

CANADIAN



SPECKLE PARK

ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. 02

SPRING 2021



ASSOCIATION
UPDATES

SCIENCE OF
SCURS

YOUTH
UPDATES

**"CHANGE CALLS FOR
INNOVATION, AND
INNOVATION LEADS TO
PROGRESS."
-- LI KEQIANG**

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WELCOME

Working together, Growing Together.

Greetings fellow Breeders,

Being new to the Canadian Speckle Park Board and Breed I have learned a lot about the passion and honesty this Breed strives for. Being a Speckle Park Breeder myself now, my experience with the Breed has given me a true appreciation and love for what the Breed offers.

Even though 2020 and now 2021 have been filled with many challenges and trials, I feel the agriculture industry stands strong with their people, like one big family. As a Board member, I can say that the Directors are always working hard to make the Canadian Speckle Park breed stand out. With data and evidence to show that this truly is a remarkable Breed.

As for the event side of things, it has been difficult for anyone to plan anything with the constant changes, but I do know that the Board is trying to put together a plan to bring the membership together at some point.

I truly cannot wait to be showing Speckle Park cattle, attending more sales, and meeting many more people. I have come to respect this breed so very much because of the efforts each breeder puts into their program. It is very easy to recognize the passion in this breed and I am very excited to be a part of this Association and have enjoyed being a part of the board.

KELSEY KNOTT
Member At Large

CONTACT US

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Park Association
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KOK 2Y0

(519) 500-8930

info@canadianspecklepark.com
www.canadianspecklepark.com

REGISTRY

Canadian Livestock
Records Corporation

Registrar

LISA HUTT

(877) 833-7110 Ext. 312

(613) 731-7110 Ext. 312

lisa.hutt@clrc.ca

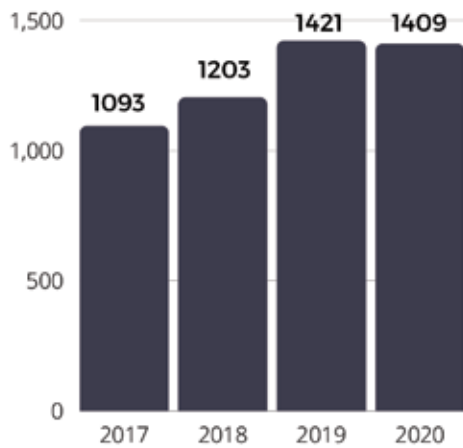
DNA LAB

Neogen Canada
7323 Roper Rd NW
Edmonton, AB
T6E 0W4

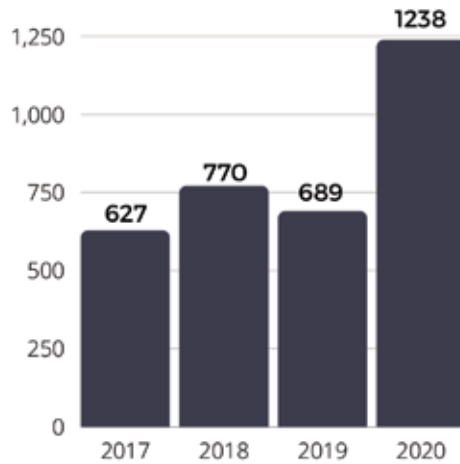


STATISTICS

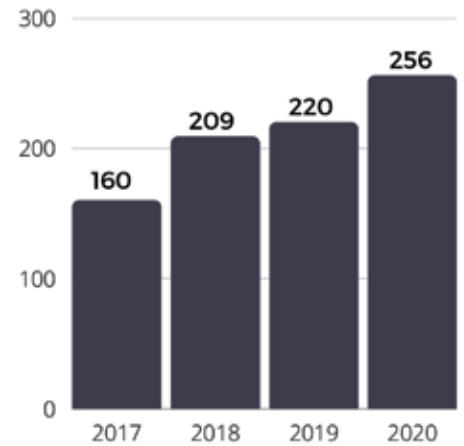
Registrations



Transfers



Members



★ 2 New annual fall female sales

★ 3 New annual spring bull sales

Thank you!

