



**To:** Maritime Beef Testing Society Consignors  
**From:** Management Committee  
**Date:** November 19, 2024  
**RE:** MBTS Animal Guidelines

## Background

The Maritime Beef Testing Society makes every effort to ensure the health and well-being of animals while they are under our care and control. The MBTS has limited physical space as well as limited resources to care for animals beyond the performance testing period. The MBTS also has an obligation to our consignors to promote and market top quality animals through the annual breeding stock sale.

## Beyond Capacity Guideline

The MBTS' maximum capacity for the test program is 120 animals, this is based on barn space, feed availability and capacity of the GrowSafe system. In the event of more than 120 animals are consigned to the test program, MBTS management will make every effort to ensure that all consignors have access to the program. This may mean that some consignors will be limited to the number of animals they consign. Preference will be given to consignors who have submitted all requested application and supporting forms by the deadline.

## End of Test Animal Removal Guideline

The MBTS is committed to notifying all consignors of sale eligibility within 10 days of the end of the testing period. Once notification is given, consignors are able to remove their animals from the premises. All non-sale animals must be removed within 7 days of sale eligibility notification. Any animals remaining at the MBTS will be charged at a rate of \$25 per day. If any animal remains at the MBTS for a period of 14 days after sale eligibility is announced, Management reserves the right to recover costs by sale of the animal in a manner it deems appropriate.

## Atlantic Beef Products (ABP) Direct Shipment Guideline

The MBTS is committed to working with consignors of bulls ineligible to the Breeding Stock Sale to coordinate shipment directly to Atlantic Beef Products.

1. The MBTS will notify consignors of bull sale eligibility as outlined in the End of Test Animal Removal Guideline;
2. Consignors will have forty-eight (48) hours from the time of notification to confirm ABP shipment;
3. MBTS will book animals with ABP;
4. MBTS will arrange for shipment from MBTS to ABP, at consignor's expense;
5. ABP will provide payment settlement directly with consignors in conjunction with their payment policies.

## Animal Removed During Test Policy

The MBTS is committed to ensuring the health and safety of animals while on test. Every effort will be made to treat illness, provide veterinary care, and consult with the consignor if serious injury or illness were to occur. If, during these consultations, the consignor decides to remove the animal from test they assume all responsibility related to the treatment of the animal from the time it leaves the barn. Prior to removing the animal, the consignor will sign a waiver releasing MBTS from any liability related to the animal about to be removed.

Consignors who are deemed to act against this policy will have their animals removed from the test program for the remainder of the current test season. Consignors will remain responsible for all testing costs if animals are removed. The MBTS Management Committee may determine a penalty to a consignor from Test Station programming and sales for a subsequent period of up three years.

## Breeding Soundness Evaluation Policy

The MBTS is committed to conducting a fair and transparent evaluation of bulls on test. If a bull receives a "deferred" breeding soundness result the consignor may, at their own cost, request that the bulls be reevaluated prior to sale day. Revaluations must be completed by the same veterinary clinic as the original evaluation and MBTS reserves the right to charge a coordination fee to cover additional overhead costs.

Consignors are permitted to draw semen from their bulls for their own in-herd use. Collection must happen prior to sale date, but after the conclusion of the test and the sale catalog will reflect the fact that semen was collected for use by the consignor. All costs, including a MBTS coordination fee, will be the responsibility of the consignor.

### **Bull Complaint Policy**

The MBTS is committed to working with buyers and sellers to ensure the Conditions of the Breeding Stock Sale. If either a buyer or seller is not satisfied that the terms and conditions have been met, the MBTS Management Committee will act as a liaison between the two parties.

To protect both the buyer and seller, a non-breeding bull must be reported to the seller and MBTS within six months of the sale date or according to the Breed's Code of Ethics. The seller will not provide replacement or credit for physical injury or mismanagement. In the event the bull is a non-satisfactory breeder, the seller will not under any circumstances, be responsible for more than the original selling price of the bull.

If the buyer and seller can prove they have worked through the Breed Associations' Code of Ethics and were unable to reach a settlement by March 1<sup>st</sup>, the Management Committee may exclude the buyer or seller from participating in the current sale.

### **Bull Management Policy**

The MBTS is committed to the health and safety of consignors, staff, visitors, and animals while they are at the Maritime Beef Test Station. While bulls are consigned, they are under the care and control of Test Station Management. This means that only designated MTBS staff and contractors are permitted to handle and manage animals, including testing activities, health treatments, and cataloging (preparing for and recording videos and pictures). No visitors (including consignors) can enter the barn area without staff present or written permission from the Station Manager.

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### **Sale Commission Policy**

The MBTS administers a spring breeding stock sale after the completion of the testing program. The sale is an opportunity for consignors to market animals collectively. To cover the costs of administering the sale, the MBTS shall charge all animals that sell a commission of 10% of the sale price. In the event a bull does not sell, the consignor shall be charged the commission on the floor price. In the event a heifer does not sell, the consignor shall be charged \$25 as well as any board related costs while the heifers are at the Station.

### **Compensation Fund**

The Maritime Beef Testing Society makes every effort to ensure the health and well-being of animals while they are under our care and control. Unfortunately from time-to-time there are instances when animals must be euthanized as a result of an accident. Test Station holds a Compensation Fund, which is designed to help consignors offset some of the financial loss associated with the loss of an animal. This fund is maintained by setting aside \$10 from each animal consigned to the testing program.

### **Compensation Outline**

The Test Station will compensate consignors who experience total loss of the value of an animal while participating in the testing program. Compensation is based on the estimated weight of the animal, the previous month average feeder sale for its weight category and any outstanding consignor payable related to the specific animal. The outline of the compensation calculation is as follows:

	Most recent weigh date	Date
A	Animal weight on recent weigh day	Weight Date
B	Animal loss date Days past last weigh date	# of Days
C	Animal average daily gain (ADG) while on Test	Test ADG
D	Estimated additional gain of animal	B x C
E	Estimated weight of animal on loss date (or actual weight at necropsy)	A + D
F	Previous month average feeder sale price at ASL (weight category)	ASL Avg.
G	Total value of animal	E x F
H	Outstanding fees payable to MBTS	Payable
I	Test feed intake payable	Payable
J	Total Payable to MBTS	H + I
K	<b>Total Compensation Offer</b>	<b>G - J</b>

**Filing a Claim**

- A consignor eligible to file a claim under the MBTS Compensation Fund must provide written notice to Board Administration within fifteen (15) days of the loss of the animal

**Paying a Claim**

- Board Administration will send the compensation offer, based on the formula to the consignor within fifteen (15) days;
- If accepting the compensation offer, the consignor must return the letter of offer within fifteen (15) days to the Test Station office;
- Board Administration has the authority of the Board to pay compensation to consignors who accept the compensation calculation; and
- Compensation will be paid within fifteen (15) days of final agreement.