

## **HPid Frequently Asked Questions?**

### **Q: Why has Hereford Prime developed a Hereford Prime animal identification system (HPid)?**

A: With the inevitable advent of EID, Hereford Prime saw the opportunity to provide registered Hereford breeders, their clients and suppliers to Hereford's processing partners, with more guaranteed and robust traceability and feedback combined with the visual ability to locate a registered performance recorded animal .

### **Q: What are HPid tags?**

A: They are a non-mandatory (for NAIT purposes) secondary visual ear tag. Farmers have the option of what information is printed on them – generally the animal number and year code would be most helpful! Also they would have the Hereford Prime logo and the words Hereford Prime printed on them. They are exclusively available through the PBBNZ tag ordering service. Farmers have the option of choosing Allflex OR Zeetags products.

Note – to meet NZHA regulations, all animals must be double ear tagged (primary and secondary tagged) with the year of birth and the private animal number. This must be present on the front face (female tag) tags in both ears.

### **Q: What is HerdMASTER4 (HM4)?**

A: HerdMASTER4 is a comprehensive herd management and reporting software package. It includes a comprehensive animal breeding and production recording system. NAIT record keeping is almost fully automated also. As an additional option, with the use of a central database and a compatibility module added to HM4, it offers automation in the transfer of data from birth to slaughter.

### **Q: What do I get when I purchase HerdMASTER4 Stud?**

A: You get the all in one HerdMASTER4 software package. The stud version includes the commercial features so you can manage a stud and commercial herd from within the same programme.

### **Q: As a commercial operator, what do I get when I purchase HerdMASTER4 Commercial?**

A: You will get the commercial version only. Commercial version does not include pedigree tree, registered animal features, EBV information or mating details. If at a later date you wish to have the stud program you will need to upgrade to the stud version by purchasing the stud module. Alternatively, purchase the stud breeding programme from the onset.

### **Q: What are the differences between the stud and commercial HerdMASTER4 versions?**

A: HerdMASTER4 stud software provides access to pedigrees and sire and dam records, it also provides parameters for mating information to be collated.

### **Q: As a registered Hereford breeder why should I consider buying and using HerdMASTER4 and why should I encourage my clients to buy it too?**

A. It provides accurate and simple submitting of data to NZHA registry. This ensures HerdMASTER4 users are eligible for the electronic data entry discount. It has the potential, with stage two developments incorporating central database components, to give complete traceability of your proven Hereford genetics from birth through to death. A major advantage of Herdmaster 4 is that it greatly assists in meeting your NAIT obligations. Your commercial clients using HerdMASTER commercial software could potentially benefit from full traceability also (with stage two developments). Simply using HerdMASTER4 will enable them to lodge stock movements easily with the NAIT database.

### **Q: What if I need help using HerdMASTER4?**

A: That's not an issue - technical support (via telephone) is available in NZ.  
Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm excluding public holidays.

**Q: Do I need a specific type of computer to run HerdMASTER4?**

A: Processor - minimum Pentium II – compatible processor. Minimum 1.4GHz  
recommended pentium III- compatible processor – 2.0GHz or faster  
Operating system – windowsXP SP2, vista, windows 7  
Memory - minimum rqmt 512 MB  
Recommended rqmt 1GB  
Internet - minimum dial up internet  
- recommended broadband connection

**Q: Do I need a continual and reliable internet connection when working within HerdMASTER4?**

A: No, you don't need an internet connection while working in HerdMASTER4. But you do need an internet connection when you want to upload or synch to the central database, send information to NAIT and to download regular updates to the HM4 software.

**Q: As a user of HerdMASTER4 and HPid tags, what information do I receive from my Hereford Prime processing partner?**

A: Current feedback sheets sent to the owner of the slaughtered stock will continue. However development of more extensive automated feedback channels between processor and stock owner/breeder is being investigated.

**Q: If I only have electronic tags (EID), how does animal movement information reach the NAIT database?**

A: From July 1 2012, it is compulsory and a legal requirement to provide all stock movement details to the NAIT database. This is the sole responsibility of the person in charge of the animal (PIC), who must manually lodge this information with the NAIT database/ system.

**Q: Do I need to purchase HerdMASTER4 or can I obtain benefits of the traceability system with HPid tags only?**

A: HPid tags will identify potential Hereford Prime type qualifying animals to preferred processors. Animals can be tracked through the slaughter process; however slaughter feedback information will continue presently to be a manual process. Caracase growth/ slaughter information will require manual evaluation also.

**Q: If I have HPid tags and HerdMASTER4, what is the flow of information to NAIT?**

A: It is an essentially an automated flow of information via HerdMASTER 4. HM4 provides a built-in interface to send animal information to NAIT electronically. Only a few mouse clicks are required.

**Q: How secure is the data regarding each individual animal and herds on the HPid central database?**

A: Very secure. You can only access information on animals you own or have previously owned. With HerdMASTER4 and central database software developments, you can access information on on-sold registered animals, but not on subsequent progeny. Potential future developments with the HM4 program may allow progeny information to be incorporated.

**Q: Do I need to purchase HerdMASTER4 or can I obtain the benefits of a traceability system with HPid tags clearly?**

A: HerdMASTER4 software is the linkage between HPid and the traceability process operating through the central database.