



Valais Blacknose Society Registry

Grassroots

PEDIGREE SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS

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Dear Members

You will be aware of the recent notification from the Valais Blacknose Society Council about the forthcoming changes to the registration rules associated with lambs born via ET. We run the flock book registry on behalf of the Society. These rule changes have some very significant practical implications for everyone. Please read the following carefully to ensure you are ready, and that your 2024 born lambs remain eligible for registration.

Embryo Transfer

The new rule states that **all lambs produced using ET**

MUST be logged for registration (birth notified) with the flock book registry via Grassroots Systems Ltd by 30 April 2024

Any embryos you were planning to collect this autumn, AND any frozen embryos you may have in store,

MUST be implanted into recipients BEFORE the end of November 2023 to ensure birth notification by 30th April 2024

Please note: All ET collection and implant documentation **MUST** be sent to the Grassroots registry **BEFORE** the lambs are born. We strongly recommend you do this at the time the embryos are implanted. All ET lambs must be DNA tested for parent verification. We strongly recommend that you check that all donor ewes and service sires have been DNA profiled. You can see that in the Online Grassroots Registry. If they are not, please contact the registry, purchase DNA testing kits and arrange for samples to be collected and profiled. If you have donor ewes who die before they have been profiled, but do have embryos in recipients, please make sure you take a DNA sample from the carcass before disposal, in order that the lambs can still be registered. Any ET lamb born without DNA verified parents are not eligible for registration.

Natural Service Lambs

The new rule states that **all lambs produced by Natural Service and born on or after 1st January 2024 must be DNA profiled.** In practice this means that all lambs must be sampled before they can be registered. This will cause an inevitable delay to the registration process in 2024. Please think about applying for registration early, if you want to attend autumn shows, gradings and sales.

For help or advice, please contact the registry.

Yours sincerely

Libby Henson