

Canadian Brown Swiss & Braunvieh Association
Proposed Constitutional Amendments 2016
Annual General Meeting, Guelph, Ontario, March 22, 2016

Amendment #1 Regarding Genetically Identifying All Bulls

Considering:

- The problems that arise when bulls are not genetically identified.
- The loss of possible registered animals in the herd book when parentage cannot be completed.

Article 19. 3. Genetic Identification (as approved by the Board of Directors)

a. Genetic identification shall be filed with the Registrar on the following animals:

- i. Brown Swiss cattle imported from a foreign country whose Herd Book is NOT recognized by the Board of Directors of the Association.
- ii. All Canadian born bulls that will be used as artificial insemination sires or natural mating sires.

It is proposed to replace Article 19 Section 3 a. ii. with:

- ii. All Canadian born bulls must be genetically identified in order to receive an official registration number in the herd book.

Proposed by Ken Drummond, Seconded by Ernst Gubelmann

Amendment #2 Placement of the letter "P" for Polled Animals

Considering:

- Other breeds have the P following the animal's name not the registration number.

Article 21. 6.

- a. The letter "P" will be used and placed after the registration number to designate the animals born polled and that have been identified like that on the registration form. The "Scurrs" that are not attached to the cranial structure must not be considered and such animals must be classified "polled".

It is proposed to replace Article 21. 6. with:

- a. The letter "P" will be used and placed after the animal's name to designate the animals born polled and that have been identified as such on the registration form. The "Scurrs" that are not attached to the cranial structure must not be considered and such animals must be classified "polled".

Proposed by Ken Drummond, Seconded by Ernst Gubelmann

Amendment #3 Registration of daughters at 50% of purebred dam

Whereas:

- At Article XIX 1 b) « Percentage Recorded » which consists of female animals of unknown pedigree (0% Brown Swiss), percentage animals most typically the ½ Brown Swiss, ¾ Brown Swiss, ⅞ Brown Swiss and ¹⁵/₁₆ Brown Swiss, as well as animals that fall within these fractions.
- There is no specification and/or restriction of the paternal or maternal level according to Article XIX.
- The registrar only registers the ½ Brown Swiss females stemming from the paternal side while the females stemming from the maternal side are 0% Brown Swiss.

It is proposed to Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Canada that the registrar applies the said regulation for all purebred parents regardless of the sex.

Proposed by Chantal Leclerc, Seconded by Serge Bilodeau

Amendment #4 Composition of the Board of Directors

Whereas:

- For an equitable representation of the membership within the Board of Directors.

It is proposed that Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Canada modify Article VI - 1 a & b as follows:

a) ~~The directors are elected on the provincial level as follows:~~

- ~~— Provinces with 10 to 75 members: 1 director~~
- ~~— Provinces with 76 to 150 members: 2 directors~~
- ~~— Provinces with more than 150 members: 3 directors~~

- a) The Board of Directors is composed of 6 directors in proportion to the number of members in good standing in the previous year.
- b) The provinces that are not eligible to have a director can be considered as being part of the nearest qualifying province. ~~If the number of members in the neighbouring provinces is equal or higher than 10, these provinces can get together and elect a director.~~

Proposed by Chantal Leclerc, Seconded by Serge Bilodeau

Amendment #5 Use of prefixes in the case of joint ownership

Whereas:

- According to Article XVI – 1, A breeder may register a name prefix for exclusive individual use in naming animals owned by breeder at birth. A name prefix registered under this by-law shall not be used by any other person, partnership or corporate body in naming animals for registration.
- According to Article XVI – 11, In the case of joint ownership of the dam at the time of conception, the prefix registered to any of the breeders may be used in the naming of the progeny, provided the breeder applicant has been declared sole owner with an official transfer of ownership of the embryo resulting to the progeny;

It is proposed that Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Canada modify the said rules as follows:

- According to Article XVI – 1, A breeder may register a name prefix for exclusive individual use in naming animals owned or co-owned by breeder at birth. A name prefix registered under this by-law shall not be used by any other person, partnership or corporate body in naming animals for registration.
- According to Article XVI – 11, In the case of joint ownership of the dam at the time of conception, the prefix registered to any of the breeders may be used in the naming of the progeny, ~~provided the breeder applicant has been declared sole owner with an official transfer of ownership of the embryo resulting to the progeny;~~

Proposed by Chantal Leclerc, Seconded by Serge Bilodeau

Amendment #6 Limit to six (6) consecutive complete mandates the length of time when a director can serve on the Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Canada Association

Whereas:

- Six consecutive complete mandates of a director represent 12 years;
- The arrival of a new director brings a new dynamic within a committee;
- Provision must be made for the involvement and the training of future replacements;
- There must be a representation of all the members within the Board.

