Cow Sense™ Herd Management Software

Premium Interface Component
User's Reference
American Hereford Association

Introduction

Midwest MicroSystems recognizes and applauds the leadership of the American Hereford Association in encouraging electronic data transfer. Accordingly, we have developed a breed template in the **Premium Interface Component** (PIC) that customizes **Cow Sense** to fit the exact fields of information that the Association requires. Cow Sense then allows you maximum flexibility to customize the rest of the program to your individual management needs. The software handles all of the technical aspects of data structure and file layouts and gives you the simple convenience of menu driven commands. Apply the pre-defined data structure to your Cow Sense herd, then simply select import and export routines that are written for specific data exchange functions. Validations operate in the background to ensure that data requirements are met on both import and export.

The primary functions of PIC are to: maintain standardized fields required by the respective breed associations; send in applications for animal registration; meet the requirements of total herd reporting; and to receive back registrations and EPD updates. Accordingly we have organized this document to follow the format of the respective procedure(s) documented in the *American Hereford Association Breeder's Guide*.

The Cow Sense Users' Guide will explain the use and functionality of the program and the many new features available with Cow Sense Version 4. This document will assist you in locating and working with the specific fields that are used in the Hereford Premium Interface Component (PIC) of Cow Sense Software. To launch the Premium Interface Component from the Cow Sense Main Menu - Go to: **Utilities > Transfer Data > Premium Interface Component**.

The following are detailed instructions for entering information, required field verification and data location within Cow Sense herd management software. In addition, this information has been condensed in a series of Quick Reference Tables for easy reference in using the Cow Sense Premium Interface Component.

Installation of the PIC Breed Template

The first step when using PIC for the first time is to install a breed template. A breed template is used to customize your herd by adding necessary fields or changing description codes so you can conform to association rules and export the necessary information needed by that association.

If Midwest MicroSystems did your initial herd build or conversion then your template is already in place and you do not need to apply it to this herd. If you are applying the template to a previously established or new herd for the first time, Go to **PIC Main Menu Select: Breeds > Templates > Hereford**. The program will display the name and location of the current herd and ask you to confirm that the herd listed is the one, upon which you wish to apply the template. Select either the 'Yes' or 'No' button.

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After a breed template is applied PIC will customize itself for the specific breed by adding menu options that can be chosen to perform various operations like exporting registration and performance data to the association and even updating your herd with data received from the association. Please note that you can only apply one breed template to your herd at a time.

Submitting Registration and Performance Information from PIC

To electronically submit a registration application with the Association via the Cow Sense Premium Interface Component the following information must be gathered and input into Cow Sense. On the following pages that follow is a quick reference table where you can locate the fields and the type of information that is required to be entered in those fields. After reviewing these tables, you will better understand the type of data that needs to be entered before trying to export data to the association.

Once all necessary information has been entered into Cow Sense Version 4, you can then prepare to submit that information to the association. The following steps will help guide you through the process of submitting registration information to the association:

1. First review the list of calves in Cow Sense and Mark all records to be Exported (refer to page 69 of the *Cow Sense User's Guide*).

2. Once records are Marked for Export proceed to the Cow Sense Main Menu and **Select > Utilities > Transfer Data > Premium Interface Component**.

3. Once PIC has launched, proceed to the Main Menu bar and **Select: Breeds > Export > Hereford > Registration > Verify**.

4. A Verify Registrations window will appear asking if you wish to verify the information from the Cow Sense herd listed before exporting it to a file for submission to the association. Select the 'Verify' button.

5. An Export File window will appear asking you to confirm the number of records to be verified. If this is the same number as the records you marked, Select the 'Yes' button, if not Select the 'No' button and repeat the procedure to determine the discrepancy.

6. After selecting the 'Yes' button another window will appear that asks if you want to print warnings in the result log. It is recommended that you choose 'Yes'. After selecting the 'Yes' button a progress bar will appear and the verification process will take place. This could take some time.

7. After this process is complete a window will appear either telling you that no errors were found or asking you if you wish to view the error log file. Choose 'Yes'. If any errors were encountered, they will now be displayed in Notepad. Please note that PIC validates all records to ensure that all required information is included and reports any errors encountered, all warnings that were issued, as well as all records exported at this time. Also notice that the program displays the name of the exported file and where you can find it (in the Cow Sense folder of the installed drive in a sub-folder labeled Export).

