

## Protocol for registering births, DNA collection and Birth Registrations V19.2

12/03/2019, 18/07/2019

### 1 Summary (all forms available on the web at [www.wagyu.org.za](http://www.wagyu.org.za) Resource / forms)

- The Wagyu constitution requires that for stud animals, calves must be DNA verified to Sire and Dam i.e. both parents must be DNA tested. For CWB animals (commercial) all calves must be DNA tested to the Sire.
- Ear tag must be in ear within three months of birth. At the same time take a DNA hair and Tissue sample and immediately send it together with the calf registration form to the office.
- All animals MUST be registered on the Wagyu or CWB system database within six months as specified in the constitution.
- Take the weaning weight of every calf at more or less 200 days (6 months).
- Before sending animals to the feedlots and/or abattoirs a transfer form MUST be correctly filled out and sent to both the CWB office and the feedlot and/or abattoir.

Tag Video [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOBLg\\_sLdLo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOBLg_sLdLo)

The Certified Wagyu Beef (CWB) Combo tag includes a Management Flag tag, Radio tag (RFID) and Tissue Sample Unit (TSU)

### 2 Order your Certified Wagyu Beef (CWB) tags

- Order your CWB tags from the office at least one month before calving.
- You will also need to order a Tag applicator, and a separate DNA applicator
- Also ensure that you request and receive a “Tag Bucket File” and DNA form from the office. The “Tag Bucket File” is the list of Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) ICAR approved electronic tag numbers.
- The “tag bucket file” is an Excel file that contains the RFID Tag numbers that you will use in your registration files to match the animal identification number with the RFID (electronic) number (point 7 below).



	A
1	NumeroCarton;NumeroBoite;EID Number
2	1;1;982 126 053 678 535
3	1;1;982 126 053 678 536
4	1;1;982 126 053 678 537
5	1;1;982 126 053 678 538
6	1;1;982 126 053 678 539

*Ensure that you get a tag bucket file with you electronic ID's from the office. You need to match these with your own animal Identification number.*

### 3 Weigh the calf within 48 hours

- The birth weight should be recorded within 24 to 48 hours. Many producers will use a small pocketbook to record the ID, Mothers ID and the birth weight.
- A spring scale can be obtained from an animal pharmaceutical company



### 4 Apply RFID and management tags after the calf is born (Must take place within three months of birth)

- Tag the calf after birth (when dry). Calves must be tagged with a CWB tag **at least a month** after birth (you may initially insert a small metal tag and tag it two to three weeks later).
- Insert the **radio button tag** into the **LEFT** ear and the **Management tag** into the **RIGHT** ear <http://www.allflexsa.com/products/visual-tags/visual-cattle-tags/>
- Mark the tag with your Prefix (**for example RSS**), Year of Birth and a sequential numerical number for example **RSS18/1**. This is called the unique calf identification number. You may want to add the Sire ID and Dam ID on the tag as desired.
- In the event that the tag does gets lost, contact the office and they will arrange, at a small cost, that a new tag is reissued with the same RFID number.



### 5 At the same time take a DNA tissue sample for a SNP test and storage, and a hair sample for parentage (must take place within three months of birth)

- The Wagyu constitution requires that for all stud animals, calves must be DNA verified to Sire and Dam i.e. both parents must be DNA tested. For CWB animals (commercial) all calves must be DNA tested to the Sire.
- Taking a TSU is a separate process to the above but is taken at the same time (The TSU is now the preferred method of obtaining DNA samples because they are easy to use, obtain good quality DNA and the samples can be reused)
- Instructions for taking a TSU are given in the links below or see the video: <http://wagyu.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/TSU-Applicator-Instructions-for-Use-27June13.pdf>
- Take one pencil thick, hair samples from the twitch of the tail and put it into an envelope that is clearly marked with the animal ID (**RSS180001**). Ensure you have the roots

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*Tag the calf after birth (when dry). Calves must be tagged with a CWB tag **at least a month** after birth with a RFID tag, management tag and a Tissue Sample needs to be collected on each calf.*

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## 6 The above is followed by the following three administrative steps

1. Fill in the DNA and parentage forms (All forms are on <http://wagyu.org.za/forms-reports/>)

Fill in the society form as well as the spreadsheet for parentage verification

- “Request form for parentage testing” MS Word format
- “CSV\_DNA\_780\_Template\_Wagyu”. Please send it in CSV format

2. In case of seedstock, fill in your mating list ASAP (not necessary for CWB/commercial)

For reproduction details a list of cows and the bull are filled in when your mating season takes place once a year. It is very important to include details on cows that did not become pregnant. The form is available on the website.

- WSA-Mating-list-and-Days-to-Calving

3. Complete the calf registration form and email together with DNA form to the society. Courier DNA samples to the society. (<https://www.thecourierguy.co.za/>)

- Birth-Registration-form & Geboorte Registrasies (MS Excel)
- Note Column B: (registration status) **R** = Stud Register; **C** = Commercial register **B** = base cow; **X** = Recipient cow
- Note Column E: (Sex) **M** = male, **F** = female **S** = Steer (Commercial register)

If you have less than 80 animals, it will be easier to make use of the society’s Excel spreadsheet for births, embryos and DNA results for parentage verification. You have **SIX** months from date of birth to register your calves **FREE OF CHARGE**, or you will be accountable for a late registration fee (all fees are VAT exclusive). **Please remember to link the calf’s identification number as well as its electronic number (as explained in 1 and 3 above) in the Excel spreadsheet (use copy and paste from the tag bucket file).**

If you have more than 80 animals, it is recommended that you make use of ‘n herd management program.

## 7 Submit samples

Samples must be couriered to the following address: **no 4 Genius Loci Office park, 6 CP Hoogenhoutstreet, Langenhoven Park, Bloemfontein, Tel. +27 61 408 4123**

## 8 Additional Resources

1. Forms needed for above mentioned actions (<http://wagyu.org.za/forms-reports/>)

- Request form for parentage verification
- Birth-Registration-form & Geboorte Registrasies (MS Excel)
- CSV\_DNA\_780\_Template\_Wagyu (MS Excel)
- WSA-Mating-list-and-Days-to-Calving-Ver18.1 (MS Excel)


2. Additional resources

<https://www.teagasc.ie/publications/2017/teagasc-calf-rearing-manual.php>

<https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/publications/2017/Section7-Routine-calf-management-practices.pdf>

<https://www.drovers.com/article/spring-calving-herd-things-do-now>

<https://www.agresearch.co.nz/genomnz/cattle-genotyping/>

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*Submit your samples and applicable forms to the Wagyu office. WSA will store your DNA TSU's and forward the hair samples to your lab of choice for parentage. Samples will be SNP'ed using the 50K SNP in the first quarter of 2019*

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