



Member Update

March 28, 2017

Lévis, QC - The Canadian Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Association Annual General Meeting was hosted by the Quebec Club on Thursday, March 16, 2017 at the Hotel Quality Inn, Lévis, Quebec. On behalf of the Board, thank you to the Quebec club for planning the AGM, the surrounding events and to Ferme Goulaise & Ferme Rencie for opening their barns.

Thank you to Armin Dueck, MB and Ernst Gubelmann, ON for their many years of service on the national board and welcome to our new directors Louis Guimond, MB and Harold Jelinski, ON.

Ken Drummond gave an update on the progress of two breed objective goals set at last year's AGM. First goal was to encourage age at first calving at 23 months or less. The second goal was to encourage the increase of production levels for Fat at 390 kg and Protein at 330 kg (members should aim for a 40 kg increase). Even though we haven't had a full year of data, the average age of first calving has lowered slightly from 26.7 to 26.0. The production goal levels have increased nicely as well. For 2015: 305 Fat and 257 for Protein, to 2016: 327 Fat and 273 Protein with an increase of 22 kg Fat and 16 kg Protein.

At the AGM, the membership felt there must be a more cost effective way to review the financial statements. Please forward to the office any suggestions of individuals/companies who could review the books for a lower cost by June 1, 2017. Also if there are suggestions for lowering the cost of translation please notify the office. The Board motioned to pay the provincial levies for this year however going forward the provincial levies will only be paid if the association is in a positive financial position. The members present at the AGM also saw value in revising the fee schedule. The fee schedule was changed from the whole herd transfer within family to whole herd transfer at \$250 as long as no registration papers are reprinted and retroactive to January 1, 2017. As well, a whole herd transfer if the herd wishes to have the papers printed the amount is \$500. More details from the meeting can be found in the minutes. The annual report, minutes, 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 2017:

President – Ken Drummond, Shawville, QC; Vice-President – Louis Guimond, Woodmore, MB

Director - Dan Bates, Stayner, ON, Director – Chantal Leclerc, Trois Rivieres, QC; Director – Harold Jelinski, New Lowell, ON

Director – Ian Peden, Leduc, AB (Braunvieh)

Breed Improvement Committee Chairman – Ken Drummond

The provincial clubs have selected their representatives for the Breed Improvement Committee - Rejean Mathys, MB; Troy

McConnell & Mark McConnell, ON; Dave Rousseau & Serge Bilodeau, QC.

Congratulations to Pauferlou Inc., Louis Rousseau, Pohenegamook, QC for having the 2nd herd in the country for achieving superior performance across all aspects of herd management and the top tie stall herd across all breeds in Canada. Special mention goes to Ferme Brown Heaven, QC for receiving the 2016 Top Composite BCA Brown Swiss Cow Award sponsored by Swiss Dream Farm for Silver Top DY Charlotte (EX) with 399 Milk, 570 Fat, 414 Protein for a total composite BCA of 1383. The 2016 Top BCA Herd under 25 cows was awarded to Kees & Miranda VerHoef, AB and for 25 cows & over to Ferme Brown Heaven, QC.

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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For further information, please contact:

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Canadian Brown Swiss and Braunvieh Association

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