

Farmer membership - 2009

Farmer name **Name**
Herd Number **IE1234567**
Address **Address**

I the above named (or otherwise authorized person) apply to become a member of the GENE IRELAND program as a progeny test herd for the Spring 2009 AI season. I agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of the program as outlined below:

Terms and conditions.

- The target level of efficiency expected in the program is 7 straws of test bull semen for each heifer replacement returned into the herd.
- The target level of accuracy in the program is that each bull would have 100 heifer replacements recorded in 100 herds, by year 4 of the program, with all relevant progeny test data recorded on each heifer replacement.
- To ensure these levels of efficiency and accuracy are achieved, the following progeny test guidelines should be adhered to by participating herd-owners;
 - All semen should be used in the current breeding season (i.e., Spring 2009).
 - Only one straw should be used per oestrus period on each cow.
 - Straws should not be halved, as this could reduce conception rates.
 - After accounting for potential inbreeding, semen should be use randomly on all cows in the herd.
 - Progeny test semen should not be used on maiden heifers.
 - Heifers should be calved down at approximately 2 years of age.
 - The following events should be recorded during the duration of the program;
 - Year 1 Inseminations.
 - Year 2. Birth registration & calving performance.
Weaning weight (progeny of beef sires only)
 - Year 3. Maiden heifer fertility.
 - Year 4. Milk recording (progeny of dairy sires only)
Maternal weaning weight (progeny of beef sires only)
Heifer fertility & linear type traits.
 - A maximum of 14 straws should be used on any one bull.
 - Progeny test credits are not trade-able or transferable, unless through specific sales organized by ICBF.
- Non-compliance on these guidelines may result in ICBF, defaulting payment on some (or all) of the progeny test credits for a given herd.
- Participating herd-owners acknowledge that the semen provided as part of the program and delivered to the farm, will be of sufficient quality to ensure normal conception rates.
- Participating herd-owners acknowledge that the genetic indexes of the bulls on the program, are accurate, but that these indexes may change duration of the program, as more information becomes available on each bull.

Iapply for membership to the GENE IRELAND progeny test program. Furthermore, I agree to the terms and conditions of the program as outlined above.

Signature of herd-owner :Date :