

American Kerry Cattle Association

A North American Registry For Pure Bred Kerry Cattle



Kerry Cattle grazing at Muckross Estate, Killarney National Park, Killarney, Ireland

This is the first Journal of the new American Kerry Cattle Association. This is a small beginning but we are confident that we can collectively accomplish the preservation of these small-endangered herds here in the United States and Canada. The Kerry is by most accounts the world's original dairy breed. The Kerry has not lost its qualities as a good milk producer in grass only based systems. This ability may prove valuable in the future as the world's population expands.

AN AMERICAN REGISTRY

For the first time in the history of American Kerry Cattle there will be a Kerry Cattle only Registry. This Registry will be open to all Kerry Cattle in North America. Irish Kerry Cattle Society and Canadian Livestock Records Corporation (CLRC) Certificates will also be recognized and included in the Herd Book. Prior to this date all Kerry cattle in North America have been recorded in CLRC. The AKCA Registry, incorporated in Massachusetts, USA will maintain a registry database for all North American Kerry Cattle. A dual certificate will be issued for CLRC Registrations that are forwarded to the AKCA. There will be an open enrollment period beginning in January 1, 2017 and terminating December 31 of 2017. There has been a gap in registrations in recent years and there are Kerry Cattle that have not been registered with CLRC or any other Registry. At this time we envision an open enrollment period for cattle that have good documentation but no genotype testing on file. This is the reality of the current status of Kerry in North America. The goal is to account for these Kerry before it is too late. Please consider submitting these unregistered Kerry with the most thorough documentation available in an effort to account for all Kerry cattle in North America. At the end of the open enrollment period all Kerry Cattle will be required to have a sire and dam genotype verification in order to be accepted into the Registry. University of California/Davis will be the official Lab of the AKCA. AKCA Registration fees for 2017 will be \$10.00 per animal.



AMERICAN KERRY CATTLE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL
ISSUE NO. 1, NOVEMBER 1, 2016

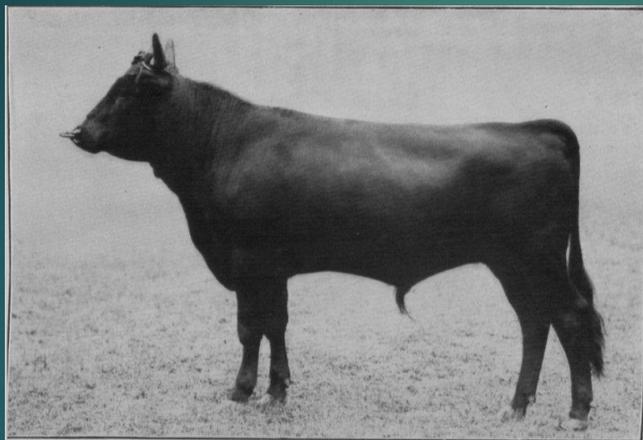
American Kerry Cattle Association



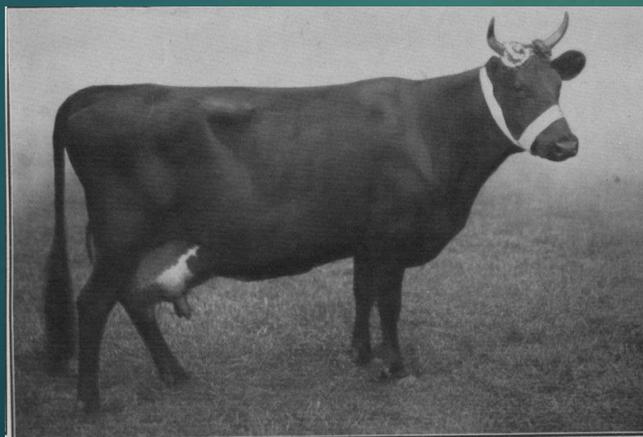
RBC

rarebreedscanada.org

Rare Breeds Canada has worked with breeders throughout North America in preserving some of the diversity of the Kerry Cows on this continent. Please visit their website for inquiries regarding Kerry Cows in Canada



Kerry Bull--BUCKLAND BATTLE 468.
BORN SEPTEMBER 29, 1918. BREEDER AND OWNER, LADY FITZGERALD.



