

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ZIMBABWE HERD BOOK

1. Herd Book and Records

1.1 The Zimbabwe Herd Book (ZHB) shall record the following:

- a) The information required to keep a record of the birth notifications of animals which are eligible for registration;
- b) Details of fully registered purebred animals which have been passed for registration in terms of the Rules and Regulations of the ZHB and the relevant Breed Society;
- c) Details of registered appendix animals that have been passed for registration in terms of the Rules and Regulations of the ZHB and the relevant Breed Society.

These records may be compiled manually or by processing through a computer and all reasonable precautions shall be taken to safeguard these records against loss or destruction.

1.2 Breeders' Records

Each Breeder having animals entered or registered in any of the registers or records of ZHB detailed in paragraph 1.1 above shall, to the satisfaction of the Council and of the Inspectors approved by the Council, keep a proper record of the animals in his herd and their breeding.

2. Prefix and Herd Designation Letters

2.1 No animal shall be accepted for registration unless the Breeder has previously through his Society, registered with the ZHB for his exclusive use, a distinctive Prefix and Herd Designation Letters by which all animals registered on his behalf shall be designated. No Prefix may exceed fourteen (14) computer characters which shall include spaces, letters, numbers or other devices occupying the space of a letter. Herd Designation Letters must be unique and can comprise one, two or three letters.

2.2 Application for registration of such Prefix and Herd Designation Letters shall be made to the Secretary of ZHB and shall be accompanied by such registration fee as is prescribed from time to time.

2.3 No transfer of a Prefix or Herd Designation Letters shall be allowed as from one breeder to another except under such conditions and to such persons as is provided for in the general Rules and Regulations of the ZHB.

3 Names, Identification and Unique Number

- 3.1 No animal shall be considered for entry in the ZHB for registration unless such animal has been clearly marked and explicitly named. The Council shall have the right to refuse any application in respect of an animal which in its opinion, is misleadingly named or marked.
- 3.2 No name shall exceed sixteen (16) characters and only letters and numbers normally found in text may be used.
- 3.3 The name of any animal, once registered, shall not thereafter be changed or amended, except when the name reflects an obvious error, and in which event, it shall be permissible to amend the name only to the extent of correcting the error.
- 3.4 All animals eligible for registration in the ZHB shall be individually identified to the breeder by two means which as the Breed Society shall decree, may be by an ear tattoo, officially recognised ear tags, brand or ear notches.
- 3.5 Every animal recorded with the ZHB shall be given a unique number in the format YY-NNNNhdl, where YY refers to the birth year (which can span two calendar years in the case of summer born calves), NNNN is a unique zero-padded farm number within herd for particular birth year and hdl refers to the breeder's Herd Designation Letters.
- 3.6 No Prefix registered in the name of one Breeder may be used in the naming of an animal belonging to another Breeder.

4. **Notification of Birth**

- 4.1 The Breeder of the progeny of a registered female by a registered sire, or female eligible for registration, shall notify the Secretary of ZHB of the birth of the progeny whether it be born dead or alive or whether such progeny is to be destroyed or not. Such notification shall be forwarded by the Breeder to reach the Secretary of ZHB within sixty (60) days of the date of birth.
- 4.2 In the event of twin calves being born to any registered female, or female eligible for registration, the Breeder shall in addition to the particulars ordinarily required, also record on the birth notification form of each twin calf the fact of it being a twin calf, together with the sex of the other twin.
- 4.3 Whenever any Breeder notifies the birth of the progeny of a registered animal, he shall complete and keep a copy of such form in such manner that the information appearing in farm records shall coincide in all respects with the information appearing on copies dispatched to the ZHB. All such farm records shall be retained intact by such Breeder and shall be held available

for inspection and checking at all reasonable times. Entries shall be made consecutively.

- 4.4 The Secretary of ZHB, after having checked the birth notification form and having found no irregularity, shall record the eligibility of the animal for registration and return one copy to the Breeder endorsed with the unique number allocated to the animal.
- 4.5 Should a Breeder fail to advise the Secretary of ZHB of the birth of an animal on the prescribed form within sixty (60) days of the birth of an animal, the breeder may apply to the Council of ZHB to accept a late birth notification, and Council shall have the discretion in circumstances which it regards as an exception, and worthy of condonation to accept such late birth notification upon payment of the penalty prescribed by Council from time to time.

