

E.A.S.B.B

Herd-book Rules of the European Association of Specialised Beef Breeds Society Ltd.

The Herd-book of the Romagnola Breed.

The Herd-book of the Romagnola breed shall include:

- a) Particulars of the pedigree and performance of pedigree European-Union Romagnola cattle, which are eligible to be entered therein.
- b) Particulars of herd letters, herd names, breeders and owners, past and present.
- c) Such other information as the Council of the Society may from time to time decide.

Breed Characteristics.

The Romagnola.

The Romagnola breed originates and derives its name from the Emilia-Romagna region of north east Italy.

The Romagnola has a white coat with grey shading towards the front and black skin pigmentation. It demonstrates a significant somatic development with a harmonious structure. The trunk is particularly well-developed in the transverse diameters, with particular emphasis in the hindquarters, where the thighs and buttocks reveal a broad, convex and markedly inclined musculature.

This breed's short sturdy legs and strong feet, coupled with an outstanding capacity for adaptation to a wide range of varying climatic conditions have made it an ideal grazing animal. Calving takes place without any difficulty and the cows give birth to wheat-coloured calves that weigh an average of 40-45 kg's, but by the age of three-four months the coat changes to its mature colour. The Romagnola has an outstanding growth capacity. The cows weigh between 600 and 900 kg's, whereas adult males reach 1200-1500 kg's. They are slaughtered when they reach a weight of 650 - 700 kg's, at the age of 16-18 months. Average slaughter yield is 62-63%.

Breeding Objective.

1. The breeding objective is to produce high quality animals of the pure type whose meat is ideally suitable for sale into the higher priced and in general more specialised market outlets of mainland Europe. This is achieved through the genetic improvement of traits such as slaughtering age, live weight gain, feed conversion efficiency, dressing-out percentage, carcass characteristics, meat quality, calving ease and fertility. This can be achieved in conjunction with ICBF. This is also achieved by a strict attention and application to a detailed protocol throughout the whole chain of production (La Filiera) which is determined by the Council of the European Association of Specialised Beef Breeds.

2. To co-operate with animal science in general, as well as other recognised international organisations involved in animal improvement. (I.e. ICAR, Interbeef, Breedplan and IGS.)

Registration of Animals.

The Herd-book shall have a Main Section and a Supplementary Section.

To qualify for entry into the Main Section of the Herd-book, animals must meet the following criteria;

1. Be descended from parents and grandparents entered in the Main Section of the Herd-book for the Romagnola cattle breed.
2. Be identified according to the Herd-book rules.
3. Have a pedigree established in accordance with the Herd-book rules.

Supplementary Section.

The Herd-book provides for a grading-up programme on the female side, which is accommodated by the Supplementary Section. The Herd-book provides two categories in the Supplementary Section, one for male animals and one for female animals.

The criteria for entering the Supplementary Section is as follows;

1. Be identified according to these rules.
2. Following inspection, be judged by the Society to conform to the Romagnola breed standard.
3. The animal has at least one parent who is a pure bred Romagnola. This must be verified through genotyping (SNP).
4. Have a minimum performance as laid down in the following rules;
 - (a) The animal must have genomic enhanced EBVs (GE-EBVs).
 - (b) The GE-EBVs must equate to a minimum “Four star” Replacement index through the ICBF “Euro-Star” system of genetic evaluation.

Male Supplementary Section.

Males entered in this category shall be given the notation “SRM”.

The notation “SRM” shall be written on their Herd-book certificates.

NOTE: EU-Zootechnical legislation does not permit grading-up on the male side. Hence “SRM” animals may only have their genes infused into the main section through their female progeny.

Female Supplementary Section.

The Female Supplementary category shall be divided into two sections: Section A and Section B.

Females entered in (Section A) are regarded as Foundation Females and shall be given the notation “ASR”. The notation “ASR” shall be written on their Herd-book certificates.

To qualify for entry into (Section B) of the Female Supplementary Section of the Herd-book, an animal shall be a female whose dam is registered in (Section A) of the Female Supplementary Section of the Herd-book, and whose sire is registered in the Main Section of the Herd-book or in the Main Section of another EU approved Herd-book of the Romagnola breed. The notation “BSR” shall be written on their Herd-book certificates.

Grading Up.

A female animal whose dam (Section B) and maternal grand dam (Section A) are registered in a Supplementary Section of the Herd-book and whose sire and two grandsires are entered in the Main Section of the Herd-book or of another EU approved Herd-book of the breed shall be eligible for entry in the Main Section of the Association's Herd-book.

Procedures for Registration of Animals.

The birth of every calf whose entry is desired to be registered in the Society's Herd-book shall be notified to the Society by the owner or his representative within 30 days of the date of the birth of the calf.

