

Hello Members:

It has been awhile since an update was provided and I wanted to share with you the issues currently being discussed with the Board and Membership.

Board Reduction- Earlier this year I asked for support to vote against the current proposal of the board reduction, as it will take away our voice at the Board table and will lump Canada and Australia with the northeast part of the United States. The initial survey went out and I was extremely disappointed in the response from Canadian members as only 7 members in Region 1 returned their survey to the TLBAA. I do thank those of you that took the time and interest to let the TLBAA know your thoughts. Needless to say, the survey showed 261 for reduction and 48 against, a lousy percentage for an association in a survey, but it was enough and now it moves on to a membership vote at the Annual Meeting in January. We still have a chance to defeat the motion and I am checking to see if the vote at the Annual Meeting can be done by proxy. Otherwise we know the meeting will be dominated by Texas members and the proposal will pass.

**"It is not in our best interest to let this proposal pass."**

I will keep you updated on what I find out, and I am sincerely hoping that more than 7 Canadian members will step up and at least try to stop the proposal. This is your registry and you will not have a voice at the Board table if this proposal passes.

DNA Update- Please see the attachment at the end of the report that was given at the June 28th meeting. Again we tried to get representation on this committee, but the committee claims it couldn't reach the intended member. I am asking now to at least consult with the Canadians and the Australians about what we know would be compatible to their proposal in our countries. There is no reason why we should have to pay extra when the same tests can be done here and in Australia.

Meat/Marketing Discussion- There is a new brochure available that would be of benefit to any member selling longhorn beef. Their report will be on the TLBAA website in a few days. Charlene Semkins is the leader on that project.

Also, another new registration available for TLBAA members is the F1 Registration. It was basically developed to help members market their crossbreds. Here is a quick summary: The F1 must be from Registered Texas Longhorn cows. Only females can be certified. They will be known as Texas Premium Certified F1. The benefits of the program will be the hybrid vigor from crossing two purebred gene pools resulting in added growth and beef for the commercial market. It is believed this program will present a viable market with consistent results that will showcase the value of the Registered Texas longhorn cow in the beef industry. If you need more information about this please contact the TLBAA office.

That's the updates from the membership meeting June 28th in Belton, Texas.

Deb Lesyk, Region 1 Director TLBAA