976

Animals born 2018 or later
 SNP tested in 2020

By-Law Amendments

THE 2020 BY-LAW AMENDMENTS WERE APPROVED
BY AGRIFOOD CANADA FEBRUARY 21ST, 2021

- The head office of The Canadian Speckle Park Association shall be in the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta
- The head office for the purpose of pedigree registration and administration of the Association shall be at such place in Canada as the Board of Directors may determine.
- A register shall be kept at the head office of the Canadian Speckle Park Association. It shall be known as the Canadian Speckle Park Association Herd Book and will be published by the Canadian Speckle Park Association at such time as decided by the Board of Directors.

CSPA will notify members once dates for registry movement have been finalized. Please continue to use Canadian Livestock Records Corporation for registry purposes until otherwise notified

*CSPA
REMINDER*

Black Animal Registration

As per Section 16. Rules of eligibility for percentage Speckle Park : Section 4

The solid black offspring of two solid black parents in any combination of purebred, percentage or appendix Speckle Park are ineligible for inclusion in any registry of the Association. Solid black animals shall be defined by black over the entire body. White is permitted on the underline of the flank to the navel.

What this means?

Solid Black Speckle Park cattle with white anywhere beyond the underline of the flank to the navel are ineligible for registration. Any white on the face, legs, sides, tail etc is not permitted.

The Science Behind Scurs

Speckle Park are a polled breed of Cattle. As with other polled breeds, breeders may occasionally come across an animal that exhibits what may look like horns which are actually called Scurs. The genomics behind the Scurred gene are more complex and not tested for compared to the Polled & Horned Genes.

It is thought that there may be more than one gene that comes into play that have not yet been isolated to identify on genomic testing. The theory behind Scurs is that it is a sex linked trait. For cows to have visible Scurs, they must carry 2 copies of the Scurred gene. Bulls however can exhibit visible scurs carrying only one copy of the gene. Therefore, Scurs are dominant in Males & recessive in Females.

Horned cattle are not eligible for registration in The Canadian Speckle Park Herd Book. Genomic testing is an important tool to distinguish between the two for registration purposes.



Bull with Scurs

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SCURS AND HORNS?

Horns are attached to the skull of the animal and are visible at a young age. In the first few weeks of life horns are identifiable by feeling the "buttons" or horn growth starting at the sides of the calf's head at the top of the skull, which is referred to as the Poll. Supplied by blood vessels and nerves atop the frontal sinus cavity, Horns continue to grow throughout the life of the animal.

Scurs are growths that develop at the sides of the Poll in the same location as the growth of Horns. Scurs vary in size from small buds

to larger Horn like growths. Scurs are not attached to the skull and are loose, making it easy to wiggle with manual manipulation. The blood supply is minimal around the base/skin attachment.

MY ANIMAL CAME BACK AS HORNED ON GENOMIC TESTS, IS IT POSSIBLE THEY ARE JUST SCURS?

No, Horn growth is dominant over Scurs. Animals that come back Horned on genetic testing are complete Horns and not eligible for registration. The scurred gene only manifests on genetically polled cattle.

CAN A SCURRED ANIMAL BE REGISTERED?

Yes, Scurred animals can be registered as they are still genetically Polled. Scurred animals do not need to carry the Horned gene (although it is more commonly seen) If a bull tests Homozygous Polled and has Scurs, he will not produce Horned offspring.

I DISCOVERED SCURS ON MY ANIMAL AFTER IT WAS REGISTERED AS POLLED

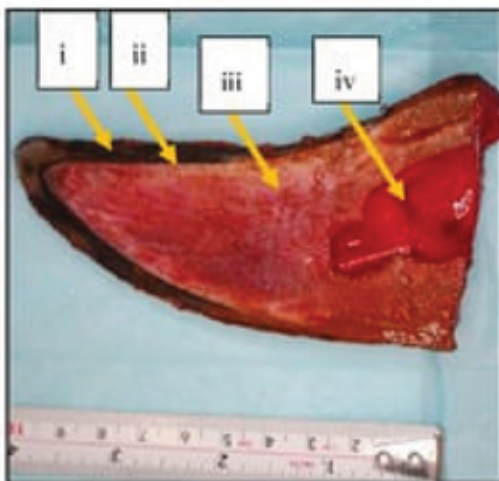
Scurs can develop later and have commonly been seen as small scabs on animals around 1 year of age. Please contact the Association to report any scurs so the animal in question can have their Horned/Polled/Scurred status updated accordingly.

