

Salers Society - Guide to registering calves with Breedplan

The Salers Society has invested in the Breedplan registration and performance recording system to;

- Make it easier for breeders to register their cattle with the Society
- Make the administration of the Herd Book by the Society more accurate and more efficient
- Generate performance data for use by members and the Society to promote the breed

The Society would encourage every breeder to use the online system to record every calving from all their registered cows. This will give us powerful data on cow productivity and calving ease to promote the breed. However, recognising differing needs of our members, the flexibility has been built in to allow members to choose how they work within Breedplan.

Continue to send registrations on paper / by e-mail to the Secretary

If you want to carry on as you did with the old system, then you can do so. The only change is that the birth registration form has been redesigned to collect some extra information.

Use the online system for registrations only

If you simply want to use the online system for your registrations, then you'll find it easy to use and it will help you avoid sending wrong information to the Secretary, as it performs some basic checks as you enter the details of each registration. You will still need to send Al certificates, sire certificates etc., along with your cheque for the registration fees to the Secretary so your online registrations can be submitted to the Breedplan database, and to receive the official pedigree for those animals. See Section 3 – Registering a calf.

Use the online system to record every calving from all registered cows

We want to collect statistics on the productivity of all registered cows, for example, what % of cows have a calf every year, what % calve unassisted and so on. To do this, Breedplan has the option of an "intimation", which is the name of the method by which the breeder can record the details of every calving from their registered cows, whether the calf is to be registered or not, or if the calf has died.

Intimations are free. There is no time limit on submitting intimations, but we recommend that you submit them at the same time as you do your submission to BCMS/APHIS, whilst you already have all the key information to hand. See Section 4 – Submitting Intimations.

You can submit intimations and registrations all together.

The Society requests that when you apply for passports to BCMS/APHIS for calves sired by a Salers bull, that the sire ear tag number is also recorded in the BCMS/APHIS system. More importantly, encourage anyone buying a bull from you to do the same for calves got by their Salers bull.

The online system has been tested and found to be robust and easy to use. However, if this guide doesn't answer all your queries, or if you have any problems using the system, then don't hesitate to contact the Secretary who will follow up to get your issues addressed.

Points of Information

Herd Book Number: Following a decision by the Council, from October 2015, the official animal ear tag will be used as the Herd Book Number. The need for us to create a unique identifier for each animal has been made redundant by government regulations that require each animal to have a unique ear tag number.

Sire DNA parentage test: The sire of all registered calves will have to have been DNA tested and this information recorded by the Society from 1st Jan 2016. This information will appear in the system on the Animal Enquiry screen as DNA Case ID. So, you can check if a particular bull has been DNA tested by looking for this.

Homozygous polled animals: The web entry registration process will allow the breeder to record if animal is horned or polled. If the animal is known to homozygous polled, then this can be recorded in Breedplan. To do this, the member should contact the Secretary. A DNA test result will be required unless both parents of the animals are already known to be homozygous polled.

Section 1 - Get a Member Id and Password

Please contact the Secretary, who will set up your account, and send you your Member Id and Password.

Section 2 – Logging in to the online system

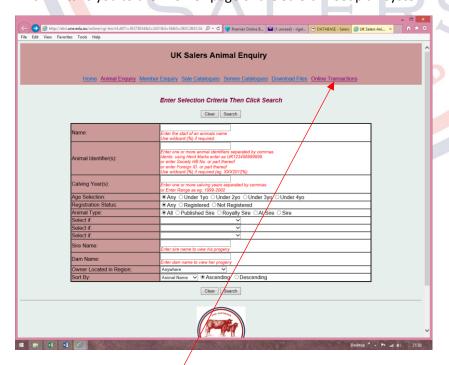
When you've received your member Id and Password, you can log into the online system, either

by clicking on the Database option on the Salers Society website Home Page, then follow the instruction on that page,

or by copying and pasting this link into your browser,

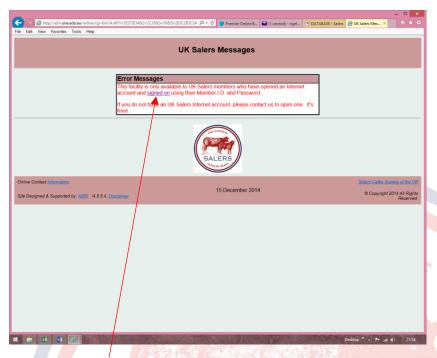
http://abri.une.edu.au/online/cgi-bin/i4.dll?1=3E373E34&2=2431&3=56&5=2B3C2B3C3A

This will take you to the "home" page of the Salers Breedplan system.