5. Service Certificates

- 5.1 Wherever the birth of the progeny of a registered animal of which only the dam is registered, or eligible for registration in the name of the Breeder is notified, such birth notification shall be accompanied by a service certificate from the person who, at the time of service, was the registered owner of the sire. Such service certificate shall be in the form prescribed by the Council of the ZHB. Such forms are supplied, on application to the Secretary of the ZHB and on payment of the fee from time to time levied.
- 5.2 Sire loan certificates shall be provided when the sire of the animals, for which a birth notification form is submitted to the Secretary of ZHB, is on loan to the owner of the registered dams. Such certificates signed by the owner shall state the name and registered number of the sire, the name of the owner and the name of the Breeder to whom the sire is loaned.

6. Gestation Period and Calving Interval

- 6.1 The minimum acceptable gestation period shall be two hundred and sixty (260) days, and the maximum acceptable period shall be three hundred and four (304) days.

The minimum acceptable interval between successive calvings shall be two hundred and eighty (280) days.

- 6.2 Any gestation period outside the range stated in paragraph 6.1 or calving interval less than the minimum stated in paragraph 6.1 shall not be recognised unless confirmed by a DNA test acceptable to ZHB.

7. Records of Birth Notifications

- 7.1 Registered Animals

Male and female progeny of registered animals where births have been notified in accordance with paragraph 4 of these Rules and Regulations and which have been born:-

- a) to parents registered or entered in any of the records of ZHB for registered stock; and
- b) to dams so registered or eligible for registration that are born from imported semen approved in terms of Item 11, Artificial Insemination, will be recorded in the birth notification records of the ZHB.

7.2 Appendix Animals

The purpose of Appendix registration is to achieve these objectives:-

- a) To widen the genetical base of a population by introducing animals with desirable traits and to permit selection for these traits;
- b) To increase the degree of breed purity following these introductions by the successive use of purebred sires through Appendices A, B and C; and
- c) To register the progeny of Appendix C animals with at least 15/16th purebred blood in the purebred register of the breed.

7.3 Appendix Procedures

The progeny of all females (and males in the case of open societies) recorded in Appendices A, B and C of ZHB shall be recorded in ZHB upon receipt of a Notification of Birth on the prescribed form. Such progeny shall be eligible for registration in the appropriate Appendix register of ZHB, except for the progeny of Appendix C females (or males) which will be eligible for registration in the purebred register of the breed concerned.

Such registrations shall be subject to the requirements laid down by the Breed Society and ZHB.

7.4 Composite Breeds

In the composite breeds, the breeding plan shall be based upon the use of fully registered purebred sires and dams and the progeny of these sires and dams shall be eligible for registration in the birth notification records of ZHB and upon application, be eligible for registration for use in the breeding plans laid down by the Breed Society and approved by ZHB to beget the accepted purebred animal for full registration.

ZHB having approved the breeding plans of the relevant Breed Societies for composite breeds shall record Notifications of Birth on the prescribed form of animals eligible for registration. All sires and dams of progeny for which

Notification of Birth is received by ZHB shall have been recorded by ZHB prior to the birth of their progeny.

Subject to the requirements laid down by the breed society and ZHB having been met, ZHB shall provide the Breeder with appropriate registration certificates.

7.5 Indigenous Breeds

As provided for in the Registration of Farm Livestock Act [*Chapter 19:11*], the ZHB is empowered to delegate under such conditions as it may require to Indigenous Breed Societies or their approved agents, the keeping of records in regard to foundation stock and subsequent qualifying generations.

ZHB shall accept and record Birth Notifications submitted on the prescribed form in respect of the progeny of animals eligible for registration in the ZHB as purebred registered animals or appendix animals on such conditions as the breed societies and ZHB may from time to time prescribed.

8 Transfer of Animals in Birth Notification Records

8.1 Wherever any progeny of a registered animal entered in the birth notification records of the ZHB is sold, or the ownership therein is in any way transferred, the seller or transferor shall within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale, or change of ownership, formally notify the Secretary of ZHB in writing of the date of the sale, or change of ownership, together with the full name and address of the purchaser or transferee.

