

Alberta's

Livestock and Genetics Industry

Alberta's livestock genetics industry focuses on providing high quality live animals, semen, embryos and related products and services to customers around the world.



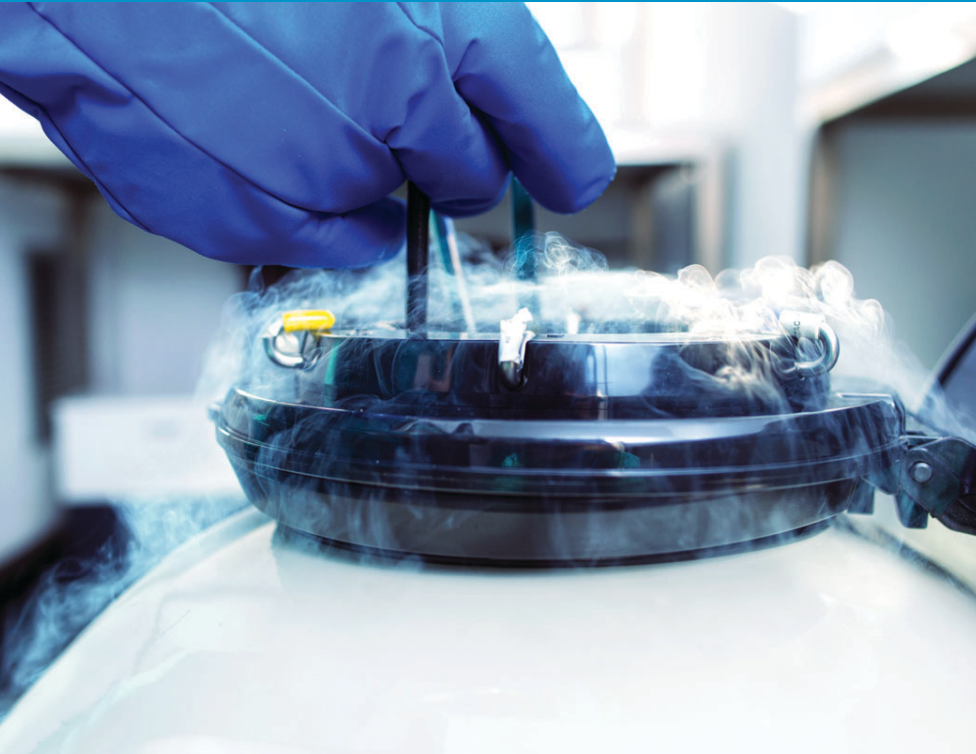
Canada

Alberta



Quality Livestock and Genetics

Alberta's livestock genetics industry focuses on providing high quality live animals, semen, embryos and related products and services to customers around the world. Alberta is a source of high quality disease-free livestock and world-renowned genetics.



Live Animals

Live animals are tested and certified by CFIA or CFIA-approved laboratories prior to export. Government approved quarantine facilities are available for all types of animals. Live animal exporters coordinate freight and handling to transport the animals.

Embryos

The use of embryo transfer has simplified and dramatically reduced the costs involved with the export of livestock genetics. Entire herds can be transported in a liquid nitrogen tank at a cost that is often lower than that for transporting a single animal.

Licensed veterinarians perform the embryo or oocyte collection in order to preserve the fertility and integrity of the animal. For embryo export, this veterinarian must be a member of an embryo transfer team approved by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Services

Many companies offer assistance in selecting the best genetics based on customer needs, coordination of export shipments and consulting services related to management, reproduction and nutrition. Genetics suppliers provide customers with after-sales service to ensure our animal genetics truly breed success.



Our genetic improvement and evaluation programs are driving the development of high performance breeding stock, helping farmers in all corners of the globe take advantage of the most advanced animal breeding technologies to produce superior livestock.

Alberta is a reputable supplier of beef, dairy and swine genetics. Alberta is also an experienced exporter of quality sheep and goat genetics to various international markets.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) must certify all exports of livestock, semen and embryos.