It is proposed that Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Canada limit to six (6) consecutive complete mandates the length of time when a director can serve on its Board of Directors.

Proposed by Chantal Leclerc, Seconded by Serge Bilodeau
As amended by the Amendment Committee

Amendment #7 Article 20. Braunvieh Rules of Eligibility - Original Purebred Status

With respect to the following proposed amendments, please refer to the Canadian Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Association's By-Laws, Section 2. Objectives, which reads in part:

- “1. The Association shall have for its objectives the encouragement, the development and the regulating of breeding Brown Swiss dairy cattle and Braunvieh beef cattle in Canada.*
- 2. The Association shall achieve such objectives as follows:*
 - a. By keeping a record of the breeding and origin of all Brown Swiss cattle and Braunvieh cattle and by collecting, preserving and publishing data and documents relating to same.”*

We are focusing on the word “preserving”. We would like to have the term “Original Purebred” incorporated back into the Rules of Eligibility. The reasons for this are that the originating country, Switzerland, does have three distinct categories – those being: “Original Braunvieh” – “Braunvieh” – “Brown Swiss” (see attached letters, dated June 8th, 1991 and June 2nd, 1995, both from the Swiss Braunvieh Breeders' Association, in which the distinctions of the three categories are explained.

Other reasons for having the term “Original Braunvieh” incorporated into the Constitution are:

1. To identify Canadian Braunvieh in a fashion that would describe each animal clearly and accurately to all breeders and Breed Associations.
2. With the existence of Original Braunvieh status in other Associations, it is necessary to define our animals, using mutually understood terminology, so that other Associations can determine which animals are eligible for registration in their respective herd book categories.
3. Our system has to interface with other systems, or the marketing of Canadian Braunvieh will become more difficult, as competition increases. If we do not implement a registration system that would eliminate confusion, misunderstandings and mistakes, we will lose both, credibility and customers.
4. We also have to consider facilitating promotion of the breed on the domestic front. Implementation of a universally recognized registration system would eliminate uncertainty.

For the aforementioned reasons, we propose to amend the By-Laws, as follows:

20. BRAUNVIEH RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

1. Definitions

Braunvieh cattle records consist of three categories, as follows:

- a. “Original Purebred” shall define all animals from a country of origin, whose Herd Book records are recognized by the Board of Directors, and such animals shall be traceable to 100.0 percent Original Braunvieh parentage in Switzerland. The certificate of registration shall bear the designation “Original Purebred” for such animals.
- b. “Purebred” shall define all animals from a country of origin, whose Herd Book records are recognized by the Board of Directors, and such animals are of 31/32 Braunvieh purity or greater and exhibit distinguishing breed characteristics. The certificate of registration shall bear the designation “Purebred” for such animals.
- c. “Percentage”, shall define those cattle, male or female, which contain a percentage of Braunvieh. Most typically, the percentage animals would be the ½ Braunvieh, ¾ Braunvieh, 7/8 Braunvieh and the 15/16 Braunvieh; as well as animals that fall between these fractions. The certificate of registration shall bear the exact mathematical percentage of purity. Any animals that fall below 50% Braunvieh shall be recorded, but no certificate of registration will be issued.

The above three categories of the Herd Book records are based on breeder records that have been validated by the checks and balances provided in this Constitution.

2. Registration Procedures

a. “Original Purebred” Braunvieh

The following Braunvieh animals are eligible for registration in the Braunvieh Section and designated as an “Original Purebred” on the Certificate of Registration, and the registration number shall be preceded with the prefix “B”.

- i. Progeny of all animals registered in the Beef Section of the Herd Book, who have been confirmed as 100% Original Braunvieh..
- ii. Progeny of all animals imported from Switzerland and Germany, and their descendants, which can trace back entirely to Swiss and German 100% Original Braunvieh pedigrees, that are registered in the Herd Book prior to the commencement of the Beef Section.

- iii. Progeny resulting from a mating where one parent is registered in the Braunvieh Section and one parent is registered in the Brown Swiss Section, provided both parents have been confirmed as 100% Original Braunvieh.
- b. “Purebred” Braunvieh

All animals that are of 31/32 purity or greater and exhibit the breed characteristics, as defined under Article 1.b., are eligible for registration in the Braunvieh Section and designated as a “Purebred” on the Certificate of Registration, and the registration number shall be preceded with the prefix “B”. Animals designated as “Purebred” shall never be eligible for registration as an “Original Purebred” Braunvieh.
- c. “Percentage” Braunvieh

All animals that are not accepted as “Purebred”, as described in Article 1.b., but are in some stage of upgrading, shall be designated with the exact percentage of purity on the Certificate of Registration, and the registration number shall be preceded with the prefix “BR”.
- d. Additional Rules to Qualify for Registrations – all Categories:

