Mail Membership Applications and Dues to:

Joyce Jones/AGBA Sec 395 Double J Lane New Castle PA 16101





www.siskowitgalloways.com

Matt & Jody Hipsher 22450 Siskiwit Lake Rd Cornucopia, Wisconsin 715-742-3495 cornykid@cheqnet.net



#### Is your tattoo letter for 2016

Did You Know...

You can easily share this newsletter with your inquiry list by simply going to americangalloway.com, click on More About Galloways tab, and then copy the link for The Galloway Dispatch into an email.



Shawn Schumacher Montana

## MEET THE DIRECTORS

Shawn Schumacher, MT

Calving season is wrapping up here in Montana and the bulls will be turned out shortly. I hope all have had a successful calving season and that the calves hitting the ground are meeting your expectations. For those of you just beginning to calve, good luck and may all four hooves hit the ground running.

Our farm and ranch was homesteaded in the early 1900's and cattle have been a part of the operation for all but a few years. In the mid 2000's I began researching cattle breeds that would be most efficient on grass. I was looking to utilize land that was not suited for farming, but still had income potential. The Galloway breed consistently came to the top of my search. So Galloway is the cattle breed that I pursued. In the fall of 2007 we travelled to Baker, Montana for the State C Football Semi -Finals. The game did not end in our favor but not far away was Brass Ring Galloways and we took the time to visit. That visit tipped the scoreboard and put a win in the column for us and our start to raising Galloway cattle.

We raise registered black, red, dun, and white Galloways. Black is our predominant color. However, my son has developed a nice line of reds and my daughter is building a very nice line of duns. The whites are a beautiful animal and I have worked diligently in producing exceptional white Galloway cattle.

We sell registered and commercial Galloway breeding animals. We also have stockers available for those that wish to finish beef on a grass finishing program. Local restaurants are beginning to inquire about our Galloway beef for their menus. Exciting times at CK Galloways!

In the last few years I have introduced the Hereford into a cross breeding program. The Galloway Hereford cross produces an exceptional animal. Offspring are generally a black or red white face. The females are good productive replacements and the steers develop thick and heavy. While working cattle last fall, one of our neighbors was helping push calves up the alley and stated, "those calves are thick!" What a compliment coming from a traditional black cattle producer. I jumped at the opportunity to share the many benefits of the Galloway influence, including that thick back and big hip.

We pasture cattle on the prairie and along the Missouri River. When the cattle are on the river they have to work the "breaks" for food. In 2015 grass was running short and the Galloways moved up the steep breaks

Judy K Decker, editor

1800 E. 18th

Emporia, KS 66801

Directors, from pg 15

for food. It was quite a sight to see those cattle shimmy up and down foraging all the way.

My family enjoys showing our Galloway cattle. We generally exhibit at the NILE in Billings, Montana and at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado. Someday I would like to travel to the eastern and southern states and possibly participate in the cattle shows. It would be great fun to meet our many Galloway breeders in those areas. In addition to exhibiting/showing cattle, I enjoy being with the Galloway breeders. Not just Galloway breeders but like-minded people. You will not find a better bunch of folks.

This year, Maci Myers of Stir Stitch n' Stirrup 4-H Club purchased a registered black Galloway heifer for her Saleable Bred Heifer project. Maci and her family travelled to Denver with us and she showed her heifer in the Junior AGBA show and the open AGBA show. Maci's heifer won Grand Champion female in the Junior AGBA show. Maci has plans of showing at some Jackpot shows this spring and summer and then finishing her project by showing and selling her heifer at the Chouteau County Fair in August.

I have a great interest in revitalizing our youth program. We have many youth around the country that are participating in projects that include Galloway cattle. Please encourage those youth to join the Junior AGBA. This program is designed to support young members and to offer a very rewarding experience. The Junior AGBA has young adults that are still considered junior members and I believe that those members would be