

Altum RedRag

THE NEW ZEALAND HEREFORD ASSOCIATION MEMBER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2012

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Diary Dates

20TH JUNE 2012
2 YR HEIFER FEES DUE

8TH - 24TH JULY 2012
WORLD HEREFORD CONFERENCE CANADA

26TH - 28TH OCTOBER 2012
WAIKATO ROYAL SHOW

14TH - 16TH NOVEMBER 2012
CANTEBURY SHOW



2012 Hereford Prices Top Expo



Honda Motorcycles - NZ Herefords Herd of Excellence Congratulations to Riverton Hereford Stud



Hereford Ambassadors - Beef Australia 2012



Hereford Prime - Consistency Unrivalled

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OFFICE ENQUIRIES

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Pivot Design, Adele Gray 9.00am - 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. Email: adele@pivotdesign.co.nz

President's Note

It was great to have a successful Beef Expo for Herefords, with an average of \$8413, the best for some years. Herefords topped the average and the gross over all breeds.

Jill and I attended the four days and it was great to watch the juniors doing their thing in the Future Beef competition. Herefords were well represented by James and Anna Robbie and Niamh Barnett in the juniors, with Hannah Gibb, Ben Burgess and Will Gibson in the more senior groups. Ben was judged reserve champion FBNZ herds person.

Charlie Lee and Marc Robertson had the job of judging the bulls and the two year heifers. Wayne and Maggie Williams of Fox Glacier won the Hereford Supreme Championship with Glacier Top 367 and he then went on to win "Champ of Champs". It was the first time Wayne and Maggie had been to Expo, let alone bring bulls, so quite a fairy tale for them. Congratulations to all that sold bulls at Expo especially the Hansen family with the top price of \$28,000.

The AGM and luncheon were well attended, successful and enjoyable. I would like to thank all those involved with Expo. Too many to name but members, councillors, committee, staff and sponsors, I thank you all.

We held a one day council meeting on the Wednesday after Expo. We said farewell to Geof Brown; someone who has contributed so much during his ten years, and welcomed Paul Scott. Paul comes from an educational background and I feel will make a strong contribution in the NZHA Ambassador programme, and setting out ways for us "older members" to understand a lot of this modern technology that is thrust upon us.

Thankfully May has delivered some fine weather in my part of NZ. Fifty inches of rain in the first four months of this year was getting a bit difficult to deal with. It tested the patience, PT'ing and TB testing in stockyards of mud. We now go into winter in great heart with both sheep and cattle looking well.

Bull sales are now upon us so let us hope what started at Expo continues through to all our on-farm sales.

Jill and I, along with Geof and Joyce Brown leave on June 15th for San Francisco then on into Montana and Wyoming visiting Hereford studs on a two week tour. Then onto Canada, Queen Charlotte Island, Vancouver and the World Hereford Conference in Calgary. My next report will cover this trip.

I wish you all the very best for your bull sales over the coming weeks and months.

Yours in Herefords,

Peter Smyth,
NZ Herefords, President



Registry Report

NZHA HYPOTRICHOSIS RULES As of 1 June 2012 – all male transfers must be tested for Hypotrichosis.

DNA PROFILES are required on all mating sires. They can be checked on the Hereford website under "Animal Enquiries". If you have not supplied required DNAs, could you please give this your **URGENT** attention!

Contact the Office if you require envelopes for hair samples.

REMEMBER even if it's not your bull, **YOU** will need to ensure there is a profile to register progeny in your herd.

TRANSFER AUTHORISATION CERTIFICATES - are available to download from www.herefords.co.nz. These can be completed, signed and sent to the Office for processing.

NOTE: Animals sold at the EXPO are the vendor's responsibility to transfer.

Linda Shailer- Registry

Whoops!

In the 2012 edition of NZ Herefords magazine a photo caption has been incorrectly duplicated in the Hawkes Bay club contribution. The caption correctly identifies a group of Koanui bulls but is incorrect against a photo of a Glenbrae cow and calves. The Glenbrae cow is a classic example of the emphasis the stud places on maternal abilities in their herd.

In the Merial-Ancare Ambassador profiles another duplication regrettably occurred. Jacqueline Blackwell was incorrectly stated as being from Glacier Horned Herefords, Fox Glacier, when she in fact is owner of the Mangaotea Hereford stud, Inglewood.

Apologies are also extended to John and Bernice Loveridge for incorrectly spelling their prefix, Keelryn, in the Taranaki Club contribution.

We apologise sincerely to everyone related to these typographical errors and for any inconvenience or confusion they may have caused.

Natalie Campbell, Editor

Council Communications

At the May 2012 NZHA Council meeting, the following important issues were discussed and decisions made. PLEASE read the following communication carefully. If you have any thoughts, please contact your local Councillor.

Incorrect Parentage Verifications

As mentioned in the previous Council Communication (April 2012 Red Rag) the Council has asked for breeder integrity when corrections on an animal's parentage are required, following DNA testing and parent verification. Following on from this, the Council is considering an 'auto-correct' process, whereby incorrect parentages will be corrected automatically after 60 days of receipt of DNA results.

Please consider this potential process, and if required, communicate with your local councillor or send your thoughts through to the NZHA Council BY NOVEMBER 1.

Honda Motorcycles - NZ Hereford HERD OF EXCELLENCE 2013 – South Island Competition.

Herd of Excellence nominations for the 2013 competition open shortly.

The Council encourages South Island breeders to consider entering and 'experiencing the very worthwhile evaluation process' this competition offers participants.

Calving Ease Scoring/ Lack of Calving Ease reporting.

There is a very low level of reporting of Calving Ease for NZHA animals. The greatest vagary in the system is inaccurate reporting of actual calving ease/difficulty.

However there are several factors involved...

- Breeders not scoring calving ease at all.
- Breeders scoring calving ease inaccurately. If you hurriedly score all your cows the same calving score for example - 0 (no assist), the system defaults to a nil recording situation.
- Breeders must have greater than 10 cows (10 calving ease scores) entered for the system to acknowledge the records.
- The system does not accept that every cow has had the same calving experience.

Understanding Calving Ease EBVs- Calving difficulty has an obvious negative impact on the profitability of a herd through increased calf and heifer mortality, slower re-breeding performance and considerable additional labour and veterinary expense.

Recording Information for Calving Ease- Calving Ease EBVs are calculated from three main sources of information – calving difficulty score, birth weight and gestation length data. By far the most important of these sources is calving difficulty score.

Calving difficulty scores should be measured at birth by visually scoring females on the following scale of 1 - 6.

Score Code Description

1. **Unassisted** - Cow calved unassisted / No difficulty
2. **Easy Pull** - One person without mechanical assistance
3. **Hard Pull** - Two people without mechanical assistance, One person with mechanical assistance
4. **Surgical Assistance** - Veterinary intervention required
5. **Mal-presentation** - eg. Breech
6. **Elective Surgical** -Surgical removal of calf before the cow has the opportunity to calve

* Note that a blank score will not be interpreted as "unassisted". Instead, it indicates that calving difficulty was not scored

Calving difficulty scores can be submitted to the Association when submitting your calf registration details.

When recording calving difficulty scores, it is important to consider:

- If you regularly check your cows (e.g. on a daily basis), it is reasonable to assume that a cow who calves without assistance between visits can be considered as unassisted (no difficulty) even though you did not see her calve.
- Record a score for all calves rather than just difficult or easy births. Scores should be recorded for dead calves, if possible.
- If calving difficulty score is either blank or [0], it is interpreted as no score recorded rather than "no difficulty".

- There needs to be some level of calving difficulty in the herd for the scores to be used effectively by the BREDPLAN analysis. That is, simply scoring all births in a herd with a calving difficulty score of [1] will not identify any genetic differences in ease of calving.
- A birth management group should be recorded if there are different treatments of the females prior to calving that may affect calving difficulty. For example, where one group of cows have had different feed availability.
- When calculating the Calving Ease EBVs, calving difficulty scores of [3] and [4] are grouped together. Calving difficulty scores [5] & [6] are excluded from the BREDPLAN analysis as the problems are considered non-genetic in origin.

For more information, go to the Breedplan - tipsheets link on the NZHA website.

Diluter and Epilepsy Testing of Hereford Animals

These two tests can now be conducted in NZ at Massey University. (The laboratory which does the NZHA Hypotrichosis testing).

The tests can be conducted at No EXTRA CHARGE at the same time as Hypotrichosis testing AND using the same DNA material as for Hypotrichosis and Parent Verification testing.

There is no compulsion to have the tests done, however breeders are encouraged to for their own benefit, particularly as it is at no extra cost when having Hypotrichosis testing carried out.

See Page 15 in this issue for further information on the Diluter Gene and Epilepsy.

Breeder Education – Structural Assessment Workshops.

Council is considering under the Strategic Plan – Farm and Information framework, facilitating and/or assisting Clubs to facilitate Beef Structural Assessment workshops for breeders (and clients).

Beef Expo inspection feedback from all involved in the inspection process, has highlighted the interest for such workshops. More information over the coming months.

Hypotrichosis Testing

All breeders will be aware of the much publicised ruling ... as of June 1 2012, all bulls sold for transfer must be hypotrichosis tested. Bulls will not have transfers processed if test results are not available.

However with breeder feedback from the 2012 AGM, Council discussed the breeder recommendation... that the June 1 ruling applies to female transfers also.

With two options...tested and declared OR tested, declared and free of hypotrichosis.

Council is asking for feedback from breeders on the above recommendation **BY NOVEMBER 1 2012**

HPid ear tags

As per NZHA tag regulations in the NZHA rule book, all registered animals must be double tagged.

Primary tag to be – NAIT compliant EID tag

Secondary ear tag – visual tag, stating animal number and year code. Breeder has option to order the newly developed HPid ear tag with the HP logo present also (from July 01, 2012).

The HPid tag sets (primary EID and secondary visual HPid tag) are available through the PBB tag ordering service. Ph. Megan or Sharyn at 06 323 4484

HPid tags can be placed in BOTH registered and commercial animals where the marketing intention is Hereford Prime processing and to obtain Hereford Prime marketing premiums.

It is important to state on the HPid order form, whether the tags are intended for commercial or registered animals.

Your commercial clients, using registered Hereford sires in their breeding programmes can purchase HPid tags for commercial progeny from registered sires. (Whilst meeting other HP specifications)

You can download an HPid order form from the NZHA website.

NZHA Strategic Plan – Information.

Enclosed with this issue of the Red Rag, is a breeder questionnaire regarding further information breeders would like to receive from the Association office. Please take the time to complete this questionnaire. All completed questions returned by August 1, 2012 go in the draw to win a \$100 Hereford Prime meat voucher.

