RAAA Female DNA Submission – Incentive Program

It’s no secret that the use of DNA, and more specifically genomic testing, has allowed for the most advanced and accurate genetic evaluations to occur. While the poultry, swine and dairy industries continue to actively pursue and apply genomics, the cattle industry is just beginning. The most indicative example of this lies in the IGS, Multi-breed Genetic Evaluation powered by BOLT. The onset of this model opens doors to a new era in cattle breeding and genetic advancement.

Regardless of the influx in submissions, there continues to be a deficit in female genotypes. It’s common for breeders to submit all bulls at weaning or only their top bulls to be displayed in their sale catalog. While this is effective for the males submitted, it increases the rarity of genotypes for the cow population. By submitting ALL of your females for genomic testing, instrumental data is added towards predicting maternal traits like STAY and CE. Furthermore, the genomic data added to the female doubles as selection criteria that is equal to adding the following records to REDSPro:

21 Birth Weights  
22 Weaning Weights  
15 Calving Ease Direct Scores  
25 Stayability Records

In effort to reward breeders that use the most effective sampling method and participate in the submission of female genotypes, RAAA will begin a TSU reimbursement program on July 1, 2018. With the help of GeneSeek and Zoetis, the program will work as follows:

Only TSU samples submitted on registered females and tested for GGP-uLD or i50K will be considered for reimbursement. Additionally, a minimum of 20 female samples must be submitted per order. TSUs will be reimbursed at a rate of 1:2 – one TSU for the submission of two genotypes – while supplies last. At the end of each month, RAAA staff will calculate the number of females submitted and send the reimbursement of TSUs to the address on the RAAA Member account.

**The Steps for Submission:**
1. Contact RAAA Office to purchase AllFlex TSUs.
2. Collect TSU Samples on 20+ females
3. Find the GeneSeek or Zoetis order form at: redangus.org/genetics/dna-forms/  
4. Mail TSU samples and completed order form* to: 
   RAAA  
   18335 E. 103rd Ave. Suite 202  
   Commerce City, CO 80022

Please contact dna@redangus.org or call (940) 387-3502 Ext. 8 with questions.

*Zoetis forms must be filled out electronically in Excel and emailed to dna@redangus.org.