

THE AUSTRALIAN



Simmental

NEWSLETTER

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June, 1973

SIMMENTAL CATTLE HAVE HIGH MILK POTENTIAL

During the course of the Sydney Royal Show the Editor of the Newsletter was, at a certain moment, fixed with a stern eye and an admonishing index finger. "Do you know," said the owner of the accusing forefinger, "that Simmentals are a dual purpose breed and that they produce another product other than beef — that is milk! How about some figures on their milk production?"

So, to appease Mr. Dennis Morgan of Kyneton, Vic., and I imagine many other breeders, here are some facts and figures on Simmental milk production. Mr. Morgan, incidentally, runs a high-production herd of Friesians and also in recent months has built up his own, local contract AI business.

In Switzerland, without going into details of the points system, they have a Standard Measurement for the Breed on type, conformation, production etc., and the total points awarded on this scale is 90. Young bulls are admitted temporarily into testing programmes only if they have 47 points for milk production. (No, they don't milk the bull, it is calculated on the basis of the milk production of his ancestors.)

In bulls, the milk points are calculated according to the average milk quantity produced for the particular region in which they lived. In doing this they also take into account the degree of heredity and parentage as well as any increase or decrease in the fat contents. Forty-seven milk points mean a probable production capacity of 10,400lb. of milk on the part of adult cows in "flatland" conditions.

The mother of the heifer that is to be entered in the Herd Book must have a production index

of 41 points, corresponding to 9,020 lb. of milk produced by an adult cow in one lactation in flatland conditions.

As mentioned, young bulls are entered in the Herd Book temporarily for one year and the heifers for two years.

The average production capacity for a "flatland" cow is 10,000 lb. of milk (production index 46) containing 4% butterfat. Average milk yield for the whole of Switzerland is around 880 gallons at 4.03% butterfat.

German thoroughness is a small slap on the wrist for those who are vocally protesting at the importation of semen from "untested" breeds into Australia. Milk recording of the Fleckvieh started at the turn of this century and has been compulsory for all registered cows since 1934 while 29% of all Fleckvieh cows are now milk recorded.

Figures for 1971 show that a total of 388,363 cows were recorded, giving an average of 8,626 lb. of milk at an average 3.98% butterfat. These figures include cows of all age groups and the average number of days in milk was 310. The average milk production of all Fleckvieh cows was raised 702 lb., or 11%, during the last 10 years.

The inherent milk potential of Fleckvieh is amply illustrated by the fact that 20% of all Herd Book cows produced over 5,000 kg (11,000 lb.).

Newsletter regrets that figures from Austria and other Simmental strain breeding countries are not yet available here. If any member has some they would be appreciated.

A.I. CERTIFICATES

Members please note that A.I. registration certificates must be the ASBA official certificates. No others will do. Calf registration forms do not have to accompany them.

BASIC RULES FOR JOINING A.S.B.A.

Mr. David Thomas, Secretary of Australian Simmental Breeders' Association Ltd., has asked Newsletter to publish the following basic facts about fees and registration procedure for members and intending members.

The fees to join the Association are as follows:
Entrance Fee — \$10.00.
Annual Sub. — \$15.00.
Herd Enrolment Fee — \$40.00.
Prefix — \$1.00.

The herd enrolment fee is a one cost fee and enrolls the herd on the Simmental Recording Register. This is a computerised registration system which will give performance records of all animals registered. N.B., calves do not have to be registered until they are between 180-270 days old. Forms for this purpose will be forwarded when they come to hand.

Artificial Insemination certificates must be purchased from the Association and completed at time of insemination, the first copy forwarded to the secretary at the completion of the AI programme and not now held till the calf is born.

This enables the base dams to be enrolled on the Register.

New AI forms are in the process of being compiled, but the old ones are still valid.

Tattooing.

Some confusion seems to exist re this.

Simmental progeny must be tattooed in the following manner.

1. Herd Designation letters, allotted by the Society to all members on payment of herd enrolment, are tattooed in the off ear of the calf followed by the figure 1, the grade code for 1st cross.

2. In the near ear S the Simmental code letter for 1973 followed by the calf drop number 001, 002, etc.

Note: These calves must be numbered consecutively irrespective of sex, i.e. first calf, a bull 001, second calf, heifer 002.

Any other tattoo is invalid for progeny. Base cows are preferably identified by numbered ear tags. ☐

N.S.W. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the N.S.W. Branch of ASBA will be held at White City on Friday, June 22, 1973.

ALL ENJOYED 1st SIMMENTAL DINNER AT WHITE CITY



Mrs. and Mr. Dale McLaughlin, Palaroo, Armidale and Mrs. Daniel Thomas, Sundowner Ranch, Prairie Grove, Arkansas, U.S.A., chat together at the Simmental dinner at White City.



Miss Robyn Ryland and father Mr. Eric Ryland, Simlands, Condamine, Qld., sit with Mr. and Mrs. David Robertson, Golden Grove, Glenmorgan Queensland.



Mr. Allan Fletcher, Dirk Brook, Keysbrook, and Mr. Gary McLaughlin, enjoy a quiet one at the Simmental dinner at White City during the Sydney Royal Show.

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HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SALE OF McLAUGHLIN SIMMENTALS

An historic and successful sale of Simmental first cross cattle was held at Mittagong, N.S.W., on Thursday, May 19, when Hereford cows and their first cross Simmental calves were offered.

It was the first auction sale of Simmentals sponsored by the ASBA. Vendors were McLaughlin Simmentals Ltd., Palaroo, Armidale, N.S.W., and the two principals. Mr. Dale McLaughlin and his son, Gary, were highly complimented on the manner in which the cattle were presented.

A feature of the sale was the sustained bidding on every lot and there was a total clearance, all cattle being offered without reserve.

