Cow Sense™ Herd Management Software

Premium Interface Component
User's Reference
North American Limousin Foundation

Introduction

Midwest MicroSystems recognizes and applauds the leadership of the North American Limousin Foundation 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 *North American Limousin Foundation 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 Limousin 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 > Limousin**. 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.

Cow Sense™ Herd Management Software

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 > Limousin > 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.

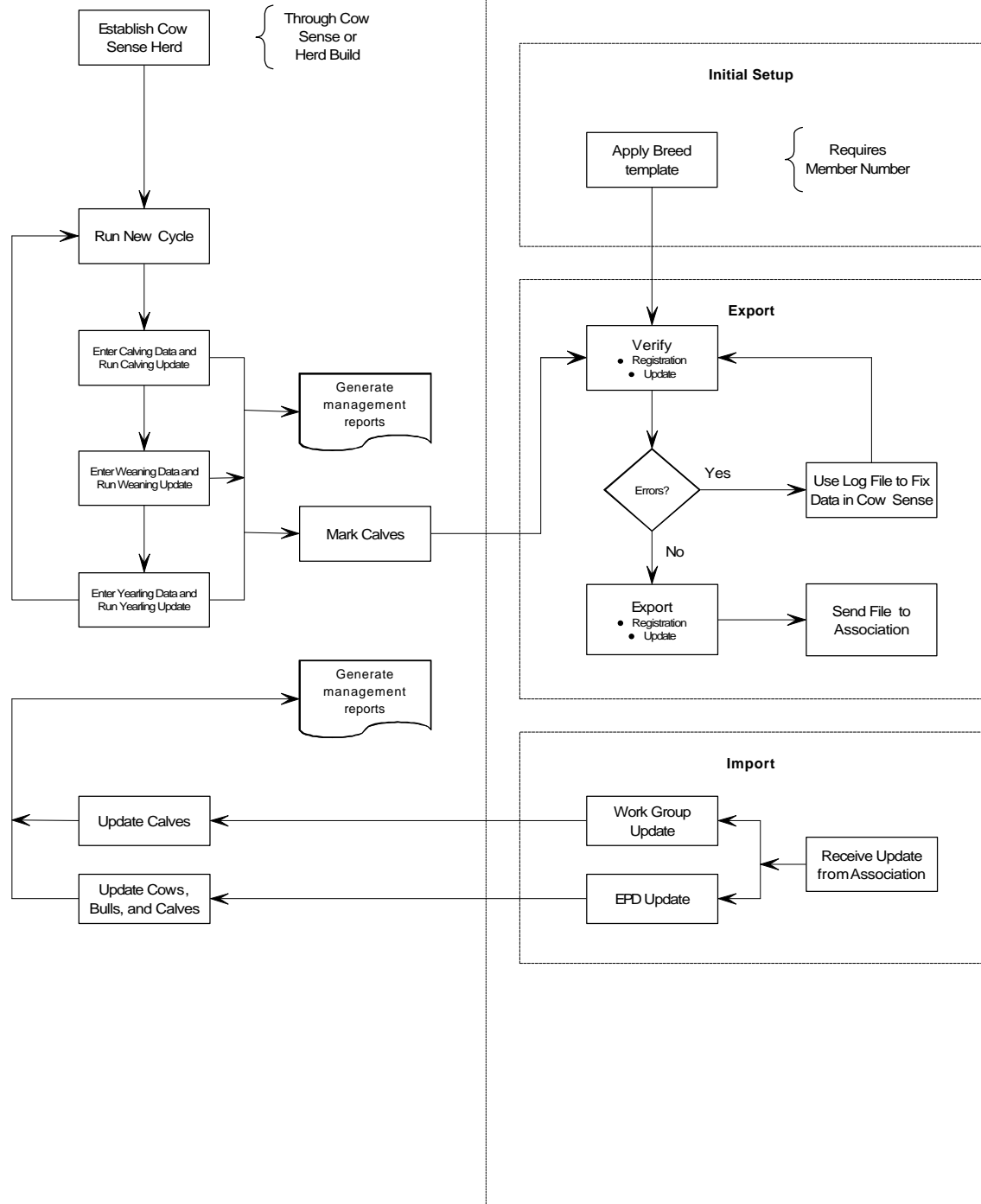9. Repeat the verification process until no errors are encountered.

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 > Limousin > 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 > Limousin > 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.

