



TARENDAISE TALK

The Tarentaise Talk is published quarterly in the interest of the Tarentaise breed. The Talk seeks to promote and grow the development of the Tarentaise cattle breed, to publicize the activities of the Tarentaise breeders, and to print new and educational material beneficial to Tarentaise Breeders.



To submit a cover photo:
email picture in JPEG format to asregistry@gmail.com

AMERICAN TARENDAISE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 231
420A Lincoln St
Wamego, KS 66547

(785) 456-8500
Fax (785) 456-8599

info@americantarentaise.org
asregistry@gmail.com

www.americantarentaise.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I just want to start out by thanking the board for having the confidence in electing me as the new President of the association. I know I have a lot to learn and these past few years of creating the new website, moving the association office and this year now moving the database has taken time and patience from everyone and I thank you for your grace during these transitions. Now that this has been moved our focus for this year will be putting together a semen catalog that we plan to update yearly as well as using media to help spread the word about these amazing cattle!

There are some of you that I have not personally talked to and I want to talk to everyone in the association to see where you are with your Tarentaise and what your vision would be for the association. All members of the association have free advertising forums on not only our **Facebook** page, but on our **website** as well till July of 2021. Please make sure to include a good image, contact information and what you currently have available for sale. You can submit this information to the Associated Registry office asregistry@gmail.com or (785) 456-8500 I'd love to hear from you by email imaginepictureperfect@yahoo.com or you can call (573) 721-7668.

Please invite your fellow cattlemen to join us this summer for our General Meeting. You do not have to be a member to attend, so bring someone interested or that you may have sold a Tarentaise to in the past. Mark your calendars now because it will be here before you know it. This year on July 16-17th, 2021 details will be on our website.

At our summer meeting we want as many youth members to show up as possible. If you have youth that are interested in joining the association there is a one time fee of \$25.00 until the age of 21. Please call the Associated Registry office for more information on how to sign up. We also have an **Instagram Tarentaise Juniors** group that is monitored by our Vice President, Melisa Bertz. This summer we are hosting the very first "**Virtual Tarentaise Show**". You can check our website <https://americantarentaise.org/> for more details on entering the show. The show will be judged by everyone who attends the summer meeting on July 17th, 2021. Any tiebreakers will be decided upon by the board. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes awarded and a free ATA hat to those who participate. Also there is a Junior Scholarship Application on the website, please fill it out and send it to the Associated Registry Office.

God Bless,
Tabitha Baker
President



**AMERICAN TARENDAISE
ASSOCIATION
SUMMER GENERAL MEETING
JULY 16- 17TH, 2021
LOCATION: TO BE ANNOUNCED
MORE DETAILS TO COME**

DIRECTOR FEATURE

Don Gittleson

Introduce yourself and your family.

Don & Kim Gittleson

Give us a brief description of your Tarentaise herd and other cattle interests.

Most of our Tarentaise cattle are half bloods from mating Tarentaise sires with Angus dams from our registered Angus herd. The cattle run at a high elevation 8200' in the spring, winter and fall moving higher in the summer months. The winters are long and very cold with a lot of wind. Because of our elevation we need to be very selective of bulls and cows we use in our breeding program. Cattle at elevations of 7000' or higher have a problem with right heart failure caused by pulmonary hypertension. To determine if the animal is having a problem we use what we call a PAP test.

A PAP test gives us the average blood pressure in the pulmonary artery and with that number we rank the animals in to groups.

Low risk - cattle that are not very likely to suffer right heart failure

Moderate risk - these may be okay but are a little higher risk than the Low risk group

High risk - these cattle are at high risk of developing right heart failure but have not yet developed it

Very High risk - these cattle need to leave tomorrow if not sooner!

The Tarentaise full blood and pure blood cattle we have tested have done very well, all of them have been in the low risk range.

With the 50% Tarentaise animals in the low to moderate range.

