RULE IX. Genetic Abnormalities

A. In order to maintain a viable breed relatively free of undesirable genetic factors and to insure that today's breeding practices will help tomorrow's Gelbvieh cattle stay free of undesirable traits, it is recommended that every AGA member or breeder of Gelbvieh cattle report the occurrence of any abnormal Gelbvieh animal. In order for said reports to be recognized as authentic and valid, the animal must be DNA typed to verify parentage.

1. Abnormal calves should be reported to the AGA Executive Director by telephone as soon as they are discovered. Based on the description of the abnormal animal and depending upon whether it is dead or alive, the AGA may ask the caller to complete an abnormal calf report. This can be done over the phone or by the owner or his veterinarian. Generally, a blood sample should be drawn from the calf as well as its sire and dam (if not already on file) and submitted to the approved AGA serology laboratory to verify parentage.

2. Members are encouraged to send abnormal calves (either dead or alive) to an AGA approved research facility for examination, or in special cases, the research facility may arrange to examine the animal on location or pick-up the animal themselves for examination at their facility.

3. AGA will pay DNA typing fees for all abnormal animals (but not for parents) for which it requests parentage verification.

4. To facilitate reporting abnormal Gelbvieh animals, an official form may be printed annually in an official AGA publication, AGA website or they can be obtained directly from the AGA office. These forms shall be completed and filed with AGA.

B. The AGA Executive Director shall receive, keep on file and monitor all information concerning abnormalities of any registered Gelbvieh animal. file shall be cross referenced by sire, breeder and abnormality; however, the owners' and breeders' names will be kept confidential (pending a final decision by the AGA Board of Directors). A copy of the abnormality report and blood analysis will be sent to an AGA approved research facility. The AGA office and owner of the abnormal animal will each receive a copy of the research facility's findings and diagnosis.

1. Each case will be handled on an individual basis and an effort will be made to diagnose all cases whether the problem is genetic or caused by other factors.

2. When evidence is available that an animal is a possible carrier of a deleterious genetic factor, the owner of the animal and the owner of the animal's parents will be notified in writing by AGA. Before taking final action, the owner of the subject animal and the owner of the animal's parents will be given the opportunity for a hearing before the AGA Board of Directors.

C. A deleterious genetic factor is defined as one that causes death or impairment of the usefulness of the animal. The AGA Board of Directors shall, based upon advice of its scientific advisors, determine what deleterious genetic factors should receive special attention and monitoring.

1. Genetic Condition will be classified by the following designations:

Monitor – DNA test for this genetic condition is available. The mutation for this genetic condition is a deleterious genetic factor. Members will follow the “Genetic Condition Policy” for requirements for testing and registration of animals in the AGA Herdbook.

Warning – DNA test for this genetic condition is available. This genetic condition is typically not a lethal recessive and exists at the time of classification in a low frequency in the Gelbvieh and/or Balancer population. Members will follow the “Genetic Conditions Policy” for requirements for testing and registration of animals in the AGA Herdbook.

Watch – DNA test is not currently available for this abnormality. Abnormality has been reported in the Gelbvieh and/or Balancer population. Members will follow provisions in Gelbvieh Rule IX

for reporting of additional abnormal animals and designation and reporting of gnetic condition status.

D. AGA shall publish periodically on the AGA website and/or in an official AGA publication a notation of any animal that has been tested for a genetic condition and reported to the AGA. The notation will include the specific genetic condition the animal possesses. AGA may also release and disclose such information to any of its members, to others who register or transfer animals or otherwise use privileges of the AGA and who may request the same without AGA or any of its officers, directors, employees, agents or members becoming liable for damages or otherwise for such release and disclosure.

1. The AGA Board of Directors will determine a criteria by which an animal shall be classified as a "proven carrier" for each genetic condition. In most cases this will be a recognized and validated DNA test for the genetic condition.

2. In the absence of a DNA test the recognized guideline for testing bulls for recessive genes is to mate a bull to at least 35 of his own daughters. If all normal calves result (35 calves from 35 matings), there is a 99.6% probability that the bull is free from autosomal recessive deleterious genetic factors.

3. The expense of any test(s) to determine whether an animal is “proven clean” or a “proven carrier” of a genetic condition designated with a Monitor or Warning status will be the responsibility of the owner of the animal.