HEREFORDS DOMINATE AT BEEF EXPO 2012



Glacier Top 367 Supreme Champion Hereford and PGG Wrightson Champion of Champions at Beef Expo 2012.

Winning the PGG Wrightson Champion of Champions and securing the two top price tags of Beef Expo saw Herefords celebrating after the National show and sale in Feilding.

Fox Glacier Hereford breeders, Wayne and Maggie Williams, made their debut at the 2012 Beef & Lamb Beef Expo in a manner many can only dream of – their bull Glacier Top was judged the PGG Wrightson Champion of Champions.

The bull was one of two entries the Williams travelled north with from their property at the foot of Fox Glacier on the West Coast and is believed to be the first horned Hereford to win the coveted title.

The horned bull then went on to sell for \$14,000 to the Maungahina stud near Masterton.

Wayne said to be judged Supreme Champion Hereford and then Champion of Champions came as a bit of a shock to him and wife Maggie.

“We were stunned. It blows your mind away really,” he said. But Wayne did concede the accolades came after years and year of hard work breeding Herefords.

His grandfather started breeding in the 1940s. He later moved some of the herd and his farming enterprise to Rangiora with Wayne’s father retaining some of the cows and establishing Glacier Horned Herefords in the 1960s. Throughout that time there has been other successes along the way with his Grandfather selling females for about \$5000 at his dispersal sale in 1971 and his father selling a bull at Temuka for \$8000 in the mid 1970s.

Wayne said Glacier Top is the first of the progeny to be offered by Australian sire Mawarra Trail Blazer, a sire he and the Stokes family (Richon) have semen rights too.

“It’s very good to sell to Maungahina.”

Wayne and Maggie thank Anna and Brent Fisher for getting them to Beef Expo.

“We wouldn’t have been there if not for them,” he said.

Anna had seen the bulls and wanted to show them and use one over her cows. So both sires had been in Anna’s capable hands on the Silverstream property near Christchurch.

Both bulls were then exhibited at the Canterbury Show last year but it was Glacier John who took out Supreme Champion Hereford. The Fishers then urged the Williams to take the pair of bulls north to Expo.

Wayne said while it was John that had the success at Canterbury, they felt Glacier was a classy bull himself.

“He had shown potential from a bull calf. He has good meat on him and a good temperament – or else he wouldn’t be here.”

The Williams place particular emphasis on temperament in their herd. “We’ve got it and it makes the job easier,” says Wayne.

The family farm about 850ha, a mixture of freehold and DOC lease land. They run about 300 head of breeding cows predominately Herefords of which 80-90 are registered, alongside deer (including a velveted herd) and Perendale sheep.

Champion of Champions judge Ian Brown, from Hawkes Bay said Glacier Top was definitely a standout bull.

“He had a sires presence and exhibited himself well.”

Ian said the sire was very structurally correct and sound, with clean lines, some muscling and style.

“As a Hereford he was cosmetically almost perfect with excellent



Maggie and Wayne Williams, front, collect the silverware for Supreme Champion Hereford from judges Marc Robertson, left, Charlie Lee, Jim McWilliam who presented the McWilliam Studstock miniature and David Dodge from Merial Ancare Ivomec Eprinex product.

colour and markings. I also liked that he had a good jaw," said Ian.

"For a first time exhibitor at Beef Expo to offer such a structurally correct and sound bull is excellent." He went on to say that other breeders considering entering Beef Expo should take encouragement from the Williams' win as first time vendors.

"The bull sets a standard for coming years for Herefords, but he should give a boost to other first time breeders."

The Champion of Champions win marked the beginning of a very successful Beef Expo for NZ Herefords.

The breed went on to earn the highest price tags of the event with a bull selling for \$28,000 and another bull selling for \$26,000.

The hammer fell on the top price of \$28,000 for sire Hukaroa Item, catalogued as Lot 26 and offered by the Hansen family of Te Kauwhata. He was purchased by fellow Hereford breeder Alistair Campbell of Earnsclough, Alexandra.

Dean and Lisa Hansen are thrilled with the sale result as are Peter and Glennis.

Lisa said when the hammer fell on \$28,000 they were caught by surprise.

They had taken enquires about the bull before leaving home to attend Beef Expo and after the paddock walk at the Langtry property they had even more feedback, which led them to believe



Ian and Petula Mathieson, centre, collected the title of Reserve Champion Hereford with Stoney Creek Greek 1005.

he had the potential to sell well, but just how well was a surprise.

"It was a wonderful bonus and the ultimate complement – to have several stud buyers want him – and know that our breeding programme is heading in the right direction," she said.

It's been five years since the Hansen family have offered a bull at Beef Expo, but the family has been supporting the national show and sale when they can, since 1973 when Peter Hansen took the first two Hukaroa bulls which were placed 1st and 2nd in their class. To this date Hukaroa Stud is the only Hereford stud in New Zealand thought to have achieved this. Peter sold one of those bulls for \$12,000 which was a record at the time.

"Bulls need to be special to be offered at Expo – it is our elite sale. Item was structurally correct, with a nice dark coat and was backed up by good figures – great positive fats and he looked classy," says Lisa.

Item, entered as a Tru-Test Super Sire, was sired by Te Puna King, a bull the Hansens bought at Beef Expo from Northland breeder Cam Gerrard in 2008 for \$10,000 in partnership with Graham Harford. He was out of a homebred dam, Hukaroa Princess 05 7.

Lisa says she and Dean support the Super Sires class because they feel it provides purchasers with a genuine product that has been used and proven and run in a commercial mob.

"We really like the concept," she says.

"It was a great day for Herefords and our stud name," she says.

Hukaroa Item not only caught the eye of purchaser Alistair Campbell and the under bidders, but also the judges, Charlie Lee (Leelands) and Marc Robertson (Duncraigen) and was placed first in the Tru-Test Super Sires class.

The second top price of the event was also fetched by a Hereford, this time offered by the Otapawa Stud of the Robbie Family, Tiraumea in North Wairarapa. Otapawa Ignite (Lot 43) sold to Philip Atkins of the Okupata Stud in the Waikato. Ignite was judged third in the Honda Motorcycles Impact Sires led class.

Stuart and Maria Robbie said when they have the right bull to offer at Beef Expo they believe he must have good conformation and breed quality with a little X factor to catch the attention of the

Brian Clements from Matapouri Herefords with the trophy for champion female with Marc Robertson, left and Charlie Lee.



Hukaroa Item 1097 the top selling bull at Beef Expo, selling for \$28,000 to Earnscleugh Herefords, Alexandra.



The second to highest priced bull at Beef Expo, Otapawa Ignite 0046 selling for \$26,000 to the Okupata Stud, Waikato.

buyers gallery.

“But most importantly this has to be backed up with a very strong genetic package,” they said.

“Our primary goal with any bull that we market at the expo is to improve the genetic gain in the purchasers herd.”

The Robbies selected Otapawa Ignite for Expo because he was the complete package and structurally sound, backed up the quiet temperament the breed is renowned for.

“We target our top genetics for Expo, because it is an elite sale. We then know that who purchases the bull will be guaranteed of him breeding on and being productive to that purchaser.”

The Robbies also noted it was great to see their previous National Expo bulls returning to expo in various pedigrees in the sale catalogues.

These top prices contributed to a rising two year old bull average price of \$8413 up on the 2011 average of \$6895. The four females sold averaged \$2600.

The Hereford sale was punctuated with solid price tags with five bulls selling for \$10,000 or more.

Other price highlights included sire Glacier John, Lot 44 also from the Glacier stud, Glacier selling for \$11,000 to the syndicate of Nga Puteputi and Alton Vale studs both located near Gisborne.

Okawa Panda, offered by David and Rosemary Morrow of Ashburton sold for \$10,000 to Taranaki Hereford breeders Colin

and Carol King of the Bexley Stud.

In the show ring the Glacier stud dominated taking out the title of Supreme Champion Hereford. They also took home the silverware for the best two entries exhibited by one vendor.

Reserve Champion Hereford was exhibited by Ian and Petula Mathieson of the Stoney Creek stud, Morrinsville. It was their second time exhibiting at Beef Expo.

In the Honda Motorcycles unled Impact Sires class Stoney Creek Greek was judged first before selling for \$7500 to Northland Hereford breeder Cam Gerrard. Second place in the unled Honda class was take home by Wisbridge Standout offered by Keely and Peter Wisnewski from Taranaki. Standout sold for \$4700. Long time Expo supporters Kevin and Jane McDonald’s bull Kairuru Haddon was judged third and sold to Auckland stud Kokonga Herefords for \$8500, who are regular buyers of stud bulls at Expo.

The Honda Motorcycles led Impact sires class was won by Glacier Top. Second in the class was a bull from another long time supporter of Expo. Te Taumata Bonanza was placed second and sold for \$6500 to the Westholm stud of the Kane family in Tapanui. Otapawa Ignite was placed third and caught the eye of the buying bench then going on to sell for the second to highest price of beef Expo - \$26,000.

The winning sire from the Tru Test Super Sires class was Lot 26, Hukaroa Item, the top priced Hereford. Second place went to





Joyce Brown of Locharburn Herefords presents John Loveridge of Keelryn Herefords with the EM Williamson Perpetual Challenge Trophy and the Eastland Club Mug for most competent herdsman at Beef Expo.



Richard Morrison, centre collects the Beanbah Boomerang on behalf of the Central Districts club from Boomerang founders Sid Hain, left and John Morrison. The Boomerang award is awarded to the Hereford club with the 10 highest scoring entries in the Steak of Origin competition.

first time exhibitor and vendor Peter Davies with Lot 28, Charwell Nugget. This sire went on to sell for \$5700. Third place in the Super Sires was Okawa Panda.

In the female show ring, Northland breeders the Clements family dominated with in-calf heifer, Matapouri Lydia taking top honours. The heifer went on to sell for \$2700. The Keelryn stud of John and Bernice Loveridge, Taranaki had two in calf heifers that earned second

and third place. Keelryn Leonora 305 was placed second and sold for \$2200 and Keelryn Leslie was third and sold for \$2100.

The heifer sale averaged \$2600.

John Loveridge was also judged the most competent Hereford herdsman, the first time John has won the award.