We also ultrasound all the yearling bulls and heifers for carcass traits and have for over 20 years now.

Give a brief description of yourself. Education, jobs, etc.

High school diploma - small business owner - 40+ years in the ranching industry

What are some of your goals for the ATA?

- I would like to see our EPDs run at least yearly, biannually would be even better
- Carcass EPDs - this is long over due and requires membership participation.
- To develop our membership and focus on recruiting more members in their thirty's and forty's.
- To have a budget that allows the board to do some advertising of the Tarentaise breed - for this to occur our membership needs to increase
- Start to build a DNA database and storage for the future.

What are the strengths of the Tarentaise in your opinion?

- The Tarentaise cattle seem to have very strong immune systems especially when it comes to respiratory disease, one of the highest costs to our industry today.
- Very strong maternal trait breed.
- Easy calving and the calves get up and start nursing sooner than most other breeds.
- Their ears are smaller than most breeds of cattle (small ears handle cold weather better / big ears handle hot weather better) I live in a cold climate.
- Moderate mature size, the race to make bigger and bigger cattle at a year of age has made the breeds that used to have smaller mature weights now have the largest. One advantage to falling behind in that race is the ideal mature size over history has always run in a circle so being behind in yearling growth may just put Tarentaise ahead in mature cow size.

What is your favorite place you have visited?

A green pasture with mother cows and healthy calves running around can't be beat.

MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

“Measurements of Success”

Reproduction is the most important trait in a beef cowherd.

By Ellen Crawford
Drover's Issue March 2021

“Selling more calves as it relates to cows exposed and cow input costs is a greater indication of business success than any other production parameter,” says Gerald Stokka, North Dakota State University Extension veterinarian and livestock stewardship specialist. “Unfortunately, the majority of our expected progeny differences measure production traits not related to reproduction, while the index values focus on gross revenue, not input costs.” Take, for example, a 300-cow herd with a 15% open rate and a normal average of 5%. The open rate is 10% higher than normal. This means 270 cows must assume the cost of maintaining 300 cows. If cow costs on an annual basis are \$700, then each of the 270 pregnant cows will pick up the tab for \$778. Easy answers to reducing the rate of open cows, such as changing vaccination protocols, usually are misguided and don't address the fundamental reasons for low pregnancy rates, Stokka says. “Meaningful discussion to find solutions requires a systematic approach to practical management recommendations,” he says. “Veterinarians need to have access to production information related to calving dates, pregnancy checking information by fetal age, cow body condition scores (BCS), cow BCS by age, cow age, cow age by pasture information, bull age and cows exposed per bull, length of the breeding season and biosecurity of the herd related to purchases, exposure to the main herd and exposures to neighboring cattle.” Here is information veterinarians and producers need to investigate this problem:

1 What time of the year is calving season? Late winter/early spring calving requires more energy in the diet to prepare cows to be rebred during the breeding season. Late spring/summer calving cows might experience a decrease in forage quality in late July and August, which can impact fertility.

2 What is the calving season distribution, or when are the majority of calves born? Is it the first 21 days, the first 45 days, the last 30 days or scattered throughout the calving season? This information provides some evidence of inadequate bull power, which could be related to dominant bulls, lame bulls, injured bulls or inadequate BCS and cow nutrition during the breeding season. A large number of cows determined to be pregnant late in the breeding season could be an indication of reproductive disease such as vibrio or trichomoniasis.

3 What is the number of calves born related to the number of cows determined to be with calf at the previous pregnancy checking event? This number could indicate fetal loss due to abortions not noticed, or obvious abortions and stillbirths. This can be evidence of fetal infections such as BVDV, IBR, leptospirosis, neosporosis, fungal infections and a host of other possible pathogens. In addition, fetal losses can be due to high nitrates in forage resources.

