

## New Suffixes for Limousin cattle

Following considerable research and consultation with a variety of stakeholders and consideration of member feedback on proposed changes to Limousin suffixes the Board is advising members of a new suite of suffixes that will come into effect as at 1 January 2023. Please note that whilst these suffixes officially take effect as 1 January 2023 they may appear on the database prior to this date or a short time after depending on ABRI's work to transition us to the new suite of suffixes. The new suffixes will be used in all of the extracts prepared for the 2023 sale catalogues.

The review of the Limousin suffixes was initiated after a number of members noted that the existing suffixes had evolved over time with technological advances and breed advancement. Their concerns were that this evolution had led to the use of a number of suffixes being used to describe the same status, e.g. 3 suffixes to describe an animal as homozygous polled, that leads to some confusion within the marketplace and hinders clear and intuitive understanding of the suffixes. It was noted by members that all methods of determining horn/poll and coat colour status had reached similar and acceptable accuracy to no longer need to differentiate in suffixes as to how the status was determined. In reviewing the Limousin suffixes the Board considered:

1. Discussions with commercial buyers/users, agents and members who expressed opinions that our existing suffixes were confusing with a number of traits being represented by more than one suffix and some suffixes being less than intuitive.
2. Reflection on the purpose and use of suffixes in relation to providing information to non-members and members in their decision-making processes when considering purchases to suit their breeding objectives.
3. A view of a growing number of members that the current suffixes have served their purpose as technology and herd status has evolved over a period of time but are now in some cases unnecessary.

The Board arrived at its position with general member consensus on the new suite of suffixes believing the proposed changes to be simple to understand and more intuitive than the current suffixes and brings us in line with or closer to many other breeds that have similar traits that suffixes are used for.

The Board emphasises that there is no intention to change information available on the Animal Enquiry page relating to how the status of the various suffix traits were determined. Full details of DNA test results would also continue to be reported as they are now. All suffix traits will be available as Animal Search filters to support members and non-members to search the Limousin database for potential animals with desired traits that may suit their breeding objectives.

The Board is appreciative of the time taken by members and non-members to provide feedback, comment and suggestions to assist the development of the new simplified and more intuitive suite of suffixes. **See Below for a summary of the new Limousin suffixes and how they will appear after animal names.**

**Suffixes for Limousin cattle as at 01 January 2023.**

Every animal will have 3 suffixes in brackets following its name, with the exception of Lim-Flex animals that will have 4 suffixes including the LF suffix. The suffixes will appear in the following order:

- (LF if it is a Lim-Flex animal, Poll status, Coat colour, F94L gene status)

LIMOUSIN SUFFIXES			
Trait	SUFFIX	STATUS	STATUS ARRIVED AT BY Details available for individual animals on Limousin database Animal Enquiry page.
Horn status	PP	Homozygous polled	DNA test confirmed homozygous polled, or Animal is homozygous polled by pedigree as both parents are confirmed homozygous polled, or Animal is confirmed homozygous polled by progeny analysis process.
	P	Polled	DNA test confirmed heterozygous polled, or Animal is untested, information was provided by breeder.
	Ps	Polled with Scurs	Identified by details provided by breeder, or DNA test confirmed heterozygous polled and breeder information indicates animal shows scurs.
	H	Horned	DNA test confirmed horned, or Animal is untested, information was provided by breeder.
Coat colour	BB	Homozygous black	DNA test confirmed homozygous black, or Animal is homozygous black by pedigree as both parents are confirmed homozygous black, or Animal is confirmed homozygous black by progeny analysis process.
	B	Black	DNA test confirmed heterozygous black, or Animal is untested, information provided by breeder.
	R	Red	Identified by details provided by the breeder.
	A	Apricot	Identified by details provided by the breeder.
	O	Other	Identified by details provided by the breeder.
F94L gene	AA	F94L 2 copies	DNA test confirmed animal carries 2 copies of the F94L gene, or Animal carries 2 copies of the F94L gene as both parents carry 2 copies of the F94L gene.
	AC	F94L 1 copies	DNA test confirmed animal carries 1 copy of the F94L gene
	CC	F94L 0 copies	DNA test confirmed animal carries no copies of the F94L gene
	U	F94L Status unknown	Animal is untested and parent status is unknown.
Lim-Flex	LF	Lim-Flex	Animal is identified as Lim-Flex by pedigree details in line with ALBS regulations.