The 83 head grossed \$48,450 and averaged \$583.75 per head. A highlight of the sale was the offering of nine first cross Simmentals imported from New Zealand. There were five bulls and three heifers, the heifers selling to \$1,500 and the bulls to \$900.

A very generous gesture was made by McLaughlin Simmentals when they offered the proceeds of the two first lots sold to the ASBA for promotional activities. This led to a gift of \$2,300 to the Association, the first lot, a heifer, being sold for \$1,400 to Billienudgell Pastoral Co., Mullumbimby, N.S.W. and the second, a bull, going to ASBA President, Mr. R. W. Fletcher, W.A., for \$900. As a further donation the selling agents forwent their commission on these two sales.

Billiemungell Pastoral Co. was a consistent buyer at the sale as was Baron Stiernblad, Woodbury Farms, Bowral, Mr. Bowen, of Mittagong, Mr. Skyrrie, Sydney, Mr. Marskell, of Mudgee, and Dudley Bros., Holbrook, N.S.W.

The sale was opened by the President of the ASBA, Mr. Dick Vincent, who said it was symbolic that McLaughlin Simmentals had used Wallamumbi females for many of their base cows, as McLaughlin Simmentals were doing for Simmentals what Wallamumbi had done for the Herefords.

He said Australian conditions called for big cattle and as Simmental breeders, the Association believed the breed had a contribution to make to the Australian beef industry. He congratulated McLaughlin Simmentals on their initiative and enterprise in holding the sale.

CARCASE WINS

Mr. Joe Monforton Editor of the American publication, "Simmental Shield", said that breeders in North America had been slow to move in crossbreeding, but now it was "hot" in Canada

and the U.S.A. He said the introduction of the Simmental bull, Parisien, had revolutionised the beef industry. Breeders could now not keep up with the demand for first cross bulls because they "were getting the job done".

He said that already this year a Simmental cross steer had won the carcass championship at Chicago, the largest carcass show in the U.S., and had won the grand championship at Regina, the largest carcass show in Canada.

—Continued on page 6

PRESIDENT IS REGISTERING!

To set the minds of some readers at rest concerning a paragraph in an article on the President, Mr. Dick Vincent, in the first Simmental Newsletter, the President was, and still is, registering his Simmental calves with ASBA.

The sentence in question referred to the fact that Mr. Vincent has ceased registering his cattle with the Australian Hereford Society.—Ed. ☐

ATTENTION MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT!

WOULD ALL MEMBERS PLEASE FILL IN THE COUPON BELOW IMMEDIATELY. THE NEWSLETTER MUST COMPLY WITH CERTAIN REGULATIONS AND YOUR REQUEST TO BE PLACED ON THE MAILING LIST IS ESSENTIAL — IN WRITING.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE COUPON NOW AND POST TO THE SECRETARY, AUSTRALIAN SIMMENTAL BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION LTD., BOX 4317, G.P.O., SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2001.

As a member of the Australian Simmental Breeders' Association Ltd. would you please place my name on the mailing list for the Australian Simmental Newsletter.

NAME.....

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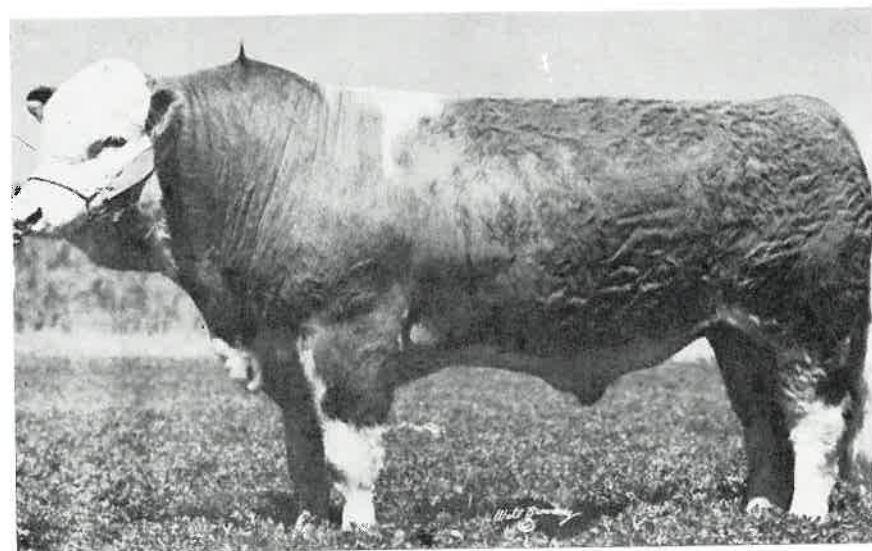
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Signature.....

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You want calving ease and beef production? You can't go past HARALD — in one test programme his three-quarter calves weaned at an average of 598lb. with an average birth weight of 71lb., with a total spread of only 15lb. in 15 calves.

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Canada Is Large Proving Ground

(By Dr. F. G. Day, Chairman, Canadian Stock Breeders Service Int. Ltd.)

Simmental breeders throughout the world should look more to the North American Continent for progeny information, where the large cattle population coupled with the extreme interest engendered with the importation of exotic animals from Europe, are allowing progeny information to be collected on large numbers of breeders.

Examples of this are in the bulls presently being shipped to Australia and New Zealand. These bulls have been used more extensively in Western Canada over the past 2 or 3 years for cross breeding programmes than have any other Simmental bulls.

Collectively they have well over 30,000 calves on the ground and there is no doubt that progeny test programmes, particularly the conception to consumer testing used in the Charolais breed in Canada are excellent barometers showing how a bull can perform within small herds.

Unfortunately, these cow herds can not be completely uniform nor can the conditions under which they are kept. In a 60 cow breeding herd

we feel that there is going to very well be significant variation on the dam side of the genetic picture to seriously effect the overall scene.

