



Spring 2009 Newsletter

March 2009

Red Wattle Hog DNA Project

In order to document the genetic history of the Red Wattle Hog breed, ALBC, Cordoba University and the Red Wattle Hog Association are offering RW owners/breeders the opportunity to participate in a DNA study at no cost to the owner/breeder. We encourage all RW owners/breeders to participate as this DNA study is important to the recovery and sustainability of the Red Wattles.

The collection of DNA material is very simple.

Step by step instructions are included with your newsletter.

The most important things to remember are: clean the area to be sampled and only save hairs with root bulbs intact. Label all samples clearly, and clean tools between animals being sampled.

If you have any questions regarding the DNA sampling process or the study please contact:

Brian Jordan, VP RWHA

812-521-1063

redwattles@hotmail.com



A group of Nathan Melson's RW's on his Sloan's Creek Farm in Texas

Call for Nominations for 2009 RWHA Elections

At the 2008 annual RWHA meeting it was decided that elections would be conducted via paper ballot to ensure that all members have the opportunity to cast their vote.

It's time to get that process started, Any RWHA member in good standing is eligible to run for office. The following positions are up for re-election:

♦ President

♦ Board of directors—2 members at large positions.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors or running for President of the RWHA, please, submit an open letter to the RWHA. Please include:

1. What office you are interested in
2. Introduce yourself
3. Tell the membership why you want to

serve

3. Tell about what you would bring to the job.

Nomination letters should be sent to:

RWHA
C/O D. Jordan. Sec.

7024 Spearsville RD

Morgantown IN 46160

Or

redwattles@hotmail.com

Nominations must be received no later than: June 1, 2009

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RWHA Annual Meeting 2009



The annual meeting of the RWHA will be held in conjunction with the ALBC Conference November 13-15 in Houston, Texas. Time and meeting place to be announced. The **Houston Zoo and Rice University** are **hosting the 2009 ALBC conference**. The theme of this year's conference will be ***Crucial Cuisine*®—Putting Rare Breeds Back on the Table**. What

a great theme to go along with our efforts to save the Red Wattles!

The event will focus on topics such as: breed choices, breeder selection for productivity, livestock and poultry health management, product processing (including whole carcass cut up), marketing, and business planning. In addition, there will be special focus workshops,

including a repeat of the popular *Effective Governing Boards for Breed Associations*, and a poultry incubation workshop.

Watch:

albc-usa.org
redwattle.org
redwattleproject.com

for details as they become available!

RWHA Website News

The RWHA and The Red Wattle Project have joined together to create an interactive website to promote RW's.

We believe this website will become a valuable tool for breeders and RW enthusiasts. The site creates a central searchable database of registered animals, inbreeding coefficient calculation function, hypothetical breeding function, breeder listings and more!

The site also includes a user friendly forum where folks can network with breeders, share successes and failures, ask for help, and post animals for sale. The forum also makes it possible for the RWHA to post meeting minutes, announcements, and events in addition to responding to questions, concerns and comments in a timely manner.

Tips for getting started with the site:

1. Be sure to create a login for both the website and the forum.
2. Read through the informa-



tion/explanations provided before diving in. It will save frustration later.

3. Introduce yourself on the forum. Click on the "New Member Introduction" topic and tell us about yourself, your hogs, and your farm.

4. Check back often to see what's new!

If you need assistance, or have a great idea for the site, please do not hesitate to contact us or the site administrator. Send an email with details to: redwat-

gles@hotmail.com

COMING SOON!

The complete Red Wattle Hog Registry from the ALBC will be available online at redwattle.org / redwattleproject.com for research purposes. This will allow more accurate inbreeding coefficients to be calculated and better prospective matings to be studied.

Watch the site for more innovations in the future!

Q & A with the President, Josh Wendland

Q. Would you recommend RW's for a first time hog owner?

Absolutely, they are a very hardy and docile breed, which makes them a good teacher to new owners, but don't hesitate to ask questions.

Q. Since RW's are so big, are standard hog housing units big enough for them? If not how much space does a full grown RW need?

