



American Miniature Zebu Association, LLC

Education/Promotion/Preservation of the World's Smallest Cattle

PO Box 2095, Lady Lake, FL 32158 352-391-0977

May/June 2018

VALUE OF YOUR AMZA MEMBERSHIP

The Value of Pedigrees

AMZA provides many valuable services to their membership, one of the most important being the recording of ancestry, or pedigrees. Pedigrees are a valuable tool in livestock breeding because these ancestral records provide knowledge necessary for predicting progeny performance. More value can be added by recording performance records of each individual zebu and its progeny. A permanent record of ancestors and their comparative production traits is an indispensable tool if breeders are to make wise breeding decisions that lead to improved production and efficiency. Pedigrees are a value to all segments of the industry.

Breeding programs can be directed toward goals by selecting quality stock that excels in those traits for which the zebu herds need improvement. Information contained as part of the registration certificate consists of individual animal identification, and parentage (sire and dam). With that knowledge and previous information stored in the breeder. The breeder provides every piece of raw data used in the production of pedigrees and records, bringing to the surface the importance of breeder integrity. Few, if any,



Industries are more dependent upon individual integrity than the pedigreed livestock industry.

Judge Certification Program

AMZA Conducts a judge's certification program for individuals that desire to judge for AMZA. The 2 1/2 day program consists of classroom, class placing, oral reasons and a final exam. The program is designed for individuals with prior livestock experience and/or strong knowledge of Zebu Cattle.

The program may be used as a good training course for all Zebu enthusiast. Each program is limited in size and typically held annually.

AMZA Breed Standards

The AMZA breed standard is a conceptual ideal of the perfect animal based on the best knowledge of the industry. The standard identifies desirable and undesirable traits with emphasis on production



VALUE OF YOUR AMZA MEMBERSHIP CONT'D

traits and those characteristics unique to Zebu. Standards are a yardstick by which the breeder may measure his advances toward an ideal animal. The breed standard may change over time as the demands of the industry change.

AMZA Sanctioned Show Program

The AMZA sanctioned show program is a partnership between AMZA and some of the premier venues across the country. The AMZA sanctioned show program is the largest in the zebu industry with over 1100 animals exhibited in 2016. Members of the AMZA use the program to receive genetic evaluation of their animals by certified judges to compete for show honors and to market their genetics to the industry.



WHY REGISTER YOUR CATTLE

Registering your cattle will increase the value of the herd well beyond the minor cost of the registration fees. Registration Certificates and the accompanying pedigree back up the legitimacy of your herd and provide a history of each animal.

Registration papers signify a great deal about the actual animal you own or are thinking of buying. In short, registration papers trace the ancestry of your cattle.

Today there is an enormous demand for quality smaller cattle. Generally speaking, registered heifers and bulls sell for as much as 20-40% more than unregistered cattle, and can bring much more than that.

You can register your Zebu cattle online through your My Member's Page or you can complete a paper form and mail it to the AMZA office.

SELLING AND TRANSFERRING YOUR CATTLE

Registration papers signify a great deal about the actual animal you own or are thinking of purchasing. The registration papers trace the ancestry back through two generations. If you look up the registration information online, you can explore each ancestor on the pedigree back another five generations. In addition to name and color you can explore relatives; the offspring produced by a grandsire or granddam on and on ad infinitum or at least as far back as our herd book details.



Studying pedigrees can allow you to make breeding decisions. For example, trying to duplicate a particular animal that is used by breeders in their own herds. When we recognize a superior animal out of one cow sired by a particular bull we may try to reproduce some facsimile of that superior creature by repeating the breeding or getting as close to that breeding as we can. Sometimes it works magically;



SELLING AND TRANSFERRING YOUR CATTLE CONT'D

Every full sibling is a carbon copy of each other. Sometimes it fails just as dramatically; a single superior animal in a sea of mediocrity. That is the fun and joy of breeding livestock; to see what you can accomplish and hopefully learn from your mistake (and there will be many.)

Once you have purchased your registered zebu, make sure that the seller or you as the buyer has filled out all the correct information to transfer the animal into your name as the new owner. The animal's value to you, as the new owner, is increased by providing important management information. Knowledge of the animal's pedigree helps to manage inbreeding and genetic recessives.

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ZEBU HOOF TRIMMING

Overgrown hooves in zebu can cause a number of problems that can lead to lameness. One of the most obvious problems is discomfort, since the overgrown hoof is not properly shaped and forces the zebu to walk in a manner other than they should. Overgrown hooves are also prone to cracking, which opens up an area where bacteria can get into the system and cause infection. When a hoof is extremely painful and an opening for infection.

When hooves are overgrown, they throw the entire leg off balance. Keeping hooves properly and professionally trimmed helps you avoid these problems and also allows your zebu to stand and move to the best of their ability.

