

The following LIMS specifications were approved by the NALF board:

- LIMS is *optional* for active Founder, Lifetime, Junior, and Annual NALF members. It is not an option for inactive members.
- LIMS will adhere to Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) guidelines for inventory-based breed association recording.
- LIMS members are required to manage all herd records electronically through the NALF DigitalBeef member site. LIMS is not available via paper or non-electronic submission. All work is expected to be done online.
- LIMS members are required to have a current email address on their account. The majority of communications will be done through email.
- LIMS members are expected to remain in good financial standing with the association and an active member. If an account is locked due to billing issues, NALF will remove the herd from the LIMS program. Member will be eligible to re-join the program 1 year from the date the account balance was paid off. Herd will be subject to whole herd reinstatement fee to join LIMS again.
- The LIMS calendar will provide the deadlines and what is expected on each date. These dates do not change from year to year and may fall on a weekend.
- LIMS production seasons:
 - Spring: January – May 31
 - Fall: June 1 – December 31
- Enrollment for Spring season runs from December 1– February 15 and Fall season enrollment period runs from May 1– July 15. During this period, LIMS members should:
 - Opt in or out of program prior to Feb 15 for Spring season and July 15 for Fall season
 - Designate any animals that need to be moved to the next season
 - Dispose of females no longer in herd
 - Mark any foreign, recipient females, and donor dams appropriately
 - Calving data is due for previous year's enrollment and no progeny codes required if no calf was born
 - Weaning data due (weight/docility) for previous year's Spring enrollment or a disposal code must be entered for calf
- Opting into the LIMS program acknowledges acceptance of single automated enrollment process. On February 15, NALF will automatically enroll all females that are classified as active and part of your Spring inventory. On July 15, the system will automatically enroll all females that are classified as active and part of your Fall inventory.
 - Late enrollment edits are allowed as follows at an additional cost of \$10/animal regardless of if an animal is being added or removed from inventory. This applies solely to enrollment issues. There is no late deadline option for calving and weaning data.
 - Spring season – late edits can be requested between Feb 16 and Feb 23.
 - Fall season – late edits can be requested between July 16 and July 23.
- For members with both spring and fall calving herds, both herds must be either LIMS or non-LIMS (cannot have one season on LIMS and the other season not on LIMS).

- 100% of active females 16 months of age and older must be enrolled (NPF, NFF, LFF, NXF). Failure to comply will result in full removal from program.
 - If a cow needs to be reinstated to the program, it will cost \$50 and missing data must be provided
 - Exceptions: Foundation cows, Foreign animals, and donor dams – these animals do not count towards the 100% rule
- A LIMS cow can skip ONLY 2 seasons in a row. After that, the animal is removed from the program. Example: a potential Spring 2022 cow skips to Fall. Fall 2022 comes around and the member decides to skip the cow to Spring 2023. This cow must be enrolled in Spring 2023 or will be removed and considered noncompliant (subject to \$50 reinstatement fee).
 - Exceptions:
 - Foreign animals: Allowed to skip seasons with no limits as long as the proper code is selected at time of enrollment.
 - Foundation Cows: Allowed to skip seasons with no limits as long as the proper code is selected indicating that she is a recipient female and not carrying an ET calf.
 - Donor Cows: Allowed to skip seasons with no limits as long as the donor dam code is selected and she is not expected to have a natural calf that year.
- There will be an annual \$33 per cow LIMS assessment on all assessed active females that are 16 months of age and older at time of assessment. There will be no annual LIMS assessment on bulls.
- Billing will take place in two equal installments. Spring assessed cows will be billed \$16.50 on February 25 and \$16.50 on July 25 to complete the season. Fall assessed cows will be billed \$16.50 on July 25 and \$16.50 on February 25 to complete the season.
- LIMS members are expected to participate on a yearly basis and not bounce on and off the program. To encourage continuous participation, NALF is implementing whole herd reinstatement fees. If a LIMS herd chooses to return to LIMS after being removed by Staff for noncompliance or after choosing to leave the program, NALF will charge \$40/cow enrolled instead of \$33/cow for the first year back on LIMS. This only applies to herds removed from LIMS after January 1, 2017.
- If a member decides to participate in LIMS for a given year, that member will be responsible for paying all annual assessments incurred, whether the member disperses during that year or decides for some other reason to no longer participate. NALF will not refund assessments paid by these members.
- Payment of LIMS cow assessment entitles calf born in that inventory year to be registered and transferred (limit to first transfer of calf). Regular transfer fees will apply for animals over 30 months of age at time of transfer (i.e., sale date). LIMS members will also receive a 5% discount on LD genomic profile and a LIMS certified seal will be added to all animals in the LIMS assessed herd.
- The entitlement to register and transfer calves out of LIMS-assessed cows at LIMS rates will accompany the cow's transfer to the new owner.
- Partnership cows will be the responsibility of the primary owner of the cow. The primary owner is defined as the partner associated with the address on file for the partnership. Leased cows will be the responsibility of the owner on file of the cow. Changes to partnership and leased cow responsibilities may be arranged by contacting the NALF office.
- If a Master account is on LIMS, all linked accounts are automatically enrolled as well. Linked accounts may participate in LIMS only if the Master account is in LIMS.
- LIMS cows must have either a calf record or a *REASON* code for no calf reported on an annual basis. If calf is not registered within the proper timeline, calf will be subject to normal registration rates. Failure to provide the calving records will result in the cow receiving a LIMS Noncompliant disposal code and removed from LIMS. Cow can be reinstated for \$50 fee and must provide missing calving data.
 - Example: Spring calf born April 2022 must be registered by February 15, 2023 to receive the registration free of charge. A Fall calf born November 2022 must be registered by July 15, 2023 to receive the registration free of charge.

- All progeny recorded from LIMS enrolled cows must have a weaning weight, date, and docility score or a disposal code entered for the calf indicated the animal to be dead or sold prior to weaning. You have one year to provide this information (deadlines Feb 15 and July 15). Failure to provide the weaning records will result in the cow receiving a LIMS Noncompliant disposal code and removed from LIMS. Cow can be reinstated for \$50 fee and must provide missing weaning data.
- ET calves will be registered and transferred free of charge only if recipient dam is enrolled in the LIMS program. Recipient dam information must be provided at the time of the ET calf registration in order to qualify for the free registration and transfer. Normal ET registration and transfer rates will apply to ET calves out of non-LIMS recipient cows. DNA parentage testing requirements and fees will apply to any ET calf, regardless of recipient's LIMS status.