National Hereford Show Results 2012

Supreme Champion Hereford:
Glacier Top - Lot 46

Reserve Champion Herefords:
Stoney Creek Greek - Lot 31

Points Competition:
Glacier Horned Herefords
Wayne & Maggie Williams

Hereford Herdsman:
John Loveridge
Keelryn Herefords

Honda Motorcycles NZ Impact Sires Led:
1st Glacier Top - Lot 46
2nd Te Taumata Bonanza - Lot 45
3rd Otapawa Ignite - Lot 43

Tru-Test Super Sires:
1st Hukaroa Item - Lot 26
2nd Charwell Nugget - Lot 28
3rd Okawa Panda - Lot 25

Honda Motorcycles NZ Impact Sires Unled:
1st Stoney Creek Greek - Lot 31
2nd Wisbaridge Standout - Lot 36
3rd Kairuru Haddon - Lot 29

Hereford Beef Expo 2012 Results

| LOT | ANIMAL | NAME | PURCHASER | PRICE |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| 25 | OKAWA PANDA 0135 | OKAWA FARM LTD | Rural Livestock | \$10000 |
| 26 | HUKAROA ITEM 10 97 | DP & LD HANSEN | Earncleugh Stn | \$28000 |
| 27 | OTAPAWA PINNACLE 0110 | M & D ROBBIE & FAMILY | Awapiriprir Farm..... | \$6000 |
| 28 | CHARWELL NUGGET | MR P S T DAVIES | Waituhi Stn..... | \$5700 |
| 29 | KAIRURU HADDON 100005 | MR K R & MRS J L MCDONALD | Kokonga Farms | \$8500 |
| 30 | AWHEA KAZOO 603 | MR M R & MRS L L LANGTRY | Bannockburn Stn..... | \$6000 |
| 31 | STONEY CREEK GREEK 1005 | MR IAN & MRS PETULA MATHIESON | St Clair Trust | \$7500 |
| 32 | MATAPOURI LEONARD 10 515 | CLEMENTS FARMS LTD | Rural Livestock | \$4000 |
| 33 | GRASSMERE HEM 651 | HAWKRIDGE RUN LTD | Rural Livestock | \$6500 |
| 34 | WILENCOTE STALLION 10282 | WILENCOTE STATION | Potutu Stn | \$7200 |
| 35 | KARAMU PRINCE 100001 | MR M W BAYLY | Rangiora Farming | \$4000 |
| 36 | WISBARIDGE STANDOUT | PB & KA WISNEWSKI | Everton Farms | \$4700 |
| 37 | HURSTPIER EGMONT 05 | MR R N & MRS B J JUPP | Everton Farms | \$4000 |
| 38 | MATAPOURI LATIMER 10 471 | CLEMENTS FARMS LTD | Everton Farms | \$4000 |
| 39 | TE TAUMATA BIONIC 10297 | MCWILLIAM STUD STOCK | Balmoral Farm | \$6000 |
| 40 | OKAHU JUDGE 100614 | OKAHU TRUST | BA McDavitt | \$5500 |
| 41 | KEELRYN BRIGHT STAR 289 | R J & P B LOVERIDGE | Ray Moss Livestock..... | \$6000 |
| 42 | WISBARIDGE DANE | PB & KA WISNEWSKI | NJ&LM Zuppich..... | \$4000 |
| 43 | OTAPAWA IGNITE 0046 | M & D ROBBIE & FAMILY | Rural Livestock | \$26000 |
| 44 | GLACIER JOHN 372 | GLACIER HORNED HEREFORDS | Na Puteputi & Altonvale Studs . | \$11000 |
| 45 | TE TAUMATA BONANZA 10293 | MCWILLIAM STUD STOCK | Westholm Poll Herefords | \$6500 |
| 46 | GLACIER TOP 367 | GLACIER HORNED HEREFORDS | Maungihina Trust | \$14000 |
| 48 | KEELRYN LEONORA 291 | R J & P B LOVERIDGE | P Askin | \$2200 |
| 50 | MATAPOURI LYDIA 10 572 | CLEMENTS FARMS LTD | P Askin | \$2700 |
| 51 | KEELRYN LEONORA 305 | R J & P B LOVERIDGE | PGW ChCh | \$3000 |
| 52 | KEELRYN LEONORA 293 | R J & P B LOVERIDGE | AC Masters | \$2500 |

(Bull Sales only)

TOTAL SALES:
\$187,300

AVG PRICE:
\$8,413

TOP PRICE:
\$ 28,000

LOW PRICE:
\$4,000

HEREFORD PRIME CONSISTENCY SHOWCASED AT **Steak of Origin** 2012

Hereford Prime's unrivalled consistency was again proven at the 2012 Steak of Origin competition in Feilding recently.

The competition to find New Zealand's best steak celebrated its 10th year and was hotly contested with more than 500 entries.

Hereford Prime's Bowmont Wholesale Meats from Invercargill had two entries in the finals for the Best of Brand retail and also was a finalist in the Best of Brand Wholesale/Foodservice class.

Bowmonts were placed third and fourth in the retail class and in the wholesale/foodservice class were placed fourth.

Marton Hereford breeders the Morrison family again made it into the Best of Breed British finals with an EziCalve Hereford and earned second spot.

To commemorate the 10 years of the competition, Beef + Lamb also made awards for Producer of the Decade and Brand of the Decade. The Morrison family, who have been staunch competitors in the Steak of Origin and have featured prominently over the years, were finalists in Producer of the Decade. Hereford Prime was runner up in Brand of the Decade, thanks to the contribution and successes of Bowmonts and Te Awamutu processor Magills Meats in the competition in the past 10 years.

Chairman of Hereford Prime, Laurie Paterson, said afterwards he was exceptionally proud of the contribution Bowmont Wholesale meats and the Flynn family had made to the brand.

"They won the very first Steak of Origin and won the Supreme

Champion Brand last year and for them to have just over a third of the final entries in the two brand classes is an achievement in itself."

Bowmont Wholesale Meats dry age their Hereford Prime beef a technique they attribute to their successes.

Dry aging is a technique where beef is hung on the bone in a chiller to heighten tenderness and flavour throughout the cut. It draws some moisture from the carcass which reduces the purging of fluids on plates after the cooking process..

"Hereford Prime beef has been a finalist and recognised every year of the Steak of Origin, so that reinforces the consistency that we pride ourselves on," said Laurie.

He also acknowledged the Morrison's contribution to the brand and competition.

"They are loyal suppliers to Ken Wilson Meats, our Wellington processor and have been strong competitors in the Steak of Origin over the years."

"In fact their support of the brand and competition has been so great they were the only Hereford breeders in the producer of the decade final – that's dedication."

Laurie went on to say that as past winners of the Hereford Herd of Excellence award it is great to see the Morrison's taking that excellence in their business right through to the product they put on the plate.



Chairman of Hereford Prime, Laurie Paterson accepts the plaque for runner up in brand of the decade at the Steak of Origin from Mike Petersen chairman of Beef and Lamb NZ.



Stephen Flynn accepts one of the three awards made to Bowmont Wholesale Meats at the Steak of Origin from Beef and Lamb New Zealand Central South Island Director, Anne Munro.

2012 NZHA Spring Dairy Beef Supplement

For those of you who hold a Spring Hereford Bull sale, you may be interested in placing a bull sale advert in the following NZHA supplement...

The August (early Aug release) edition of 'The Dairyman' (a NZ Rural Press/ Straight Furrow publication), will contain a NZ

Herefords Dairy Beef Supplement.

This is an annual NZHA initiative to promote the spring Hereford bull sales, and your advertising support would certainly enhance the supplement. Advertising personnel from NZ Rural Press will be contacting breeders to seek advertising support.

THE CRANSTONES NAMED HONDA MOTORCYCLES - NZ HEREFORDS 2012 HERD OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS



Young Wanganui Hereford breeders Mike and Cath Cranstone have been named the 2012 Honda Motorcycles NZ Herefords Herd of Excellence.

The award was made to the Fordell family during the Beef and Lamb Beef Expo in Feilding.

Mike and Cath were declared the winners by a panel of three judges, comprising of former winner and Roxburgh Hereford breeder Gray Pannett, NZX Agri managing editor Tony Leggett and Manawatu sheep and beef farmer, former monitor farmer and former rural banker Mike Abbiss.

All three agreed the Riverton business objectives are clearly defined, fully integrated and directly supported by the actions of the entrant.

“This is a well set out business that has been refined and will continue to develop.”

In announcing the award Tony Leggett said it was a very close competition between Riverton and the other entrants, Porangahau breeders Martin and Mary Taylor and Gisborne based Sam and Gemma Hain.

“The family is very proud to receive this award, particularly in that it recognises how our Hereford herd contributes to the performance and growth of our whole business.”

“We thank the judges who made a real effort to understand our stud focus and farm operation, and through it they contributed some great ideas for us to consider. We encourage all breeders to consider entering the award; the outcomes are only beneficial,” said Mike.

The Cranstone’s farm business carries 21,000 stock units on 2003ha (effective) owned and leased land parcels. It incorporates a highlander ewe flock finishing all lambs, a Hereford cow herd breeding yearling bulls for sale, finishing additional winter lambs

and two-year-old cattle, a Hereford Friesian cross cow herd run on a lease property and up to 60ha cash cropping (barley, maize silage, squash in the past).

The Riverton Hereford stud was established 106 years ago and it’s with great pride that each generation has been able to build on the hard work and progress that has been achieved.

“Cath and I have been very fortunate to be able to build on the great foundation of the stud built by Les and Ginny and previous generations, we also enjoy involving the fifth generation now too.”

The couple say they enjoy pushing the boundaries, adopting new technology, management and genetics, and challenging the norm and felt honoured to receive the prestigious award.

The couple say the objective is to grow lots of quality grass (or crop), with the subdivision and water to efficiently utilise and convert to salable product.

Mike says the original Riverton farm has been well developed and has provided a great base to expand from.

“On the Okirae farm, purchased in 2005, the key focuses have been fertility, subdivision, gorse control and cultivating the easier country.”

On the leased properties, productivity gains have been focused more on enabling better grazing management and regrassing the flats rather than capital fertiliser or new infrastructure.

One of the challenges the Cranstones have identified is to ensure the economic sustainability of the stud.

“We realised in 2000 that we had to reduce the value (or opportunity cost) of the feed being consumed by the breeding cow herd.”

“We’ve done this by integrating the cows into the sheep grazing



Mike, right with his father Les. The Riverton Hereford stud was established 106 years ago and each generation has been able to build on the hard work and progress that has been achieved.

WHAT THE JUDGES HAD TO SAY:

- The business objectives are clearly defined, fully integrated and directly supported by the actions of the entrant.
- This is a well set out business that has been refined and will continue to develop.
- Both the entrant’s herd vision and Ezicalve brand vision are fully compatible. Marketing and after sale identification initiatives further strengthen the integrity of the brand. The property’s commercial Hereford herd in conjunction with the recorded Hereford herd demonstrated breed commitment to the market.
- The entrants exhibited huge commitment to the breed and breed activities, at both national and regional level.

management throughout the year, with no reliance on winter saved pasture.”