8.2 Irrespective of the provisions of paragraph 8.1 above, the Council shall have the discretion in circumstances which it regards as exceptional and worthy of consideration, to accept an application for transfer of an animal recorded in Birth Notification records of ZHB which reaches the ZHB after the thirty (30) days prescribed but not later than twelve (12) months from the date of sale or change of ownership subject to the payment of such fees as the Council may prescribe.

8.3 Upon receipt of the notification of the sale or change of ownership of an animal submitted with the certified copy of the Birth Notification form as provided for in paragraph 8.1 above and provided the Council is satisfied that the requirements of these Rules and Regulations have been met, the requisite transfer be effected in favour of the purchaser or transferee in the relevant Birth Notification records of the ZHB. A certified copy of the Birth Notification form shall also be forwarded to the purchaser or transferee by the Secretary of ZHB.

9 Eligibility of Progeny for Registration

Progeny duly entered in birth notification records shall not be regarded as registered animals. The effect, however, of entry of any progeny in the birth notification records of ZHB shall be to render such progeny eligible for registration in any of the other records of ZHB upon compliance in due course with the requirements for such registration.

10 Registration in the Zimbabwe Herd Book

10.1 Animals entered in the birth notification records of ZHB for registered stock shall, on complying with the inspection and other requirements prescribed by the relevant Breed Society, be registered in the ZHB when applicable.

10.2 The breeder or owner of an animal which is eligible for registration and who wishes that animal to be registered shall apply to the Secretary of ZHB for registration. Such application shall be accompanied by a signed certificate that the animal has passed inspection by an inspector authorised by the Breed Society and whichever production certificates, signed by an official of the responsible recording authority, as may be required by the Breed Society before registration can be effected.

10.3 Only animals between nine (9) and thirty-six (36) months of age shall be eligible for registration. The registration of Appendix A females may however, take place at over thirty-six (36) months of age.

Where a breeder seeks to have an animal registered before nine (9) or after thirty-six (36) months, he may apply to Council for an exemption which may at the discretion of Council, be granted upon the payment of whatever fee Council may from time to time prescribe.

10.4 Following a successful application for the registration of an animal, the ZHB may forward to the Breeder or owner a registration certificate on which will be recorded:

- a) the ZHB unique number of the animal;
- b) the breed of the animal and breed registration number;
- c) the name and address of the breeder and the name and address of the owner;
- d) the name of the animal (Prefix and name);
- e) date of birth;
- f) birth notification number;
- g) sex;
- h) the identity and names of the parents and grandparents; and
- i) such production and performance records as may be approved by ZHB for inclusion on the certificate

- 10.5 Should the owner of an imported animal wish to have such an animal registered in the ZHB, he shall within three (3) months from the date of arrival of the animal or such longer period as may be permitted by the Council of ZHB, apply to ZHB for such registration and his application shall be accompanied by authentic export certificates, issued by such Herd or Stud book that ZHB may from time to time approve. Such export certificates shall contain the necessary information as to the transfer of the animal, the Breeder and/or the owner of the said animal into the name of the person or persons on whose behalf the registration is sought as well as full particulars of the breeding, age and identification marks.
- 10.6 In the case of a female served before importation, the application for the resulting progeny of that female shall further be accompanied by a service certificate signed by the recognised owner or his duly appointed representative of the sire that served the female in question, which sire shall be registered in a Herd or Stud book approved by ZHB.
- 10.7 Any progeny from an imported female conceived before registration of such imported animal shall, upon the subsequent registration thereof, become eligible for registration subject to the provision that all formalities relating to the birth notification procedure shall have been complied with and that the sire of such progeny is registered in a Herd or Stud Book approved by ZHB.

11 Artificial Insemination

- 11.1 Animals which have been begotten by artificial insemination in accordance with the conditions laid down in these Rules and Regulations shall be eligible for registration.
- 11.2 No birth notification shall be accepted for the purposes of registration unless it is endorsed "Begotten by Artificial Insemination" and the name and registered number of the sire is entered on the birth notification form.
- 11.3 In the case of progeny resulting from the use of semen from a sire owned by a person other than the breeder of the progeny, the sire from which the semen was drawn must have been registered in the ZHB by the person or persons supplying the semen.
- 11.4 Animals Resulting from Imported or Local Embryos
- 11.4.1 Animals resulting from embryo transfer of imported or local embryos in respect of which the provisions of these Rules and Regulations *mutatis mutandis* have been complied with, shall be eligible for registration.