4 What is the cow BCS by age? Younger cows (2- and 3-year-olds) and cows more than 12 years old generally will carry less condition than middle-aged cows. This will have a direct relationship to the ability to rebreed and conceive for the next season because young cows still are growing and DR. NANCY JACKSON, DVM SOUTHERN CROSS FARM, MISSISSIPPI “Weeds rob me of my investment - taking up nitrogen and water and crowing out grass.” lactating, and older cows will have more difficulty staying in condition because most of their incisor teeth will be missing.

5 What are the cow and bull ages and numbers by pasture? Herds with younger or older cows in common pastures regardless of bull numbers generally will have a greater number of open cows. The number of cows exposed per bull is important, but perhaps even more important is bull age. Older and more dominant bulls tend to serve the majority of cows, so the number of bulls might not be as important as the age of all the bulls in a pasture. Running two 14-to-16-month-old bulls with a single dominant older bull counts as three bulls. However, in reality, the herd might have only 1.5 bulls because the dominant bull dominates the breeding. All bulls should have had a bull semen evaluation prior to the breeding season. Bulls from pastures with low pregnancy rates should be tested again.

6 Are biosecurity and vaccinations a priority? All additions to the herd should have a testing and vaccination history. Even with testing and vaccination, do not introduce new additions into the herd just prior to the start of calving season. “Beef cow pregnancy and weaning rates are important to track,” Stokka says. “High numbers without increased input costs are related to profitability and sustainability of the ranch business.”

<http://digitaledition.qwinc.com/publication/?m=40918&i=696962&p=18>



Ledahl

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www.ledahtarentaise.com

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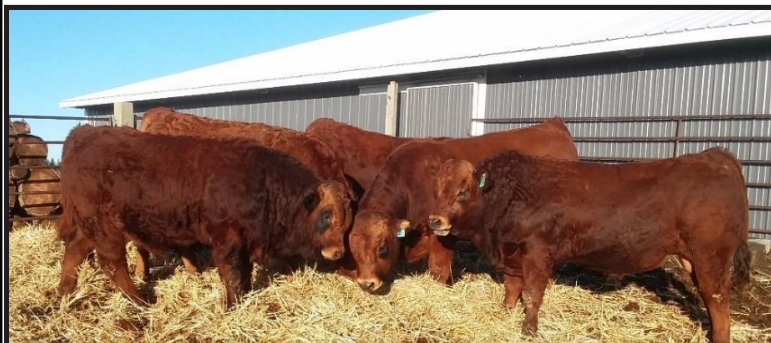
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JUNIOR MEMBER FEATURE

Reign Ledahl

Introduce yourself and your family.

My name is Reign Ledahl and I am 14 years old. I live on a farm in Northwest North Dakota and attend Grenora Public School. I am the daughter of Brian and Tami Ledahl. I have three siblings: Kelsey (28), Brandon (19) and Samantha (18). My non-human family includes my two-year-old heifer, Gilly, a two-year-old bull named Berry and a six-year-old cow who we call Flower. Some activities I am involved in include 4-H, FBLA, choir and basketball.

Give us a brief explanation of your experience and achievements with Tarentaise cattle.

I have been a ATA Junior member for two years now. My experience with Tarentaise comes from my dad and his admiration of the breed. I got my first purebred Tarentaise heifer when I was seven years old. Since then, I have expanded my small herd from one to four.

In addition to growing my little herd, I have also shown purebred Tarentaise at the Williams County Fair every summer since I was 10. I won Grand Champion Beef Interview Judging two years in a row and Reserve Champion Junior Beef Showmanship with my exhibits.

Why did you choose Tarentaise cattle?

I think they are beautiful cattle with great personalities. And they make a good burger.

Tell us something unique about yourself that you want to share with ATA members.

My parents and siblings call me “the bull whisperer” because every year since I was basically able to walk, I would dedicate hours of my time befriending our selection of yearling bulls. I still spend as much time as I can out with the bulls, 4-H steers and some of our other tamer cows too.

What are your future plans?

