Premium Interface Component

User's Reference

American Chianina Association

Introduction

Midwest MicroSystems recognizes and applauds the leadership of the American Chianina 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 by the *American Chianina Association.*

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 Angus 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 > Chianina**. 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.

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 > Chianina > 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 > Chianina > 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. There is also an electronic interface in which you can immediately send the file to the ACA. If you have an internet connection it is suggested that you use Micro FTP to send the exported information to the ACA. Simply follow the prompts on the screen after the export is complete. 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 > Chianina > Registration > Print.** *If you are submitting electronically,* ***do not*** *send the printed report to the Association.*

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. 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.

NOTE: Do not send both the printed report and the electronic file to the association, just one or the other. This can cause confusion at the association and could cause delays in receiving your performance information back.

Submitting EPD Request File to ACA from PIC

To electronically submit a EPD request file to the Association via the Cow Sense Premium Interface Component go and **Select: Breeds > Export > Chianina > EPD Request > Verify.** The verification process is used so the file contains all the information the association needs to send you back an EPD update file. Once you have ran the verification process successfully without any errors, go and **Select: Breeds > Export > Chianina > EPD Request > Export.** An EPD request file has now been created and is located in the subfolder called 'Export' in your Cow Sense directory. The file name will be in the form E99999.zip where 99999 is your member number. After the file is created you will be prompted to send the file to the remote server. Choose 'Yes' and your file will be sent to the Association and you will then receive an EPD update file from them in a timely manner.

Registering Previously Submitted Terminal Animals

To electronically submit a file to fully register some of your terminal cattle go to and **Select: Breeds > Export > Chianina > Register Terminals > Verify.** The verification process is used so that all calves you have marked are in fact terminals. Once you have ran the verification process successfully without errors, go and **Select: Breeds > Export > Chianina > Register Terminals > Export.** A terminal registration file has now been created and is located in the subfolder called 'Export' in your Cow Sense directory. The file name will be in the form T99999.zip where 99999 is your member number. After the file is created you will be prompted to send the file to the remote server. Choose 'Yes' and your file will be sent to the Association and you will then receive a Performance Update file back from the Association which will update the registration numbers and calculations on the terminal cattle you submitted.

Updating your Herd with Update Files from the Association

There are two update files which you can receive from the American Chianina Association which can be imported into your Cow Sense herd using PIC. These two files are:

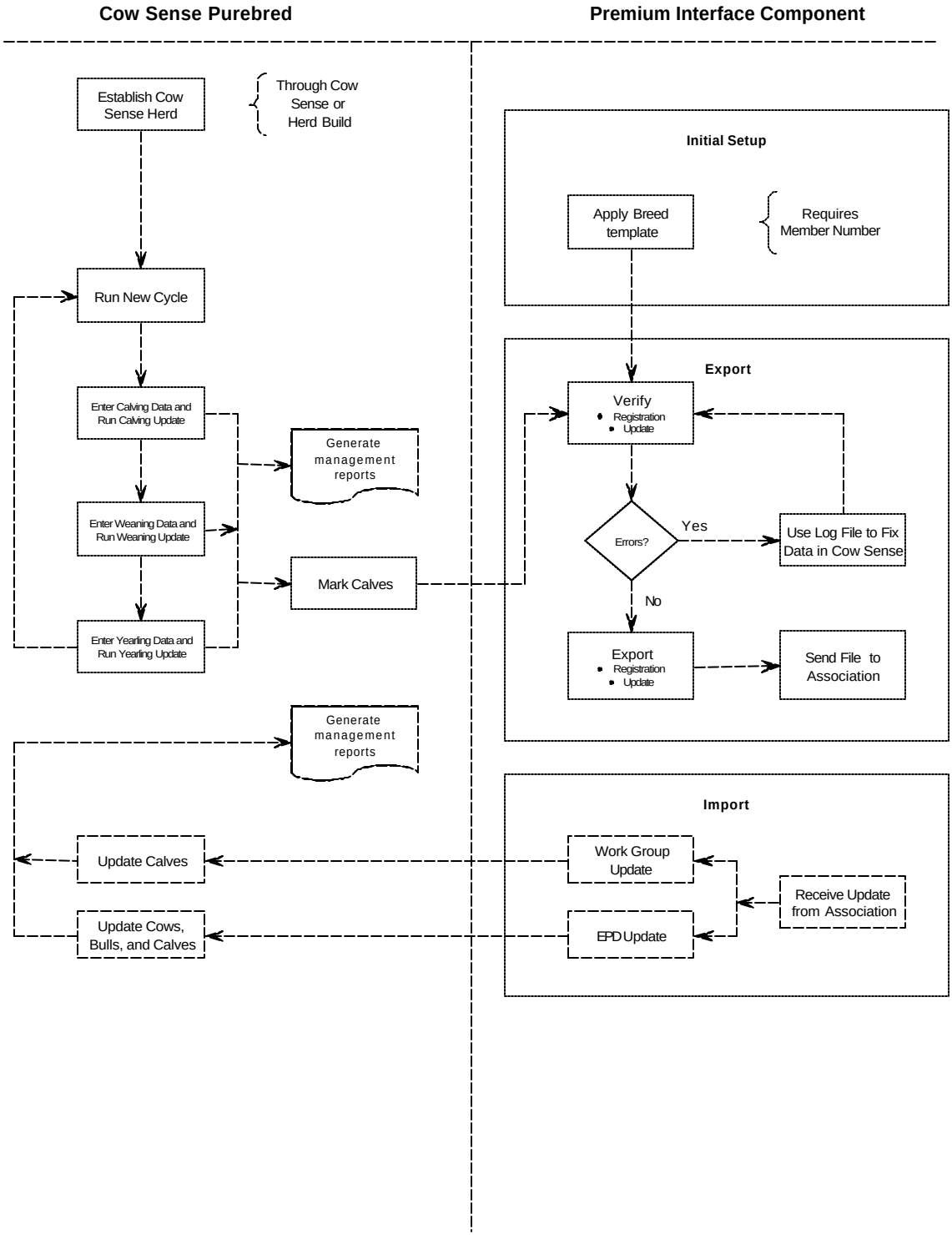
1. Performance Update File: P99999.zip where 99999 is your member number.
2. EPD Update File: D99999.zip where 99999 is your member number.