He says they have also moved the calving date back to September 12 with cows calving amongst twinning ewes on pasture covers of about 1400kgDM.

“We are relying on the natural foraging attributes of our breed to maintain their balanced nutritional requirements. For this reason, our cows are never fed supplementary feed.”

From mid spring at the age of yearlings, Riverton Herefords are always integrated with sheep.

Mike and Cath say birth weight recording and tagging is more challenging with the cows in this environment.

“It’s a full time job for the first month of calving with up to 600ha needing to be covered.”

“Quiet temperament, good mothering and obviously calving ease are essential traits and which are tested in this system.”

Integrating a cattle stud in a large business with many classes of stock is not always easy and Riverton has always had an unregistered Hereford herd, about a third of total cow numbers.

“With the stud herd being farmed under commercial conditions, all cows are now farmed together. We have performance recorded all Herefords, including birthweights and pedigree information, for 20 years and have had the unregistered cows with this historic data entered on Breedplan since 2005,” says Mike.

He said having undertaken this recording provides larger contemporary groups for Breedplan analysis, and better information on all cattle for their own use that of bull buying clients.

“The key for the majority of our clients is the bull’s accurate EBVs, not whether they are registered.”

The judges agreed the cattle were very well integrated into the whole farm system, which covered several lease blocks as well as the home farm.

Looking ahead with the Herefords, the Cranstones would like to grow their herd to 600 calving females.

“We have experienced sustained growth in the demand for our bulls, and with the launch of the Ezicalve brand and integrated supply chain, we expect this to accelerate,” the couple say.

Mike and Cath say there is also room to increase their cattle to sheep ratio in our current business.

“The larger population will offer synergies and opportunities for faster genetic gain.”

Another target the Cranstones are looking at is improve meat yield, growth rates and muscling – all while not compromising their calving ease attributes.

Mike says their main breeding focus has been on having a cow herd that will breed consistent low birthweight progeny.

“We have achieved this while maintaining above average growth EBVs, and the ability for our cattle to reach 400kg at under 12 months of age.”

He says progeny testing and DNA tracing their Ezicalve progeny in the integrated supply chain will provide the opportunities for driving genetic gain in this area.

The Cranstone’s received a Waterford crystal gift package from the NZ Hereford Association a graphic design voucher from Pivot Design valued at \$2300 and an advertising voucher valued at \$500 from NZX Agri.

A field day will be hosted by the Cranstone family to showcase their business. Details of this day will be announced at a later date.

From left, Danny Franklin from City Honda, Palmerston North, Mike, Cath and Les Cranstones, 2012 winners of Honda Motorcycles NZ Herefords Herd of Excellence Award, Adele Gray from Pivot Design and judge Mike Abbiss. Absent are judges Tony Leggett and Gray Pannett.



Future Beef 2012

12-13 May 2012

Future Beef NZ, held a very successful event again this year with 80 passionate youth participating and 69 steers exhibited. The ages of the participants ranged from 8-21 years and included three groups of students (36) from Taratahi Agricultural Training Centre in the lower North Island.

OFFICIAL RESULTS

ALLFLEX SENIOR BEEF

AMBASSADOR

MAX TWEEDIE

ALLFLEX INTERMEDIATE

BEEF AMBASSADOR

AMY HOOGENBOOM

PBBnz EDUCATION TEAM AWARD

TARATAHI MASTERTON

FUTURE BEEF - HEREFORD RESULTS

HOOF RESULTS

LIGHT WEIGHT STEER

(HOOF)

PURE BRED STEER

Sponsored by NZ Shorthorn Association

- 1st T & K Button - Lorna Button -
Limousin
2nd Taratahi - Stacey Hill - Angus
3rd G & S Crawshaw - Nancy Crawshaw -
Angus
4th P J Barnett - Kate Herries - Hereford

CROSS BRED STEER

Sponsored by Charolais

- 4th W Gibson - William Gibson -
Hereford/Santa Gertudis

CHAMPION STEER

CHAMPION LIGHT WEIGHT STEER

Sponsored by Lake Station Herefords

Champion

T & K Button - Lorna Button - Limousin

Res Champion

G Allen - Maxine Rawnsley - Angus/
Hereford

CHAMPION STEER (OVERALL)

*Sponsored by South Devon Cattle Society
of NZ*

Champion

Ngaputahi - Jasmyn Sturley - Angus/Salers

Res Champ

G Allen - Roxanne Rawnsley - Angus/
Hereford

HANDLER COMPETITION

Sponsored by NZ Hereford Association

INTERMEDIATE OPEN

- 1st Amy Hoogenboom
2nd Maxine Rawnsley
3rd Hannah Gibb

SENIOR OPEN

- 1st Max Tweedie
2nd Ben Burgess
3rd Lauren McWilliam

GRAND CHAMPION HANDLER

Champion - Max Tweedie
Res Champ - Ben Burgess

FBNZ MODULES

Sponsored by Totally Vets Ltd

Junior

- 1st Anna Robbie
2nd Jessica Pease
3rd James Robbie

INTERMEDIATE

- 1st Nancy Crawshaw
2nd Hannah Gibb
3rd Robert Gregory

SENIOR

- 1st William Gibson
2nd Max Tweedie
3rd Annette Crawshaw

JUDGING COMPETITION

Sponsored by Silver Fern Farms

JUNIOR

- 1st Anna Robbie
2nd Jessica Pease
3rd Maxine Rawnsley

SENIOR

- 1st Max Tweedie
2nd Emma Pollit
3rd Ben Burgess



Junior Future Beef Entrant - Anna Robbie, Otapawa.
1st in Junior judging competition.



Junior Future Beef Entrant - Niamah Barnett.



3rd- Senior Ambassador Ben Burgess (centre) pictured
with Peter & Anna Smith.



Junior Future Beef Entrant - James Robbie, Otapawa.
3rd in Junior judging Competition.

2012 Series of Beef Genetics Workshops

The amount of positive feedback about the Beef + Lamb funded Beef Genetics Workshop series suggest that they couldn't have been more of a success. A total of 11 workshops, which were geared towards helping farmers and stock agents make better bull buying decisions, were held at various farms across the North and South Island during March and April 2012.

These levy funded workshops were organised by PBBNZ on behalf of Beef + Lamb New Zealand. Andrew Byrne and Christian Duff of Southern Beef Technology Services in Australia came out to New Zealand to deliver these interactive and information filled one day programmes which were made up of various presentations, in- yard demonstrations and team activities.

Christian and Andrew talked about evaluating genes, through EBV's and Indexes, when selecting their bulls and highlighted the need to think about those factors that influence their profit when deciding on the mix of genetics they required.

Gone are the days where a reliable picture can be drawn of an animal solely based on their physical characteristics. Christian painted a clear picture of this during one of the workshops where he asked farmers and stock agents to choose their preferred bull from two Hereford two year-olds with a weight difference of 30kg between them. Most opted for the larger bull, admittedly due to its size, but when their EBV's were evaluated it was revealed that the smaller bull would actually give

the heaviest weight weaned progeny at seven months. The smaller bull also had more favourable EBV's in the domain of muscle, fat, fertility and milk.

Requirements differ greatly from one herd to another depending on factors such as climate, land type, farming style etc. Farmers need to benchmark their herds in order to identify which traits in an animal are of greatest importance. This allows them to utilise the genetic information of an animal in selecting bulls that will produce progeny that fit their operation.

Most of those who came along to the workshops had a general understanding of EBV's and Selection Indexes said Christian Duff, Facilitator from Southern Beef Technologies, Australia. However, a topic such as genetics is one of many complexities and there seemed to be a lot of value gained in having Christian and Andrew go through the whole process in a logical and interactive programme. "Most people go away from the workshop with a much more confident approach to using a combination of EBV's when making their purchasing decisions".

With Bull Sale season creeping up fast, those farmers and stock agents who attended a workshop should have a newly structured approach to selecting bulls.

Sarah Davidson
PBBNZ Communications Manager

KOANUI Sires For Sale



KOANUI UNRIVALLED 6345 HERDBOOK NO.# 0216066345

| | DIR | DTRS | GL | BWT | 200 | 400 | 600 | MWT | MILK | MV | SS | DC | CWT | EMA | RIB | RUMP | RBY | IMF | PRICE |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|---------|
| Koanui Unrivalled 6345 | +0.7 | +2.7 | +1.4 | 4.2 | +30 | +47 | +76 | +83 | +14 | +15 | +1.6 | -1.2 | +53 | +3.1 | +0.9 | +1.5 | +0.6 | -0.4 | \$8,000 |
| Koanui Belter 8406 | +2.2 | - | -3.1 | +4.3 | +37 | +65 | +82 | +73 | +18 | +18 | +1.6 | - | +54 | +1.8 | -0.1 | +0.0 | +0.3 | +0.1 | \$6,000 |
| Koanui Display 7214 | +6.8 | +0.1 | +4.0 | +1.3 | +22 | +40 | +58 | +45 | +12 | +11 | +1.0 | -0.7 | +44 | +3.7 | +1.3 | +1.9 | +0.1 | +0.7 | \$7,000 |
| Limehills Bedford 07 902 | +0.2 | +2.7 | -0.7 | +3.7 | +24 | +57 | +75 | +68 | +15 | +13 | +1.3 | - | +43 | +1.9 | +0.8 | +1.5 | -0.6 | +1.0 | \$5,000 |
| Koanui Spectre 8365 | +2.9 | +3.5 | +2.0 | +3.0 | +30 | +55 | +72 | +59 | +12 | +14 | +1.6 | - | +50 | +3.5 | +0.5 | +0.6 | +0.6 | +0.2 | \$5,000 |
| Nithdale Intrepid 080041 | -4.9 | - | -1.1 | +5.1 | +30 | +54 | +77 | +71 | +21 | +18 | +0.9 | - | +46 | +2.9 | +0.4 | +0.9 | +0.5 | +0.2 | \$6,000 |

We have retained sons of these bulls and they are breeding well with different strengths depending on what you require. They are proven sires - very sound with accurate figures.

If you are interested please phone and discuss with me what we have on offer.
Chris Chesterman (06) 874 7844 or 0274 888 635

{Est.1972}

Koanui Polled Herefords

443 Maraetotara Rd, RD12, Havelock North 4294

Ph: 06 874 7844 or Mobile: 0274 888 635 , Email: kphp@xtra.co.nz

Branston Dispersal Sale

On April 28th Graeme and Grace Hosking held a complete dispersal sale of their Branston Hereford herd. Graeme established the herd in 1958 and based his breeding program around the bloodlines of the very famous bull of that era G.S. Golden Mischief. A descendant of that sire, Branston Golden Diamond won 69 Championships and was awarded the Meat and Wool Cup 6 years in succession at the Auckland Easter Show. Graeme's skills as a stockman and showman were legendary at that time.