Kerry Cow--MINLEY MISTRESS 1253.
BORN IN 1908. OWNER, CAPTAIN NELSON ZAMBRA, M.C.

**THE KERRY CATTLE
SOCIETY, LTD**



IRELAND'S NATIVE DAIRY BREED

Contact Info.

Secretary

G. R. Hilliard

Cahernane, Killarney,
Co. Kerry, Ireland

353-064-6631840

secretary@kerrycattle.ie

Herd Book Enquiries

herdbook@kerrycattle.ie



**IRELAND'S NATIVE
DAIRY BREED**

American Kerry Cattle Association

About the Breed

From the Kerry Cattle Society, Ltd, Ireland
The Original Kerry Cattle Registry

The Kerry cow is black, sometimes with a little white on the udder. She is of dairy type, well ribbed with fine bone. She has slender white horns tipped with black, though most herds are now dehorned. She has character, is alert and light on her feet. Cows weigh 350 to 450 kgs depending on the type of land on which they are kept. They are equally suited to being one of a big herd or single house cows. The bull is similar in character to the cow. He is usually docile and easily managed.

The cows enjoy a long useful life, still strong and calving regularly at 14 and 15 years of age. They are extremely hardy and will out winter quite happily, growing a good coat of hair which keeps the cold out. Their agility enable them to travel safely over rough ground and they do little damage to the pastures. Because of their size at least three

Kerry cows can be kept to two of other breeds. The cows rarely have trouble calving, for there is more room in the pelvis than would appear from the size of the cow. The calves are easily reared and the bullocks will fatten, though they may take 4 to 6 months longer than other breeds. They make excellent quality beef weighing up to 550 kg.

The globules of butterfat in Kerry milk are much smaller than those found in other breeds, thus making it easier to digest. As a result it is ideal for feeding to babies, invalids and others who find it hard to take fat. This emphasizes the breed as eminently suitable for fresh milk, cheese and yogurt production. Several Irish farmhouse cheese makers use Kerry milk. The average milk yield is between 3000 and 3700kg at 4% butterfat. However there are quite a number of cows capable of yielding over 4500kg. The Kerry is believed to be one of the oldest breeds in Europe. The skull is very similar in formation to the ancient aurochs of the Stone Age (*Bos primogenus*) though smaller in size. It is thought that the Kerry is derived from the little black cow, the Celtic Shorthorn, brought by Neolithic man in his migrations northwards from the Mediterranean basin. There are close affinities with the Heren, the small black breed surviving in the high Alps, and with the fierce black bulls of the Camargue.

The Kerry has the distinction of being the first breed developed primarily as a milk producer. While prehistoric man in Asia, Northern Africa and Europe was selecting and breeding cattle for draught and meat, the Celtic civilization in Ireland was producing a breed of cattle for milk and dairy produce. The diet was based on milk and milk products; meat was rarely eaten. Records have been found which show that milk was preserved in various forms including cheese and butters. It was also treated with herbs and kept in jars under ground. With the mild climate and long grazing season milk was produced almost all year round.