8. Review these errors (if there are any) and make any necessary changes in Cow Sense.

9. Repeat the verification process until no errors are encountered.

10. Once you have completed the verification process you are now ready to run the final export for the association. Go to the Main Menu bar and **Select: Breeds > Export > Hereford > Registration > Export**.
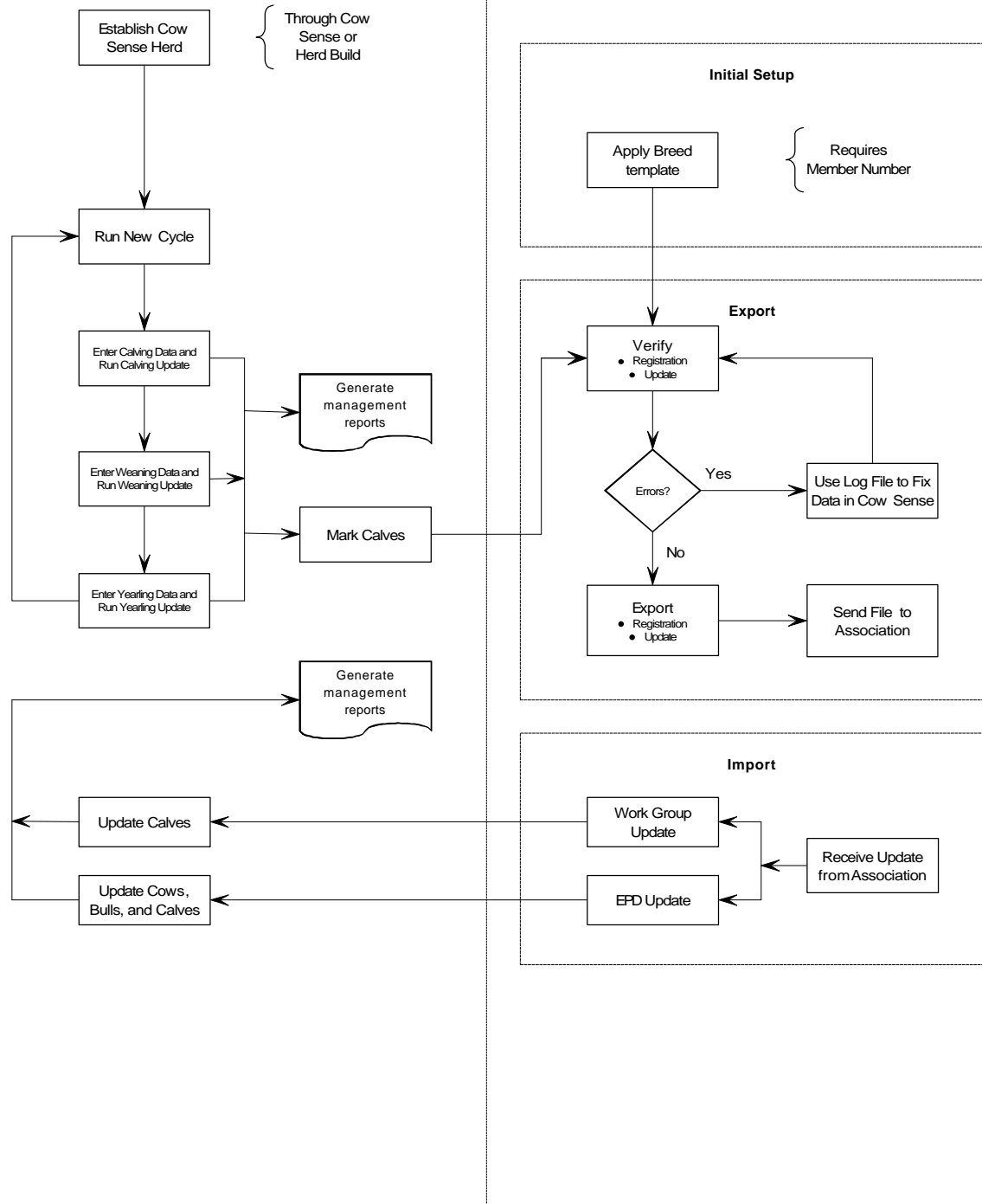
11. An Export Registrations window will appear asking if you wish to export the information from the Cow Sense herd listed, exporting it to a file for submission to the Association. Select the 'Export' button.

12. An Export File window will appear asking you to confirm the number of records to be verified. If this is the same number as the records you marked, Select the 'Yes' button, if not Select the 'No' button and repeat the procedure to determine the discrepancy.

13. After selecting the 'Yes' button another window will appear that asks if you want to print warnings in the result log. It is recommended that you choose 'Yes'.