Trimming hooves is not an easy job and proper equipment is essential. You may choose to do the trimming yourself or to have a professional come in and do the job for you. BE CAREFUL as if you do the job yourself and are not properly experienced, you could really do harm to yourself and/or the zebu.

If you hire a professional, they will more than likely come equipped with a chute or table which tips the zebu on its side and is either manual or hydraulic. They will also bring a grinder with a disk, leg restraint devices and an awful lot of knowledge of how to enhance your zebu's appearance. The hoof trimmer may come to your place or you may need to go to their home. Talk to others in your area to find out who they may recommend.

If you choose to do this yourself, have a proper table for tipping the zebu and proper leg restraint devices.

Tables can be purchased from many sources and will last a long time if maintained properly.



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ZEBU HOOF TRIMMING CONT'D

Use a grinder that is comfortable and stable in your hands and has a grinding disk that is in proper shape. Have a hoof pick and a pair of nippers to use prior to using the grinder, and a pair of safety glasses. There are lots of finer points to trimming feet, but the main goal is to bring the animal up on its toes and to level the hoof as much as possible.



Remember, if you do this yourself to BE CAREFUL. Different chutes will restrain zebus in different ways but always be conscious of where the zebu's legs are and where they can go in relationship to your head, legs, hands, and arms. Try not to stress the zebu any more than necessary.

Calf table pictured is a Filson Calf Table modified for Zebus.

FILSON LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT

Contact Rick @ 352-223-9801 OR

Kendal @ 620-622-4521

102 South Broadway

PO Box 67

Protection, Kansas 67127

620-622-4521 or 800-345-7434

Filsonlivestockequip.com

E-mail: filson@unitedwireless.com

(Ask for Filson Calf Table with Zebu Modifications)



AMZA Members, submit your articles, special, or unique happenings with your miniature zebu for publication in the AMZA Newsletter. Sharing your experiences with others helps everyone to learn and become better Zebu individuals as we all work toward the successes of the Miniature Zebu Breed.

Submit to: AMZA, PO Box 2095, Lady Lake, FL 32158

352-391-0977 amzaregistrar@gmail.com

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ZEBU FUN DAY HELD AT STORMY HILL FARMS—WEIRSDALE, FL

Stormy Hill Farms in Weirsdale, FL held a Zebu Fun Day March 24th, 2018. There were several Educational Seminars held that day at their farm.

Dr. Bill Freel, D.V.M. was present to share his vast knowledge and experience with the Miniature Zebu Breed, as well as answered questions from the zebu enthusiasts that we present.

A representative with Filson Livestock Equipment was present to demonstrate the Filson Calf Table that is modified for the zebu.

An AMZA Certified Judge was on site to answer the multiple questions that were asked on the Showing side of the Miniature Zebu.



Then a walk down the alley way to see all of the Miniature Zebu at Stormy Hill Farms was taken and any additional questions were answered.

Afterwards, everyone enjoyed lunch and conversations.

AMZA SANCTIONED SHOW RESULTS

2018 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Miniature Zebu Cattle Show

Grand Champion Heifer—Double Dream Lily—Jeff Ganschow

Reserve Grand Champion Heifer—The Quinn Ranch Nellie's White Dove—Kaitlin Theriot

Grand Champion Cow—2Lazy2 Be a Princess—Wesley Watson

Reserve Grand Champion Cow—Honeysuckle Farm Valentine—Wesley Watson

Grand Champion Jr. Bull—The Quinn Ranch Pongo—Luke Smith

Reserve Grand Champion Jr. Bull—Murphey Farms Marvin—Sydney Bickers

Grand Champion Senior Bull—Heyd-Away Exotics Speck Rodger Theriot

Reserve Grand Champion Senior Bull—Los Saltos Shadow—Monica Bickers

Grand Champion Steer—2Lazy2 Awesome Opossum—Lauren Ray

Reserve Grand Champion Steer—double Dream Popeye—Skyler Phillips

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UPCOMING AMZA SANCTIONED SHOW

2018 Summer Sizzler Miniature Zebu Shows

L CROSS Equestrian Center

40810 Gray's Airport Road, Lady Lake, FL

May 26th & 27th, 2018

Saturday Show

May 26th at 11:00 AM

Sunday Show

May 27th at 11:00 AM

*Come Join The
Fun and Watch*

*The FREE
Miniature
Zebu Shows*



*Come See
What The
Miniature
Zebu*

Are All About

AMZA Sanctioned Shows

Registration For Show Is Available Thru Members Herd Book at amzaonline.org
Or Contact Bobbi Thompson at 352-391-0977 or amzaregistrar@gmail.com for
a Show Information Packet