American Kerry Cattle Association

About this New Association and Registry

The American Kerry Cattle Association was incorporated as a 501(c)3 Non Profit in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in October of 2016. The sole purpose of the Association is to provide an American based Cattle Registry and Herd Book Service specifically for the preservation of the Irish Kerry Cow. This Association will work independently of any club, society, cooperative or other association promoting the Kerry Cow in North America. The primary purpose of the American Kerry Cattle Association is to provide a Pedigree resource to breeders and other organized groups that will assist in the verified purity of Kerry Cows in the North American herd. The AKCA will adhere to the breed standards of the Irish Kerry Cattle Society and recognizes that organization as the premier resource for Kerry Cattle history and breed purity. The AKCA recognizes that the Kerry Cow is a Dairy breed and will not issue pedigrees for upgraded cattle in this Registry. DNA testing confirming parentage of all new calves to the dam and sire of record will be required for issuance of pedigree after the open enrollment period which ends on December 31, 2017. Animals with no previous pedigree either from the Irish Society or CLRC will require written documentation of the origins of the unregistered cattle and may be subject to DNA testing if applicable to verify purity against the established population. As of January 1, 2018 only calves born to registered Kerry Cattle and sire and dam verified through a DNA Genotype will be allowed into the Registry. Registration Fees will be \$10.00 per animal and all testing will be performed and paid for by the owner of the cattle. Registration Rules will be published prior to January 1, 2017. The American Kerry Cattle Association is a not for profit organization created for the preservation of the Kerry Cow. At present a small board of Officers, which are volunteers, will run the Association. There will be Associate memberships issued with no dues in the first few years of organization. At a later date, if necessary, the Articles of Organization may be amended to incorporate a voting membership. It is anticipated that there will be registrations of less than 50 new calves per year based on the current herd population.

At the current unofficial estimate there may be less than 60 breeding females in the United States and Canada.

The American Kerry Cattle Association is intended to be a resource for all to use in the preservation of Kerry Cattle in North America.



American Kerry Cattle Association

American Kerry Cattle Association



Mission Statement

The American Kerry Cattle Association has been formed as a Non Profit Organization for the sole purpose to provide an American Registry for Pure Bred Kerry Cattle. Having a singular purpose, there is no association with any other Kerry Society, Association or Clubs nor does the American Kerry Cattle Association actively promote or engage with any other entity. The American Kerry Cattle Association does acknowledge the Irish Kerry Cattle Society as the first authority on pure bred Kerry Cattle. This Association exists strictly to provide a Registry with an online searchable database to serve all Kerry Cattle preservation efforts without prejudice. This Registry is open to all purebred Kerry Cattle in North America encompassing the United States and Canada. This Registry will accept pedigrees that have been previously issued by the Irish Society and the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation and will cooperate with those entities in pedigree information exchanges. The American Kerry Cattle Association will annually publish a North American Kerry Cattle Herd Book that will be freely available online.

The American Kerry Cattle Association will be freely available to all Individual Breeders, Farms, Societies, Clubs, Associations and Cooperatives whom wish to record and breed pure bred Kerry Cattle. The sole goal is to provide an easily accessible searchable Registry online so that breeders can make informed decisions when selecting animals for paired mating's that will further improve the breed from within the limited number of animals that currently exist in North America. This database will help ensure that inbreeding pressures are limited during the recovery and advancement of this critically rare breed. At present (2016) there are less than 50 breeding females in the United States and even less in Canada.

There will be Associate Memberships issued

The Registry will be Non-Profit and be solely supported by Registration Fees

There will be no Payments made to the Register for His/Her Services - This Position is Voluntary

A financial Statement will be published online annually.

This Non Profit is Registered with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

All Kerry Cattle Registered with the American Kerry Cattle Association must be sire and dam genotyped and parentage verified. It is highly encouraged that ancillary testing be done and incorporated into the pedigree of each animal for Beta Casein A2, Kappa Casein and Beta Lactoglobulin. These tests are very ir,formative for the advancement of the milking qualities of this ancient dairy breed.

American Kerry Cattle Association

KERRY COW FACT SHEET

Originating in the County Kerry, the Kerry Cow is known as the first breed ever to be bred specifically for dairy.

Originating from the ancient Celtic Shorthorn, the Kerry is considered the oldest breed of European cattle.

Kerry cattle are almost entirely black, with a little white on the udder being acceptable.

Kerry cattle are a horned breed with white horns with black tips.

