

CGA LIBRARY

HISTORY OF GELBIEH IN CANADA & THE CANADIAN GELBIEH ASSOCIATION



The Canadian Gelbvieh (pronounced Gelp-fee, German meaning "yellow cow") Association (CGA) is a non-profit, member regulated organization, dedicated to the promotion and improvement of Gelbvieh cattle. The Canadian Gelbvieh Association was founded in 1972, and is incorporated under the rules and regulations of the Animal Pedigree Act (1988), formerly the Livestock Pedigree Act (1972), with which all breeders of registered Gelbvieh animals must comply. The Canadian Gelbvieh Herdbook is maintained in conjunction with the Performance Registry Database which is utilized for the production of International Gelbvieh EPDs (Expected Progeny Differences).

Gelbvieh cattle are well-balanced, long-bodied and well-fleshed beef production units. Without being bulgy, the meat carries well down the hind quarters of these moderately framed animals. Gelbvieh cattle have strong, well-placed limbs which stand on dark, hard hooves. While originally a horned, light brown, totally pigmented animal, through selective upgrading programs, Gelbvieh producers have also introduced polled and black genetics into the breed.

Fullblood Gelbvieh are direct descendants of animals registered in the German Herdbook, which have been parent verified from the first imports registered in the Canadian Herd Book to the present.

Purebred Gelbvieh are animals that have been bred up to purebred status from foundation stock. A purebred female animal is 88% Gelbvieh (3 generation cross) or the offspring of two purebred animals or a purebred and a fullblood animal. A purebred male animal is 94% (4 generation cross) or the offspring of two purebred animals or a purebred and a fullblood animal.



Percentage Gelbvieh animals are less than 88% for females and 94% for males in the upgrading program.

Through performance measurement, genetic selection, and appropriate management techniques, Gelbvieh producers, both purebred & commercial, strive to exceed consumer expectations for delicious beef products. Gelbvieh have a high rate of gain with one of the best feed efficiencies in the industry and will supply the carcass that today's packers and consumers demand.