

Results of Discipline Case 2013-10

SVMA Discipline Committee

On August 26, 2014, the Discipline Committee of the SVMA convened a hearing to determine an outcome in case #2013-10: SVMA Professional Conduct Committee vs Dr Sylvia Wiebe. Prior to the commencement of the hearing the parties agreed on a joint submission in which Dr Wiebe pled guilty to two counts contained in a formal complaint dated July 2, 2014.

Specifically, that Dr Wiebe:

1. Between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013 did fail to perform a complete and accurate breeding soundness evaluation on a bull, namely bull 18Z, in accordance with generally accepted and current standards.
2. Between January 2, 2013 and December 31, 2013 did fail to maintain adequate medical records by not routinely recording full particulars regarding the bulls examined on the Western Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners Breeding Soundness Evaluation forms.

Background:

Dr Wiebe was retained to perform a breeding soundness evaluation on a bull. Her initial test on February 22, 2013 was inconclusive and was marked as "decision deferred." After a subsequent test on March 6, 2013 the bull was graded as satisfactory. The bull was subsequently sold and failed to settle any heifers. Subsequent semen analysis by the veterinarian retained by the bull's new owner showed the bull to be unsatisfactory. Review of Dr Wiebe's semen analysis slides by a board certified theriogenologist did not confirm the "satisfactory" rating she had given the bull but rather confirmed the finding of "unsatisfactory." Review of the Breeding Soundness Evaluation forms for bull 18Z and other such forms examined by the committee revealed that many were incomplete and lacked important pieces of information.

The Discipline Committee accepted the joint submission and the penalty recommendations contained therein, specifically that:

1. Dr Wiebe will receive a reprimand
2. Dr Wiebe will engage in three (3) days of continuing education on slide preparation and reading, which will occur at the WCVM, or at another location approved by the SVMA, and shall be completed on or before June 30, 2015.
3. Dr Wiebe will submit to monitoring of her practice in the preparation of bull breeding soundness evaluation forms commencing on January 1, 2015 and concluding on December 31, 2015. The SVMA will examine a random sampling of forms and slides during this period.
4. All costs involved in executing the terms of this penalty plus costs of the hearing up to \$10,000 shall be borne by Dr Wiebe.