On the other hand when you are contemplating 30,000 breedings you are pretty well assessing it in "the proof of the pudding" manner. In other words the ranchers themselves are determining which animals are giving them the best result and are expressing their opinion when they purchase semen for the next years breeding season.

It is significant that semen sales on Munter, Harald and Sambo will double and perhaps might even treble in the 1973 season over their 1972 very high sale situation.

A large proportion of this decision has been the careful records of performance that have been made available and the statistics that are being gathered and published on the results of matings with these bulls. We feel of even more significance is the word of mouth advertising from rancher to rancher and the sales situations at public auction, where Munter, Harald and Sambo calves are demanding a substantial premium. □



A.M.L.&F.



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N.Z. Syndicating Simmental Bulls

The ASBA was pleased to play host to two distinguished New Zealanders at the very successful First Association dinner held at the White City Club at Rushcutters Bay during the Sydney Royal Show. They were Mr. Dick Kerr, President of the New Zealand Simmental Association and Mr. Hugh Irvine, Chairman and Managing Director of Southern Breeders' Ltd. situated in the South Island.

Southern Breeders have a very interesting and large Simmental enterprise in operation. Mr. Irvine explained: "We have 10 properties based throughout the South Island and we are operating a highly selective grading up programme with Simmentals. We also own nine pure Simmental heifers and five of these are in calf to Simmentals and four will be mated in November this year to Simmental bulls. We will be considering offering some of their progeny for sale.

"Another interesting exercise will be ovum transplants, and this we are equipped to under-

COUNCILLOR IS 4th GENERATION AUSSIE

The first Tasmanian was elected to the Council of the ASBA during the recent Sydney Royal Show and this "dinkum Aussie" is a fourth generation Australian, John Alan Dumaresq, of Longford, Mt. Ireh. The property, too, has been in the family for four generations.

His great grandfather was Captain Edward Dumaresq who was in service in the East Indian Army. He decided the climate was killing him, so migrated to Tasmania where he landed in 1823. His diagnosis seems to have been correct, for he lived to the ripe old age of 104.

In the same year, 1823, two brothers and a sister landed in N.S.W. and one of the brothers founded the Agricultural Co. which bought land in the north of the State. After him, the Dumaresq Shire centred on Armidale, is named.

A mouth-watering thought of "what might have been" is the fact that some part of the Dumaresq family owned the land on which now stands exclusive Kambala School in Vacluse, Sydney.

Alan, who did a veterinary science course at Sydney University, being a resident student of St. Pauls, now runs Mt. Ireh, a property of 4,500 acres in a 25 inch rainfall area carrying commercial Hereford cattle and Polwarth sheep. He manages the property in partnership with his son, Martin, who also lives on the property.

He took to Simmentals as he considers they are naturally compatible with the Hereford. Mr.

take. We believe in using the most modern breeding methods available."

The remainder of the bulls in the battery weigh out at weight for age at comparable figures to the bulls originally imported to Scotland by the SMMB.

Syndication of Simmental bulls owned by the Southern Breeders is another facet of their operations. They have the largest battery of Simmental sires in N.Z. headed by Balig Agent who, in a sophisticated progeny test carried out by the N.Z. Department of Agriculture, has come out as being, as far as is known, the heaviest bull of the breed in the word for his age, with a weight of 2,050 lb. at 575 days. These sires are by some of the leading Simmentals such as Scottish Herod, etc.

Mr. Irvine said that terms of the syndication contract were that members paid a joining fee over a period of three years. In that period they would receive semen at half price and thereafter for the life of the bull would receive semen at the cost of collection plus distribution costs. He said the scheme was creating wide interest. □

McLAUGHLIN SALE

—Continued from page 3

Mr. Monforton said that Simmentals had topped two-thirds of the performance tests held in North America and he saw no end to the breeds' progress in that Continent.

Mr. Dick Kerr, President of the New Zealand Simmental Association said that the energies and interest of Mr. Dale McLaughlin had done much for the Simmental breed in his country and he could see he was doing the same for the breed in Australia. Mr. Kerr said he looked forward to an ever closer relationship between the Associations in the two countries.

The sale was conducted by Animal Breeding Services (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., A.M.L. & F. Co. Ltd. and Dalgety (Aust.) Ltd. The sale was held at Glen Pare, Mittagong, N.S.W. □

Dumaresq has 24 first cross calves on the ground of which 20 have Hereford markings and four splashed with white. The semen he used was from Scottish Marquis. His first calf was dropped on January 31, 1973.

As this is Mt. Dumaresq's first venture into stud breeding, Newsletter asked him what he thought of the recording system being introduced. He raised a quizzical eyebrow and said: "Well, you might say, politely, that at this stage I am a little confused, but I sincerely believe performance recording is a "must" for the stud business. Only from such a rational basis can we improve the economic characteristics of our cattle." □

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UK SOCIETY WILL REGISTER OVUM TRANSPLANTS

Although it is early yet for the ASBA to be considering ovum transplants, it will be of interest to members to know that the British Simmental Society has decided to accept for registration calves born from transplants. Following is the procedure they will use to register such calves.

The Society is to open an appendix register for calves born from the Transfer of Eggs. The Society, therefore, officially recognises this new concept in animal breeding. The British Simmental Society is believed to be the first cattle breed Society in the United Kingdom to take this advanced step.

Regulations Drawn Up

Regulations for the register were drawn up after consulting with Mr. L. E. A. Rowson, O.B.E., F.R.C.V.S., Deputy Director A.R.C. Unit, Cambridge, and the N.C.B.A. The main stipulation is that a member must notify the Society of his intention to perform the operation, then keep the Society informed at all stages of development, including blood typing of sire, donor dam, host dam and calf when born.

A number of calves born by this method are pending with the Society. Overseas Simmental Societies in Canada, America and New Zealand have already adopted similar schemes.