While RW's are a large breed they work well in normal huts or outdoor housings. The space may be tight as they mature. 5-6 year old sows can be rather large so some

consideration and planning may be needed.

Q. What is the best fencing to use for hogs?

A. A good sturdy fence is essential for hogs. A good hot wire for a trained hog also works well. A combination of hog panels work well as does netting stretched tight and maintained often.

Q. I own a RW that is not registered with ALBC/RWHA. Can I get my hogs registered?

Yes. The RWHA has a recovery pro-

gram in place for this situation. For each animal you would need to send in front, back, right and left side pictures of the animal along with any documentation regarding their history/origin. Based on the information provided, the RWHA Board will make a decision regarding registration. Animals that meet all requirements are then issued a recovery registration number by the ALBC Pedigree Registry. *Note this is not a rescue program*

If you have questions or need help please email:

redwattles@hotmail.com

Message from the VP, Brian Jordan

I know that it seems like things move really slowly in the RWHA, but we've made a lot of progress already this year: new website, new newsletter, DNA project started, progress on bylaws and creating a meaningful breed standard have been made. Of course there is still a lot of work to do!

It is my goal to see that all of these projects are completed and benefit

all RWHA members. We all have the same goal—save the Red Wattles. The ALBC would like to see 10,000 breeding RW hogs in order to have a viable genetic base to remove them from the endangered list. We are a long way from that goal. We all have different points of view and unique talents. We have a lot of new members/RW owners. I am asking that all you longtime RW breeders lend a hand to these

folks so that our RW heritage/history/knowledge is not lost.

If you have comments, concerns, needs or suggestions or you have ideas for other projects or you can offer your assistance, please let me know.

Feel free to call me any time:

812-521-1063

Change in registration fees effective 3/3/2009

The Board of Directors voted unanimously to change registration fees as follows:

For RWHA members:

\$3 per animal under 3 months

\$6 per animal over 3 months

\$10 per litter

\$3 per transfer

\$3 duplicate certificate

For Non-members:

\$6 per animal under 3 months

\$12 per animal over 3 months

\$20 per litter

\$6 per transfer

\$6 duplicate certificate

To request registration forms please, send an email to: redwattles@hotmail.com



Red Wattle Hog Association

C/O Dot Jordan
7024 Spearsville Rd
Morgantown, IN 46160


Phone: 812-521-1063
E-mail: redwattles@hotmail.com
redwattle.org
redwattleproject.com


History Project


As many of you know, the history of the RW is clouded in some mystery. The RWHA is actively seeking any documents regarding early RWs and RW Breeders. This includes old registration papers, photographs, letters, carcass data or articles and any other memorabilia. The plan is to bring all of this information together to create a Red Wattle History which can be used as a historic reference by breeders and RW enthusiasts as well as researchers and students. Please help us with this important project by sending copies of any historic info to: RWHA C/O D. Jordan, Sec/Treas., 7024 Spearsville Rd, Morgantown, IN 46160. If you would be willing to work actively on this project please send an email to: redwattles@hotmail.com




Tidbits


 The Board of directors continues to work on a meaningful breed standard and the re-write of the RWHA bylaws.


 Minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors are posted on: redwattle.org in the Forum under "Red Wattle Hog News"

 Unfortunately, the RWHA has had a poor response to the census and carcass data request. If you have any carcass data, please, share that information so that we can create promotional material with concrete numbers. We will revisit the census issue at the next Board of

Directors meeting.


 Do you have hogs for sale? Take advantage of the redwattle.org forum, by posting your RW's for sale under "[Red Wattles Buy/Sell/Trade](#)"

 What's new at your place? Send in news/pictures about your farm to be included in the RWHA Newsletter

 The winner of the 2009 Win A Pig Contest is:


Jessica Bline

Congratulations Jessica!

 Read Jessica's essay on the forum at

redwattle.org

under the heading of "RWHA NEWS"

 Don't see your name on the Breeders list? Be sure to get your dues in to be included in the update! If you've paid your dues please contact:

redwattles@hotmail.com

to resolve any discrepancies.