The Kerry is amongst the smallest of the dairy breeds. Bulls typically weigh 1000 lbs and the cows 800 lbs.

Kerrys are a very smart and active breed. Cows can bear calves up to 15 years or more.

A Kerry Cow will typically produce 7700 pounds (900 gallons) of milk per lactation.

Kerry milk has a butterfat content of approximately 4.5%. The milk is of very high quality and contains small fat globules making for easy digestion in humans.

Kerry milks high quality is ideal for cheese, butter, ice-cream and yogurt production.

Kerry cows are recognized for their easy calving qualities and excellent mothering instincts.

The meat from a Kerry steer is fine grained and flavorful.

Kerry cattle are excellent converters of native forages and are well suited to grass based dairy systems.

Kerry cattle are very disease resistant.



AMERICAN KERRY CATTLE ASSOCIATION

BYLAWS

Article. 1. Name

The name of the Corporation shall be the "American Kerry Cattle Association".

Article. 2. Purpose

The purposes of the Corporation shall be to maintain records of the breed pedigree, provide breed registration, promote and educate the public about the Kerry breed and provide related services to the members.

Article. 3. Office

The office of the corporation shall be located in Massachusetts. The Corporation shall carry on business and operate anywhere within the State of Massachusetts or in any state where it has legal authority to carry on business and operate.

Article. 4. Membership

Section 1. Eligibility: Any person, including natural persons, organizations and corporations, may use the services of this Corporation for maintaining a purebred pedigreed herd of Kerry Cattle. This Corporation will issue non-voting associate memberships to individuals, organizations or corporations. The primary purpose of this organization is to maintain a herd book and American Registry for Kerry Cattle in the United States and Canada.

Section 4. Dues: There will be no dues required to be an associate member and use the services of this organization. This Section may be Amended by the Board of Directors.

Article. 5. Meetings

Section 1. Annual Meeting: The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year at a time and place determined by the Board, for the purpose of announcing the results of the election of Directors and transacting any other business which may properly come before the Board.

Section 2. Special Meetings: Special Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called at any time by the Board or the President. At such Special Meetings, no business shall be transacted which is not specified in the meeting notice.

Section 3. Quorum: At any meeting of the BODs, seven (7) voting Directors present in person shall constitute a quorum. In the event that no quorum is present, the Directors present in person or by

proxy shall have the power to adjourn from time to time until a quorum is present. A simple majority vote of all Directors present in person or by proxy shall prevail upon all matters to be voted on, unless otherwise specified in these bylaws. Proxies shall be applicable only to items included on the published agenda. Meetings may be held by teleconference or other digital means.

Section 4. Meeting Notice: At least 10 days prior to each Annual or Special Meeting, notices shall be mailed (electronic mail acceptable) by the Secretary to all Directors stating the date, time and place of such meeting and the nature of the business to be conducted.

Article. 6. Board of Directors

Section 1. Powers: The property, business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of at least three (3) but not more than seven (7) members. The Board shall have and may exercise all of the powers allowed to non-profit organizations under the laws of the state of Massachusetts, except as may be otherwise limited by these Bylaws and the Certificate of Organization, and excepting any powers which would be inconsistent with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. The Board may from time to time establish appointed positions and committees; establish, modify and cancel policies and procedures; hire employees and disburse funds as it deems necessary for the operation of the Corporation.

Section 2. Elections: The Directors shall be appointed annually by the Officers of the Corporation under a rotating cycle in which only one new Director is appointed in any calendar year. Each Director shall be elected for a term of three to seven years depending on the current number of Directors. In the case of a vacancy on the Board, the remaining Officers may appoint a person to fill the vacancy. During their terms of office, all Directors shall remain voting members of the Corporation in good standing. Officers shall include all Directors, President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer.

Article. 7. Board of Directors Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings: The Board shall hold an Annual Meeting for the purpose of electing officers and to conduct any other business which may properly come before the Board, including the establishment of a schedule of regular meetings to be held during the ensuing year without further notice.