RULES FOR REGISTRATION OF CALVES

1. Member to notify the Society of his intention to transfer eggs prior to operation at time of insemination of donor female, stating identity of animal.

Blood Types of Donor

2. Blood types of donor female and host cow to be taken at time of transfer operation. The veterinary surgeon performing operation to verify identity of the animals involved, stating date of transfer.

3. A pregnancy diagnosis to be done at day 42.

4. At birth of calf, a blood sample to be typed. Four blood types (sire, dam, calf and host cow) to be submitted to laboratory for analysis, and a letter of interpretation obtained.

5. The member to pay costs of blood typing. The Society to reserve the right to take additional blood types if necessary.

6. Calves to be entered at prevailing charges in a separate register of the Society. Serial num-

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PRIZE DONATION FUND

The ASBA has opened a fund to provide prizemoney for Simmentals at future shows and competitions in which they will compete. The money so collected is being invested with the Australian Guarantee Corporation to provide a yearly income for prizes.

So far the fund has \$600 in kitty. The fund is still open and further donations will be gratefully received. They should be sent to the Secretary, Australian Simmental Breeders' Association, Box 4317, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W. 2001. □

bers starting T1 T2 etc. Notification of birth of calf must be made to the Society within 7 days.

7. Pedigree Registration Certificates to bear the words, "Born from transfer of eggs".

8. Notification of all stages to be made to Society, in duplicate, on a special proforma (self carbon) with tear off sections, each bearing the same serial number. Prepaid forms, 50p each, will be obtained from the Society. □

CATTLEMEN'S CONVENTION

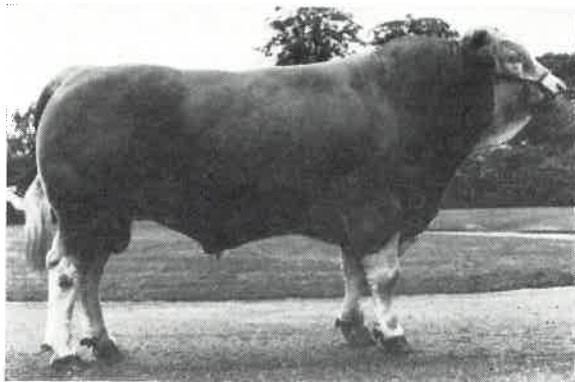
The first Australasian Cattlemen's Convention will be held on Queensland's Gold Coast at the Chevron Hotel from 11-15 June, 1973. The theme of the convention will be on breeding and management of beef cattle and will be of interest to all cattlemen wishing to increase production through better breeding methods.

A panel of experts has been invited to lecture and give demonstrations at the convention. Some of the subjects to be covered will include reproduction, oestrous synchronization, ovum transfers, A.I. in beef cattle, cattle breeding systems and selection for high fertility.

The convention is being sponsored by Australian Breeders Service, beef cattle consultants and A.I. specialists Dr. Loyd E. Donaldson, Managing Director of Australian Breeders Service said that the Convention will bring to cattlemen the latest information from the United States on animal breeding and the new exotic breeds which are making an impact on the cattle industry.

Cattlemen from New Zealand and the Pacific Islands region as well as Australia will be attending.

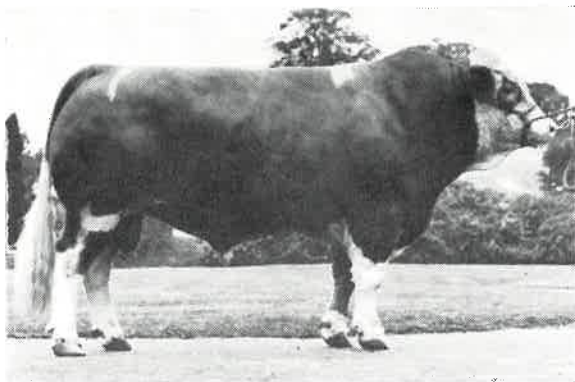
Applications for the Convention may be obtained by contacting the Secretary, Australasian Cattlemen's Convention, G.P.O. Box 2222, Brisbane, Qld. 4001. □



SCOTTISH HEROD \$10



SCOTTISH HOPE \$10



SCOTTISH NEPTUNE \$10

German Simmental Semen

from

CORHAN-GOLDEN-GENES A.B. CENTRE

In choosing German Simmentals the Scottish Milk Marketing Board decided, that of all the Simmental breeding countries of Europe, the Germans had concentrated more than others on selection for weight gain through a very extensive testing system on a national basis. So the Scots with their target as first class beefing quality, went for the German Simmentals, their decision being reinforced by the approval of the carcass quality by Tom McLauchlan, an experienced butcher who judged the championships at the Royal Smithfield Show in 1972. Hampshire Mayer was selected for Hampshire for precisely the same reasons. German Simmentals are bred for first class fleshing — with enough milk.

Adjacent to our quarantined A.B. Stud of 40 beef and dairy bulls is our experimental farm where visitors may inspect the calf drop of the German Simmentals whose semen we market.