When you receive these files from the association and they are located on your computer go and **Select: Breeds > Import > Chianina > Performance Update** or **Select: Breeds > Import > Chianina > EPD Update**, depending on the file you wish to import. When you select these import options, you will have to locate the file on your computer or look for it on the remote server. If there is no update located at the remoteserver you have to try again later or contact the association to see when the update will be sent. After you select the file your herd will automatically be updated with the associations adjusted measures and EPD information. If an animal is not found in your herd to be updated, it will be logged into the build log located in the folder called 'Import' in your Cow Sense directory.

Preserving Association Calculations

Since Cow Sense also calculates adjusted weights and ratios, it is important to take measures to preserve the association's values after importing an update. Cow Sense uses the "Lock Cycle" function to prevent re-calculating adjusted weights and ratios on calves. Set Cow Sense to the production cycle you have imported, then run the command **Maintenance > Current Cycle > Lock Cycle**. Here are some tips on locking cycles:

- ✍ You cannot enter or modify data in a locked cycle. To add additional data, such as yearling weights, you must either import the data using the Import Tool on the Utilities menu, or set the cycle to 'Yearling' under **Maintenance > Administration > Setup > Production Cycles**, enter the data, and then lock the cycle again.
- ✍ You cannot make a locked cycle the current production cycle. You will need an open production cycle (any status other than 'Locked') to set as your current production cycle. If you are not ready to move forward with your next production cycle, then create a 'dummy' production cycle for one cow and enter 99 in the calf history.
- ✍ Reports are not affected by locking a production cycle. You can always run reports for all of your entered or imported data.


Cow Sense Purebred
Premium Interface Component
Establish Cow Sense Herd
Through Cow Sense or Herd Build
Run New Cycle
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
Generate management reports
Update Calves
Update Cows, Bulls, and Calves
Initial Setup
Apply Breed template
Requires Member Number
Export
Verify
Registration
Update
Errors?
Yes
Use Log File to Fix Data in Cow Sense
No
Export
Registration
Update
Send File to Association
Import
Work Group Update
Receive Update from Association
EPD Update