UNSURE IF MY ANIMAL HAS SCURS OR HORNS

The Canadian Speckle Park Association offers genomic testing through Neogen Canada. The Horned/Polled test can be completed at time of registration as a package with Myostatin and Coat Colour. It is most beneficial to complete the genomic testing at time of registration if you observe what may be Scurs or Horns at a young age. It is a CSPA By-Law that all Bulls used to sire registered progeny must have their 3 condition results on file before any progeny can be registered.

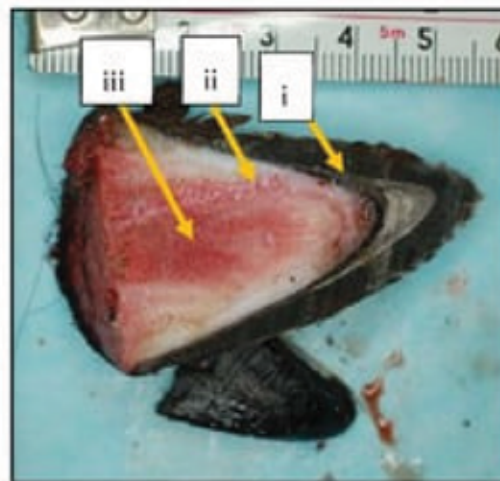
Using a Male or Female that could potentially be Horned opposed to Scurred in the CSPA registry will be removed from the Herd Book along with all progeny if it is found to be Horned.

This proactive testing also gives breeders the ability to make informed program choices. If your animals test comes back as Homozygous Polled or Hetero Polled and Horn like growths appear, as a breeder you have the knowledge that these are Scurs and not a reason for disqualification.



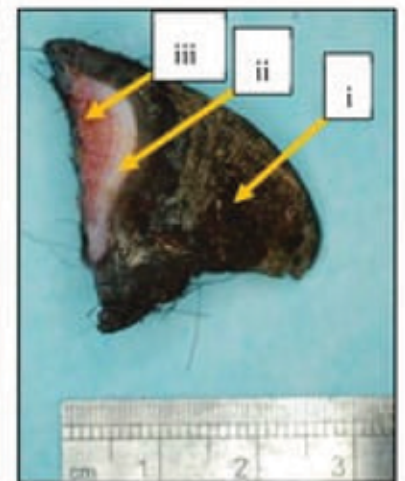
(a)

a) Horn: Blood supply throughout the horn and attaches to sinus cavity fused to the skull



(b)

b) Large Scur: No root to skull, or significant blood supply carried throughout the growth.



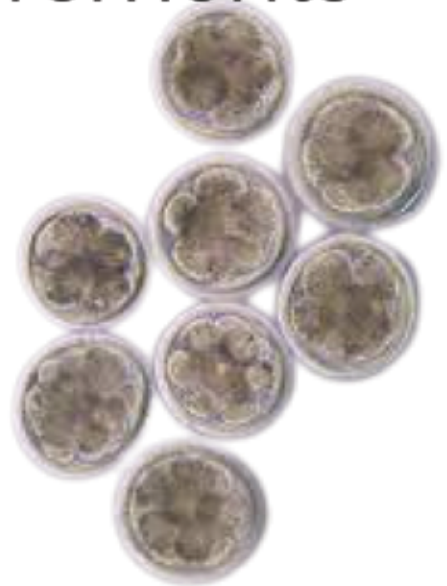
(c)

c) Small Scur: Scab like growth that can often be removed manually or without surgical methods.

FLUSH FYI

Import/Export Requirements

Embryo transfer is the fastest way to propagate valuable genetics and increase purebred Speckle Park presence throughout the globe. Unsure of what the requirements are? Below are some guidelines to assist in the purchase or sale of Speckle Park genetics outside of Canada.