INSPECT THE CALVES AND THEN ORDER THE SEMEN. NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

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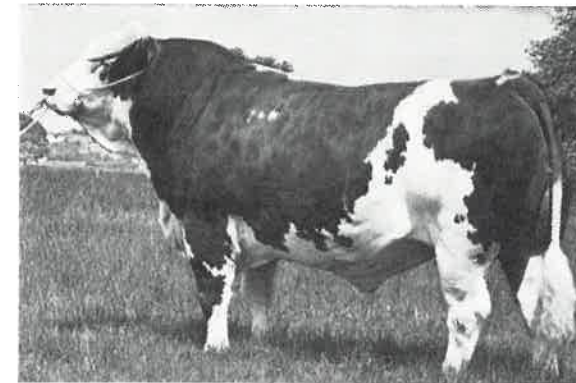
Please send doses of the German Simmental Bull ☐

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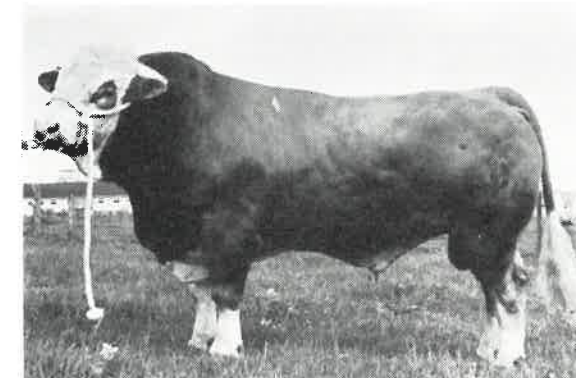
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WEIGHT RECORD

A recent issue of the Simmental Shield reports the following fantastic weight gain record by a young Simmental bull.

1,705 actual pounds at 365 days!

Frederick, Oklahoma—Big Red, a half-blood Simmental bull has broken the world yearling weight record. Bred and owned by International Simmental, Kansas City, Mo., Big Red has been stationed at the Southwest Bull Evaluation Centre here. Upon reaching his first birthday he was officially weighed by Laxton Malcolm, County Extension Director, after first balancing the official registered scale at the Bull Testing Station . . . 1,705 actual pounds.

The bull is sired by Parisien, the first Simmental bull to be introduced into North America in 1967. The dam, a Brown Swiss x Angus cross cow was bred from frozen semen from Parisien by artificial insemination, a service that is available throughout the U.S. To date over a million dollars of semen from Parisien has been sold. He has been proven as a Golden Certified Meat Sire.

Ken Holloway and Edgar Hamm, Managers of the Southwest Bull Evaluation Centre observed that "Big Red is an outstanding example of the beef animal of the future . . . blending size and growthiness of the Simmental breed of cattle with American cows descended from British Breeds. Hybrid vigour gives a big, 'extra kick' to the growth process which Big Red so remarkably demonstrated by his fantastic growth in only one year."

Big Red entered the Bull Station weighing 870-lb. for testing. After 140 days on test he weighed 1,535lb. with approximately 25lb. of feed and roughage per day. His average daily gain was 4.75lb. with a weight per day of age of 4.68lb. them. □

QUEENSLAND CALVES

The following letter regarding their first drop of Simmental calves has been received from Mr. D. G. Mactaggart, Managing Director of Woodhill Pastoral Co.

"Last Friday, 27th April, we weighed our first 8 calves dropped between the 29th of January, and 25th February. They showed an average daily weight gain of 1.7 lb. per day. The cows and calves are on natural grazing only, the calves are not given a calf creep supplement and the calves are not on foster mothers, the cows being top quality commercial Herefords purchased from the Toresdale stud in Queensland.

"During February and the early part of March we of course experienced severe heat conditions with intermittent rain periods and some of the calves were badly affected by scalding, so we consider that this average weight gain to be satisfactory under the circumstances." □

Evaluation of Sires in Canada

As reported elsewhere in this Newsletter, Mr. Doug Blair of Western Breeders Ltd., Balzac, Alberta, Canada, is concerned that when performance and progeny figures are published in relation to any sire they should be given on some firm basis of comparison. Here is how the Canadian Beef Sires Progeny Test Programme is conducted.

In the spring of 1971 Western Breeders and the Ontario Association of Animal Breeders joined together to form Canadian Beef Sires Progeny Test Programme. During the summer of 1971, 11 Simmental and 9 Limousin bulls were randomly mated to commercial beef cows in 19 different herds in 3 Western Provinces. Canadian Beef Sires contracted to purchase every male and female calf born in order to evaluate the genetic merits of the sires through their progeny.

Calves were born in the spring of 1972 and were purchased by Canadian Beef Sires in the fall of 1972. There are now 420 steers on feed at Western Feed Lots Ltd., Strathmore, Alberta and 360 heifers being developed on the farm of Ron Owen, Ponoka, Alberta.

Co-operating herd owners kept accurate records in order to supply C.B.S. with gestation length, calving ease score and birth weight of each calf on the programme. Calves were weaned on the farm of their breeder and then were purchased by C.B.S. and were moved to the feedlot or heifer farm. Western Feed Lots will supply growth rate information while the steers are in the feedlot and the Canada Department of Agriculture will supply carcass quality scores when the steers are slaughtered. The heifers will be bred in the summer of 1973 in order to produce calves in the spring of 1974. A material ability score will be developed when the calves are weaned in the fall of 1974 in order to compare the sires as to their material transmitting ability.

It is the objective of Canadian Beef Sires to compare the bulls on a contemporary comparison basis using indexes. The aim of the programme is to identify beef sires as to their relative genetic superiority and inferiority for important traits and make the test results known to the livestock industry.

The main traits to be stressed are (1) ease of calving (2) growth rate (3) carcass merit. Canadian Beef Sires is a continuous programme where new groups of sires are introduced for evaluation each year. Therefore 13 Simmental, 7 Limousin, and 5 Maine-Anjou bulls were used in the 1972 breeding season to produce calves in the spring of 1973. □

People who breed Simmentals

ALLAN FLETCHER

A keen exponent of the possibilities of the Simmental breed in the Australian beef industry is Allan Seymour Fletcher, of Dirk Brook, Keysbrook, W.A., an 1,800-acre property 37 miles south of Perth.

Allan was educated at Guildford Grammar School in Perth and then became a jackeroo on Turee at Coolah, N.S.W. and on Woodlands at Greenmount, Qld. While at Guildford he was stroke of the school's eight on two occasions and stroke of the four another year.

