



IMZA Buyer's Guide

The IMZA is concerned that some sellers are advertising their Miniature Zebu as “registered” even though they do not currently have registration papers. Some sellers may have the mistaken belief that all animals can be registered via the IMZA Hardship Rule. This is not true. **NOT ALL ANIMALS SHOWING ZEBU CHARACTERISTICS CAN BE HARDSHIPPED.**

Obviously, an animal that “may” be able to be registered via the Hardship Rule is not the same as an IMZA Registered Miniature Zebu. If you are considering the purchase of an unregistered animal, (even if the seller assures you that the animal “can be registered”), please be aware that not all animals which “look like a zebu” will qualify, and there is no guarantee that an unregistered zebu can be registered with the IMZA. Factors, such as height, conformation, display of zebu characteristics, etc., must be considered.

There are various designations and types of registrations within the organization, and each holds its own ranking of pedigree and quality. The IMZA would like you to review this Buyer's Guide to better understand the registration process to protect you against false advertising practices and to ensure that you help to preserve the breed standards. You can familiarize yourself with the IMZA breed standards at <http://www.imza.name/about-zebu>

You should consider the following:

- Use extreme caution when considering the purchase of an animal, sight unseen. Request multiple photos of the zebu and if possible, a video to see how the animal looks and moves.
- Request photos or a video of the dam and sire as well.
- Inquire about any veterinary care the zebu has received and request records of vaccinations, deworming, and other treatments and/or testing that has been done.

IMZA Registered Miniature Zebu

- Ask the buyer to provide a copy of the registration certificate. If under 3 years of age, it will be a Certificate of Birth.
- If over the age of three, this will be a Certificate of Registration with the zebu's height listed. (Animal must be less than 42 inches tall when measured behind the hump at three years of age, in order to be IMZA registered.)
- The pedigree of the animal and all of its registered ancestors, along with pictures of most, can also be viewed at: <http://zebu.pedigree-db.com/pedigree.cgi?searchform>

Explanation of Letters/Numbers on the Registration Papers & Herd Book: Z, H, H1, H2, H3, T1, and T2.

The registration certificate will have a letter, or a letter and a number, preceding the IMZA registration number.

- Z – The animal is Foundation Pure. This means that the animal has a pedigree that can be traced back to the original formation of the IMZA in 1991, including many of the original imported animals to the USA, or has a sufficient number of foundation pure animals in its pedigree to have achieved Foundation Pure status. A “Z” prefix indicates that the animal is permanently registered and is over the age of three (3) years.
- T – The animal is Foundation Pure, but has not been issued its permanent registration required at three years of age.
 - “T” Registrations will obtain “Z” status, upon proper application, once 3 years of age, if their height is under 42 inches, when measured at the flat of the back behind the hump.
- T1/T2 – The animal is Foundation Pure, however, one or two of its parents have not been issued a permanent Certificate of Registration. This should be because the parents are not yet three years of age. Breeders are required to apply for Permanent Registration on their IMZA Miniature Zebu, once they reach the age of 3 years and record their height with the IMZA. If this has not been done, question the seller and proceed with caution. There is a possibility that the animal you are interested in purchasing will not be able to be registered, without some level of difficulty, if at all, if the sire and dam do not have their permanent registration certificate, upon reaching the age of 3 years.
- Foundation Pure - Refers to “T” and “Z” registrations that can be traced back to original registered animals, or have been bred up as previously described, to attain Foundation Pure status.
- H - Indicates Hardship Registration. Either the animal in question, or one or more of the animals, in its pedigree are not Foundation Pure registered with the IMZA, but were allowed to register with the IMZA based on the “appearance” of the zebu and approved by the Hardship Committee for registration. Visit the below link to learn more about the Hardship System.
 - Please be advised that these may or may not be purebred zebu.
- H, H1, H2, H3, HZ – Represents various breeding levels to attain a higher registration status. Visit the Hardship System link to learn more. <http://www.imza.name/registrar-corner>

Steps to take if a seller states a zebu “can be registered” but isn’t currently.

- Look up the Sire and Dam’s Registration and Pedigree online. <http://zebu.pedigree-db.com/pedigree.cgi?searchform>
 - You will need IMZA Registration numbers, or names of both the sire and dam for this research.
- Determine if the parents are over 3 years of age and if they have their permanent registration.
- Check the Sire and Dam’s papers to be sure they match the seller’s designation of registration before purchasing. Is the seller advertising the zebu for sale as a Z, H (1,2, or 3)?
- Identify that both the Dam and Sire match the online Herd Book with the photos and identification provided such as: ear tags, tattoos, microchips, or DNA parentage verification.
- If the seller does not own both the Sire and Dam, ensure the papers of both are both listed with the proper owners.

- The seller should be willing to register the animal you will purchase if not already registered. If not, you will need to have the information to do so. You will need the correctly completed and signed application of birth and a picture of the animal, in order for you to register the animal yourself. Delays in registering your newly purchased animal can cause issues with completing your registrations. You should do so as soon as possible.
- The APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION IS **NOT** A REGISTRATION. The application is just that, an APPLICATION. It must be accepted by the IMZA and recorded in the IMZA records, and a certificate issued, before it may be correctly considered “REGISTERED.”

Health Certificates, ID, Vaccinations, and Testing

- Please consult the Veterinarian Department for the state(s) involved for the requirements in regards to transporting livestock across state lines, and the appropriate testing and documentation required. Requirements and laws concerning various forms of identification, age limits, testing, and vaccinations, vary from state to state.