At the commencement of the sale Jan Wills spoke on behalf of all Hereford members both past and present of the New Zealand Hereford Association. Graeme was a New Zealand Hereford councillor for 22 years and was President of the Association in 1988 and 1989. The Hosking family home offered hospitality to many overseas visitors and was the venue for the South Auckland Club's meetings on numerous occasions. Jan acknowledged the contribution that Graeme and Grace had made to the Hereford industry and asked them to accept a plaque from NZHA recognizing Graeme's input to the breed.

There was a complete clearance and the averages were:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| 41 mixed aged cows averaged | \$1,401 |
| 16 in calf heifers averaged | \$1,628 |
| 20 18 month heifers averaged | \$837 |
| 23 bull calves averaged | \$763 |
| 9 heifer calves averaged | \$827 |

The Hosking family would like to thank all the purchasers of our cattle at our recent Dispersal sale. We wish them well.

HERD SIRES FOR PRIVATE SALE

Koanui Style 5146. DOB 31-7-05. Purchased as a yearling. Has low birth weight progeny.

Koanui Union 5044. DOB 20-7-05. Purchased in 2005 for \$15,000. Has left good coloured fleshy progeny.

Contact: Graeme Hosking 09 235 9175 or email: branstonfarm@xtra.co.nz



*Graeme & Grace Hosking
accepting a plaque from
Jan Wills on behalf
of the NZHA*



Sale Heifers 2012

NEWCASTLE POLLED HEREFORDS

ANNUAL SALE

12 SEPTEMBER 2012 - 12.30PM, FRANKTON SALE YARDS, HAMILTON

19 SELECTED QUALITY BULLS - 4 X 2YR & 15 X 15 MONTH BULLS

BULLS BY:

**Koanui Unanimous 3152 (BM), Okawa Commodore (BM),
Platform Quebec (BM), Koanui Supreme (BM),
Maungahina Fallbrook & Newcastle Dime.**

Over the past few years we have endeavoured to keep a balance in our breeding by reducing gestation length, maintaining low to moderate birth weights whilst retaining all the desirable traits of growth, temperament, colour, carcase & milk. Our home bred bull Newcastle Dime is proving to be a very short gestation bull (EBV=-5.4) with two of his sons on offer being rated the 2nd & 8th shortest gestation length for all 2011 NZ born bulls (Lots 9 & 10).

Online Catalogue now available on the NZHA website - **www.herefords.co.nz**

Bulls can be viewed anytime.

For further information contact the vendors:

Noel & Betsy Smith

P.O. Box 38, Ngaruawahia 3742

Phone: 07 824 8300 or email: newcastleherefords@xtra.co.nz

DILUTOR AND IDIOPATHIC EPILEPSY DNA TESTS IN HEREFORD CATTLE

The NZHA is currently in the process of validating the DNA tests for the Diluter gene and Idiopathic Epilepsy in New Zealand Hereford cattle. The DNA based tests to be carried out for both genes at Massey University are based on information provided by Dr Jonathon Beever of the University of Illinois, who developed the DNA test for Hypotrichosis that is currently being used.

[An explanation of the two conditions is outlined below.](#)

DILUTOR

This genetic defect is caused by the deletion of a small part of DNA and causes dilution to any black pigment or black hair. Herefords can carry the Diluter mutation but will show no outward signs of the syndrome as they do not have any black pigment.

The Diluter gene is inherited as a dominant gene so when a carrier Hereford is mated to an animal with black pigment, e.g. a Friesian or an Angus, 50% of cases they will produce offspring with a diluted coat colour – grey, smoky or chocolate in colour. In addition to the change in colour the dark areas can show signs of hair loss. The areas with white hair appear normal. A predisposition to cold stress and poor growth rate can occur, at least in the first year.

All genetic material in an individual animal comes in pairs, including the area of DNA where the mutation responsible for the Diluter gene in Hereford cattle occurs. Each individual has a pair of markers (alleles) for the Diluter gene, and has inherited one from the sire and one from the dam. The purpose of this test is to detect those carrier individuals that carry 1 or 2 copies of the mutation responsible for Diluter.

Results for this test will be reported as follows-

DLF – free of the mutation causing Diluter syndrome

DLC – carrier of the mutation causing Diluter syndrome (1 copy)

DLA – carrier of the mutation causing Diluter syndrome (2 copies)

When a DL Carrier is mated to a black pigmented animal, 50% of the offspring will be normal, while due to the dominant expression of the gene 50% of the offspring will show the Diluter syndrome of grey, smokey or brown coats

When a DL Carrier is mated to a DL Free Hereford, 50% of the offspring will be DL Free and not carry the diluter gene while 50% of the will carry the diluter gene and be DL Carriers. These purebred Herefords will show no change to coat colour.

IDIOPATHIC EPILEPSY

The symptoms of Idiopathic Epilepsy (IE) generally start with affected animals seen recumbent on their side with limbs extended in a rigid state. The seizures may last from several minutes up to more than an hour. The age of onset of the first seizure can vary, from birth to several months of age. The occurrence and persistence of seizures may be modified by environmental stressors such as extremes of temperature or increased physical activity.

IE is predominantly seen in horned Herefords, but can be seen in polled Herefords with horned animals in their pedigree.

All genetic material in an individual animal comes in pairs,

including the area of DNA where the mutation responsible for Idiopathic Epilepsy in Hereford cattle occurs. Each individual has a pair of markers (alleles) for the Idiopathic Epilepsy mutation, and has inherited one from the sire and one from the dam.

Idiopathic Epilepsy in Hereford cattle is inherited as a simple autosomal recessive trait (like Hypotrichosis). This means that for an individual to be affected by the disease it must have 2 markers for the mutation (1 from the sire and 1 from the dam). Those individuals that carry 1 marker for the mutation and 1 normal marker will be unaffected by the disease, but can pass the mutation on to their offspring.

The purpose of this test is to detect the carrier individuals which are those animals carrying 1 copy of the mutation responsible for Idiopathic Epilepsy, but unaffected by the disease.

Results for this test will be reported as follows-

IEF – free of the mutation causing Idiopathic Epilepsy

IEC – carrier of the mutation causing Idiopathic Epilepsy (1 copy)

IEA – affected by the mutation causing Idiopathic Epilepsy (2 copies)

Currently we are unsure of the prevalence of both of these genetic conditions in the NZ Hereford population.

With the large number of Hereford bulls being used over black pigmented cows in both the beef industry (Angus) and the dairy industry (Friesian) it is relevant that the association investigate the frequency of the Diluter gene in the pedigree Hereford population, as there may be issues with the marketability of 'diluted' grey, smoky and chocolate coloured calves.

With respect to Idiopathic Epilepsy there doesn't seem to have been any cases of affected animals reported to the association. The condition is seen mainly in horned cattle and polled cattle with horned blood in North American Herefords, so given the smaller proportion of horned cattle in the NZ population may mean it is less common. However this smaller Horned population in NZ means that if the gene is present it has the potential to move quickly through the small gene pool.

Both DNA tests can be carried out alongside the DNA test for Hypotrichosis, so once validated, both tests will be able to be done with no additional cost to the breeder.

It is hoped that by breeders opting to test for Diluter and Idiopathic Epilepsy when DNA parentage and Hypotrichosis testing, we will be able to get a better understanding of the prevalence of the two conditions in New Zealand.

2012 SHOW RESULTS

MORRINSVILLE A & P 2012

HEREFORD:

JUDGE: MR IAN BROWN

COW 3 YRS & OVER

1ST: WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 325

HEIFER 1 YR

1ST: COLRAINE CYNTHIA 1076

2ND: KANUKA FINESSE 1005

3RD: ARUNDEL TINA

HEIFER CALF – Largest class with 8 entries

1ST: WILLOWSRING MISS BRITT 412

2ND: WILLOWSRING ROSA 414

3RD: WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 409

4TH: KANUKA GATEAUX 1103

CHAMPION COW:

WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 325

CHAMPION JUNIOR HEIFER:

WILLOWSRING MISS BRITT 412

RESERVE CHAMPION JUNIOR

HEIFER: COLRAINE CYNTHIA 1076

BULL 2 YRS & OVER

1ST: KARAMU HATUMA

Owned by Castle Douglas Stud

2ND: JOSHSTAR CURLYS MAN 0904

Owned by Graham Stud

CHAMPION SENIOR BULL:

KARAMU HATUMA

RESERVE CHAMPION SENIOR

BULL: JOSHSTAR CURLYS MAN 0904

BULL 1YR.

1ST: WILLOWSRING UTOPIA 376

2ND: KANUKA FORTUNE 1007

BULL CALF

1ST: WILLOWSRING VOGUE 427

2ND: CASTLE DOUGLAS HALCYON

3RD: GRAHAM DAIKOKO 1110

4TH: ARUNDEL SIR JAMES

CHAMPION JUNIOR BULL:

WILLOWSRING UTOPIA 376

RESERVE CHAMPION JUNIOR

BULL: WILLOWSRING VOGUE 427

SUPREME CHAMPION HEREFORD:

WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 325

BEST TWO ANIMALS FROM 1

STUD:

1ST: WILLOWSRING

2ND: KANUKA

3RD: CASTLE DOUGLAS

ALL BREEDS

HEREFORD RESULTS

HEIFER 1 YR

1ST: COLRAINE CYNTHIA 1076

3RD: KANUKA FINESSE 1005

CHAMPION ALL BREEDS

MALE & FEMALE

WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 325

RESERVE CHAMPION ALL BREEDS

MALE & FEMALE

WILLOWSRING UTOPIA 376

COW 3 YRS & OVER

1ST: WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 325

HEIFER CALF

2ND: WILLOWSRING MISS BRITT 412

3RD: WILLOWSRING ROSA 414

BULL 1YR

1ST: WILLOWSRING UTOPIA 376

2ND: KANUKA FORTUNE 1007

BULL 2 YRS & OVER

1ST: KARAMU HATUMA

2ND: JOSHSTAR CURLYS MAN 0904

BULL CALF

2ND: CASTLE DOUGLAS HALCYON

3RD: WILLOWSRING UTOPIA 376

SUPREME AWARD – TED LEESON

MEMORIAL CUP

WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 325

JUNIOR HERDSPERSON 21

AND UNDER

1ST: NIC PETERS

AUCKLAND ROYAL EASTER SHOW. 2012

Congratulations to the two SAHC breeders for flying the Hereford flag with distinction - Joshstar & Willowspring. Between the two studs they were placed in every event in the All Breeds other than the yearling heifer and the two year cow class. Neither stud had a two year cow competing.