He joined the family partnership in Dirk Brook with his father and mother in 1957. In 1961 Allan married Lynette Clark and they have three children, Benjamin 8, Anna Catherine 2 and Bronte 6 months. He has been a vice-president of the United Beef Breeders' Association of W.A., an organisation of stud and commercial breeders.

This year at the R.A.S., Allan followed his father, Norman Fletcher's footsteps, when his father retired from the Council of the Australian

Hereford Society and Allan was elected to the Council. Congratulations! His father is a past president of the R.A.S. of W.A.

Dirk Brook is a cattle property and the Hereford stud was founded by his father in 1949, the first sire being a South Boorook bull by Hoberville Fair Boy from a Golf Hill Marinda dam, one of the most famous breeding families in Australia's Hereford history. Foundation females came from Tahmoor and Colly Creek. Further bulls were added to the stud from Bexley, Turee and Rose studs, and today the property carries 700 head of which 300 are breeders. Dirk Brook has won numerous Perth championships and their sale bulls find a ready market from Carnavon to Esperance, a distance of 1,100 miles.

Allan enjoyed a trip overseas in 1960 and later,

—Continued on page 12



Mr. Allan Fletcher

It's hard to determine what's best when selecting bulls from a "new breed" like the Simmental. Performance figures for individual bulls are available — for sure, but any cattleman worth his salt knows that individual performance as a selection factor has serious limitations.

So, until progeny test results are available on a scale that doesn't make a farce of statistics, what does a man do? . . . He acquires his semen through an organisation which knows about these things and for whom second best doesn't rate!

STOCK BREEDING SERVICES PTY. LTD.

Agents for:

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and

The Scottish Milk Marketing
Board

South West Highway,
BYFORD, W.A. 6201.
Tel.: Byford 251391

Canadian Centre's Large Simmental Sire Battery

An interested and interesting visitor to Australia during the recent Sydney Royal Show was Mr. Douglas G. Blair, Chairman and General Manager of Western Breeders Ltd., largest privately owned AI centre in Canada.

Mr. Blair told the Newsletter that of the seven breeds represented in the centre the Simmental was by far the most numerous, there being 46 sires in service at the present time. When asked which strain of Simmental breeders seemed to prefer, Mr. Blair said North American breeders were not much concerned from which country the sire came, but more in his performance record. For that reason Western Breeders had Simmental bulls from Switzerland, Germany, France, Austria, Scotland and Canadian bred bulls.

He said semen was available to Australian cattlemen through all licensed AI centres and to New Zealand breeders through International Semen Distributors. Semen available in Australia at the moment was from Extra (Swiss) and LPSR Supreme (French), both of which are standing at Balzac. (Incidentally, the writer was at last able to find the secret of LPSR. It stands for Little Pipestone Simmental Ranch.)



Mr. Doug Blair

Mr. Blair said Extra was a very long bull and a Hereford type. He had the highest growth rate gain in the Canadian Beef Sires' Progeny Test Programme and was the second highest in the NBI Progeny Test (U.S.A.) Extra sired the \$52,000 bull calf, Northern Image, sold in January, 1973 at the American Simmental Association's National Sale. At 205 days Image weighed 953 lb.

LPSR Supreme was first in growth rate from birth to weaning in the U.S. test and equal second in the Canadian test.

The bull who changed the pattern of North American livestock breeding Parisien, imported to Canada in 1967, is also standing at Balzac. He

is bull No. 1 in both the Canadian and U.S. registers.

As a parting word, Mr. Blair said he was a little concerned at some advertising regarding the performance of bulls being made available to breeders.

He said: "I, and many others, feel that when any progeny testing information about a bull is advertised or published, the source, year of test, number of progeny and the relative rank of the sire in the index system should be published. From experience I would say such a sire should have at least 30 progeny from ten different herds on the ground for the results of the progeny tested to be considered as reliable proof of his performance." □

SIMMENTAL PROGRAMME AT TERESA PARK

One of the largest individual Simmental insemination programmes in N.S.W. is now bearing fruit at Camden. This is at Teresa Park where 700 Hereford and Poll Hereford females have been inseminated to some of the best Simmental sires available.

Already some hundreds of first cross calves are on the ground and recently, leading Australian cattlemen who visited the property to see the project's progress were most impressed with the growth and general conformation of the calves. □

BREEDING SIMMENTALS

—Continued from page 11

after he became interested in the possibilities of Simmental cattle, he took a further trip in 1972 to study the breed on a European cattle study tour.

After comparing them with the other breeds available he returned to Australia convinced with their practicalities for the Australian beef industry. He was particularly impressed with their walking ability, added size and weight and their milking attributes.

To date, Dirk Brook has 50 first cross Simmental calves on the ground by Scottish Pride and Scottish Neptune. He said their colours were tending more to the Hereford than to the variability of the Simmental and, when asked the \$64 question, said:

"I have found calving remarkably easy and comparable to the pure beef breeds." □

INTERESTED IN SIMMENTALS?

Write to the Secretary, Australian Simmental Breeders' Association Ltd., Box 4317, G.P.O., Sydney 2001 for details on joining the Association.



Animal Breeding Services

(AUST.) PTY. LIMITED

THE AUSTRALIAN COMPANY

Actively engaged in the beef cattle industry. Covering all aspects from breeding to ownership of sires and semen production — AND exclusive agency arrangements for importation of TOP QUALITY SEMEN direct from overseas.

