**Effective 24 July 2023**

**NZWBA REGISTRATIONS PROCESS AND GUIDANCE**

This document is designed to outline the process of registering Wagyu animals with the NZWBA and provide some guidance to members. All registration documentation and any questions about the process should be emailed to registration@nzwba.co.nz.

**1: BECOME A FULL MEMBER OF THE NZWBA**

To register animals with the NZWBA a full membership is required:

https://nzwba.co.nz/membership/

As part of the full membership members will be allocated with a stud prefix and herd ID for use with registering their animals. A log in to the NZWBA online database will also be provided.

**2: COLLECT DNA SAMPLES FROM ALL ANIMALS TO BE REGISTERED**

The NZWBA has implemented DNA profiling and Parent Verification for all new registrations. Hair or tissue samples will be required for all animals that will be registered and members are encouraged to sample all animals (especially older animals) to help gather a genetic record of the NZ herd. The Australian Wagyu Association Members guide has an excellent overview of DNA testing (although the process differs to that used by the NZWBA). It is recommended reading for those who have not utilised DNA technology previously.

Instructions for hair sample collection can be found here:

https://genetics.zoetis.com/newzealand/\_locale-assets/documents/160621\_zoetis-hair-collection-guide.pdf

Instructions for the Allflex Tissue Sampling Unit instructions are here:

https://genetics.zoetis.com/newzealand/\_locale-assets/documents/160621\_allflex\_tsu-collection-guide.pdf

**3: DNA PROFILE AND PARENT VERFIY ANIMALS TO BE REGISTERED**

All new animal registrations require DNA parentage verification. The NZWBA requires a DNA profile to be on file with an approved laboratory and able to be accessed by the NZWBA. Each member will need to arrange the testing as there is currently no centralised NZWBA control of DNA testing. The currently approved testing providers are Zoetis NZ (commonly used for NZ born animals) and the Australian Wagyu Association (commonly used for Australian born animals – e.g. those imported as embryos).

Zoetis NZ DNA testing information and forms can be found here:

https://genetics.zoetis.com/newzealand/testing\_and\_results.aspx

AWA DNA testing information and forms can be found here:

https://www.wagyu.org.au/for-members/forms-and-guides

There are two main testing formats for DNA parent verification: the older Microsatellite (also known as MIP or STR) format, and the newer Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) format. The formats are not compatible, and you will need to make sure that the correct testing format is requested. The AWA members guide contains more information and please contact the NZWBA if you have questions regarding DNA testing formats.

The language used can vary between testing providers. The main differences are that Zoetis NZ refer to an animals’ DNA number as a ‘barcode’ and the Microsatellite format as (STR – Simple Tandem Repeat), whereas the AWA refers to the DNA number as the ‘DNA case ID’ and the Microsatellite format as MIP.

Note that full DNA parent verification of NZ born animals may not be possible (e.g. the animal’s sire or dam are deceased and were never profiled). There is a process to enable registration of such animals, but this requires NZWBA Council approval of all registrations.

**4: COMPLETE REGISTRATION FORM AND SUBMIT TO NZWBA WITH DNA PARENT VERIFICATION RESULTS**

The requirements are different depending on whether the animals to be registered are already registered elsewhere, are the progeny of NZWBA registered animals or new multiple generation additions to the NZWBA register. All registration documents should be sent to registration@nzwba.co.nz.

Animals that are progeny of NZWBA registered animals with full DNA verification:

* Complete the NZWBA registration form.
* Forward the testing laboratory DNA parent verification results.

Animals registered with an approved Association with full DNA verification: Currently animals registered with the Australian Wagyu Association and the American Wagyu Association automatically qualify for registration with the NZWBA.

* Complete the NZWBA registration form.
* Provide a link to the animals in the other approved register.
* Forward the testing laboratory DNA parent verification results.

Note that there is no automatic information sharing between databases. Pedigree information will be transcribed from the other register until an NZWBA registered animal is reached, or maximum four generations.

New registrations with a recorded pedigree, without full DNA verification (made under the NZWBA Bylaws DNA verification exemption clause 2.5.3):

* Complete the NZWBA registration form.
* Complete the NZWBA recorded pedigree form with as many generations as required to reach animals already registered with the NZWBA or an approved register, or that you have information for.
* Forward the testing laboratory DNA parent verification results.

Note if registering animals under the exemption for full DNA parent verification/pedigree forward supporting information to the NZWBA Council for approval. **In this case Council approval will be needed for all registrations and further information may be required – please contact the NZWBA prior to sending the registration documents in.**

**5: REGISTRATIONS COMPLETED**

Once the registration information has been checked and approved the animals will be entered in the online register. The member will be notified and will be asked to check the register for any errors. Any errors will be brought to the NZWBAs attention, rectified and once confirmed correct breed certificates will be issued.

**6: MEMBER INVOICED FOR REGISTRATIONS**

The registration charge is a one-off charge, currently $25 per live animal.

**7: ONGOING MAINTENANCE OF THE REGISTER**

The register is a mixture of historic records from the early 2000s and new information. As such, there may be errors present in the register information and members are encouraged to bring any discrepancies to the attention of the NZWBA for correction. If any errors exist that require re-issue of breed certificates, this will be done at no charge to the member.

**Notes on how to use the register**

The NZ register runs on the same platform as the Australian Wagyu Association register and shares many similarities. New NZ born animal name formats are [Herd prefix][Animal name][Animal ID]. The Herd Prefix is made up of three letters and where possible is harmonized with the Australian Wagyu Association (members of both associations can have the same herd ID). The Animal ID may be omitted if the animal has a name e.g.:

KENHANAFUJI

Newly registered NZ born Herdbook number formats are [Herd ID][Birth year number and/or letter][Animal ID] e.g.:

THF18P204

Foreign name formats are as per the animal’s ‘home’ register e.g.:

GINJO MARBLEMAX HIRANAMI B901

WORLD K’S MICHIFUKU

Foreign animal Herdbook numbers begin with ‘AUS’ for Australian animals, ‘USA’ for American animals and ‘JPN’ for Japanese animals, followed by the ‘home’ register number e.g:

GINJO MARBLEMAX HIRANAMI B901 - AUSGINFB0901

WORLD K’S MICHIFUKU - USAFB1614

DAI 7 ITOZAKURA - JPN65

***Note:*** *there are some discrepancies with historic Herdbook numbers. NZ born Herdbook numbers may be of a different format and use the old 4-digit Herd ID and grade codes. Some Australian animals being with ‘AUST’, some US animals have numbers that begin with ‘AWA’ and some Japanese animals begin with ‘JP’. These are being progressively updated to the new format.*

If you only have part of an animal’s name or Herdboook number you search using part of the animals name or number along with the wildcard (%) symbol before and/or after the search item. E.g:

In the Herdbook number field ‘USA%’ will return all animals with numbers that begin with ‘USA’.

In the name field ‘%nami’ will return all animals with names that end in ‘nami’.

Breedplan has not been implemented for the NZWBA so EBV data is not available.