

Irish Black Cattle Association DNA Policy

Because *Irish Black*[®] and *Irish Red*[®] cattle possess a unique combination of beneficial and positive traits; the IBCA is committed to building a genetic database composed of DNA material gathered from both males and females registered in the *Irish Black*[®] and *Irish Red*[®] breed. This DNA database aids in identifying, maintaining, and enhancing the genetics within the *Irish Black*[®] and *Irish Red*[®] breed.

In support of *Irish Black*[®] and *Irish Red*[®] genetic development the IBCA Board has adopted the following requirements:

1. Individual producers will maintain and own their animal's DNA samples and data, and are responsible for collecting, submitting, paying for and transferring DNA results to the IBCA when requested.
2. Hair samples are preferred as DNA samples. Geneseek is the company of choice to analyze DNA samples.
3. Starting with the calves born in 2013 and forward, all cattle registered or certified with the IBCA must have a DNA sample held in the records of the owner/producer and available to the IBCA if requested.
4. All herd sires and dams currently active must have DNA samples held in the records of the owner/producer and available to the IBCA if requested.
5. The *Irish Black*[®] and *Irish Red*[®] genetic database is available for parental verification, genetic defect identification, herd management (i.e.; horns, color, myostatin, conformation, etc.), and any request by the IBCA.
6. The offspring of multiple sire breeding groups are required to be verified by parentage verification using DNA analysis of the resulting calf.
7. Percentage blood *Irish Black*[®] and *Irish Red*[®] cattle certified by the IBCA are required to use DNA analysis to confirm parentage back to their registered purebred *Irish Black*[®] or *Irish Red*[®] parent.