As of now, I want to go to school to become a dental hygienist. After that, I think I would also like to settle down and start a Tarentaise herd of my own.

What is your favorite sports team? The Denver Broncos

What is your favorite place you have visited? Missoula, Montana - The mountains are so pretty!

What is your favorite food? Homemade Tarentaise bacon cheeseburgers with mayo, pickles and red onion slices.

What is the top item on your bucket list?

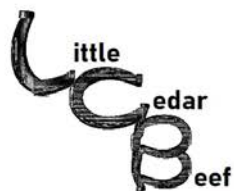
To have a cow who *actually* lives inside my house. Unfortunately, parents don't let me do that here.





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AMERICAN TARENDAISE ASSOCIATION YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP

The ATA Youth Scholarship program was established in 1996 by a vote of the membership at the annual meeting. The scholarship is funded by donations. The amount of the scholarships will be determined on a year-to-year basis depending on the availability of funds.

The applicant must submit:

- Application form
- Be a junior member of the American Tarentaise Association for at least one year

The scholarship recipient will present written proof of the completion of the first quarter or semester to the ATA office (transcript, grade report, etc.); upon receipt of this transcript or grade report, the funds for the scholarship will be sent to the recipient.

For an application form click on the link on the website. IF you have questions contact the ATA office at (785) 456-8500 or asregistry@gmail.com or contact Melisa Bertz at melisabertz@gmail.com.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE IS JULY 1ST

NATIONAL JUNIOR TARENDAISE VIRTUAL SHOW JULY 1-9TH, 2021

check out the website <https://americantarentaise.org/> or more information



WANTED!!!

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been showing?
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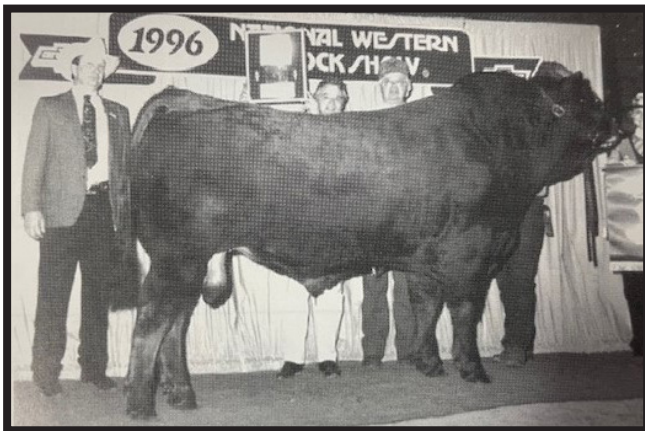
A LOOK BACK AT 1996

I spent some time looking through the Tarentaise Journal from 1996, which was 25 years ago. As I reviewed the magazines from 1996 I ran across several interesting items. The National Tarentaise Sale which was held in Denver in January of 1996 contained 36 lots. The high selling bull was consigned by Double G Farms, Dunlap, IA. He sold for \$2,600 to Bill and Kathleen Lansing, New Vienna, IA. The high selling female at \$1,900 was consigned by Wandling Brothers, Mabton, WA and sold to Leonard Sheriff, Warrenton, GA. The sale average was \$1,487.50. Results of the National Show included the Grand Champion Bull, AZ Curtis, owned by Neil Zimmerman, Minot, ND. The Champion Female was GG Mercedes E135 owned by Double G Farms, Dunlap, IA.

The ATA president in 1996 was Neil Zimmerman. Vice President was current ATA member Doug Honold. Other current ATA members who were on the ATA Board in 1996 were Jim Flynn, Bill Armbrust and Leonard Sheriff.

The number of articles throughout the year from breeders and commercial producers touting the benefits of Tarentaise was amazing to me. Titles of articles like “Extremely Pleased with Tarentaise Cattle”, “Success with Tarentaise Influence” and “Mighty Fine Cattle” were just a few of the articles praising Tarentaise throughout the 1996 Journal.