The following Braunvieh animals, designated with either “Original Purebred”, “Purebred” or “Percentage Recorded” are eligible for registration in the Braunvieh Section of The Association Herd Book:

 - i. Progeny of all animals registered in The Canadian Brown Swiss Herd Book prior to the commencement of the Braunvieh Section.
 - ii. Progeny of all animals imported from Switzerland and Germany, and their descendants, which can trace back entirely to Swiss and German pedigrees, that are registered in The Canadian Brown Swiss Herd Book, prior to the commencement of the Beef Section.
 - iii. Progeny resulting from a mating where one parent is registered in the Braunvieh Section and one parent is registered in the Brown Swiss Section.
 - iv. An animal imported from a foreign country that is registered in the Herd Book of the country of origin, and that such Herd Book is recognized by the Board of Directors of The Association.
 - v. An animal two years of age or older, born in Canada, whose sire and dam are registered in The Association Herd Book, provided parentage is verified through bloodtyping or DNA profile.
 - vi. Animals born in Canada as a result of artificial insemination with fresh or frozen semen, provided both the sire and dam are previously registered in The Association Herd Book.
 - vii. Animals born in Canada as a result of artificial insemination using semen from a sire who is registered in the Herd Book in a country of origin recognized by the Board of Directors, on the same basis as with the use of Canadian registered sires.
 - viii. Animals born in Canada as a result of natural mating from a sire and dam who are registered in The Association Herd Book.
 - ix. Animals born in Canada as a result of frozen embryos from a sire and dam registered in the Herd Book in a country of origin recognized by the Board of Directors, on the same basis as with the use of Canadian registered sires and dams.
 - x. Animals that have qualified in compliance with the Braunvieh grading-up program.
 - xi. No animals produced by cloning or gene manipulation shall be eligible for registration.

3. Braunvieh Grading-Up Program

- a. A grading-up program using registered Purebred or Percentage Braunvieh bulls or unknown bulls (0% Braunvieh), mated with Purebred or Percentage Braunvieh females or unknown females (0% Braunvieh) shall have resulting progeny registered as described under Section 2. Where the resulting progeny purity is 31/32 or greater, and it exhibits the desired breed phenotype characteristics, then that progeny shall be registered as a “Purebred”.
- b. In the first generation of grading-up, where a “Purebred” dam is mated to an unknown pedigree (0%) Braunvieh bull, the resulting progeny will qualify as ½ Braunvieh, for which a certificate of registration may be issued. Thereafter, further grading-up requires the use of registered Braunvieh sires.
- c. Each animal that is not accepted as “Purebred” as described under Section 2., but is in some stage of grading-up, shall be designated with a percentage of purity on the certificate of registration, and the registration number shall be preceded with the prefix “BR”.

The above amendments shall replace paragraphs 1., 2. and 3. of Article 20. “Braunvieh Rules of Eligibility”, including all sub-paragraphs, and shall become effective immediately upon approval.

Proposed by Ian Peden, Seconded by Andrew Eberl

Originals on file with the Association.


SCHWEIZERISCHER BRAUNVIEHZUCHTVERBAND

Federazione svizzera allevamento bovini bruni
Fédération suisse d'élevage de la race brune



HERDEBUCHSTELLE FÜR BRAUNVIEH

Libro genealogico svizzero bovini bruni
Service du Herdbook de la race brune

Chamerstrasse 56, 6300 Zug
Telefon 042-21 13 31
Telefax 042-21 22 06
Postcheck 60-848-3

0061 2 3315709

The Royal Agricultural
Society of NSW
GPO Box 4317
SYDNEY.NSW.2001
Attn: Mr. Michael.G. Bullen
Registrar-Cattle Committee

Zug, 8th of June 1991

Dear Mr. Bullen

It has been advised to us by our affiliated Australian Breed Association that your society has not accepted the position that "Original Braunvieh" is a separate genetic breed to "Brown Swiss" despite the documentary and verbal evidence provided.

We were surprised at this position taken after all the work undertaken by the "OSBBAA Inc" to establish a herdbook within Australia to protect the homogeneity of the Australian Original Swiss Braunvieh Breed and to promote its acceptance into the Australian beef industry.

