



AMERICAN
GUERNSEY
ASSOCIATION

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May 12, 2017

Dear American Guernsey Association Members,

Recently, the Board of Directors came together to address several issues which have come to light as a result of more prevalent use of genomic testing; specifically, the discovery of parentage errors in the traditional pedigree system. While the issue is not widespread, the Board believed the issues arising are compelling and needed to be addressed to ensure clarity moving forward as well as ensure continued integrity in AGA's registration and pedigree system.

The underlying goal of the Board review and subsequent motions is designed to ensure integrity within our pedigree system, as well as a sense of fairness to all parties involved. Genomics, as a tool, is validating the pedigree system—that is a good thing. While there may be some disruption as a result, the process will provide greater integrity and accountability to the system and our members today and going forward.

Four motions passed on April 11, 2017 which address this aforementioned issues. I will spell them out below:

Motion I: Bulls registered on or subsequent to May 1, 2017 cannot be registered without being genomically tested and to be reported to the AGA must test BBR (Breed Base Representation) 94% or above.

Motion II: Any previously registered bull found through genomic testing to be out of conformance (<BBR 94%) will receive the appropriate provisional registry program status and his daughter's pedigree and paper identifiers adjusted accordingly. In addition, ET donor dams flushed on or after May 1, 2017 must be genomically tested for their progeny to be registered and receive the appropriate registration status.

Motion III: Effective January 1, 2017, for an undetermined period of time, the standard for showing registered Guernseys in AGA sponsored shows will be lowered to the PR status (BBR 87% and above). The standards for Guernsey Appearance will remain in effect.

Motion IV: Cows found by genomic testing or other means to have pedigree errors or conflicts will have their pedigrees and paper identifiers changed from the current status to the appropriate provisional

registry prefix identifier that corresponds to their genomic BBR% and Prefix designator. Progeny will be updated accordingly to reflect the revised status.

Thank you for your support of and loyalty to the great Guernsey Breed. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office for additional clarification.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Granitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail.

Douglas Granitz

CEO & Executive Secretary