The 1996 summer board meeting was held in Keystone, South Dakota in late June. 1996 was the year that the ATA scholarship program was started as well as the year the ATA Hall of Fame was started. Both programs received strong donations from the ATA membership.



Grand Champion Bull

AZ Curtis, Owned by Neil Zimmerman
Minot, ND



Grand Champion Female

GG Mercedes E135
Dunlap, IA



1996-97 Tarentaise Board



1996-97 National Tarentaise Queen
Katie Orr, Greeley, CO

A⁺W CATTLE COMPANY

PUREBRED TARENDAISE



TARENDAISE
REG #222039
BD 2-13-17 #E0902
BW: 80
DAM#216967 SIRE# 212071



TARENDAISE
"BRAZEN" REG #222416
BD 2-28-18 #F1102
BW:94
DAM#218096 SIRE#212071



TARENDAISE
"FALLON" REG# 222622
BD 9-10-18 F1301
BW:100
DAM#219671 SIRE#220426



TARENDAISE
"GRIFFIN" REG# 223018
BD 06-20-19
BW:72
DAM#218924 SIRE#218925



TARENDAISE
"GRAND RED"
REG # COMING SOON
BD 8-14-2019 #G1301
BW:80
DAM#219671 SIRE#221965



TARENDAISE
"GREAT RED"
REG # COMING SOON
BD 8-20-19 #G1404
BW:82
DAM#220017 SIRE#221965



TARENDAISE
"GILBERT" REG# 223026
BD 3-29-2019 #G1705
BW:82
DAM#221915 SIRE#222040



TARENDAISE
"GRAPHITE RED"
REG # COMING SOON
BD 8-13-19 #G1407
BW:78
DAM#220010 SIRE#221965



TARENDAISE
"GRANT" REG #223014
BD 3-10-2019
BW: 74 #G6
DAM#218916 SIRE#218925



TARENDAISE
"HANK" VIKING BLOOD
REG #COMING SOON
BD 2-19-2020 #H1712
BW:86
DAM#222034 SIRE#170084



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BD 5-20-2020
BW:78
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★★ If your dues are not renewed by May 1, 2021 you will be dropped from the Tarentaise Talk mailing list. ★★

MIKE CLARDY
5467 REFORM GORDO RD
GORDO, AL 35466
(205) 364-8632
clardy.farms@yahoo.com

AMANDA HALL
1172 HARNESS ROAD
HARRISON, AR 72612
(870) 416-9145

ANDRE HOUSSNEY
JACOB SPRINGS FARM
7602 ARAPAHOE RD
BOULDER, CO 80303

PHARO CATTLE COMPANY
44017 COUNTY RD Z
CHEYENNE WELLS, CO 80810
(719) 767-5541
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DAVID GITTLESON
HC 66 BOX 52
MILNER, CO 80487
(970) 640-4730
dave_gittleson@yahoo.com

PLATTE VALLEY TARENDAISE
9163 CR 28
PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651
(970) 785-6277
jklflynco@aol.com

DON GITTLESON
PO BOX 421
WALDEN, CO 80480
(970) 734-7322
gittlesonangus@msn.com

KYLE & HOLLY HENDRIX
50643 COUNTY RD KK
WRAY, CO 80758

LEONARD SHERIFF
SEVEN LAKES TARENDAISE
1524 RUMSEY RD
EASTANOLLEE, GA 30538
(706) 491-6765
7ltarentaise@gmail.com

ELI HEWELL
HEWELL FAMILY LEGACY
PO BOX 75
GILLSVILLE, GA 30543
(770) 869-3469
sales@hewellspottery.com

MATTHEW HEWELL
HEWELL FAMILY LEGACY
PO BOX 75
GILLSVILLE, GA 30543
(770) 869-3469
sales@hewellspottery.com