The procedure(s) for registering calves are;

1. Notification of the birth on the ICBF Animal Event (AE) form duly completed giving details of date of birth, sex, ear tag number, dam, sire, and name of calf to be forwarded to ICBF for entry in the Association's Herd-book.
2. Any other procedure approved or directed by the Council of the Society from time to time.
3. In the case of twins and multiple births, calves will be notified as usual to ICBF.
4. The Society reserves the right to refuse to accept the notification of birth of a calf where the date of birth provided is deemed to be deficient or inaccurate.
5. Where calves are born as a result of a service procedure from a bull not owned by the breeder, a certificate stating such shall be forwarded to the Society at the time of notification of birth.

6. Where the sire and dam of a calf were not in the same ownership at the time of service or insemination, a properly authorised service or insemination certification verifying this service or insemination must, unless otherwise decided by the Council of the Society, be submitted when the calf is tendered for registration.

7. In the case of a sire located outside the state, the member shall supply full pedigree details of the sire and mating records, certified by the Herd-book of the state of export to the society. In the case of official mating records not being available, parentage verification through DNA will have to be carried out and the registration of the calf pending results. The onus is on the breeder to seek out this information.

8. All donors and bulls used for breeding purposes must have been DNA typed by an approved laboratory before progeny can be accepted for notification of birth and registration.

9. In the case of calves born as a result of embryo transfer, both donor sire and dam must be DNA typed and the resultant calf must have its parentage verified by an approved laboratory prior to the animal being eligible for registration.

In the event of a DNA type not being available for either the donor sire or dam, or both, the pedigree certification details of both the donor sire and dam must be provided to the Society, in association with all relevant embryologist certification. Calves resulting from such embryos may be eligible for entry into the Supplementary Section of the Herd-book if they are adjudged to conform to the breed standard.

Note: The embryos must in the first instance be understood to be derived from both a donor sire and dam that are recognized to be of the breed standard and must have pedigree/parentage information available.

Donor animals not already registered with the Society must be registered with the payment of appropriate fees.

10. The cost of any DNA typing will be paid by the member and the Society reserves the right to request the owner to do additional DNA typing at his/her own expense if thought necessary by the Council.

11. The Society reserves the right to withdraw any certificate without refund if at any time the animal fails parentage verification. The onus is on the breeder to ensure that all details on the pedigree certificate are correct. The Society will not be responsible for lost or mislaid forms.

12. The Society reserves the right to carry out, at their own discretion, random DNA typing, at the breeder's expense on all animals. Every 25th calf birth notified to the Society will have to undergo DNA testing to verify parentage. In the event of an animal failing this verification, the Society may then decide to have all animals proposed for registration by the breeder DNA verified.

13. Only paid up members of the Society shall be allowed to register animals in the Society's Herd-book.

14. Breeders shall notify the Society of any genetic peculiarities and genetic defects on their animals. Equally breeders shall notify the ICBF and submit an online congenital defect reporting questionnaire which can be accessed via the following weblink;

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5CG9RY8?sm=x6Vqcq%2bsueU0qiHJ721FBg%3d%3d>

Identification of Animals.

1. Each animal shall be identified at birth with the National Bovine Identification number.
2. Each member must make application to register an approved Prefix name comprised of not more than sixteen letters. This prefix name shall not have been allocated to another member of the Society, either in the past or at present. This shall be applicable to all animals bred and notified by that member, either alone or jointly with any partner's or other persons in any one herd.
3. In addition, each animal must be named. The first letter of the name must be that of the current Society year letter, for example each animal born in 2017 shall have a name commencing with the letter "G".

Imports / Exports.

1. Each imported animal must be registered with the Society as soon as possible by submitting the official Herd-book pedigree certificate of the country of origin together with the normal registration fee. In the case of bulls, a DNA typing certificate must be submitted together with the normal registration fee.

2. Imported embryos should be registered with the Society, applying the same criteria and fees as home-produced embryos. Copies of official documentation must be supplied as appropriate, including copies of the official Herd-book and DNA typing certificates of both donor animals to allow for parentage verification, together with the appropriate fee.

In the event of a DNA type not being available for either the donor sire or dam, or both, the pedigree certification details of both the donor sire and dam must be provided to the Society, in association with all relevant embryologist certification. Calves resulting from such embryos may be eligible for entry into the Supplementary Section of the Herd-book, if they are adjudged to conform to the breed standard.

Note: The embryos must in the first instance be understood to be derived from both a donor sire and dam that are recognized to be of the breed standard and must have pedigree/parentage information available.

Donor animals not already registered with the Society must be registered with the payment of appropriate fees.

3. Imports and exports of animals, embryos, semen etc., should comply with the national legislation in place at the time. Where the purchaser requires an Export Certificate, the Society will supply it at the fee specified.

4. Members shall inform the Society of the sale of any of their registered or notified cattle, meaning cattle, the births of which have been officially notified to the Society, but which have not yet been accepted for registration in the Society's Herd-book. Each member shall complete the transfer form on the registration certificate or the appropriate transfer certificate for notified cattle and forward this to the Society for noting and onward transmission to the new owner. An export transfer fee shall be charged for both male and female animals.