Section 2. Special Meetings: Special meetings of the Board may be called by or at the request of the President or any two Directors and shall be held at such time and place as the President may determine. The Secretary shall provide at least 48 hours' notice of such Special Meeting by any appropriate mail or electronic means.

Section 3. Quorum: A majority of the number of Directors then holding office shall constitute a quorum. They may be present at any meeting in person, by proxy or by any electronic means which permits all participants to simultaneously hear and be heard. A simple majority vote of all Directors

thus present shall prevail upon all matters to be voted on, unless otherwise specified in these bylaws. In the absence of a quorum, the Directors present shall have the power to adjourn from time to time until a quorum is present. Any action consented to in writing by all of the Directors shall have the same effect as a unanimous vote at a duly called meeting.

Article. 8. Officers

Section 1. Officers: The Officers of the Corporation shall be a President, Vice-president and Secretary/Treasurer. All officers shall be Directors, and shall be elected by the Board at their first meeting after the Annual Meeting of the Directors. A Director may hold two offices simultaneously, provided that there shall be at least three Directors holding office and that the offices of President and Secretary shall not be held by the same individual. The President's term shall be 2 years. The Vice Presidents term shall be 2 years. The Secretary/Treasurers term shall be 3 years. Any officer may be removed from office by a majority vote of the Directors. Vacancies in any office may be filled by the Board for the remaining portion of the term.

Section 2. Powers and Duties: The officers shall have the powers and duties usually associated with their respective offices. The President (and in his absence the Vice president) shall exercise general supervision of the property and affairs of the Corporation and shall preside at all meetings of the membership and the Board. The Secretary shall prepare minutes of all meetings of the membership, the Board and any committees exercising any of the authority of the Board and shall authenticate the records of the Corporation upon request. The Treasurer shall keep accounts, maintain custody of funds and properties, collect registration fees, prepare Federal, State and local tax returns and reports and disburse funds as authorized by the Board. Additional powers and duties may be assigned by the Board by resolution or other directive.

Article. 9. Standing Committees and Appointed Positions

Standing Committees shall assist and act for the Board in their respective areas, periodically report to the Board concerning their activities and recommend policy changes to the Board from time to time as appropriate. At least one member of every committee shall be a Director. Committees shall elect a chair person from their membership, and may establish other positions and sub-committees as appropriate. Minutes of committee meetings shall be prepared for the Secretary's file. Associate members are eligible for inclusion on Standing Committees.

Section 1. Registration Committee: The Registration Committee shall maintain the herd registration record, administer the registration process and periodically update and publish the herd book. In the event that questions arise concerning the pedigree of any registered animal or any registration application, the committee shall review the circumstances and recommend a resolution to the Board. The committee shall consist of a Registrar appointed by the Board and at least two other officers appointed by the President.

Section 2. Genetics Committee: The Genetics Committee shall maintain the breed description, manage the semen bank, periodically assess the genetic health of the breed population and assist the Registration Committee in resolving registration issues. The committee shall consist of at least three members appointed by the President.

Section 5. Audit Committee: Annually, the President shall appoint an audit committee consisting of at least three members, for the purpose of auditing the accounts of the Corporation.

Article 10. Financial and Administrative Matters

Section 1. Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be January 1 to December 31, unless otherwise determined by the Board.

Section 2. Bank Accounts: The funds of the Corporation shall be deposited in one or more banks or other financial institutions as authorized by resolution of the Board. All documents necessary to operate such accounts and disburse funds shall be signed by the Treasurer and such other officers as the Board may determine by resolution.

Section 3. Indebtedness: The Corporation shall not enter into Indebtedness. The intent of this organization is to provide a pedigree service that is funded solely by registration fees and charitable donations.

Section 4. Execution of Documents: Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws or determined by the Board, all agreements, deeds, leases, contracts and other instruments issued by the Corporation shall be executed by the President and Secretary on behalf of the Corporation.

