

BONSMARA CATTLE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA

Dear Prospective Breeder

Please find herewith the stipulations and general requirements a breeder must comply with prior to him being registered as a Bonsmara breeder.

- You must have a **minimum of 30 registered cows** after selection, which may not include any Brahman-type cow. (More than 30 cows, SP and/or basic cows, should be prepared and presented for selection)
- You must have at least **one registered Bonsmara stud bull** for these cows

Essential facilities:

1. **STURDY CRUSH** where the animals can be handled to inspect ear clips and tattoo marks;
2. **PROPER KRAAL:**
 - (a) **Waiting kraal** where the groups of animals – bulls and heifers apart, can be held ready
 - (b) **Selection kraal with hard and steady soil (not sandy and preferable sprayed wet)** where the animals can be presented
 - (c) At least one, but preferably two **kraals adjacent to the 2(b) kraal** wherein the animals wait, in order for selectors to have a look at them again at conclusion of the group or overall selection.
3. It is desirable that a **small table or place to write with writing utensils** be provided in the 2(b) kraal where the inspection book or computer printout can be handled
4. Keep **tattooing apparatus** at hand in case it might be needed
5. A **scale** to weigh the animals
6. A **measuring tape** to take scrotum measurements

General requirements:

1. Performance testing is compulsory:

BULLS:

- Birth weight (within 3 days after birth)
- Weaning weight
- 12-month weight
- 18-month weight must be taken
- 18-month scrotum measurement

- Weaning weight is compulsory
- 12-month weight
- 18-month weight must be taken

COWS

- Cows weight at weaning is compulsory
- decking lists are compulsory

HEIFERS:

- Birth weight (within 3 days after birth)
2. The animals' identification numbers must be tattooed in full in their ears after the Basic Selection:
 - The animal's right ear: Herd identification mark (You will receive the HDM after the Basic Selection and after registration with SA Stud. Book)
 - The animal's left ear: Year and serial number
 3. The animals that are offered for the inspection/selection must **ALREADY** have the year and serial number
 - tattooed: The animal's right ear: Year and serial number
 - ear clips affixed
 - duly recorded

(The form attached must be returned to the office before a Senior Selection Officer will visit you)
If you feel uncertain about what is expected of you, it is advisable to attend the New Breeder's Day before applying.
 4. The very first, basic inspection is free of charge. In the event that the Senior Selection Officer may find that you do not comply with the requirements with regard to number of animals and proper infrastructure, you will have to carry the Selection Officer's costs of the next selection yourself.
The cost of a Special Selection currently amounts to N\$6 per kilometer and N\$750 day fee in respect of the Senior Selection Officer and N\$350 for the Junior Selection Officer.
 5. Overnight facilities and refreshments must be offered to Selection Officers. Should you not be able to offer boarding and refreshments to the Selection Officer, you will have to stand in for alternative lodging costs that the Selection Officer may incur.
 6. Your animals shall be inspected by a Senior and Junior Selection Officers from the Association once a year. There are no costs involved to these inspections. The annual selections will take place during July.

