



HerdMASTER 4 Tip Sheet

FIXING AN ERROR

UNABLE TO SAVE SETTINGS. ROOT ELEMENT MISSING

CAUSE OF THE ERROR

This is caused by an illegal character, usually an '&', in the windows username.

This means when HerdMASTER attempts to get the path to your documents folder it gets surprised by what it thinks is a command (as & is used as a command in xml).

Thankfully the fix is pretty easy.

FIX THE ISSUE

OPEN SETTINGS.HMS

1. Go to *C:\Program Files (x86)\Saltbush Software\HerdMASTER Suite\App*,

(on an older system, the first folder may be just *program files*)

2. Right click on the file **settings.hms** and select **edit with notepad**. If this option is unavailable select **Open With...** and then on the window that appears you should be able to select **Notepad**.

Notepad will open with a lot of information.

FIX THE ISSUE

1. Pressing **Ctrl+F** on your keyboard will bring up the search box, type in a single '&' and hit enter.
2. This should have a line that starts with `<DefaultBackupLocation>c:\users\...` this line will have your windows login id after the users, The **&** is circled in the image below.

```
<useUnitLongevity>true</useUnitLongevity>
<HMS_Color_EBVGraph_HBG>Color [LightSlateGray]</HMS_Color_EBVGraph_HBG>
<HMS_Color_EBVGraph_FGBG>Color [SkyBlue]</HMS_Color_EBVGraph_FGBG>
<AllowAdvancedMatingSelection>True</AllowAdvancedMatingSelection>
<UseLegacyDataEntry>True</UseLegacyDataEntry>
<UseStartupChecks>False</UseStartupChecks>
<UseLegacyBackup>True</UseLegacyBackup>
<Invoicing_NextInvNum>1</Invoicing_NextInvNum>
<Invoicing_UserPadding>True</Invoicing_UserPadding>
<Invoicing_PaddDigits>5</Invoicing_PaddDigits>
<Invoicing_Prefix />
<RequireFateDate>False</RequireFateDate>
<CSRU_ShowMatings>True</CSRU_ShowMatings>
<DefaultBackupLocation>c:\Users\damien & Cory\Documents\HerdMASTER Backups\</DefaultBackupLocation>
<UseAnimalTagCopyForAutoGen>False</UseAnimalTagCopyForAutoGen>
<RM_Def_ShowPedigree>True</RM_Def_ShowPedigree>
<RM_Def_ShowEBVs>True</RM_Def_ShowEBVs>
```

3. Simply replace the **&** with **&**
4. It should now look more like below. Simply save the file and exit. Try to start HerdMASTER again and you should no longer get the issue.

```
<Invoicing_UserPadding>true</Invoicing_UserPadding>
<Invoicing_PaddDigits>5</Invoicing_PaddDigits>
<Invoicing_Prefix />
<RequireFateDate>False</RequireFateDate>
<CSRU_ShowMatings>True</CSRU_ShowMatings>
<DefaultBackupLocation>c:\Users\damien &amp; Cory\Documents\HerdMASTER Backups\</DefaultBackupLocation>
<UseAnimalTagCopyForAutoGen>False</UseAnimalTagCopyForAutoGen>
<RM_Def_ShowPedigree>True</RM_Def_ShowPedigree>
<RM_Def_ShowEBVs>True</RM_Def_ShowEBVs>
<AllowRecallWithoutSign>False</AllowRecallWithoutSign>
```

