

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Jersey Cattle Association

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USJERSEY ANNOUNCES NEW JERSEY MALE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Reynoldsburg, Ohio, July 10, 2025—The American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) has announced new, phased requirements for the registration of Jersey males, designed to return the Jersey population back to purebred status. These changes, approved by the AJCA Board of Directors at the association's annual meeting in June, reflect an ongoing commitment to breed integrity and genetic improvement.

The initiative addresses a historic issue stemming from 2003, when non-Jersey genes were inadvertently introduced into the Jersey population through the descendants of two cows mistakenly registered as purebred Jerseys. Since then, the Jersey breed has been on a focused path to restore purity of the breed.

To support this mission, USJersey now provides Percent Jersey Ancestry (PJA) values for all animals in its database. PJA is a pedigree-based estimate of breed composition and is calculated by averaging the PJA of an animal's parents, tracing back to the earliest ancestors.

New Jersey Male Registration Requirements

Bull Born After	Minimum PJA (%)	Minimum Generation Count
March 31, 2025	94%	6
December 31, 2026	95%	6
December 31, 2028	96%	7
December 31, 2030	97%	7
December 31, 2032	98%	7
December 31, 2034	99%	7

These incremental increases allow currently registered animals to contribute to breed advancement while clearly defining a path toward a fully purebred Jersey population.

Access to PJA Values

Individual animal PJA values are now viewable through the “*Animal Family Tree*” tool on InfoJersey and are also printed on Performance Pedigrees, Performance Progeny Reports, and Registration Papers. Breed Base Representation (BBR) and Generation Count will continue to appear on all USJersey documents.

Registration of Females

It is important to note that females sired by a Registered Jersey bull remain eligible for registration, regardless of their dam's breed composition.

This new path forward reinforces the Jersey breed's long-standing reputation for genetic quality and ensures the future of Jersey bulls as true representatives of the breed.

For questions or further information about PJA, please contact John Metzger, AJCA Genetic and Research Consultant, at jmetzger@usjersey.com.

About the American Jersey Cattle Association

The American Jersey Cattle Association, founded in 1868, is the oldest dairy breed registry organization in the United States. The organization has maintained performance and identification records for dairy producers and delivered programs that promote genetic improvement and profitability by increasing the value and demand for Registered Jersey™ cattle and Jersey milk. Learn more at **USJersey.com** or follow us on **Facebook.com/USJersey**.