7. For the annual selections you will need a selection form printout from the BengFarm and / or LOGIX software. Inspection books will not be used in the future. Annual selections are official and only official indexes of animals on inspection lists from BenguFarm or Logix printouts are acceptable.
8. Approved bulls must be marked with a B-brand on the right shoulder after the annual selection. Branding irons are available at a cost of N\$200 (deposit) each from management. Branding irons remain the property of the Association and must be returned should you cease to be a Bonsmara breeder.
9. A Breeders' day and Breed Promotion day is held at least once a year. The Bonsmara Annual General meeting usually takes place in February and attendance is highly recommended. New breeders are compelled to attend at least one selection at a breeder in their area.
10. Depending on the demand, there will be a New Breeder's Training day each year. If not, it will co-inside with the Breeder's day. It is compulsory for all new breeders to attend the first Breeder's Day after their date of joining the Association. (This decision will be backdated to all breeders who joined after January 2008 and who must subsequently attend the 2011 Breeder's Days.)
11. New breeders are obliged to join up with a Senior Inspector as a Junior Inspector during the Annual Inspections the first year after joining as member, instead of offering a New Breeders Training Day.
12. The Selection officer overseeing the basic selection, will inform you more on the technical aspects of the following:
 - Record keeping of animals
 - BenguFarm software (compulsory)
 - Procedures for birth notices and weighing at birth
 - Weighing procedures and weigh lists for different ages as well as scrotum measurements
 - Compulsory DNA-samples for herd sires and paternal testing
 - Minimum reproduction standards for cows and heifers
 - Branding of approved bulls with the B-branding irons for sales / auctions
 - The procedure for annual selection as well as procedures for de-selected bulls
 - Tattooing and ear coding of animals (compulsory)
 - Activities within the Society
 - Any other questions you may have
13. Each member shall receive three individual invoices directly from the individual authorities and costs must be paid:
 - **Namibian Bonsmara Cattle Breeders Association**
 - N\$ 2 310 membership fee (No VAT)
 - Herd levies (no VAT)
 - N\$ 35.30 for a SP, A and B live animals
 - N\$ 20.95 per basic and pending animals
 - **SA Stud Book** (VAT exclusive)
 - Annual membership fee and
 - Per Capita fee

These tariffs are subject to annual escalation should it be necessary

Should you decide to register as a member, please complete the attached application form for membership to the Namibian Bonsmara Cattle Breeder's Association as well as participation to Studbook and mail / fax it back to the Bonsmara Cattle Breeder's Association. It is important to backdate the joining date as member to a date **PRIOR** to the birth date of calves that must be recorded in the upgrading scheme as stud animals.

Please take note that should you join in your personal name, your membership ceases with your death. Should your family wish to continue with the stud, they will have to re-join.

With the application for membership you further undertake to subject yourself to the stipulations of the constitution, bylaws, Disciplinary Code, rules and regulations of the Bonsmara Cattle Breeder's Association of Namibia as is, or as amended from time to time.

Furthermore, each Breeder undertakes in the spirit of the Bonsmara breeding policy, that he/she will commit him/her not sell or alienate any rejected Bonsmara bull or any unapproved Bonsmara or Bonsmara-type bull or bull calf (except an unweaned calf with its mother) for breeding purposes to any other person.

In case of a breeder hosting a sale for the sole purpose of doing away with his/her stud, the breeder undertakes with this application, to only sell animals as BONSMARAS that have been accepted by the Association and that have index numbers to substantiate this selection, as well as to abide by the rules of the Association until after the sale and to refrain from selling any 'bush bulls/red bulls'.

All applications are presented for acceptance at the first meeting after the initial inspection and selection of the animals.

Thank you very much for your interest in the breed. We are looking forward to meeting you at the Bonsmara gatherings.

With hearty Bonsmara greetings

Marinda Labuschagne

SELECTION APPLICATION FOR NEW BREEDERS

1. NUMBER OF ANIMALS FOR SELECTION:

Bulls _____ Female animals _____

2. Please enclose a complete road map with directions and distances according to new roads, from nearest highway to farm where inspections will take place

3. Are you prepared to provide boarding to the Selection Officer(s)? YES / NO _____

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HEREBY UNDERTAKE TO SEE TO IT THAT THE ABOVE SPECIFICATIONS ARE MET IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR SELECTION

Should the above specifications not be met, the Selectors will NOT perform the selection and shall the following selection be deemed a Special Selection, where you have to incur the costs yourself.

NAME AND SURNAME: _____

FARM NAME: _____ NEAREST TOWN: _____

REGION: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS & TOWN: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ CELL: _____

DATE OF APPLICATION: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ID: _____

ROAD MAP:

DATE RECEIVED: _____

SENIOR SELECTOR: _____

BREEDER: _____

JUNIOR SELECTOR: _____

DATE: _____