HEREFORD CLASSES

JUDGE: MR BRUCE ROBERTSON

3YR COW:

1ST: WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 325

2ND: WAITAPORIRI CURLY 624

YEARLING HEIFER:

1ST: JOSHSTAR PRINCESS 007

HEIFER CALF

1ST: WILLOWSRING ROSA 414

2ND: WILLOWSRING MISS BRITT 412

3RD: JOSHSTAR CURLY 1126

CHAMPION FEMALE HEREFORD:

WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 325

RESERVE CHAMPION FEMALE

HEREFORD: JOSHSTAR PRINCESS

SENIOR BULL

1ST: AWHEA IMMENSE 420

BULL 1YR.

1ST: WILLOWSRING UTOPIA 376

2ND: JOSHSTAR KODIAK

BULL CALF

1ST: JOSHSTAR REGAL MAN 1101

2ND: WILLOWSRING UTOPIA 376

3RD: JOSHSTAR CHALLENGER 1102

CHAMPION MALE HEREFOR:

AWHEA IMMENSE 420



Supreme Champion Hereford Awhea Immense 420 handled by Ben Burgess at the Auckland Royal Easter show 2012

2012 SHOW RESULTS- AUCKLAND EASTER SHOW (CONTD)

RESERVE CHAMPION MALE

HEREFORD: WILLOWSRING UTOPIA 376

SUPREME CHAMPION HEREFORD:

SENIOR BULL - AWHEA IMMENSE 420

ALL BREEDS CLASS HEREFORD RESULTS

INTERBREED COW OR HEIFER 2 YRS & OVER:

2ND: WAITAPORIRI CURLY 624

SPECIAL PROGENY CLASS:

1ST: WAITAPORIRI CURLY 624

4TH: WILLOWSRING L.A.TWIGGY 325

INTERBREED HEIFER CALF

CLASS: 11 ENTRIES

1ST: WILLOWSRING MISS BRITT 412

INTERBREED BULL CALF CLASS:

11 ENTRIES

2ND: JOSHSTAR REGAL MAN 1101

INTERBREED YEARLING BULL:

11 ENTRIES

2ND: WILLOWSRING UTOPIA 376

SENIOR FEMALE CHALLENGE:

2ND: WAITAPORIRI CURLY 624

INTERBREED SENIOR BULL:

6 ENTRIES

1ST: AWHEA IMMENSE 420

INTERBREED GROUP OF THREE:

Joshstar / GlenAnthony / Woodleigh / Iona /

Willowcreek

1ST: HEREFORD ENTRY – JOSHSTAR

TEAM OF TWO :

Progeny of same owner:

Joshstar / GlenAnthony

/ Woodleigh / Iona /

Willowcreek Glenlea

/ Cheverny / Ratalea /

Eadon

1ST: HEREFORD

ENTRY –

JOSHSTAR

EASTER SHOW

TEAMS EVENT:

SIMMENTAL /

BELGUIM BLUES

/ HIGHLANDERS /

ANGUS / GELBVIEH /

HEREFORDS

1ST: HEREFORD ENTRY – JOSHSTAR &
WILLOWSRING

BEST DRESSED HANDLERS

1ST: HEREFORD HANDLERS – JOSHSTAR &
WILLOWSRING

MEAT AND WOOL CUP: BEEF

BREEDS SUPREME CHAMPION:

HEREFORD - AWHEA IMMENSE 420



Meat & Wool Cup winner Awhea Immense 420 with the Joshstar Team. Left to Right: Handler Ben Burgess, Hannah Gibb, Lisa Reisima, Matthew Reisima & Studmaster Steve Morgan.

NZ HEREFORDS

SPECIALISTS IN GRASSLAND GENETICS

BULL SALE MERCHANDISE

- ✓ Polycups
- ✓ Serviettes
- ✓ Hereford magazines
- ✓ Hereford Prime brochures
- ✓ Hereford Prime Beef
- ✓ Pens

Contact the NZHA office to
place your order:

Ph 06 323 4484

Loan items also available-
Hereford Prime banner & aprons

PROVEN HERD SIRE FOR SALE

CAPTHORNE 06 37

HB No.# 0065060037P

May 2012 Hereford Group Breedplan EBVs

| | Birth Wt. (kg) | Milk (kg) | 200 Day Wt (kg) | 400 Day Wt (kg) | 600 Day Wt (kg) |
|-----|-------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| EBV | +4.4 | +19 | +37 | +63 | +89 |
| ACC | 93% | 69% | 89% | 88% | 88% |

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South Auckland Hereford Club

King Country Mini Tour 2012



Palisade Cows & Calves

On the 14th March club members gathered at Gary & Lorraine Peters 'Willowspring Stud', to board the bus for the 8.00am departure, heading to Peter & Kirsty McCormick's 'Rock End Stud' at Aria.

The weather Gods had come to the party with a cloudless fine day. The bus finally departed at 8.30am "as you do".

Our arrival at Rock End was greeted with morning tea and farm trailers decked out with hay bales. Peter welcomed everyone and gave a brief on their operation. As we wound our way up the farm track you began to appreciate the 850 hectares and the view of the surrounding country side on a clear day.

First stop once over the hill was the large mob of well grown stud and commercial heifers. Once we had viewed the heifers, Pete pointed out his distant boundary, across a large rolling valley, to the South West nestled under the ranges that separate Aria and Mokau.

Back on the trailers, slowly making our way around the hill sides, became a bit much for one of our party, deciding to walk a short section. 'We won't mention any names' 'Maureen'.

Around the corner, we stopped to view three herd sires behind a hot wire. Two were AI sired, home bred bulls and the other was a Platform bred sire that Pete and Kirsty had purchased as a calf from the dispersal. Next stop a mob of younger cows and Oct/Nov born calves were viewed with ease in a newly cut hay paddock. It was also good to view the recent purchases of female genetics the stud had made. Rising two year bulls were next on the list after negotiating a rather muddy gateway. A good line of dark, well grown bulls were displayed, these are sold annually in conjunction with Tarangower Angus over the river boundary next door in June. Next were older cows and calves in another recently cut hay paddock that were easy to view under the shade trees. Final stop on our way down was another group of current and future Herd Sires. One was a Premier ex Expo Unled, A Statesman Bred Bull Calf ex Apotu Park dispersal and Koanui Upper, lot 1 2011 Sale sire. Pete and Kirsty had put a lot of effort into the day, making it a very enjoyable trip. Robert Russo thanked 'Rock End' on behalf of the club and we bid them farewell, bound for the Aria Cossie Club for lunch.

After lunch we travelled back to Ross and Wendy Flintoff's 'Palisade' Stud, situated on the main road between TeKuiti and Otorohanga. Whilst Palisade is



Rock End 15 month old Bulls

small in land size and cow numbers, a very good display of Horned and Polled cows was provided. Calves were mainly of North American bloodlines, and both Polled and Horned providing some very interesting crosses. Club President, David Henderson thanked Ross for his contribution on the behalf of the club.

After a short drive, the tour party arrived back at 'Willowspring' our last stop for the day. Cows were separated into groups of bull calves and heifer calves, mainly sired by Leelands Acquisition, the senior herd sire, and some AI calves by Otapawa Spark. Rising two year heifers. Rising two year sale bulls. Herd Sire 'Acquisition' and Junior Sire 'Utopia' a Spark son, were also displayed.

After perusing the cattle and voting for the club 'Mini Tour Trophies' were completed, refreshments and conversations were the order of the day.

In line with the recent NZHA sponsorship deal with **HONDA MOTORCYCLES NZ**, The Honda Shop, Te Awamutu provided a display of farm bikes at 'Willowspring' and also very generously provided Tee Shirts, Caps and pens to give away.

Final act of the day was left to club president – David Henderson to announce the results of the mini tour voting and prize giving of Honda Products.

Best Line of Heifers – Rock End

Best line of Bull Calves – Willowspring

Best Mated Female – Willowspring

Best Presented herd – Willowspring

'Alarm Clock didn't go off and my navman doesn't work out here'
Award – Pip Robinson 'Kokonga'

'First to jump off the trailer' Maureen Harvey 'Ascot'

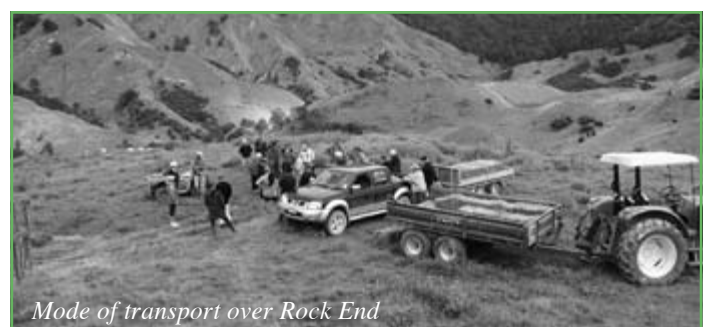
Studs visited and members from Coromandel and Tauranga area received Honda products for most travelled.

On behalf of the South Auckland Hereford Club, I would like to thank Honda Motorcycles NZ and The Honda Shop Te Awamutu, Cambridge & Putaruru for their generous support.

Gary Peters - Willowspring



Tour end - Willowspring



Mode of transport over Rock End

NZHA Ambassadors trip to Beef Australia 2012, Rockhampton



Recently six sponsored NZHA Ambassadors had the opportunity of attending Beef Australia 2012. A Beef Bonanza of 'all things beef', the event was a tremendous success with attendances reaching over 85,000.

The Aussies did themselves proud in staging the 'every three year' event, incorporating excellent key note speakers, a two day genetic conference, highly relevant field trips, cattle show and sales to name a few activities on offer.

Rockhampton Reports from the appreciative NZHA Ambassadors are detailed below...

Two topics that were repeated at the Genetics Conference and at Beef Australia were on the global market with the future for beef producers and secondly genomics the current technology and where it can head for beef producers.

As a group we were fortunate to be invited during a breakfast to a presentation from Randy Blach (USA), who works for CattleFax in America. A source of information on the beef industry; including data, pricing, trends & research. (www.cattlefax.com)

An enthusiastic Randy elaborated on how the cattle numbers and cow slaughter will affect the demand for beef within the USA. He also addressed the impact of corn production for fuel, the effect this has on cost of production of beef in America.