I would officially in my capacity as CEO of the Swiss Government Appointed Brownvieh Federation with both internal and external responsibility for the Braunvieh Breed confirm that:

- a) "Original Braunvieh" can be clearly distincted; the official Herdbook goes back to the year 1897 when the Swiss Federation was founded. We have a proud and documented history of approximately 1000 years starting in the monastery of Einsiedeln.
- b) "Braunvieh" is a term we utilise to denote a dual purpose animal with emphasis on milk which combines varying percentages of Original Braunvieh and U.S Dairy Brown Swiss Blood. In Switzerland we have regions differing in altitudes (lowland approximately 450 m above sea level, up to permanent settlements 2300 m above sea level.) We have vegetation periods varying from 4 - 7 months. We have regions with summer rainfall far above 90 cm down to 0 - 20 cm etc. The Swiss cattle farms are small, averaging 15 cows. Beef production alone cannot provide an income for many family farms. That is the reason we have to adapt our breeding objective to the environment. The breeding aim goes from a dual purpose breed: beef and milk to a dual purpose breed with emphasis on milk.

c) "Brown Swiss" is an american descriptive term for a breed of some 110 years standing, where the selection criteria has been emphasis on dairy and where the breed has grown form a genetic base of Original Braunvieh imports to the USA from Switzerland during the period 1860-1910 and continuously selected for milk. Exports to USA started bevore establishing the US-Brown Swiss hardbook.

I hope and trust that this direct communication will clarify the position within Australia in terms of the ongoing confusion and controversy as to the respective terminologies

"Original Braunvieh" - "Braunvieh" - "Brown Swiss"

Yours faithfully
Schweizerischer
Braunviehzuchtverband
Der Direktor:

Kernf



SCHWEIZER ORIGINAL BRAUNVIEHZUCHTVERBAND

From: Josef Eggerschwiler
President
Gehren
CH-8402 Merlischachen

Tel. ++41 41 81 12 55

To: Canadian Brown Swiss
and Braunvieh Association
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
9-350 Speedvale Avenue West
Guelph, Ontario, N1H 7M7
Canada

Merlischachen, [REDACTED] 1995

Dear Mr President,
Dear Sirs,

We refer to the letter of the „Original Swiss Braunvieh“ Beef Breeders Association of Australia dated December 15, 1994. We are the central controlling body for the world-wide protection, promotion and supervision of the Original Braunvieh breed and we expect that you recognize us as such.

We confirm that we clearly differentiate three Braunvieh breeds respectively breeding directions in Switzerland:

- Swiss Original Braunvieh
- Swiss Braunvieh
- Brown-Swiss

Swiss Original Braunvieh

This is the hereditary and original Braunvieh breed. The official herdbook goes back to the year 1897 when the Swiss Braunvieh Breeders Association was founded. The history of origin is proofed by documents and began a thousand years ago in the monastery of Einsiedeln.

Even now about 500 breeders in all Switzerland keep the Original Braunvieh in purebred and the ancestry certificate of these animals is checked for five generations on the father's as well as on the mother's side with the official herdbook. Only 100 % purebred animals are declared as Original Braunvieh and only their ancestry certificates are marked as „Original Braunvieh“.

The breeding target is a double use: a well-balanced milk and meat performance.

Swiss Braunvieh

These are animals with a certain share of Brown-Swiss blood, thus outcrossed with the American Brown-Swiss blood. Breeding target: double use with accent on the milk performance - the milk is more important than the meat performance.

Brown-Swiss

This is the American Braunvieh breed. Breeding target: one-sided on the milk performance.

The herdbook authority of the Swiss Braunvieh Cattle Breeders Federation controls and registers the Original Braunvieh and guarantees thereby the genetic ancestry of this breed.

It is unavoidable that you tackle a breed-specific separation within your herdbook and establish an Original Braunvieh sub-section which co-operates with us. The Australian Braunvieh breeders already took this step years ago and their „Original Brauvieh“ Beef Breeders Association works excellently. We request that you recognize the „Original Brauvieh“ Beef Breeders Association of Australia, too, and that you co-operate with it.

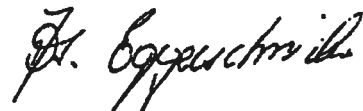
We ask you to consider and to take the following measures:

1. Whenever beef is exported under the name „Swiss Original Braunvieh“ this must unobjectionably follow from the ancestry certificate. This means that the animal must not have other than Original Braunvieh blood both on the father's and on the mother's side.
2. Animals which come from Switzerland can be checked for their ancestry by our official herdbook authority of the Swiss Braunvieh Cattle Breeders Federation in Zug. For this purpose the ancestry certificate must be presented.

We ask you to discuss all our above-mentioned requests within the responsible organs and your executive committee. We are looking forward to your early comment on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

**Schweizer Original
Braunviehzuchtverband**



**Josef Eggerschwiler
President**

Copys to:

- George Ulrich, 20 West Mc. Dougall Road, Cochrane, Canada
- The „Original Braunvieh“ Beef Breeders Association of Australia Pty. Ltd., P.O. Box 402, Yarra Glen, Vic. 3775