Our aim is to evaluate and supply semen from the best sires. We offer you the

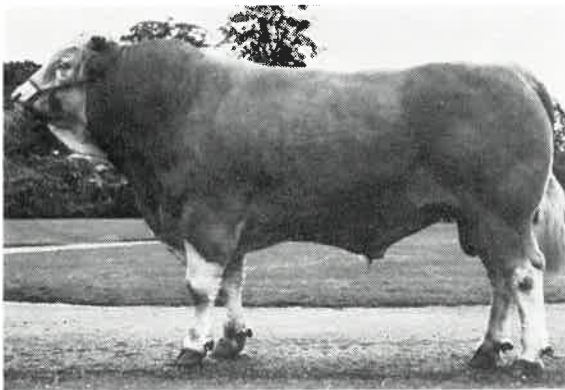
TOP SIMMENTAL SIRE SCOTTISH HEROD

WEIGHT		HEIGHT	AGE
kgs.	lbs.	cms.	
735	1620	140	700 days
1005	2215	148	3 years

Calving Survey

- 1. Farmer Assist3.0 %
- 2. Veterinary Assist0.6 %
- 3. Malpresentation1.6 %

Average birth weight of calves out of Friesian dams, 104 lbs.



SCOTTISH HEROD Born 8.3.69

We can also offer you the services of—

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275 George Street, Sydney 2000, N.S.W. Phones 29 5013 290 2098

Australians Buy More N.Z. Simmentals

A party of Australian Simmental breeders returned recently from a buying tour of New Zealand. N.Z. Simmental breeding is further advanced than in Australia and what the Australians saw firmly convinced them only top quality females should be used in grading-up programmes.

The party, which was led by Mr. Lionel Busquets, managing director of Animal Breeding Services (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., consisted of Mr. Dick Vincent, President of the Australian Simmental Association, and his wife; Mr. Charles Young, Glen Parc, Mittagong, N.S.W.; Barron Hack Stiernblad, Farm Woodbury, Bowral, N.S.W.; Mr. Dudley Ross, Aberfeldy, Holbrook, N.S.W.; Mrs. Sue Kelly, Corringle, Rugby, N.S.W. and Mr. Jim Maxwell, Sydney.

The party purchased approximately 200 first cross Simmental FI females and a small number of FI bulls on behalf of 10 principals from 20 herds in N.Z. All the Simmentals were spring, 1972 drop and therefore about six months older than the first calves dropped in Australia.

It is most significant that 95% of the purchases made by the touring party were progeny of the Scottish sires and the total consignment was by Fleckvieh (German) bulls.

N.Z. Simmental breeding is considerably advanced on Australian breeding and it became evident to the group as they inspected the FI Simmental progeny that discriminate selection of base females for quality was very desirable in any grading up programme.

There was evidence in N.Z. of the use of inferior quality base females and as a result this was clearly reflected in the lower quality of the progeny.

Where genetically sound base females of higher quality were used the Simmental first cross progeny were most impressive, particularly in growth in comparison to their contemporaries in the traditional breeds.

Mr. Busquets said it was significant that all the purchases made by the Australians were from Hereford and Poll Hereford base females.

The touring party were shown top quality herds, particularly in the South Island, and prominent among them were a group of 10 breeders known as the Southern Breeders Group. □

COUNCIL MEETING

A Council Meeting of the ASBA was held at White City Club on April 17 during the Sydney Royal Show. At the meeting the following officers were elected for the ensuing 12 months.

President: Mr. R. W. Vincent. Vice-Presidents: Messrs. H. W. W. Hopkins and J. W. Young. Treasurer: Mr. G. F. M. Quinn. Management Committee: Messrs. D. Bain, G. F. M. Quinn and R. Beggs.

Council adopted a resolution moved by D. Bain, seconded by R. Beggs, that in principal the Council in looking to the future consider the possibility of setting up permanent headquarters as funds and accommodation become available.

After a great deal of discussion an amendment moved by T. Lilley seconded by J. Young that the registration of approved Simmental bulls with the Association be a once-up fee of \$250, was carried, and was also carried as the motion. On the resolution of G. Quinn seconded by R. Beggs the resolution regarding a per annum fee for bulls carried at the last Council Meeting was rescinded. □

TREASURER QUINN

—Continued from page 16

Downer, Premier of South Australia and a member of the first Senate.

Another great uncle, Sir George Dibbs, was Premier of N.S.W.

Sir John Downer was the father of the recently retired High Commissioner to London, Sir Alexander Downer.

Another member of the family was the catalyst of what has, today, become a well known Australian legend. He was Captain James Quinn, captain of a ship in the Second Fleet to come to Australia. In the early 1800s he settled on land that is now the Pyrmont-Darling Harbour area of Sydney. One of Captain Quinn's sons settled in the Braidwood district and a daughter of this son, Mary, was the mother of New Kelly.

Mr. Quinn's family's political history is probably unique in that five of the last six generations have served in Parliaments in Australia.

His hobbies are as diverse as his business interests. In his student days he participated in a number of theatrical productions (amateur) and has written and produced reviews. He likes playing Shakespearian parts and also lampooning some of the Bard's characters. Some of his material has been used on review shows on TV.

He is a wide reader and has a deep appreciation of good music. He has a particularly soft spot for Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, which beautiful piece was written when that great genius was stone deaf and nearly blind.

The Australian Simmental Newsletter

INTERNATIONAL SEMEN DISTRIBUTORS

For the Best in Simmental

TATTENHALL AMENDMENT

A bull of outstanding colour, length and eye pigmentation. He is a later maturing bull than Aaron, and is fleshing out well as a rising two-year-old.

Will be over 2000 lbs. as a two-year-old.

Photographed at 17 months.