America has seen a drop in beef cows from 32.5 million in 2005 to just under 30 million in 2012. This is the smallest since 1962. Although it is predicted to increase in the future it is not expected to increase dramatically.

As the cow slaughter abates this will affect the supply of beef, even with an increase in carcass weights there is still a need for a forecasted 19% increase in imports for 2012 to cover this. The cow kill over the previous 6 years had kept need for imports at a steady level, of which New Zealand is one of the three largest suppliers of imports. With the global recession America has seen an increase in the demand for lean grinding beef, with this is the price change since 2006 of nearly 20% and over 25% on chuck.

A question we are all asking will this see us having better farm gate prices for our beef. In consideration is that there is a weakening US dollar and higher NZ \$. What it does give us is the knowledge that regardless of their cow herd increase our exports to USA should be able to increase. A better question is how we target that opportunity as a breed and as a bull breeder.

Craig Huffhines is the Chief Executive Officer for American Hereford Assn. and Dorian Garrick a Professor from Iowa State University meet with us informally to discuss anything from the conference that we may want further information on. This



NZHA Ambassadors 2012 left to right: Alan Cook, Tim Molloy, Ross Paterson, Dave Warburton, Jane Allan, Yvonne Lee, Paul Scott

opportunity cemented the information on genomics, its benefits and where this technology currently is, giving ideas on how we can progress forward, the costs of such, what data and reporting is needed. Dave Warburton reports Genomics extensively.

During the conference we heard how the American Hereford Assn. had dealt with the large decrease in % of registrations per breed. In 1965 they had 56% of all breed registrations by 2009 it dropped to 8.6%. Opposite this is the Angus went to 45% and Euro breeds to 28.6%. How they have not only addressed the improvement in the Hereford Breed to be driven by technology, from AI, ET and getting involved in genomics early, to further breed improvements involving research & technology. Alongside this they elaborated on how the Assn. structure, council, membership, voting and reporting requirements were all reviewed and changed where necessary for American Herefords.

We all appreciated the extra time given to our group to gain more knowledge or ideas and how we could use their expertise and experiences to assist Herefords in New Zealand.

Yvonne Lee
Bluestone Herefords

Beef Australia 2012,
Rockhampton



Beef Australia Genetics Conference

Sunday 6th May - Day 1: Genetics Conference

After spending Saturday travelling to Rockhampton with only one small hurdle (no tickets from Brisbane to Rockhampton) which Camp Mother aka Jane Allen promptly dealt with, we settled into the first day of the conference.

1st speaker: Dr Peter Barnard from MLA

Global market prospects for beef and competition from other meat products. Key points that Peter talked about included:

- Diversity of Markets within our emerging markets
- Traditional Markets that will always remain important
- There are more markets than ever before.

2nd Speaker Brian Burns - Male fertility

This was research based on Tropical Cattle in Northern Australia. This gave me a real insight into what these breeders are dealing with. In general weaning rates are less than 50%. Brian and his team have proven Genetics which plays an important role in reproductive traits but I don't believe they gave enough information on the environmental factors, i.e. these animals are living and breeding in some extreme conditions and for some cows getting in calf or not can be the difference between life or death.

3rd Speaker Raysildo Lobo - Brazilian experience in selection for fertility in Zebu breeds including incorporation of DNA marker Technology.

What I took away from this session Raysildo is a very intelligent man and my Brazilian is not that strong.

4th Speaker Steve Skinner - Breedplan

Steve spoke on the role of Breedplan within our industry and gave an overview of a couple of new programs that have recently been released: Take Stock which is a genetic benchmarking tool and MateSel, a mating selection tool. I would recommend to any stud breeder to look into these programmes to help with genetic gain within their herd. I don't believe it has all the answers but a handy tool to have in the tool belt.

5th Speaker Jack Allen - Countries which use Breedplan

Jack delivered a large number of facts and figures and a small part that stood out for me was the traits recorded worldwide vs. New Zealand. We record 10.4% Bwts, 11.4% Wwts, 7.5% Ywts, 14.7% Scrotal, 13.9% EMA, 10.9% IMF. It may not look much but when you look at the small percentage of cattle New Zealand has of the world's population of cattle we have a large amount of information on our cattle that we need to be using and also putting out to the rest of the world via DNA Marker Technology re Dave Warbortons article.

6th Speaker Craig Huffines - American Hereford Association. Pan America Evaluations

Craig firstly spoke on AHA situation and how they are focused on regaining Hereford Market Share (56% in 1965 to 8.6% in 2009) Angus 1990 23% to 44.8% in 2009. This is the same trend we have seen here in New Zealand. He also mentioned how they are pushing the white face advantage to gain market share. Another big push by the AHA is the Breed Improvement driven by Technology and this drives collaboration with other countries.

The second part to his presentation was on the collaborative Benefits to Genomic Research which includes Expanded Population, More Data, Shared Cost, Shared Genotypes. The Pan America Evaluation objective is to have comparable links across countries, combine data and run joint analysis. The question that all this posed for me was where can New Zealand fit in and work with the AHA and internationally they are currently working with an International Reference sire program, International progeny testing and a Gene Sequencing Project. These three areas where we can get involved and share cost: or get left behind.

7th Speaker Rob Banks - Meat and Livestock Australia

MateSel I touched on this briefly and as I mentioned a very useful tool worth looking into. MateSel gives you the power to find the best mix of rapid genetic progress and minimal inbreeding.

At this stage we were given the option of two breakout sessions of which I went to find out more on the International Genetic Evaluation and MateSel. Other options included Breedplan, Maternal Productivity for Bos Tarus breeds in South Australia and Fertility Research on Tropical Cattle.

Further Speakers included Arthur Rickards ABRI and Don Nicol Breedlink - What Australia offers as a source of world leading Genetec and Genetic technologies.

Christian Duff, Australia Cattle Genetics Export Agency talking on the procedures for quality control in export of Australian Cattle for Breeding. Also Burnett Joyce, Gyandra Pastoral Co Qld - How to find your requirements in the Australian Genetics Precinct.

WHAT DID I LEARN?

Technology is going to be the major driver for genetic gain, the tools and opportunities are here now all we have to do is grab it and run with it together.

I would like to thank the NZ Hereford Association for the opportunity to attend Beef Australia 2012.

Tim Molloy
Woodburn Herefords

Beef Australia 2012,
Rockhampton



The Goonoo Farm & Station & Feedlot - Comet, Queensland

The feedlot tour involved a 250 km trip out to Comet via the Gracemere Industrial Area, a region which has received a \$146b Government investment across the Coal, Energy, Minerals, Ports, Rail, Education and Tourism industries. We saw evidence of the scope of the coal production as several coal trains approx 1.5 km long carrying 8000 tonnes passed by, and 9m wide heavy trucks and machinery were being transported under road control .

The Goonoo Properties is a 3 way operation taking in an amalgamation of 5 properties from 1989 to 1991. It covers 27 762 ha in the area known as Comet and receives approximately 580 mm rainfall pa. Goonoo Properties is in turn part of the Australian Agricultural Company (AAco)- Australia's oldest company having operated since 1824. "1824Premium " is used as the flagship retail brand of the beef programme run.

AAco operate 19 stations, 2 feedlots and 3 farms over 7.2 m ha which represents 1.1% of Australia landmass and they run in total 485000 head of cattle per year. AAco holds Australia's best source of Wagyu genetics as well as a Composite programme supplying their own 1824 Premium brand .

The Goonoo Farm and Station is a mixed irrigated and dryland operation that is used as a feeder of calves prior to entry into the feedlot, a provider of genetic improvement via Braham stud and provider of feedlot supplement i.e. hay silage and grain and corn .

These calves are typically a composite or Wagyu cross sourced from properties in the AAco group such as Avon Downs (a 393,900 ha AAco station in the Northern Territory) arriving at a weaning weight of approx 220 kg , They are fed oats crops and graze on buffel grass across 80 paddocks before entering the feedlot at approximately 350kg. There are approximately 12,000 head cattle on the Farm and station , this includes also a Braham stud of 700 cows and 26 bulls which is used as a source of premier genetics , aimed at fertility (historically a problem in the bos indicus cattle in tropical Australia) as well as growth and stay-ability. There is a huge emphasis on the genetic performance , structure and survival rather than phenotypic appearance. They aim to produce high performance bulls and replacement heifers that are then sent to multiplier herds for inter company use

The Farms provision of supplement is perhaps the most important function as it is vital to the feedlot success. Dryland cropping occurs over 6000 ha and includes grain (25-30% of feedlot requirements), corn, forage oats, wheat chickpeas and sorghum hay and silage(100% of feedlot requirements). However , irrigation was developed in 1995 and this has led to a profitable cotton growing enterprise of 930 ha which competes with the other crops grown for profitability. There is a policy of all farm enterprise having to stand on their own feet and cross subsidisation is not encouraged. The irrigation

is obtained via a flood water events licence on the Comet river and the total water storage on the property is 3.4 billion gallons (about 2 years usage). It takes about 14 days to fill all storage tanks to capacity.

The Goonoo Feedlot is a awesome sight with approximately 16500 predominantly "1824 premium" composite cattle (Angus ,Santa Gertrudis ,Senepol and Charolais)and Wagyu cross steers and heifers in a shaded feedlot being fed on various regimes dependent on their market destination. The cattle are fed approx 210 mega ton of steam flaked grain and silage etc daily with a zero wastage policy obtained by feeding out to a trough the length of the pens structure. Feeding starts at 10.00 am and finisher cattle are fed twice daily while starters are fed daily. The feeding mix is aimed at rumen development for starters with a gradual change to meet finishing requirements. Exact ration mixes were confidential. The 1824 composite cattle use a tailored vaccination program to prevent virus disease and respiratory challenges, and is fed for approximately 130 days while the Wagyu export may be on one of 200 to 500 day feeding regime in which marbling is the key goal. The marbling score at slaughter will mean the value of carcass will range between \$1000- \$6000 so there is an obvious incentive to chase the marbling for the Japanese Korean and EU markets.

The feedlot has a high tech animal comfort monitor system and has policies in place to cope with extreme heat events such as extra water availability and spacing of cattle to minimise the effect of heat. The pens are 100% shaded and manure is removed regularly to ensure humane conditions and used to provide 10% of the irrigated fertiliser. There is a death rate of 0.5% per year and animal health checks are conducted daily via pen riding on horse. They have a Consultant Specialist Feedlot Vet available to be flown in as required.

With the cattle being on different regimes, the turn out rate varies but the annual amount is estimated at 65000 per annum (source www.aaco.com.au) – i.e. 1200-1500 per week. At possibly \$1000-\$6000 per head the revenue is impressive to say the least. Costs were confidential , but suffice to say all imported costs were locked in via futures markets to ensure known profitability.

