

Bandeeka Simmentals top at \$6500

By KANE CHATFIELD

THE opportunity to source top Simmental and Red Angus genetics was largely overlooked by buyers at the 13th annual Bandeeka on-property sale at Boyanup last week.

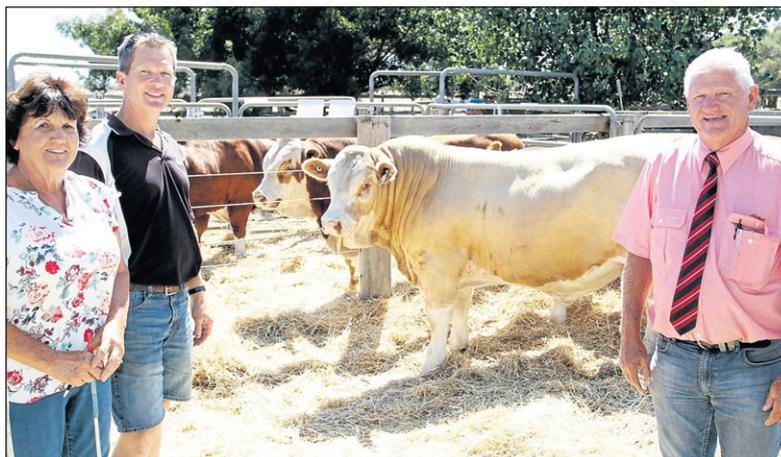
Tony and Loreen Kitchen's Bandeeka Simmental and Red Angus studs together with local guest vendors Peter and Rebecca Bantock's Red Rock Red Angus stud and Kane and Sarsha Wetherell's Bandeeka Black Simmental stud presented an excellent catalogue of 28 well grown sires and three PTIC Simmental heifers.

There was a big crowd in attendance to enjoy the Kitchen family's hospitality and the relaxed setting of the Helmsman auction system with plenty of sponsorship prizes up for grabs thanks to Boehringer Ingelheim (Merial), Beachport Liquid Minerals and Caves House, Yallingup.

There was also a decent registration of buyers and those prepared to operate on their selected lots took home bulls of choice at good value for money.

But unfortunately several were reluctant to bid at auction and this resulted in numerous quality bulls being passed in during the sale.

Negotiations on the overlooked bulls continue with further sales reported but producers requiring quality bulls for the coming joining are encouraged to contact the Kitchen family.



With the \$6500 equal top-priced Simmental bull, Bandeeka Novatel N29 (P), at the 13th annual Bandeeka Simmental and Red Angus on-property sale at Boyanup last week were Bandeeka stud co-principal Loreen Kitchen (left), buyer David Verbrugge, Ferguson Valley and Elders Donnybrook representative Deane Allen.

At the completion of the auction co-ordinated by the Elders South West team, nine of the 28 bulls (32 per cent) had sold to average \$5056 and one of the buyer's pick of four PTIC Simmental heifers headed east at \$5000.

Compared to last year's sale the overall average was up by \$39 with 15 of the 34 bulls (44pc) selling at auction to average \$5017 last year.

Simmental bulls

A top line-up of 17 traditional Bandeeka Simmental bulls resulted in seven selling at auction to average \$5214 and the sale's \$6500 top price recorded twice.

This showed a \$339 jump in average on last year's sale where 10 of 20 bulls sold to average \$4875.

Landmark Capel agent Chris Waddingham representing regular buyers Nannup Fresh Fruit collected two Simmental bulls and paid the sale's \$6500 equal top price for Bandeeka Norway

N20 in lot six.

The polled 874kg bull was born mid-June 2017 to Bullock Hills Kansas and homebred cow G Vanessa.

Mr Waddingham said the bulls would be used over predominantly Angus-Friesian first cross breeders sourced from LT Armstrong, Tutunup, to produce milk-fed veal for the processing trade. "It is a fantastic thick bull, with plenty of early maturity and depth of body," he said.

Six-year Bandeeka clients David and Kirsty Verbrugge, Ferguson Valley, were the other buyers to pay \$6500 for a new Simmental bull, Bandeeka Novatel N29.

Penned in lot 17, the polled, cream, early June 2017 born son of homebred pedigree Lion King and J Sashe recorded solid performance figures for growth and index values.

The Verbrugges run a Simmental-Murray Grey cross self-replacing herd and select sires to maintain the balance of this cross.

Suitable February-March born calves are turned off direct to the supermarket trade during December while the few lighter calves are kept through until August and grown out on grass for the yearling market.

Mr Verbrugge said they preferred to turn as many calves off as baby beef as possible to give themselves more management options

rather than carrying animals through.

"Our main outlet is the milk-fed vealer market so we need the early growth in the bulls and this bull has certainly got the size and growth with good milk," he said.

Clinton Gartrell, Elders Busselton, purchased two Simmental bulls for regular buyers BJ & FH Thomas, Cundinup, paying to a top of \$5000 for a 848kg son of Bandeeka Fancypants.

Mr Gartrell said the bulls would be used over mainly Angus-Friesian females for baby beef production and selected bulls with shape and style, good growth figures and softness.

Repeat buyer Gavin Read, GJ & M Read, Gingin, paid \$5500 for a 940kg Kansas son.

Red Angus bulls

There was subdued activity on the line-up of eight Bandeeka Red Angus bulls with only two bulls selling at auction to average \$4500.

Last year five of the eight Bandeeka bulls sold to average \$5300.

Mr Waddingham, representing Treeton Lake, Cowaramup, paid the sale's \$5000 top Red Angus bull price for Bandeeka Red New Edition N9.

The 825kg late July 2017 born son of Bandeeka Red Lustre L4 (by Tronar Jeb)

BANDEEKA ON-PROPERTY SALE (Under the hammer results)

Stud	offered	sold	top	gross	average
Bulls					
Bandeeka Simmental	17	7	\$6500 (2)	\$36,500	\$5214
Bandeeka Red Angus	8	2	\$5000	\$9000	\$4500
Bandeeka Black					
Simmental	1	-	-	-	-
Red Rock Red Angus	2	-	-	-	-
Total	28	9	\$6500 (2)	\$45,500	\$5056
Heifers					
PTIC Bandeeka					
Simmental	3	1	\$5000	\$5000	\$5000