20. You have now completed registration of your calves. This same process can be used for both weaning and yearling information. Simply Go to **Select: Breeds > Export > Limousin > Update.**

Cow Sense™ Herd Management Software

Cow Sense Purebred   **Premium Interface Component**

```
┌──────────────────┐     ┌ Through Cow
│  Establish Cow   │     │   Sense or
│   Sense Herd     │     │  Herd Build
└──────────────────┘     └
```

Initial Setup

```
┌──────────────────┐     ┌  Requires
│  Apply Breed     │     │  Member Number
│   template       │     └
└──────────────────┘
```

```
┌──────────────────┐
│  Run New  Cycle  │
└──────────────────┘
```

Export

```
┌──────────────────────┐      ┌──────────────────┐
│ Enter Calving Data and│      │  Verify          │
│ Run Calving Update    │      │  • Registration  │
└──────────────────────┘      │  • Update        │
                              └──────────────────┘
```

Generate management reports

```
                              ◇ Errors? ◇  ── Yes ──▶ ┌──────────────────┐
                                                      │ Use Log File to Fix│
┌──────────────────────┐                              │ Data in Cow  Sense │
│ Enter Weaning Data and│                             └──────────────────┘
│ Run Weaning Update    │
└──────────────────────┘        │ No
                                ▼
┌──────────────────┐          ┌──────────────────┐     ┌──────────────────┐
│  Mark Calves     │          │  Export          │ ──▶ │  Send File  to   │
└──────────────────┘          │  • Registration  │     │  Association     │
                              │  • Update        │     └──────────────────┘
┌──────────────────────┐      └──────────────────┘
│ Enter Yearling Data and│
│ Run Yearling Update   │
└──────────────────────┘
```

Generate management reports

Import

```
                              ┌──────────────────┐
┌──────────────────┐          │  Work Group      │
│  Update Calves   │ ◀────────│  Update          │◀──┐
└──────────────────┘          └──────────────────┘   │  ┌──────────────────┐
                                                      │  │  Receive Update  │
┌──────────────────┐          ┌──────────────────┐   │  │  from Association │
│  Update Cows,    │ ◀────────│  EPD Update      │◀──┘  └──────────────────┘
│  Bulls, and Calves│          └──────────────────┘
└──────────────────┘
```

LIMOUSIN REGISTRATION FILE LAYOUT

TABLE 1: ENTER DATA CALVES, COWS AND BULLS

Entry Form	Cow Sense Field(s)	Required	Description/Use	Assoc Field Name
Calving Main	Birth Group	Warning	Handled normally in Cow Sense Calf Group 1; Label as "Birth Group."	birth_cont_grp
Calving Main	Birth Date	If Calf Born	Handled normally in Cow Sense	birthdate
Calving Main	Birth Weight	Warning	Handled normally in Cow Sense	birth_wt
Calving Main	Born As	If Calf Born	Twin code; derived from normal Cow Sense entry for Born As: S-Single T-Twin or other multiple birth	twin_code
Calving Main	Born As, Type	If Calf Born	Mating type; derived from normal Cow Sense entry for Born As and bull Type: A-Artificial Insemination N-Natural Service E-ET	mating
Calving Main	Calf ID		Handled normally in Cow Sense; Calf's private ID; truncated to 6 characters	priv_herd
Calving Main	Calving Ease		Calving ease code; derived from normal Cow Sense entry for Calving Ease: A-Unassisted, calf born unobserved or without assistance B-Some assistance, calf was assisted but not by mechanical calf puller C-Mechanical assistance, mechanical calf puller used D-Cesarean, calf taken by surgical cesarean E-Abnormal presentation, calf backwards, breach or other abnormal presentation requiring assistance	calvease
Calving Main	Color		Enter one digit code for appropriate color of animal: 1-Red, no white other than underline 2-Black, no white other than underline 3-Red with white on face or body 4-Black with white on face or body 5-Cream color 6-Other colors not listed	color
Calving Main	Herd Prefix	If Calf Born	Calf's herd prefix; defaults to template's herd prefix if left blank	prefix
Calving Main	Poll		Handled normally in Cow Sense	hps