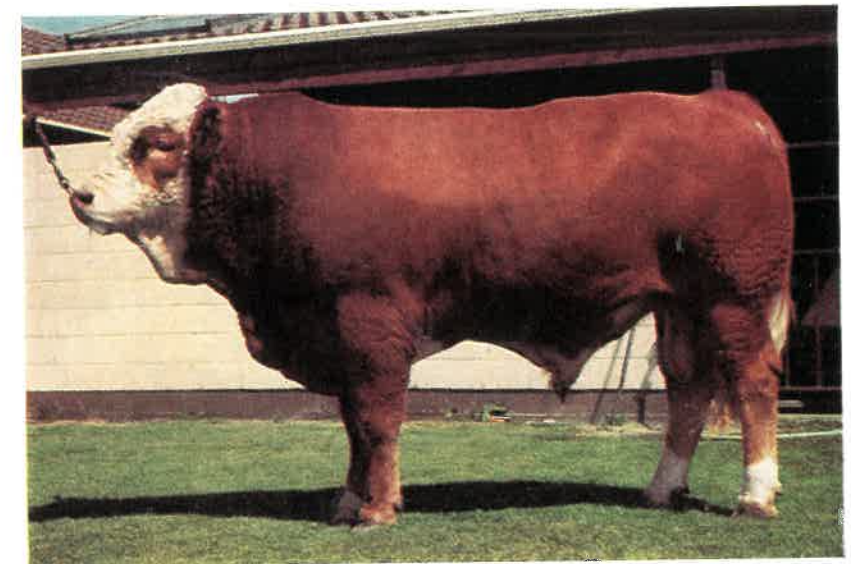
Born: 27th June, 1971

TATTOO: GFA-A1

Pedigree: No. 4

Bred by: Ernest Dodd, Esq., Tattenhall Farm, Tattenhall, Chester.

Owned by: Mr. R. MacDonald, "Kufra", Kaiapoi, New Zealand.



Sire: SCOTTISH NEFF (IMP.G.1970).

Calving Date	Milk (lbs.)	Butterfat (%)	Butterfat (lbs.)	Days in Milk
67/4	5434	3.97	216	166
68/3	12541	5.09	630	309
69/3	13038	4.19	546	319

Dam: LINDE (IMP.G.1970)

Calving Date	Milk (lbs.)	Butterfat (%)	Butterfat (lbs.)	Days in Milk
68/12	8460	4.18	352	278
69/12	9825	4.38	429	349

Performance in lbs.

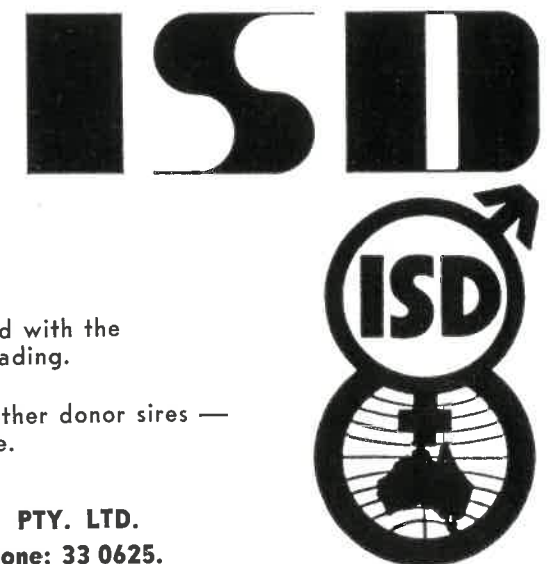
Birth Weight	200-day Weight	Gain Birth-200d	Year Weight
90	690	3.0	1105

Gain Birth-Yr.	Gain Since Arrival	400 day
2.8	4.7	1225

Please note Tattenhall Amendment is registered with the Australian Simmental Association for upgrading.

Orders should now be placed for Tattenhall — or our other donor sires — Neff, Herod, Pride, Neptune and Hope.

INTERNATIONAL SEMEN DISTRIBUTORS (AUST.) PTY. LTD.
15 ASCOT VALE RD., FLEMINGTON, VIC. 3031. Phone: 33 0625.



Know Your Council

TREASURER QUINN

Mr. G. F. M. Quinn, 31, principal of Tavistock Pastoral Co., Oakleigh, Coonabarabran, N.S.W., has had a lifetime interest in the land as has his family who have also been closely tied with the growth of Australia since Federation.

Geoffrey Quinn was educated at Cranbrook School, Sydney, and began his agricultural career as a student at Hawkesbury Agricultural College gaining his H.D.A. He then jackerooed on Logan Downs, a family property in Queensland, before working for two years in Sydney with a firm of chartered accountants.

He purchased Oakleigh in 1964 and founded Woburn Poll Hereford stud in 1967. An historic purchase for the stud came in 1970 when Mr. Quinn bought a three-quarter share in Springfield Hiawatha for \$14,000. This was the first time a share sale of a stud beef animal had taken place at auction in Australia.

Mr. Quinn considers the use of AI an invaluable tool for the beef cattle industry. The storage of semen provides for continuity of breeding from top quality bulls for a length of time impossible by natural service in the lifetime of the bull.

In 1971 Mr. Quinn was instrumental in founding what is now the Australian Simmental Breeders' Association, and was in fact its first President.

As mentioned, Mr. Quinn's family have had a long association with the land. His grandmother, Millicent Baldwin, was born at Durham Court, Manilla, nearly 100 years ago. Durham Court was selected by her father when he moved from the Hunter Valley where his father had settled. Durham Court was the home of the original Durham cattle imported to Australia.

Millicent Baldwin married W. A. Russell and today this branch of Mr. Quinn's family have extensive pastoral interests in Queensland. Mr. Quinn's mother was a Russell.

His family also has close historical and political associations in Australia. The final draft of the First Australian Federal Constitution was signed in the home of his great uncle, Sir John

—Continued on page 14



Mr. G. F. M. Quinn

COUNCIL OF THE AUSTRALIAN SIMMENTAL BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION LTD.

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Hamelin Park, Williams, W.A. 6391

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Mr. E. G. Ryland
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Oakleigh, Coonabarabran, N.S.W. 2857

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Royal Agricultural Society of N.S.W.,
G.P.O. Box 4317, Sydney 2001

This Newsletter has been compiled and edited by Alan Kay for the Australian Simmental Breeders' Association, and printed by Highway Press Pty. Ltd., 42 Chapel Street, Marrickville, N.S.W.