Certificate of Registration.

1. A certificate of registration, with the animals' ancestry shall be issued to the owner by the Society when all registration criteria and payment of registration fees are met. The onus is on the owner of the animal to verify that all information on the certificate is correct and if not, to contact the Society's office with corrections.
2. All available results of genetic peculiarities and genetic defects on the animal itself and its parents and grandparents shall be entered on the Herd-book certificate. If these results are publicly available on the internet, then reference shall be made to the website where the most up-to-date results can be found.
3. A programme of official weight recording, progeny and performance testing and linear scoring may be operated in conjunction with the appropriate official approved body. Such data shall be entered where available on the Herd-book certificate as decided by Council.
4. Purchasers of animals should return the official pedigree certificate together with the appropriate transfer fee to effect change of ownership.
5. The Council may at any time cancel the entry of an animal in the Herd-book, which shall be found to contain any false or inaccurate particulars or statement or to have been made on the faith of any false or inaccurate particulars or statement given or made to the Society. On the cancellation of the entry of any animal in the Herd-book, the certificate of registration issued by the Society will be cancelled and any fees paid to the Society shall be retained by the Society.
6. In order to further authenticate the certificate of registration, each certificate will be embossed with the Society Stamp/Seal.

Membership.

1. To become a full member of the Society an applicant for membership shall be the owner of a purebred Romagnola female animal.

2. A herd name that has been used by one member may not contemporaneously be used by another member, except when a herd is taken over by the representative of the family of the previous owner of such herd. Otherwise no prefix may be transferred from one member to another unless special permission of the Council of the Society is obtained.

3. Each member shall co-operate with any inspections of the Society that the Society may call to do as random spot checks etc., from time to time.

4. Each member is encouraged to use the available services of the ICBF.

5. The Society has the right to maintain a computerised record of member's transactions with the Society and reserve the right to penalise members found to be in breach of procedures vital to the accurate maintenance and integrity of the Herd-book of the Society.

6. The Society shall operate in a non-discriminatory fashion towards its members.

7. The Council may from time to time set or make changes in the fees or penalties i.e. for Membership, prefix registration (Homebred or Imported), late notification penalties, embryo registration, export certification, and transfer and any other current fees in force.

8. The Herd-book rules shall be made available to all members.

Livestock Progeny and Performance Data.

The Society will use whatever progeny and performance data where available e.g. ICBF "Euro-Star" system, linear scoring, weight recording, breeding values, carcass classification and genomics. This data will be used in conjunction with ICBF, ICAR, Interbeef, Breedplan, IGS and Meat Processors. This data shall be entered where available on the Herd-book certificate as decided by Council.

Appeals Procedure.

Where within the procedures of the Society, a member feels that he or she has been unfairly disadvantaged; he/she may make a special appeal to the Council of the Society. Such appeals shall be dealt with in accordance with the appeals procedure below.

The objective of this procedure is to provide a member who has a grievance with the Society an opportunity to have the grievance examined and resolved at the earliest practical moment and at the most local level possible.

While the matter is being considered under the Appeals Procedure, the operation of the Society cannot be interrupted. The person(s) raising the matter shall continue to comply with the rules of the Society during the course of the examination of the matter in question. By so doing he/she will not create any precedent nor will his/her membership of the Society be prejudiced in any way in relation to the matter being processed.

The procedure to apply shall be as follows;

Stage 1.

A member who feels aggrieved in relation to any matter pertaining to Society business should, in the first instance, write to the Chairman of the Council of the Society, making it clear that Stage 1 of the Appeals Procedure is being invoked. The Chairman will reply as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any case, within thirty days from receipt of the letter from the appellant.

Stage 2.

If the grievance is not resolved at Stage 1, or if a reply is not forthcoming from the Council Chairman within thirty days, the member(s) may request in writing, which at their next Council meeting, the Council allow the member(s) to attend the meeting during the period that the grievance is being considered. The member(s) will be allowed to make an oral submission on the grievance. The Council will then reconsider the issue and must communicate its decision to the appellant within **thirty days**.

Stage 3.

If the issue remains unresolved after Stage 2, the member(s) may request an independent hearing. The Council shall grant such a hearing. Appeals at Stage 3 will be heard by an individual or group of individuals with appropriate expertise, agreed by both parties to the dispute. From the date of appointment of the person(s) hearing the appeal, the case will be heard and the decision taken will be communicated to both parties within **three months**. The person(s) hearing the case will decide on the apportionment of costs, as appropriate.

Stage 4.

Any dispute that remains unresolved after Stage 3 may be pursued by invoking provisions under the legal personality of the Society: ICOS Rules or the 1963 Companies Act.

The Society expects all its members to abide by the rules, regulations and standards established by the Society.

Date applicable: 01 – January – 2018.