Cow Sense™ Herd Management Software

Calving Main	Prefix	If Calf Born	Calf's Tattoo location	tattoo_loc
Calving Main	Raised As, Creep		Feed code; derived from normal Cow Sense entry for Raised As and Creep: F-Foster dam C-Own dam with creep for 6 weeks or more	wean_feedcode
Calving Main	Sex	If Calf Born	Handled normally in Cow Sense	sex
Calving Main	Start Date	If Mating AI	AI date; handled normally in Cow Sense; prompt user if date not identified.	brd_in_date
Calving Main	Tattoo	If Calf Born	Calf's birth year code; right one character of tattoo.	byr_code
Calving Main	Tattoo	If Calf Born	Derived from normal Cow Sense entry for tattoo; ID portion of tattoo; year code must be on right.	animalid
Calving Main	Weaning Group	Warning	Handled normally in Cow Sense Calf Group 2; Label as "Weaning Group."	wean_cont_grp
Weaning Main	Calf Name	Warning	Handled normally in Cow Sense	name
Weaning Main	Registration	If Update - Managed in	Calf's registration prefix (if updating); left 3 characters	reg_prefix
Weaning Main	Registration	If Update - Managed in	Calf's registration number; remainder of registration number	regisno
Weaning Main	Wean Weight	Warning	Handled normally in Cow Sense	wean_wt
Weaning Main	Wean Weight Date	Warning	Handled normally in Cow Sense	wean_date
Yrlg Main	Hip Height		Handled normally in Cow Sense	wean_ht
Yrlg Main	Hip Height Yrlg		Handled normally in Cow Sense	year_ht
Yrlg Main	Pelvic Measure Date		Handled normally in Cow Sense	pelvic_date
Yrlg Main	Pelvis H		Handled normally in Cow Sense	pelvic_width
Yrlg Main	Pelvis V		Handled normally in Cow Sense	pelvic_height
Yrlg Main	Scrotal Measure Date		Handled normally in Cow Sense	scrotal_date
Yrlg Main	Scrotum		Handled normally in Cow Sense	scrotal
Yrlg Main	Yearling Group	Warning	Handled normally in Cow Sense Yearling Group 1; Label as "Yearling Group."	year_cont_grp
Yrlg Main	Yrlg Weight		Handled normally in Cow Sense	year_wt
Yrlg Main	Yrlg Weight Date		Handled normally in Cow Sense	year_date

Supplemental (Calf)	Disposal Code		Handled normally in Cow Sense	disposal
Supplemental (Calf)	Disposal Date		Handled normally in Cow Sense	disposal_date
Supplemental (Calf)	Docility		Docility (disposition) score at time of weaning: 1 = Docile 2 = Restless 3 = Nervous 4 = Flighty (wild) 5 = Aggressive 6 = Very aggressive	disposition
Supplemental (Calf)	Member Num	Always	Member prefix ('C' or 'N'); left one character	owner_assoc
Supplemental (Calf)	Member Num	Always	Member number (six numeric characters)	owner
Supplemental (Calf)	Reg Type	Always	Registration type R = Register U = Unrecorded Defaults to R if field is left empty.	regtype
Cow Main	Breed	If Unregistered Cow	Dam's breed codes; entered according to NALF specification in Cow Sense breed composition table. Required if cow is unregistered.	dam_breed
Cow Main	Condition		Handled normally in Cow Sense; condition of cow (1 to 9) at time of file is exported; should be updated at weaning: 1 = Emaciated 2 = Poor 3 = Thin 4 = Borderline 5 = Moderate 6 = High moderate 7 = Good 8 = Fat 9 = Extremely fat	dams_bcs
Cow Main	Cow Birth Date		Handled normally in Cow Sense	dam_dob
Cow Main	Cow Birth Date	Always	Vent code (if born in or before 1990=0, after 1990=1). Created automatically in code.	dam_vent

Cow Sense™ Herd Management Software

Cow Main	Cow ID	Always	Handled normally in Cow Sense; Dam's private ID; truncated to 6 characters	dam_tag
Cow Main	Disposal Code		Dam's status code if no calf; disposal or reason no calf; see Member's Manual (D-5).	dam_disposal
Cow Main	Her Prefix	Always	Dam's herd prefix; defaults to template herd prefix if left blank	dam_pref
Cow Main	Registration	Always	Dam's registration number; remainder of registration number; Cow ID if unregistered (foundation cow)	damreg
Cow Main	Registration	Always	Dam's registration prefix; left 3 characters; use 'FC#' if unregistered (foundation cow)	dam_brd_code
Cow Main	Tattoo	Always	Dam's birth year code; right one character of tattoo.	dam_byr
Cow Main	Tattoo	Always	Derived from normal Cow Sense entry for tattoo; ID portion of tattoo; year code must be on right.	dam_tattoo
Cow Main	Weight		Handled normally in Cow Sense; weight of dam at the time file is exported; should be updated at weaning.	dams_weight
Bull Main	Registration	If Calf Born	Sire's registration prefix; left 3 characters	sire_brd_code
Bull Main	Registration	If Calf Born	Sire's registration number; remainder of registration number	sirereg