CHIANINA REGISTRATION FILE LAYOUT

TABLE 1: ENTER DATA CALVES, COWS AND BULLS

Entry Form	Cow Sense Field(s)	Required	Description/Use	Assoc Field Name
CALVES Calving Main	Birth Date	Always	Calf's Birth Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	Birth Date
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Birth Group		Birth Contemporary (Management) Group	Birth Group
CALVES Calving Main	Birth Weight		Birth Weight	Birth Weight
CALVES Calving Main	Born As	Always	Enter type of birth: S = Single TB = Twin to Bull TH = Twin to Heifer E = Embryo Transfer ES = Split embryo C = Clone R = Triplet The Born As field is used to identify whether the calf is a twin, ET or a clone.	ET, Twin, Clone
CALVES Calving Main	Calf ID	Always	Calf ID	
CALVES Calving Main	Calving Ease		Calving Ease Enter one of the following : 1 = Unassisted (Converted to 'A' for export to the association) 2 = Easy pull (Converted to 'B' for export to the association) 3 = Hard Pull – puller used (Converted to 'C' for export to the association) 4 = Caesarean (Converted to 'D' for export to the association) 5 = Abnormal Presentation (Converted to 'E' for export to the association)	Calving Ease

Entry Form	Cow Sense Field(s)	Required	Description/Use	Assoc Field Name
CALVES Calving Main	Color	Always	Calf's Color Enter one of the following: 1 = White 2 = Cream 3 = Black 4 = Black & White 5 = Red 6 = Red & White 7 = Brown 8 = Gray	Color
CALVES Calving Main	Cow ID	Always	Cow ID	
CALVES Calving Main	Creep Feed		Creep Feed	Creep
CALVES Calving Main	LE Tattoo	LE or RE Required	Left Tattoo of calf (maximum of 6 characters).	Left Tattoo
CALVES Calving Main	RE Tattoo	LE or RE Required	Right Tattoo of calf (maximum of 6 characters).	Right Tattoo
CALVES Calving Main	Poll	Always	Poll Status Enter one of the following: H = Horned P = Polled S = Scurs	Poll
CALVES Calving Main	Raised As	Always	Choose a code from the drop down menu. Raised As S = Single on Own Dam F = Single on Foster Dam T = Twin on Own Dam G = Twin on Foster Dam A = Artificially Raised PIC will interpret this field and export whether this calf was raised on a foster cow.	Foster Cow

Entry Form	Cow Sense Field(s)	Required	Description/Use	Assoc Field Name
CALVES Calving Main	Sex	Always	Calf sex (Enter one of the following) B = Bull (Converted to '1' for export to the association) H = Heifer (Converted to '2' for export to the association) S = Steer (Converted to '3' for export to the association)	Sex
CALVES Calving Main	Sire ID	Always	Sire ID	
CALVES Weaning Main	Name	Always	Calf's Name (must be no longer than 30 characters)	Name
CALVES Weaning Main	Wean Weight Date		Date Calf's Weaning Weight was taken (mm/dd/yyyy)	Wean Date
CALVES Weaning Main	Wean Weight		Weaning Weight	Weaning Weight
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Weaning Group		Weaning Contemporary (Management) Group	Wean Group
CALVES Yrlg Main	Yearling Weight Date		Date Calf's Yearling Weight was taken (mm/dd/yyyy)	Year Date
CALVES Yrlg Main	Yearling Weight		Yearling Weight	Yearling Weight
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Yearling Group		Yearling Contemporary (Management) Group	Year Group
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Service Type	If sire is 'Both'	PIC attempts to determine service type without additional user entry. If the sire is an AI sire then 'AI' is exported. If the sire is a natural sire then 'Natural' is exported. If the sire is classified as both, then PIC will look at breeding records to determine what the service type was for the calf. If you do not use breeding records or PIC is unable to determine from the breeding records, then you will need to fill in the 'Service Type' field for the calf with either 'AI' or 'Natural'.	AI or Natural
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Blood Type Case #		Blood Type Case #	Blood Type Case #

