



Member Update

April 20, 2015

Guelph, ON - The 88th Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Association was hosted by the Quebec Club on Thursday, March 26, 2015 at the Urbania Hotel Resto Lounge, Trois-Rivière, QC. On behalf of the Board, thank you to the Quebec club for planning the AGM and the surrounding events. Congratulations to Ken Drummond as the new National President and also the Breed Improvement Committee Chairman. Renald Dumas indicated he would be stepping down as a National Director however will remain as a breeder and supporter of Brown Swiss. Ernst Gubelmann thanked Renald for his years of service as President and Director. Chantal Leclerc has replaced Renald as one of the Quebec representatives. A warm welcome to Chantal! There was great attendance on the sunny day of the farm tours. Thank you to our farm tour hosts Ferme F.X. Pichet and Ferme M.C.F. Leclerc inc. who opened their barns to display their exceptional animals and facilities.

There was considerable discussion on various topics at this year's AGM. Below are a few of the highlights however further details can be found within the minutes enclosed with this mailing and more will follow in the coming months. The two amendments presented to the membership were accepted by the members in attendance and will be sent for ministerial approval. There were five resolutions discussed by the membership with details listed in the minutes.

Plans are well underway for our move to Holstein Canada as Registrar beginning January 1, 2016. The Board is excited with the new services and opportunities for our members with a new service provider. Our Association fee schedule will be reviewed over the next few months to ensure a smooth transition to our new Registrar. In order to recoup registrations and encourage new memberships, the Board voted in favour of offering NEW members to the Association, the membership fee paid by the Association for the 2015 year. With changes in the industry with some breeds using the LPI formula and adding a new profit-based index Pro\$, the Board accepted the Breed Improvement Committee's recommendations to remain with only one formula that being the new improved Pro\$ formula.

At a recent Royal Dairy Cattle Committee meeting, there was a vote to lower the minimum number of animals shown from 75 to 60. This motion still requires Royal approval however it is believed to pass. A survey will be forwarded to past Royal exhibitors to determine their commitment to the Royal Brown Swiss show. Once the completed surveys are received, the Board will review the responses to determine how best to move forward.

Chris Studer of Semex gave an informative presentation on genomics. He noted in his presentation, Semex will now be responsible for coordinating three imports per year from SwissGenetics. The order deadlines will be Monday, May 4, 2015, Tuesday, August 8, 2015 and Tuesday, January 12, 2016. Contact your Semex partner for further information. At the evening banquet, Angelo Pozzatti gave an in depth and interesting presentation on Brown Swiss cattle in the world.

The annual report, All Canadian results and production award winners are available on the website for viewing. If a member wishes to receive a hard copy of any of the reports please contact the office.

Immediately following the Annual Meeting the Board of Directors elected their Executive for 2015:
President – Ken Drummond, Shawville, QC; Vice-President – Ernst Gubelmann, Walton, ON
Director – Chantal Leclerc, Trois Rivieres, QC; Director – Dan Bates, Stayner, ON
Director – Armin Dueck, Kleefeld, MB; Director – Ian Peden, Leduc, AB (Braunvieh)

Three new Lifetime Achievement Winners were presented with an award for their outstanding contribution to the betterment of Brown Swiss cattle in Canada. Congratulations to our very deserving recipients: Markus Mueller, Gaetan Hinse and Jacob Lehmann (all from Quebec).

Congratulations to Nor Bella Acres Inc., ON for receiving the Top Composite BCA Brown Swiss Cow Award sponsored by Swiss Dream Farm for Nor Bella Supreme Dabble (EX) with 407 Milk, 487 Fat, 376 Protein for a total composite BCA of 1270. The 2014 Top BCA Herd under 25 cows was awarded to Louis Rousseau, QC and for over 25 cows to Gubelmann Brown Swiss Ltd., ON.

The 100 Tonne Producer Award was presented to Rimann's Maple Boom Farm for Maple Boom Joytrek Hirta with 100,781 Milk 4,134 Fat 3,373 Protein in 11 lactations.

What a great year for Canadian bred Brown Swiss animals with both the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion at World Dairy Expo in Madison. Congratulations to A. Dean Cole for breeding the 2014 WDE Grand Champion, Eloc Wagor Kandid and to Ferme Brown Heaven with the Reserve Grand Champion Brown Heaven Glenn Fantasy. Both of these beautiful animals were sired by SwissGenetics bulls.



The membership is optimistic that with high components, longevity and solid feet & legs, Brown Swiss is the desired breed of the future. Brown Swiss...Components that Pay...Cows that Last!

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