NATHANIEL HEWELL
HEWELL FAMILY LEGACY
PO BOX 75
GILLSVILLE, GA 30543
(770) 869-3469
sales@hewellspottery.com

CHARLES ALEXANDER
5644 BROOKHAVEN CIR
MARTIN, GA 30557
(706) 779-3581

GEORGE H DEAN
MOUNTAIN VIEW FARM
370 NEW RD
MARTIN, GA 30557
(706) 244-9998
lindadean30557@outlook.com

JEFF & LISA HONOLD
HAT RANCH
1424 HWY 71 N
CARROLL, IA 51401
(515) 462-0007
hatranchjeff@gmail.com

DOUG HONOLD
HAT RANCH, INC
2261 B AVE
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(208) 459-0286
georgia@7ktarentaise.com

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7K LIVESTOCK
586 N 250 E
SHOSHONE, ID 83352
(208) 459-0286
7k@7ktarentaise.com

JEANNIE KING
MAGIC CATTLE LLC
586 N 250 E
SHOSHONE, ID 83352
(208) 459-0286
jeannie@7ktarentaise.com

ROBERT WELCH
9599 HWY 37
IRON, MN 55751
(218) 969-1169
Bobwelch0625@aol.com

KRISS & WILL CHEESEMAN
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(701) 260-9825
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BRIAN LEDAHL
LEDAHL TARENDAISE
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(701) 694-3511
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DARREL MANNING
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DARREN KLEIN
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D & D CATTLE COMPANY
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HERMAN, NE 68029
(402) 456-7454
dmbraesch@gmail.com

TYLER JESTES
1041 EAST THIRD ST
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(308) 930-0154
grizzlymud30@gmail.com

DEREK WILLIAMSON
1385 S. INDIAN MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN, OK 73058
(580) 819-1516
derek8678@yahoo.com

JOHN KALKA
PO BOX 629
WELLSTON, OK 74881
(405) 742-7237
rocknrail@sbcglobal.net

MAUREEN MACK
PO BOX 190
CULVER, OR 97734
(541) 977-3048
mcmack2@mindspring.com

STEFAN VARGA
RED RIVER CATTLE CO.
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OREGON CITY, OR 97045
(503) 388-3702
sales@redrivercc.com

DARREN NELSON
47370 219TH ST
BROOKINGS, SD 57006
(605) 693-4308
dd2nelson@yahoo.com

JESSE WALBURN
838 WHITE DOGWOOD RD
BIG SANDY, TX 75755
(785) 383-5482
jjwrench730@gmail.com

HATCH CUMMINGS SMITH JR.
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LLANO, TX 78643
(646) 416-1774
llano68@yahoo.com

TOM HILL
TRIPLE R INVESTMENTS LLC
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MADISON, VA 22727
(434) 882-0351
thill@notchpost.com

SAMUEL & KIPP WHELAN
TULIP RIDGE FARM
808 EMMANUEL CHURCH RD
MOUNT SOLON, VA 22843
(540) 350-2313
tulipridgefarm@gmail.com

JIM & RHONDA HERR
WILLOW RIDGE FARM
3014 WILLOW RIDGE TRAIL
ROCKINGHAM, VA 22802
(540) 820-4149
jhrr@herrinc.com

MICHAEL & LYNDA THOMAS
KRAETZ FARMS, LLC
6510 - 210TH ST NE
ARLINGTON, VA 98223
(360) 435-8326
mlpthomas@yahoo.com

BEVERLY SKINNER
6248 PUGET BEACH RD NE
OLYMPIA, WA 98516-9328
(360) 456-0705
bskinnerd@aol.com

PAT & SHARON MADIGAN
BALD HILLS JUNCTION
14614 LAWRENCE LAKE RD SE
YELM, WA 98597
(360) 894-2717

DUSTIN EIFFLER
1201 SHIPWHEEL LANE
GILLETTE, WY 82716
(307) 680-3693
deiffler34@gmail.com

