

**American Salers Foundation**

**50K**

**Genotyping Project**

**“Building a Salers Research Database”**

**2015**

**Purpose**

**Establish the Training Population for the Salers breed in Relationship to Genomics**

This will be the research base to potentially allow the incorporation of DNA into genomically enhanced EPDs for ASA.

**Background**

In September of 2014, the ASA Board of Directors approved ASA’s entry into the genomic field by initiating the establishment of the 1,000 sire training population. The population is based on progeny proven sires and should represent the sires of females in the Salers database. The database should give the ASA the ability to develop a Salers specific panel to improve the accuracy of EPD values on especially young bulls and females.

The project will require complete participation by ASA breeders to accomplish our goal. The ASA Foundation is asking Salers breeders to submit DNA samples on their herd sires and well as other high accuracy sires used previously.

Results of the project will benefit all Salers Purebred producers and commercial producers alike by allowing more accurate performance estimations at an earlier age. This type of technology especially assists those producers with smaller contemporary groups develop higher accuracy values earlier.

**Current Status**

ASA has compiled listings of Salers bulls already having 50K or higher genotypes on file. These bulls have been tested at various facilities including the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center, The University of Missouri at Columbia, Iowa State University, the Animal Germplasm Program at Colorado State University and animals at the GeneSeek Lab in Lincoln. The ASA Goal is to eliminate duplication of genotyping more than once. You can find the listing of already Genotyped animals on the ASA website. The listing will be updated regularly. The bulls will be listed under the heading About ASA then under the Foundation tab.

## Desired Sires

A listing of desired sires is included with this correspondence. Any sires on this list are target sires for the research database. The sires are listed alphabetically by bull name. Please contact the ASA when you get the listing and let us know which sires you will be able to submit. ASA will then remove the sire name to avoid duplication by another breeder. This listing will also be kept current on the ASA website.

## Additional Sires

If you have non-listed sires available for females which will have or will be coming into production in 2014, 2015 or 2016, please contact the ASA office. We would like to have samples on these sires as well.

Additionally, if you have semen samples on older sires not currently controlled by a current member please contact the office. ASA would welcome the submission of those sires and have a separate fund in place for this situation.

## Costs

The American Salers Foundation is funding \$20 per DNA sample for this project up to 700 samples, which is the amount remaining to reach the 1,000 head training population.

Breeder costs per sample are \$40 each. In addition to the training population information, the sample will also enable the bull to be SNP genotype for future parentage verification of progeny. This is a \$15 value which will be processed under the 50K genotype.

## Procedure

- Check listing for bulls you have DNA on (semen, hair or blood possibilities)
- Communicate with ASA (Sherry Doubet ) regarding possible bulls  
303-770-9292 or [sherry@salersusa.org](mailto:sherry@salersusa.org)
- ASA will send testing supplies if necessary
- If just semen is available no other testing supplies are necessary
- Fill out submission form contained in this information and mail form and DNA samples to the American Salers Association.
  - American Salers Association  
19590 East Mainstreet Suite 104  
Parker, CO 80138
- If your samples are stored at an AI stud just provide them with submission paperwork and they can submit semen samples to the ASA.
- **ASA DNA chips do have an expiration. Please submit samples by July 1, 2015**

### **Common Questions/ Errors**

- Semen does not have to be frozen but must arrive in fluid form.
- Send semen as soon as possible after thawing to keep from drying out.
- Protect semen from mailing machine breakage by using ASA provided mailer or breeder designed mailer.
- ASA will invoice breeder upon receipt of DNA samples.
- ASA will send DNA samples along with all necessary paperwork to the GeneSeek DNA lab for testing.
- ASA does have a special fund for sires on the list with no current owners. If you have DNA samples on non-owned sires please contact the ASA for procedures. You will not be required to pay for tests on these bulls.