- 11.4.2 The requirements for registration of the progeny resulting from imported embryos shall be no less than those in respect of an imported animal.
- 11.4.3 Such imported embryos shall have been collected by a competent body in the country of origin (approved by the Department of Veterinary Services) from an animal which complies with the minimum requirements for the importation of embryos as determined by the relevant Breed Society and approved by the ZHB, and shall have been fertilised with semen of an animal which likewise complies with the minimum requirements as determined by the relevant Breed Society and approved by the Society and the ZHB.
- 11.4.4 The birth notification of progeny resulting from embryo transfer shall be accompanied by a certificate stating:
- a) the name, identification and registration number of the embryo donor;
 - b) the date and place of collection of the embryo;
 - c) the number of viable embryos collected from the donor concerned;
 - d) the name and address of the veterinarian or approved technician who collected the embryo;
 - e) the name and address of the veterinarian or approved technician who transferred the embryo to the recipient female; and
 - f) the date of the transfer.

Such certificates shall be signed by the breeders and the veterinarian or approved technician concerned.

- 11.4.5 An approved technician shall be a person who has applied to the ZHB Executive Committee and has been approved by them as such.
- 11.4.6 The birth notification of progeny resulting from the transfer of an imported embryo shall be accompanied by a certificate signed by a recognised competent body in the country of origin stating the name, identification and registration number of the semen donor concerned as well as the date and place of insemination.
- 11.4.7 Where an embryo or embryos flushed from a donor female undergo a change of ownership, the resultant progeny shall be eligible for registration provided the provisions of these regulations *mutatis mutandis* have been complied with and the certificate recording the

change of ownership is forwarded to the Secretary of the ZHB with the notification of birth of the animal concerned.

Such certificate shall record the following and be signed by the seller and purchaser:

- a) the name and address of the seller of the embryo;
- b) the name and registered number of the pregnant or donor female;
- c) the name, address and herd prefix of the purchaser;
- d) the date upon which ownership changed from the seller to the purchaser; and
- e) the due date upon which the animal which is the subject of the certificate is expected to be born.

12 DNA Sample

ZHB shall require that approved DNA samples of all animals be lodged with the Secretary of ZHB. ZHB shall reserve the right, if at any time it deems necessary, to insist upon a DNA parentage test of any animal being carried out for the purposes of identification. ZHB shall institute random parentage checks on all birth notifications. In the instance of incorrect parentage, ZHB shall cancel the animal's registration and, after presentation to the Council, may request for further tests to be performed on the stud in question.

In instances where any doubt exists as to the identity of an animal on the part of a Breeder or owner and a DNA parentage test is carried out, the cost thereof shall be borne by the person making the application for the desired DNA parentage test provided that facilities that are acceptable to ZHB are used to carry out such DNA parentage tests.

13 Charges to Breeders

- 13.1 Every breeder shall at the end of each calendar year furnish the ZHB with the record reflecting full details of any category or age group of animals that may be called for.
- 13.2 An annual herd fee shall be levied by the ZHB upon every owner of registered and Appendix registered livestock at the rate laid down by the Council from time to time and such levy shall become due and payable on a date prescribed by Council.

- 13.3 ZHB shall also raise a charge from owners of pedigree livestock on the notification of the birth of progeny at the rate which shall be prescribed by the Council from time to time.
- 13.4 Further charges also at the discretion of Council will be made in respect of late submission of Birth Notification forms, replacement of certificates and other services rendered by the ZHB in addition to the normal registration procedures.
- 13.5 Should any Breeder or owner of pedigree livestock fail to timeously furnish the ZHB with the information required under paragraph 13.1, the ZHB shall be entitled to calculate the fees to be levied against such Breeder or owner on the basis of the number of animals of a relevant age that are registered in his name in ZHB and once the breeder has been notified of such levy, he shall be obliged to pay the full amount thereof for that particular year.
- 13.6 For so long as charges prescribed by the Council in the form of annual levies or other charges remain in arrears, the ZHB shall not render any services in respect of animals owned by the breeder nor accept for registration any progeny.