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Click on Online Transactions, this will bring up this screen



Click on signed on to get to the sign on screen



And enter your Member Id and Password. The first time you log in, for data security reasons you should change the Password to a new Password known only to yourself. You can subsequently create a new Password at any time via this sign on screen.

The system will confirm that you are logged in to the Salers Society Internet System.

NB the system will time out if you don't do anything for a while, and you may have to log back in.

Section 3 - Registering a calf

You will need to have the following information to hand,

Calf UK ear tag, name and date of birth

It's sex, sire and dam details and whether it is a single, twin, triplet etc.

Colour (red, black or other) and Poll status (Polled or Horned)

Birth weight (optional, leave blank if not known)

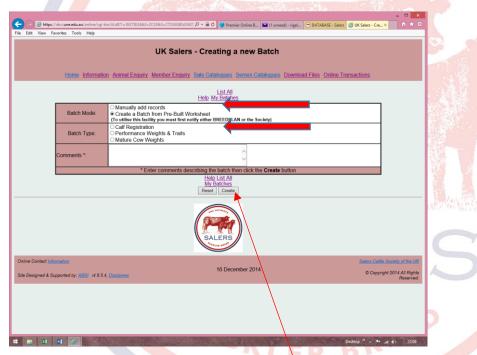
Calving ease (mandatory)

If by AI, then also the date of Al'ing

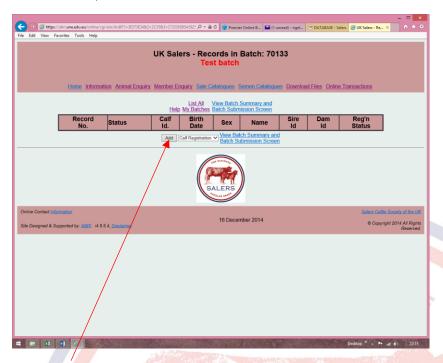
If by embryo transplant, then various information on the recipient

The system knows your herd name, official herd mark and assigns herd book numbers automatically.

To register this calf, click on <u>Online Transactions</u>, and select <u>Create a New Batch</u> (this allows you to register more than one calf at a time). This will bring up this screen,



Select Manually add records, and Calf Registration, and enter a comment describing the batch, for example Registrations for calves born January 2015, or whatever will help you identify the animals that batch relates to. Having done this select Create, which will bring you to this screen.



Select Add, which will bring you to the screen where you input all the information for each individual calf registration.



Description of each field on this screen follows;

<u>Registration status</u>: Ensure that the option Register Live Calf is chosen (the other options are covered under the section on Intimations). **You will incur registration fees for all calves submitted with this option selected**.

<u>Herd Mark</u>: Pre-filled with your default herd mark. If you have more than one herd mark, then this field must be over typed to record an alternative herd mark.

Check Digit & Seq No: Enter the remainder of the calf's official ear tag.

Sex: Select Male, Female or Steer (only applies for intimations) from drop down menu.

Birth Date: Enter date of birth of calf in the defined format.

By AI: If Yes, also fill in AI Date from AI certificate (and send AI certificate to Secretary).

<u>Number in Birth</u>: Select from drop down menu. It is important to record if this is a twin or triplet even if the other calves from that calving are not being registered. The system will complain if you register two calves from the same cow and with the same date of birth if you omit to select two or more for this option.

By ET: If Yes, fill in Recipient Dam Id, Recipient Breed and Recipient Birth Year.

<u>Calf Name Prefix</u>: Pre-filled with your Herd Prefix, this can be over typed if an alternative is required.

<u>Name</u>: Type in the remainder of the calf's name. Note that the system will warn you if you enter a name that has already been used. There is no restriction on reusing an existing name, so if you are happy with the name you've entered, you can ignore the warning.

Colour: Select option from drop down menu (Red, Black or Other)

Horn/Poll: Select option from drop down menu. If a calf's poll status later turns out to be different from what is registered here, then this can be updated by contacting the Secretary. If the calf is known to be homozygous polled (by DNA test or because both parents are known to be homozygous polled), then this can be recorded by contacting the Secretary.

<u>Sire</u>: Select sire from list of recently used sires via drop down menu, or type in the herd book number of a sire not on that list, for example if using a new AI sire.

From 1/1/2016, the system will check that the sire has a DNA test recorded, and will flag up a warning if not. This warning should be ignored for all intimations, as we do not require intimated calves to have sires with a DNA profile.

<u>Dam</u>: Select dam from list of recently used dams via drop down menu, or type in the herd book number of a dam not on that list. NB the system checks if the sire and dam are in your herd and issues warnings if they don't appear, so to avoid these warnings please ensure that you contact the Secretary to transfer in any new purchases prior to entering them as a sire/dam of a registered calf.