14. After selecting the 'Yes' button another window will appear asking you to confirm the breeder information that will be used for the registration of your calves. Click on 'Submit Under Different Name' if you wish to change the person who is registering the calves.

15. After selecting the 'Done' button you will be asked to confirm your email address. Re-enter your email address and click 'OK'.

16. The information you chose to use will be displayed in another window for your review. After clicking 'Yes' a confirmation window will appear telling you who will be registering the marked calves. Please note that if there is more than one breeder registering calves you will have to run a separate export for each of them. Click 'Yes' if this information is correct and a progress bar will appear and the export process will take place. This could take some time.

17. After this process is complete a window will appear that indicates the Export function was complete. Please note that PIC will validate the data one last time to ensure that there are no errors. If there are errors encountered you will be able to review them the same way as in the verification process. Please note that the error log displayed in the Export routine is more abstract and may not list every error. It is recommended that you always use the verification process until no errors are found. This will save you some time.

18. When all records have been successfully exported you can either attach the export file to an e-mail and send it to the association or copy it onto a diskette and send it to the association. If you wish to print out the registration report with all of the calving information, go to the Main Menu bar and **Select: Breeds > Export > Hereford > Registration > Print.**

19. A new window will open up displaying the report. Please note that this report can only be displayed once. If you wish to print out this registration report do it now or you will have to run the export again in order to display the report for printing. If the association prefers hard copy registration reports you can send these into the association. It is recommended you print two copies of the registration report so you also have a copy to keep for you records.

You have now completed registration of your calves. This same process can be used for both weaning and yearling information. If these processes are available there will be menu options much like the registration of your calves that you can choose from.

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Cow Sense Purebred | **Premium Interface Component**

```
Establish Cow          }  Through Cow
Sense Herd                Sense or
                          Herd Build
```

Initial Setup

```
Apply Breed        }  Requires
template              Member Number
```

```
Run New Cycle
```

Export

```
Enter Calving Data and
Run Calving Update

        Generate
        management
        reports

Enter Weaning Data and
Run Weaning Update

Mark Calves

Enter Yearling Data and
Run Yearling Update
```

```
Verify
 • Registration
 • Update

Errors?   —Yes→   Use Log File to Fix
                  Data in Cow Sense

   No

Export            →   Send File to
 • Registration       Association
 • Update
```

```
        Generate
        management
        reports
```

Import

```
Update Calves   ←   Work Group
                    Update

                                    Receive Update
                                    from Association

Update Cows,    ←   EPD Update
Bulls, and Calves
```

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HEREFORD REGISTRATION, WEANING, AND YEARLING FILE LAYOUT

TABLE 1: ENTER DATA CALVES, COWS AND BULLS

Entry Form	Cow Sense Field(s)	Description/Use	Assoc Field
Calving Main	Birth Date	Calving date (MM/DD/YY).	Birth_Date
Calving Main	Birth Group	Birth group: Dam's birth management group. 1= Mgmt group 1 2 = Mgmt group 2 3 = Mgmt group 3 etc. (maximum 2 characters) Cow Sense uses the first character of Calf Group One. Remainder of group description is for user reference and should be modified as desired.	Birth_Group
Calving Main	Birth Weight	Actual birth weight (BW) measured within 24 hours of birth.	Birth_Weight
Calving Main	Born As	Service type: A = AI E = ET N = Natural.	Service
Calving Main	Born As	Birth code: 1 = Single 2 = Twin to bull 3 = Twin to heifer 4 = Other	Birth_Code
Calving Main	Calf ID	Calf's herd identification number if different from left tattoo. Do not use duplicate herd ID numbers in same herd. Maximum 8 characters.	Calf_ID

Calving Main	Calving Ease	Calving ease score on 1 to 5 scale: 1 = No assistance 2 = Some assistance 3 = Calf puller used 4 = Caesarian 5 = Abnormal presentation.	Ease
Calving Main	LE Tattoo	Calf's left ear tattoo. This will be calf's herd ID number unless a specific herd ID number is supplied by breeder. Maximum 8 characters.	Tattoo_LE
Calving Main	RE Tattoo	Calf's right ear tattoo -- lower third of right ear reserved for bangs tattoo. Maximum 8 characters.	Tattoo_RE
Calving Main	Poll	Poll: H = Horned P = Polled S = Scurred.	Poll
Calving Main	Sex	Calf's sex: B = Bull C = Cow S = Steer.	Sex
Weaning Main	Name	Calf's name (maximum 24 characters).	Name
Weaning Main	Registration	Calf's registration number.	Reg_Number
Weaning Main	Wean Weight	Weaning weight. Actual calf's weight taken between 155 and 300 days of age. Animals weighed outside this age span will be marked irregular for weaning ratio.	Wean_Weight
Weaning Main	Wean Weight Date	Date calf was weighed at weaning. Calves from a breeding season should be weighed within a 7 day period (MM/DD/YY).	Wean_Date