LES HAIGHT
HAIGHT RANCH
PO BOX 511
GILLETTE, WY 82717
(307) 682-3283
lkhaight@bresnan.net

KERRY BREWIN
BOX 39, SITE 2 RR 1
STRATHMORE, AB T1P 1J6
(403) 863-9832
kbrewin@brewintarentaise.com

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

BRIAN DAVENPORT
10424 E TRAILHEAD CT
GOLD CANYON, AZ 85118
(480) 658-7878
illinarentaise@gmail.com

HENRY HUSS
HUSS FARM TARS
1125 250TH AVE
NEW VIRGINIA, IA 50210
(641) 342-4641

REGGIE BROWN
5110 TURNERS STATION RD
TURNERS STATION, KY 40075
(502) 558-8772
mths27@aol.com

DAVID PYLES
ROYAL VIEW FARM
763 VANCE ROAD
TURNERS STATION, KY 40075
(502) 667-0160

JOSH PYLES
ROYAL VIEW FARM
763 VANCE ROAD
TURNERS STATION, KY 40075
(502) 667-0164
spyles0164@yahoo.com

KEVIN & KARL WERNETTE
WERNETTE CATTLE COMPANY
9442 50TH AVE
REMUS, MI 49340
(989) 506-6356
wernettecattleco@gmail.com

JAMES A COLLUM
12316 470TH ST
HEWITT, MN 56453
(765) 569-5062
jimcollum2@gmail.com

NOELLE CHEESEMAN
STEELE POINT TARENDAISE
32571 HWY H
ANNADA, MO 63330
(573) 847-2309
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H03 Hercules

DAM	SIRE	BORN	BW	WEAN	WW
FEDA (HOFER)	EDEN	3-19-20	84	10-31-20	610



H07 Hondo

DAM	SIRE	BORN	BW	WEAN	WW
-	-	3-26-20	74	10-31-20	600



Hickory H13

DAM	SIRE	BORN	BW	WEAN	WW
FIFI (HOFER)	EDEN	4-4-20	64	10-31-20	580



Hades H11

DAM	SIRE	BORN	BW	WEAN	WW
DEIDRA	DMETT	4-1-20	94	10-31-20	625



Hero H20

DAM	SIRE	BORN	BW	WEAN	WW
-	-	4-17-20	68	10-31-20	605



Hydra H10

DAM	SIRE	BORN	BW	WEAN	WW
-	-	4-1-20	77	10-31-20	650

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TARENDAISE TALK

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN TARENDAISE ASSOCIATION

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Content Deadline for Fall Issue - June 7, 2021



Make sure to follow the
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Want to join the ATA?

New members are always welcome! Please fill out the form below and return it to the ATA Office!

AMERICAN TARENDAISE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name of Individual, Ranch, or Corporation: _____
(This is the name that will appear on certificates of registration)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone # (Primary): _____ Phone # (Secondary): _____

Email: _____ Birthdate of Jr. Member: _____

Membership Type: ☐ Active \$50.00 (Payable Once a Year in January) ☐ Associate \$25.00 (Payable Once a Year in January) ☐ Junior \$25.00 (One-Time Fee Until age of 21)

Mail completed form with payment to:
American Tarentaise Association
c/o Associated Registry
P.O. Box 231, Wamego, KS 66547

Benefits of Membership:

- Free calf registration when dam is in CHR (Complete Herd Reporting) the year of the calf's birth.
- Free first transfers.
- Access to ATA Online Registry System & Data.
- Subscription to the quarterly newsletter "Tarentaise Talk".
- Ability to show in a ATA sanctioned event.
- Voting Rights.
- For Junior Members, 1 year membership qualifies to apply for the ATA Youth Scholarship.
- For Associate Members - All member benefits except ability to register or transfer animals.

I/We hereby apply for Active or Junior Membership in the American Tarentaise Association, as indicated above.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

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