14 Transfers

- 14.1 Any Breeder transferring a registered animal or animal eligible for registration but not yet registered, shall be bound as a prerequisite to registration, to apply to ZHB for transfer of registration to the new owner within forty-five (45) days from the delivery of such animal.
- 14.2 For the purposes of these Rules and Regulations the date of transfer shall be deemed to be the date on which the animal left the possession of the seller or transferor.
- 14.3 If the animal to be transferred is a female expected to be pregnant, the transferor shall along with the physical delivery of such animal to the transferee, furnish the latter with the date of service or insemination and the full name and ZHB number of the sire concerned.
- 14.4 A change of ownership shall be deemed to have taken place when:-
- a) an animal is sold or otherwise disposed of, exchanged or donated, or transferred according to the laws of testacy or intestacy;
 - b) a partnership or other association of persons, corporate or incorporate, is formed or dissolved;
 - c) an animal is registered jointly in the names of more than one owner and anyone or more of such owners disposes of his share in the

animal so registered or relinquishes his interest in the said registration; and

- d) the Council resolves in its entire discretion that a change of ownership has occurred on the facts or circumstances found by it to exist or to have existed.

15 Reinstatement of Animals

In the event of the registration of an animal having been cancelled, such animal shall be reinstated in the records of the ZHB upon the approval of the Council of ZHB. The application for reinstatement of an animal shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed from time to time by the Council.

16 Cancellation of Registration

16.1 The Council may order the cancellation of the registration of any animal which has been registered:

- a) by mistake;
- b) on the strength of false or fraudulent information supplied by the owner;
- c) after the owner has failed to comply with the provisions of any regulation or by-law which should have been complied with in order to ensure a faultless registration; and
- d) where an animal is not identified as required in paragraph 3.4.

16.2 The ZHB shall refuse to accept for registration the progeny of any animal whose registration has been cancelled in terms of paragraph 16.1 and shall cancel the registration of such progeny should they have already been registered.

16.3 Before the cancellation of a registration, the Secretary shall give the owner of the animal at least thirty (30) days' notice at his last known address of the intention to do so.

17 Notification of Deaths, Etc.

17.1 If an animal which has been registered has died, been castrated, spayed, is lost or sold for slaughter, such facts must be notified to the ZHB within the calendar year or within thirty (30) days of the end of the calendar year and the registration certificate, if any, at the same time be returned to the ZHB for cancellation with the date of the relevant event endorsed thereon.

17.2 Should any owner have forwarded an animal's details for cancellation and after due cancellation should wish such animal to be reinstated, the procedure and conditions laid down in paragraph 15 shall apply.

18 Alterations and Additions to Registration Certificates

Any alterations or additions to the essential information and particulars officially entered on a registration certificate which has not been initialised by a responsible official of the ZHB or any unauthorised endorsement or remark upon such registration certificate bearing upon the essential information and particulars contained therein shall render such certificate invalid.

19 Extended Pedigree

Any person may apply to the ZHB for the extended pedigree of any animal which has been registered provided that such application be accompanied by the fee prescribed from time to time by the Council for such service.

20 Records

The records of registration of the ZHB existing at the fixed date upon which the President by notice in the Gazette declared that the Registration of Pedigree Farm Livestock Act [*Chapter 19:11*] came into operation, shall be taken over and become part and parcel of the records of registration, the issue of certificates and pedigrees under the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of ZHB.

21 Affiliated Breed Societies

21.1 The Constitution, Rules and Regulations of member Breed Societies as approved by ZHB shall apply as they affect breeders who are members of such societies.

21.2 Where Breed Society regulations and by-laws concerning the records and registration procedures of ZHB are at variance with the Rules and Regulations of ZHB, then the latter shall apply.

22 Delegation of the Powers of Breeders

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Constitution any breeder may by letter of authority to the Secretary of ZHB, authorise any person on his behalf to sign any birth notification form, application for registration or transfer, certificate of transfer, service certificate, returns or reports or any other documents in connection with the administration of the breeders registered animals, if any such signature given by such authorised person or any other person authorised by law to represent any deceased, liquidated or insolvent breeder or breeders under disability, shall be accepted by the ZHB as being valid and binding as if it had been given by the Breeder himself.

23 Ministerial and Council Approval

These Rules and Regulations shall apply following their approval by the Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate & Rural Resettlement and as decreed by the Council of ZHB.