Weaning Main	Weaning Group	Weaning group: 1 = Group 1 2 = Group 2 3 = Group 3 etc. Maximum of two characters. Assign a different weaning group number for each group of cattle treated differently. Cow Sense uses the first character of Calf Group Two. Remainder of group description is for user reference and should be modified as desired.	Wean_Group
Yrlg Main	Hip Height	Calf's hip height measurement at yearling weight date (inches).	Yrlg_Height
Yrlg Main	Scrotum	Bull's scrotal measurement (centimeters).	Scrotal
Yrlg Main	Yearling Group	Yearling group: 1 = Group 1 2 = Group 2 3 = Group 3 etc. Maximum of two characters. Assign a different weaning group number for each group of cattle treated differently. Cow Sense uses the first character of Yearling Group Two. Remainder of group description is for user reference and should be modified as desired.	Yrlg_Group
Yrlg Main	Yearling Weight	Yearling weight. Actual calf's weight taken between 330 and 430 days of age. Animals weighed outside this age span will be marked irregular for yearling weight ratio.	Yrlg_Weight
Yrlg Main	Yearling Weight Date	Date calf was weighed as a yearling.	Yrlg_Date
Yrlg Main	Yrlg Mgmt Type	Yearling management type (formerly Feed Code): 0 = Do Not Ratio 1 = Pasture or roughage only 2 = Pasture or roughage with supplement 3 = Dry lot fed, low energy ration 4 = Dry lot fed, high energy ration 5 = Fitted 6 = Bull test 7 = Other Cow Sense uses the first character of Yearling Group One. Remainder of group description is for user reference and should be left as specified.	Yrlg_Mgmt

Supplemental (Calf)	Chg Sex Wean	Change sex to steer if (and only if) calf was castrated a significant amount of time prior to weaning. Y = Yes Blank or N = No	Chg_Sex_Wean
Supplemental (Calf)	Chg Sex Yrlg	Change sex to steer if (and only if) calf was castrated a significant amount of time prior to collecting weight as yearling. Y = Yes Blank or N = No	Chg_Sex_Yrlg
Supplemental (Calf)	Disposal Code	Calf's disposal code: T-Sold with papers 1-Sold as breeding animal without papers 2-Sold as feeder calf 3-Died, illness 4-Died, injury 5-Died, calving difficulty 6-Died, old age 7-Died, other 8-Culled, inferior production 9-Culled, infertile 10-Culled, illness 11-Culled, injury 12-Culled, poor temperament 13-Culled or died, genetic defect 14-Culled, bad feet 15-Culled, poor udder 16-Culled, prolapse 17-Culled, cancer eye 18-Culled, structurally unsound 19-Culled, old age 20-Culled, other	Disposal
Supplemental (Calf)	Register	Register: Y = Yes N = No (Defaults to No if left blank.)	Register
Supplemental (Calf)	Transfer	Transfer on entry: Y = Yes Blank or N = No	Transfer

Supplemental (Calf)	Wean Mgmt Type	Weaning management type (formerly Feed Code): 0 = Do not ratio 1 = No creep 2 = Creep 3 = Other 4 = Foster dam 5 = Raised as twin 6 = Twin raised as single 7 = Embryo transfer Entered value is used if filled. If no entry, Cow Sense will resolve this group based on normal entry for no ratio, creep, born as, raised as, and embryo transfer.	Wean_Mgmt
Cow Main	Condition	Dam's body condition score on the date of calf's weaning: 1 = Emaciated 2 = Poor 3 = Thin 4 = Borderline 5 = Moderate 6 = High moderate 7 = Good 8 = Fat 9 = Extremely fat.	Dam_BCS
Cow Main	Registration	Provide dam's herd ID or dam's registration # on file at AHA.	Dam_ID
Cow Main	Weight	Dam's weight on the date of calf's weaning.	Dam_Weight
Supplemental (COW)	Udder Score	Dam's udder score at time of calf's birth. 1 = Very pendulous to 9 = Ideal.	Dam_Udder
Bull Main	Registration	Provide sire's herd ID or sire's registration # on file at AHA.	Sire_ID