<u>Birth weight</u>: This should be entered in kg. It is optional (leave blank or enter 0), however, the Society is very keen for members to weigh calves at birth and record this information.

<u>Calving Ease</u>: This is a mandatory field, select calving ease option from drop down menu. Though assistance at calving is extremely rare, it is most important that assisted births (for whatever reason) are recorded.

Once you are happy that you have filled all the fields in correctly, then click on Go. If all is well, the system will take you back to the Batch Summary Screen, where if you have another calf to register, you can select Add again to bring up a fresh registration screen.

Errors and Warnings

If there are errors, for example a sire or dam HB number that cannot be found in the database, then the system will not proceed until you have fixed these errors.

The system may also show some warnings. Please review these and correct anything that is incorrect. If you feel that everything is correct (some of the system checks are a bit clumsy), then you can proceed to the next calf by selecting the View Batch Summary and Batch Submission Screen Option. This is not very elegant, but it allows you to submit a calf where you feel that the system warnings can be over-ruled.

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Submitting the Batch

Once you have entered all the calves that you wish to register in this batch, select View Batch Summary and Batch Submission Screen, and select Submit.

This batch of registrations will then be processed by Breedplan, but held back from the live database. A message is sent by the system to the Secretary, who reviews any system warnings or errors, and checks that you have paid the registration fees and sent any supporting paperwork (e.g. Al certificates). Once the Secretary is satisfied that all is complete, then these registrations are released to the live database by the Secretary. The system runs overnight (Australia time) and then these calves are visible in the system the next day after they have been released by the Secretary.

Section 4 – Recording Intimations

For the Salers breed, the value of having the complete calving record for all registered cows is very significant, and ideally all members should record all births via an intimation, in addition to those of registered calves.

<u>Calves born dead</u>: Follow the same procedure to bring up the calf registration screen, but <u>select</u>

Register <u>Dead Calf</u> from the drop down menu on the field Registration Status. All the other fields are completed in the same way as a registered calf, though the name can be left blank and the system will automatically generate a unique identifier for this dead calf.

<u>Calves born alive, but died prior to submitting a registration</u>: Follow the same procedure to bring up the calf registration screen, but **select Register Commercial Calf** from the drop down menu on the field Registration Status. All the other fields are completed in the same way as a registered calf.

<u>Calves alive but never to be registered</u>: For example a freemartin twin heifer, or calf by a sire of another breed. Follow the same procedure to bring up the calf registration screen, but **select Register Commercial Calf** from the drop down menu on the field Registration Status. All the other fields are completed in the same way as a registered calf. We have created some generic sires of other breeds so you can record the breed of the sire if not a registered Salers. These are,

AA – Angus

CC - Charolais

LL - Limousin

SI - Simmental

Other generic sires can be created on request.

And finally,

<u>Calves alive that could potentially be registered at a later date</u>: This arises where a breeder might opt to register an animal (e.g. young bull) later in its life, knowing that late registration fees will apply. Follow the same procedure to bring up the calf registration screen, but **select Register Commercial Calf** from the drop down menu on the field Registration Status. All the other fields are completed in the same way as a registered calf.

<u>Naming commercial cattle</u>: If you opt to leave the name blank, or perhaps use the same descriptive name (e.g. Steer), the system will pester you with warning messages pointing out that the name has already been used, which you can ignore. However, to avoid getting these warning messages, it is recommended that the last three digits of the ear tag are used as the name or as part of the name to make each name unique. For example instead of giving the name Steer, use Steer456, Steer457, etc.

A batch can be a mixture of all three categories of submission (registered calf, commercial calf and dead calf), or you can submit multiple batches to keep the categories separate. Registration fees will only be payable for registered calves.

Anticipated questions:

What do I do if I've forgotten my Member Id or Password? Contact the Secretary to get them reset.

How can I correct any registrations details which I've submitted in error? Contact the Secretary, who has the direct access to the live database and can make corrections as required.

How do I tell the system if a calf is Fullblood, Purebred or a Grade animal? The system works this out for itself, based on the status of the Sire and Dam.

How do I upgrade a Grade C cow to be a Purebred? Contact the Secretary to arrange an inspection of the animal.

How do I tell the system of a calf's beta-mannosidosis status? The system works this out for itself based on the beta-mannosidosis status of the Sire and Dam.

How do I upgrade an intimated calf to become a registered calf? For now contact the Secretary, but an online option will be set up in due course.

Can I register imported animals via this process? These will continue to be submitted directly to the Secretary as previously.

Can Breedplan receive data direct from other farm software (e.g. Farmplan)? This will be investigated once we have had a period of using the system as it stands today.

How do I submit other performance data, e.g. 200 day weights? This will be covered by a separate guide in due course.