

MEMBERSHIP TIPS

by Jerry Cassady
director of member services



Inactive animals — gone forever?

During the recent 137th Annual Convention of Delegates, a new method of data reporting was unveiled to the membership.

The “Inventory Reporting” program was introduced as a comprehensive herd reporting program to create a platform for the submission of data points on all cows that are in production on your farm or ranch (see November’s “Membership Tips” column for additional information).

The end game of this new mindset of data reporting is not to simply increase the volume of data points, but to improve the quality of data to better characterize Angus genetics. More complete data means more accurate genetic prediction tools, which reduces risk for members and their customers alike. Reducing

risk in the seedstock business is something we can all get behind.

The first step in the Inventory Reporting process will be for members to go into their cow herd inventory and indicate if females are active or inactive. An active female is defined as a female over 12 months of age (heifer) or a female that has reported a calf within the last 24 months. You will be able to customize the criteria of 24 months, if desired, to better fit your program.

The inactive list

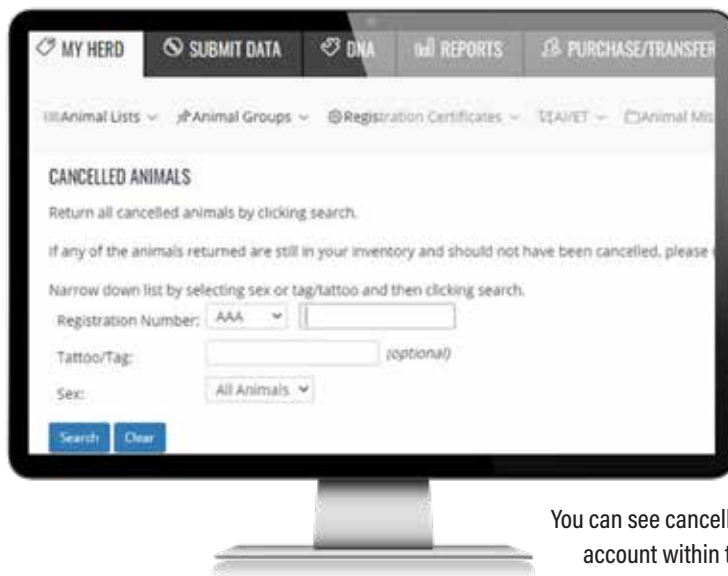
What happens to animals that are moved to the inactive list? Are they cancelled forever?

We get this question from time to time in the Member Services Department, as members would like to keep track of animals cancelled for one reason or another.

During your initial enrollment, moving animals to the inactive list will cancel these animals out of your registered and active herd inventories. This means you will no longer be able to register natural calves out of these females. However, members are still able to see production records on females that have been culled or sold.

To view the animals cancelled from your inventory, go to AAA Login>My Herd>Animal Lists>Cancelled Animals. You can see these animals in your AAA Login account within the Cancelled Animals list (ordered by cancel date). The cancelled animals list shows animals cancelled by members, but does not include animals cancelled by the Association.

In addition, within cow production records, members can see cancelled cows listed there as well. This cow production option requires you to enter a tag or registration number of the cow you are searching for. Go to Reports>Dam Reports>Produce of Dam Report>Search by Tag or



You can see cancelled animals in your AAA Login account within the Cancelled Animals list.

registration number, and check the box that reads, "Include previously owned dams."

Think of it as inactive animals, not cancelled animals. Animals that are cancelled are not deleted, they are simply flagged as inactive so they will no longer show in your active herd inventory or in your reports. Although not recommended, inactive animals can be reinstated by Association staff if deemed necessary, but written authorization from the member is required.

Cancellation criteria

The American Angus Association cancels animals for a variety of reasons, such as parentage, ineligible white markings, scurs, age, etc. Members cancel animals with

disposal codes, such as animal died, sold as commercial, health, fertility, structure, etc.

What about an old artificial insemination (AI) bull, or a donor that has passed away?

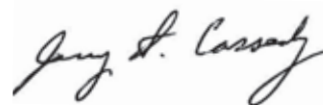
AI bulls can still have AI certificates ordered, and both AI bulls and donor cows can still have registrations processed even if they are cancelled.

The AI certificates are based on the membership that is ordering them (must own the bull or have AI consent) being active. Donor females require a removal date, which allows the system to process the registration and allow it to go through.

Summary

The Member Services Department is excited about the potential and

benefits of Inventory Reporting, and all members should feel comfortable with the enrollment process in knowing your animals are not "gone forever," just simply placed in a separate list to clean up your current inventory. **[A]**



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Editor's note: For more information regarding the Inventory Reporting and cancelled animals, please contact the Member Services department at 816-383-100, or email me directly at jcassady@angus.org.

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