I have taken some video footage which can be accessed , hopefully soon via www.herefords.co.nz to give the reader a better feel for the scale and size of the operation , but due to Goonoo policy we were unable to exit the bus at the feedlot site so the picture quality is compromised. However the day was well worth while and an eye opener for those of us whose farms are about half the size of an average paddock at Goonoo!

Paul Scott
Matatoki Herefords

Beef Australia 2012,
Rockhampton 

GENOMICS: the use of this technology to date & into the future

Genomics is an area of genetic evaluation that has been developing at a rapid rate and will continue to do so as geneticists learn more about the genome or the genes held within an animal's DNA.

Currently there are DNA markers of several traits to identify if the animals have the right genes to support the information that we collect as raw data to produce an EBV. However there is no SNP chip (DNA marker test) on the commercial market that is validated for the NZ Hereford population.

How do they go about developing DNA marker tests.

The first thing they do is develop what is known as a "training population data set". This is a population of animals with high accuracy EBV's and pedigrees. They benchmark their EBV performance for this population. They then go through the animals and try to compare/contrast the DNA of animals with large variation in traits and try to identify any differences in the DNA sequence. They then develop a genomic prediction question which is then used and validated over the whole population to explain the variation between animals. This is not perfect. At the moment the amount of variation that can be explained is approximately 60% for most traits. However as more DNA samples are screened, the equations are modified and become more accurate and will explain more variation.

One of the challenges to date is that each population that is tested needs to be genetically linked to the training population via linked pedigrees. They found that Herefords in Argentina with no American influence had little correlation to the genomic equations developed based on the American population. However those herds with American influence did correlate sufficiently to the American populations and so the equations were providing information to support the existing EBVs.

This means that the further away the pedigree links from the American training population are the less powerful the DNA marker information is. You can develop your own training population in each country for each breed, but this requires significant financial investment.

Why do we want to use this technology?

This is a tricky question. To date the American Hereford Association in partnership with the USDA and Iowa State University's world renowned professor and Kiwi Dorian Garrick have invested approx. US\$100,000 to produce a training population and subsequently develop markers relevant to the American Hereford animal population. In the next 6 months they will release to their breeders new DNA marker's relevant to their population that will help their breeders make quicker progress through more accurate information.

As time moves on, the genetics of our herd population evolve, and will move further away from the genetic links with the American Hereford Association training population. If we don't start collaborating with our American colleagues and piggybacking off the investment they have made, we will be left behind and if we ever changed our mind, then we would have to a) re-establish genetic links or b) develop our own training population data set.

What do the results of these tests provide?

The DNA marker tests provide information that will support the existing EBVs produced from the raw data that breeders measure on farm, such as 200 day weight.

The DNA marker information will improve the accuracy of the EBV's. The smaller the herd the more useful the DNA marker information will be. For example it may take an EBV accuracy of 50% up to 80% .

Currently you always get grumbles among breeders that the EBV's of Bull "A" have moved so much that the offspring will not perform as well as estimated when you made the decision to use him.

With DNA marker tests, this EBV movement problem will be reduced to a much lower level and at an early age.

You will be able to use yearling bulls with a lot more confidence and therefore theoretically be able to make faster genetic progress in the measured traits for you and your commercial clients. This is added value.

The other benefits of DNA markers are that if we adopt whole herd EBV

recording and collect the full amount of data that is requested by Breedplan, then we will be able to find markers for hard to measure traits such as fertility and longevity – key drivers of commercial herd profitability.

The American Hereford Association have also requested that their breeders start collecting animal health data, such as cancer eye and vaginal prolapses so that researchers like Jon Beever, can develop markers for these traits. NZ breeders could also look at traits such as corkscrew penis. Do you think a marketing position of "Corkscrew penis free" is of value to your commercial clients – absolutely!!! This information is all stored in a secure and private system, independent of the Breed Association.

The actual costs of submitting DNA samples for use with a SNP chip is declining at a rapid rate for the breeder.

The questions that Breed Associations are now asking themselves around the world is: How do we get started, can we work together and what will the return on investment be?

Summary

Genomics technology is rapidly evolving. The longer we wait before adopting it, the more cost will be involved in developing valid genomic prediction equations.

Genomics technology will not replace raw data measurement on farm. In fact the more traits we can measure accurately on farm, the more traits we can ask them to search for. The results would be reported back to the breeder as a Breedplan EBV.

The benefits in the short term are from improving accuracy of the existing traits measured. This will be of more relevance to smaller herds. However as we increase the number of samples submitted, the benefits will increase over time as we identify new markers for existing and new traits adding power to EBVs, confidence to our decisions and faster genetic progress in targeted traits for our breeding programme, flowing on to our clients herds.

Dave Warbuton
Waiohine Herefords

Beef Australia 2012,
Rockhampton



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NZHA Youth Ambassadors visit to Beef Australia 2012

In May 2012, a group of NZ Hereford Youth Ambassadors embarked on a visit to Beef Australia 2012 which is an event held every three years. This group joined with a larger delegation including representatives of the NZ Angus Board, PBB staff, 2012 Future Beef Ambassadors, and NZ Angus breeders.

Together, the group travelled to Rockhampton in Central Queensland for the second week of May. The first thing that struck upon arrival in Rockhampton in the early evening was that this part of Australia is Tropical. The warm temperatures not only set a tone for the week, but also defined the landscape, the farming practices, and the type of cattle bred, raised and finished in this part of the world. The warm welcome we received from the bus driver waiting to meet the group at the Airport was reinforced by everyone we met for the week.

The theme for Beef Australia 2012 was: Innovation, Collaboration, Inspiration, Celebration and this applied to every aspect of the event.

The first two days were spent attending the Bayer and Bioniche International Beef Cattle Genetics Conference hosted at the Central Queensland University campus. This conference consisted of a series of seminars and presentations covering the science of genetic development and beef cattle improvement. A feature was the first presentation by Dr Peter Barnard of Meat & Livestock Australia which covered the global Macro Economic trends relevant to Beef Cattle producers. This presentation clearly identified long term trends around global wealth, income and population distribution, and forecasts of expected trends and where the opportunities lie for Beef Producers and the type of cattle and beef product that will be required. The summary was undeniable: the future markets are in Asia.

Other seminars included a presentation from Craig Huffhines (CEO of the American Hereford Association) about the work the breed is successfully doing to regain market share and trial work that is part of that revitalisation; Geneticists from Argentina and Brazil reporting findings from studies they have completed on beef cattle Fertility, and a number of presentations regarding Genomics, Breedplan, DNA, Reproductive technology, and the Composite breeding programmes of Australian farming Corporates.

The third day saw the group attend an early morning presentation from Randy Blach of CattleFax (an American beef markets analysis firm) that provided a wealth of information about the American beef industry and identified trends. A key point was the productivity gains made in the USA with a long term decline in the American beef cow herd being countered by a long term increase in the nations total beef production. The reason behind this improvement has come from genetic development, improved feeding and a steady increase in carcass weights being achieved by finishers. Nonetheless, the competition for Grain in the USA is applying real cost pressure to finishers, as is the loss of 9 million acres per annum of farm land to urban sprawl.

Following this, many of the group watched the judging of the Herefords on show at Beef Australia which came from Hereford Studs in Southern Queensland. Strong classes were evident for the R2 bulls in particular. As temperatures soared and the Hereford judging finished, most sought the air conditioned comfort of the buildings housing the trade exhibitors. Every imaginable provider of services to Beef Cattle producers was in attendance and many had put enormous effort in to their stalls. On show were the normal providers of machinery, implements, equipment and also clothing, saddlery, art

work, genetics and education. The RM Williams stand was reported to be selling \$80,000 worth of boots and clothing each day. The strength of the Bos Indicus breeds in Northern Australia were clearly evident by the standard of some of their stalls – some of which must have taken a week to build and ‘money is no object’ type budgets. Their message was clear: ‘We are big and serious about our cattle breeding’.

The fourth day was spent visiting Goonoo Station which lies 250km west of Rockhampton. While this trip required a very early start and 14 hours of bus travel, all agreed that it was well and truly worth the effort with a fascinating trip to a farming operation that could only be described as ‘outstanding’. Owned by the giant AACo (which farms 7.5m Ha and 600,000 head across Northern Australia), Goonoo Station exhibited best practice across their grazing, feedlot and stud breeding components. It was a powerful demonstration of what can be achieved with the scale of a large property and the strategic ability & professionalism of a farming corporate.

The day spent visiting Goonoo also demonstrated the power, influence and threat posed by Australia’s mining sector. The first sight of a coal train caught the eye, but learning that one of these monsters goes by every 15 minutes really demonstrated the extent of the mining boom in Central Queensland. As the day went by we learnt that nearly every farm we passed had been either been purchased outright by Mining interests, or just had its mineral rights purchased. Even Goonoo Station, a superb farm, is due to be surveyed shortly by miners and is under threat as a result. There was a feeling of inevitability about the whole region.

The fourth day was spent at Beef Australia where most spent the day exploring the vast array of trade exhibitors in attendance. The judging of some of the minor breeds in the morning was followed by the All Breeds judging in the afternoon in stifling heat which saw all the Bos Taurus and Bos Indicus breeds being judged as one.

We had the opportunity to network with important players in the global beef producing community and create dialogue which will hopefully allow NZ Herefords to participate in global data collection, analysis and sharing. The chance to spend time with other NZ Beef breeders wasn’t missed so we could learn about their strengths & successes, but also understand that they too have their challenges & quarrels lying beneath a carefully manicured appearance.

The overwhelming sense that came from Beef Australia 2012 was the passion and pride that exists there for the farming of beef cattle and the associated culture. We saw many of the composite breeds developed to meet the very specific environmental challenges of Australia and the ways they are capitalising on their strengths of scale and locality to valuable markets. With low production costs from extensive grazing operations, when growing conditions and market prices align the industry can also be very profitable. On the back of a strong growing season and strong demand expected from neighbours in South East Asia, it was easy to share their excitement about the future for the Beef Industry.

Alan Cook
Panorama Herefords

Beef Australia 2012,
Rockhampton



Paddock Books

Paddock calving books for 2012 are due out soon. If you'd like additional copies please contact the office. Extra copies are \$4 + GST each. Contact Megan at PBBnz, ph 06 323 4484 or email: megan@pbbnz.com

OBITUARIES

David Steele, Stone Ledge Hereford Stud, New Plymouth.
Don Foster, Kimihia Hereford Stud, Huntley.

The New Zealand Hereford Association wishes to express their sincerest condolences to the families of these two breeders who have sadly passed away recently.



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