Importing Embryos to Canada

- Donor & Sire of embryos must be parent verified via microsatellite or SNP 50/100K. SNP testing is required for any donors born 2019 or later.
- 5 Generation Pedigree required showing coat colour, horned/polled status
- Ensure Embryos are qualified for export to Canada. When a cow is flushed, the breeder may select for local use or export. Generally additional testing is required for export on Donor Dam
- The AI sire must have 3 Genomic Tests on file with the Canadian Speckle Park Association prior to the registration of any embryo calves.
- SPI is currently the only registry with the same genomic standards as Canada for registration (No red animals, horned or double muscled or upgrading). Any other countries with an established Association would require parent verification along with proof of 3 condition tests and DNA parentage back to the original import of embryos from Canada or SPI.
- You must request the DNA be shared through the CSPA registrar on donor dams.

Exporting Embryos to other Countries

- Ensure you specify which countries you would like to export to at time of Flush with your technician. Europe, AUS/NZ & other regions have different testing requirements based on each Country.
- Ensure the Donor dam is parent verified and the semen used for flush is qualified for export. A 50/100k SNP profile is recommended on the donor dams.
- DNA profile must be authorized by the breeder selling the embryos to the CSPA member to be released to Neogen.

COMMERCIAL UPDATE



By Josh Vogel

At the end of March the committee members met at Red Coat Feeders to take DNA samples from 120 head of steers. The processing went well and the samples have been sent to Neogen. The committee, along with the board thought it prudent to take advantage of the feedlot trial to obtain as much data as possible. The 120 steers will be tested for Myostatin. At the end of the feeding period and after the carcasses have been evaluated we will look at the data to see if this genetic condition has any effect on feedlot performance or carcass quality. If any trends develop then more research can be done at follow-up trials.

CSPA COMMERCIAL COMMITTEE

JOSH VOGEL
CURTIS MCALEER
STEPHANIE FRADETTE
VINCE STEVENSON

*We want to hear
from you!*

SHARE YOUR COMMERCIAL
RELATED SUCCESS! BULL
BUYER TESTAMENTS,
PICTURES ETC.

Email to info@canadianspecklepark.ca

YOUTH

Congratulations!



Steele Heidi 201H

Sire: Underhill All Out 1D

Dam: Steele Enhancer 31E

**Exhibited by:
Hank Weir**

The Spring 4ward junior beef event was held in Ancaster, Ontario April 14-16th.

A special draw was held called the **Mega Moola Heifer Draw**. Tickets were sold to juniors with the chance to win various prizes, with the Grand Prize being to select one of the heifers nominated by the breeder to be entered in the raffle. 6 Breeds of heifers were nominated with a Speckle Park heifer bred by Steele Speckle Park being selected by the winner Romax Cattle Co.

**Exciting news in your area
for Youth & Speckle Park?**

SEND US YOUR LOCAL YOUTH UPDATES!

Please send all youth related news, updates and photos for sharing to:
youth@canadianspecklepark.ca



CANADIAN
SPECKLE PARK
ASSOCIATION

Box 7536, Bonnyville, AB, T9N 2H8

youth@canadianspecklepark.ca

2021 4-H Awards Application

Name of 4H Member: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Club Name: _____

Beef Leader: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____

Postal Code: _____

Email: _____

Award Presentation Date: _____

To be eligible for the awards, the animals must be Speckle Park or Speckle Park Influence. Please identify the source of the Speckle Park animal(s) to which this application applies.

Purebred or Commercial Speckle Park Breeders Name: _____

Public Auction's Name: _____

Other, Please Specify: _____

The 4-H member has shown a Speckle Park in 4-H for the current 4-H year? _____ (yes/no)

If yes, the 4-H member will receive an award token from the Canadian Speckle Park Association.

In order to qualify for the awards, this application must be accompanied by a colour photo for the 4-H member in uniform with the animal for which the application is being made. (i.e. Achievement day) The application must be submitted by October 1st of the current year.

Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____



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