Entry Form	Cow Sense Field(s)	Required	Description/Use	Assoc Field Name
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Breed Type Choice		Enter the type of breed you wish to register this calf as from the list below: -Chianina -Chiangus -Chimaine -Chiford -Chianina -Red Chiangus -Fullblood This field is useful just in case the calf qualifies for more than one breed	Breed Type Choice
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Breeder Number	Always	Breeder's member number (breeder of calf). If this field is left blank, it will automatically be filled in with the member number entered when the breed template was applied	Breeder Number
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	DNA Case #		DNA Case #	DNA Case #
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Herd Prefix	Always	Herd Prefix of calf (maximum of 4 characters, association assigned). If you do not have a herd prefix, contact the ACA.	Herd Prefix
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Owner Number	Always	Owner's member number (owner of calf). If this field is left blank, it will automatically be filled in with the member number entered when the breed template was applied.	Owner Number
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Terminal		Enter 'Y' if this animal is a terminal animal	Terminal
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Transfer		Enter 'Y' if this animal is being transferred on registration	Transfer
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Partial Interest	If Transferring	Enter 'Y' if this animal is being transferred on registration into a partial interest animal	Partial Interest
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	New Owner Number	If Transferring	Enter the new owner's member number. (If this animal is being transferred into partial interest, leave this field blank. A form will pop up when the export is taking place for you to enter partial interest information).	New Owner Number

Entry Form	Cow Sense Field(s)	Required	Description/Use	Assoc Field Name
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Sale Date	If Transferring	Enter the date the calf was sold (mm/dd/yyyy)	Sale Date
CALVES Supplemental (Calf)	Genetic Material Kept	If Transferring	If you are keeping genetic material from this animal, enter 'Y'.	Gen Material Kept
COWS Preg Check (promoted from calf)	Status	If Transferring	If calf being registered is a cow, and this cow is being transferred on registration, then breeding information is required. Please enter the pregnancy status: 'Open' and '(unknown)' will be exported as OPEN 'Pregnant' will be exported as BRED	Preg Status
COWS Main (promoted from calf)	AI Date	If Transferring	AI Date of animal being registered	AI Date
COWS Main (promoted from calf)	AI Sire	If Transferring	AI Service Sire of animal being registered	AI Sire
COWS Main (promoted from calf)	Bull In Date	If Transferring	Date bull started being exposed to animal being registered	Pasture Exposed From
COWS Main (promoted from calf)	Bull Out Date	If Transferring	Date bull stopped being exposed to animal being registered	Pasture Exposed To
COWS Main (promoted from calf)	Natural Sire	If Transferring	Natural Service Sire of animal being registered	Natural Sire
COWS Cow Main	Registration	Always	Dam's registration number (Registration # from another association. If left blank, the ACA will assume the dam is being submitted as a commercial animal, and a commercial number will be assigned to this dam.) Enter the breed code of the association for which this dam belongs to as a prefix on the registration number (i.e. If this dam's registration number is from the Angus Association then enter 'AN' ahead of the registration number so you have a registration number like 'AN123456'). There will be no prefix if this dam's registration number is from the ACA.	Dam's Registration

Entry Form	Cow Sense Field(s)	Required	Description/Use	Assoc Field Name
COWS Supplemental (COW)	Owner Number		Owner's member number (owner of dam). If this field is left blank, it will automatically be filled in with the member number entered when the breed template was applied.	Owner Number
COWS Supplemental (COW)	Color		Color of Dam Enter one of the following: 1 = White 2 = Cream 3 = Black 4 = Black & White 5 = Red 6 = Red & White 7 = Brown 8 = Gray	Color
COWS Supplemental (COW)	Blood Type Case #		Blood Type Case # of Dam	Blood Type Case #
COWS Supplemental (COW)	DNA Case Number		DNA Case # of Dam	DNA Case #
BULLS Bull Main	Registration	Always	Sire's registration number (Registration # from another association. If left blank, the ACA will assume the sire is being submitted as a commercial animal, and a commercial number will be assigned to this sire.) Enter the breed code of the association for which this sire belongs to as a prefix on the registration number (i.e. If this sire's registration number is from the Angus Association then enter 'AN' ahead of the registration number so you have a registration number like 'AN123456'). There will be no prefix if this sire's registration number is from the ACA.	Sire's Registration
BULLS Supplemental (BULL)	Owner Number		Owner's member number (owner of sire). If this field is left blank, it will automatically be filled in with the member number entered when the breed template was applied.	Owner Number

Entry Form	Cow Sense Field(s)	Required	Description/Use	Assoc Field Name
BULLS Supplemental (BULL)	Color		Color of Sire Enter one of the following: 1 = White 2 = Cream 3 = Black 4 = Black & White 5 = Red 6 = Red & White 7 = Brown 8 = Gray	Color
BULLS Supplemental (BULL)	Blood Type Case #		Blood Type Case # of Sire	Blood Type Case #
BULLS Supplemental (BULL)	DNA Case Number		DNA Case # of Sire	DNA Case #