Alberta Beef Breeds

- Angus
- Hereford
- Charolais
- Simmental
- Limousin
- Blonde D'Aquitaine
- Braunvieh
- Galloway
- Gelviah
- Hays Converter
- Lowline
- Maine-Anjou
- Saler
- Shorthorn
- Speckle Park

Major Swine Breeds

- Yorkshire
- Landrace
- Duroc
- Hampshire

Beef Genetics

There are currently twenty-six breeds of *Bos taurus* beef cattle recognized under the Animal Pedigree Act administered by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. *Bos taurus* are known to produce high-quality, tender beef on a consistent basis.

Alberta purebred cattle producers supply seed stock cattle, genetics and related technologies to commercial breeders around the world.

Our companies can source genetics for specific environmental conditions backed with the knowledge of livestock management practices worldwide. Some export services include health testing, documentation and shipping coordination.



See for yourself ... visit Alberta

Come to Alberta in November to attend Farmfair International, one of Canada's top livestock shows, where international guests come to Alberta to show and sell top quality livestock, make important connections and share knowledge. Farmfair attracts more than 100,000 visitors from around the world who come to view and purchase Canadian beef genetics.

Dairy Genetics

Canada remains at the forefront of new and innovative research into dairy genetics. Genotyping provides an animal's DNA profile, which allows Canadian Dairy Network geneticists to determine each animal's potential for a particular trait. Genomic evaluations are currently estimated for over 60 different traits.

Genetic material from Canadian dairy cattle is in demand around the world with exports to customers in more than 95 countries.

The most common dairy breeds in Alberta are: **Holstein, Jersey, Ayrshire and Guernsey.**

Swine Genetics

Canada is one of the largest exporters of pork, and it stands to reason that the success is based on the quality of our genetics. To get first-class meat, you must begin with first-rate genetics.

Alberta purebred swine genetics are exported to many countries and used by customers in nucleus, multiplication and commercial herds, as well as artificial insemination centres worldwide. High health, excellent performance, superior



meat quality, trouble-free adaptability and outstanding economic value are what you can expect in your herd when choosing a supplier of purebred swine genetics.

Small Ruminants

Sheep

Alberta has a thriving international sheep genetics industry supplying the global industry with reproductive expertise, services as well as genetics.

Some of the more popular breeds are: Charollais and Dorper, but Alberta also has genetics for American Blackbell, Blue-faced Leicester, Canadian Arcott, Clun Forestm Dorset, Finnish Landrace, Hampshire, Ile de France, Jacob, Katahdin, North Country Cheviot, Polypay, Rambouillet, Rideau Arcott, Romanov, Southdown, Suffolk and Texel.

Goats

Alberta exports live goats for breeding and meat production.

All breeds of goats can be used for meat. However, the Boer goat is a breed developed specifically for meat production. Most meat producers are now using Boer genetics, often crossing Boers with dairy, fibre and Spanish goats to obtain superior carcasses. Spanish goats are also predominantly a meat breed but may also be used for Cashmere production. Kiko, Savannah, and myotonic or fainting goats are raised in Alberta meat goat herds as well.

The main dairy breeds are Alpine, Saanen, Toggenburg, Nubian, LaMancha, and Oberhasli. Each has its own attributes; for example Nubians are the "Jerseys" of goat breeds, with high butterfat content in their

milk. Saanens are the "Holsteins" of the goat world, producing on average the highest volume of milk.

Equine

Alberta's horse owners place great value on their animals. Careful breeding, precise feeding, attentive handling, effective vaccination are all measures used to help safeguard the health of their animals.

Alberta exports both work and pleasure horses and genetics. Canada's export program ensures that only healthy animals and animal products which meet the import health requirements of an importing country are exported, and that live animals are transported in a humane manner.

Alberta ...

A Valuable Trade Partner your choice for livestock and genetics

Alberta has a number of companies who are experts in the livestock and genetics export sector. There is a range of consulting and support services available to livestock operations globally.

Alberta genetics meet the high health standards and regulations as outlined by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, which are among the highest recognized standards in the world.

Look to Alberta when sourcing quality genetics.

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

www.agrifoodalberta.ca

E-mail: agrifoodexports@gov.ab.ca