Section 5. Books and Records: The Corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of meetings of the Corporation, the Board of Directors and any committees exercising any of the authority of the Board of Directors, and a record of the names and addresses of the members entitled to vote.

Article 11. Dissolution

A two thirds (2/3) vote of the Officers present in person or by proxy at a duly called Directors meeting, a quorum being present, shall be required to dissolve the Corporation. Upon dissolution, the records of the Corporation, together with any assets remaining after provision for its debts and liabilities shall be transferred to an organization having a similar purpose and meeting IRS requirements for a mutual benefit non-profit corporation.

Article 12. Amendments

On receipt of a proposed amendment of the Bylaws, in writing and signed by a majority of the full Board, the President shall promptly call a special meeting of the Corporation for the purpose of

considering the proposal; or, if the Annual Meeting is scheduled not more than 30 days after receipt, include the proposal on the Annual Meeting agenda. The proposed amendment must be ratified by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the Officers present in person or by proxy.

Article 13. Registration of Animals

Section 1. The American Kerry Cattle Association will maintain an online searchable Registry for pedigreed Kerry Cattle domiciled in the United States and Canada. The cost to maintain the Registry Database will be funded by Registration Fees received for registration services.

Section 2. Registration Fees for individual animals will be \$25.00 Each. Changes to the fee schedule may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Full Parentage Verification. All Kerry cattle must have DNA Genotype parentage verification to both Dam and Sire. DNA parentage verification testing will be performed at the University of California Davis Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (UCD-VGL). The Genotype results must be submitted with the Registration Application in order for a pedigree to be issued.

Section 4. Other Testing Recommendations; Although not required for acceptance into the AKCA Registry, it is recommended that tests for A2 Beta Casein, Kappa Casein and Beta Lactoglobulin be performed at the same time testing for parentage verification is done. These tests are important in making informed decisions when selecting breeding choices for dairy qualities in the Kerry herd.

Section 5. Cooperation with other Registries. The American Kerry Cattle Society will accept/transfer registrations from the Irish Kerry Cattle Society, Ireland and the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation, Canada. The AKCA will cooperate with Registered Kerry Cattle information transfers in a cooperative effort to preserve this rare breed of cattle.

Section 6. Limited Open Enrollment. There will be a onetime limited open enrollment period for Kerry Cattle that are not currently pedigreed in any North American Registry. This open enrollment period will begin on January 1, 2017 and terminate on December 31, 2017. All unregistered Kerry Cattle submitted for inclusion in the AKCA Registry will need to have DNA Testing performed to verify purity of breed. A written statement will also be required describing in detail the cattle's history and origin. All unregistered Kerry cattle submitted for consideration under open enrollment will be reviewed by the Board of Directors, Genetics Committee and Registration Committee whom will be responsible for a final determination. This Open Enrollment is offered as a means to include into the AKCA Registry any known pure Kerry cattle that are present in the US and Canada and protect valuable genetic variation that would otherwise be lost.

Section 7. Pedigree Certificates. Certificate of Pedigree will be issued primarily by electronic methods. Mailed hard copies may be subject to additional fees to be determined by the Board.

Section 8. The Board of Directors will establish an online searchable pedigree database. This service will be sourced and paid for with Registration Application Fees. This data base will be public and accessible to any individual or organization that has an interest in Kerry Cattle Preservation.

American Kerry Cattle Association, Inc.
Jody Jess, Secretary/Treasurer
51 Fred Smith Road
Westminster, Massachusetts 01473

President
Larry Bruffee

Vice President
Robert Reilly

Director
John O'Meara

Director
Amber Rowse-Robinson (CA)

Website:

americankerrycattleassociation.com (under construction as of 10/16).

Registrations to begin on January 1, 2017.

Raymonde Hilliard's Kerry Herd
Killarney, Ireland

