THE AUSTRALIAN

ASBA Simmental

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1, No. 5. August, 1973

OFFSHORE QUARANTINE FOR CHRISTMAS IS.

Following Federal Government approval tenders will be called for an offshore quarantine station in May, 1974, to be built on Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean. The station is scheduled for completion by the end of 1975 and is being built specifically for the importation of cattle, sheep, goats and pigs — "the species for which there is major economic demand".

The decision follows an in-depth survey conducted by the Department of Works for the Department of Health, the three sites surveyed being Christmas Island, Cocos Island and Norfolk Island.

For many reasons the choice was Christmas Island, but two of the basic ones, from the stock and transport point of view, is that there are no indigenous animals on Christmas Island while it will have, by the end of 1973, an airstrip capable of taking some of the largest transports, such as a 707.

The decision will be widely welcomed by the Australian stock industry, particulary the beef industry, and specifically by such societies as the Australian Simmental Society of Australia who can now see an opportunity in the future to import ive cattle from Europe and other countries.

CONGRATULATIONS 500th!

The Australian Simmental Breeders' Association now has 500 members.

Congratulations to the 500th member enrolled — Mr. P. W. Ryan, R.M.B. 132, Coolangatta Rd., Berry, N.S.W.

It is envisaged the initial establishment will have five animal houses capable of holding 200 head of imported cattle at a time, as well as 50 Australian cattle to be used on the islands as "contacts" for the imports and as control animals for the detection of disease.

Extension plans allow for another four animal houses which will give the station a capacity of 450 cattle or their equivalent.

Estimated cost is $2.6m for construction only, as land acquisition costs are nil.

Further estimates project that the annual running cost will be in the vicinity of $500,000 and that the cost of putting a beast through the station — exclusive of any transport costs — will be $2,300 per head.

Apart from the airstrip, livestock can be unloaded from ships at Flying Fish Cove with the aid of a 17.5 ton capacity crane and barges al-

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McLAUGHLIN SIMMENTALS BY THE SHIPLOAD

A highlight of the growth of the Simmental breed in Australia occurred last week when the "Ida Clausen" unloaded 360 head of first cross Simmental cattle from New Zealand. One of the largest shipments of cattle ever to hit Australian shores in recent years, and imported by Simmental enthusiasts, McLaughlin Simmentals, Pararoo, Armidale.

Twenty of the cattle were first cross bulls, and these are now at Woodbury Farm, Bowral, the property of Baron Stiernblad, where they will be undergoing feeding trials for evaluation.

The rest of the cattle will be going to Palaroo, Armidale, by way of Trangie, where they will be agisted for a time.

The shipment created a great deal of interest and was the subject of TV time and newspaper press reports.

When the full story of the Simmental in Australia is finally written, the effort and money invested in the breed — and Australia — by the McLaughlin family will certainly be remembered.

BASICS FROM YOUR ASBA BASE . . .

Members are reminded that calf registration forms and all other information necessary for the Register will be forwarded direct to members from ABRI, University of New England, Armidale, N.S.W. as enrolments for the computer of base cows are effected.

These registration forms do not come direct from the Society.

The Association now has a telegraphic address, and anyone wishing to contact the ASBA in a hurry can telegraph or cable Austsimmental, Sydney.

* * *

ASBA now has 516 fully paid-up members and 270 herds fully enrolled on the Register.

For the information of members, the following Simmental bulls have paid their registration fee with the ASBA and are on our Approved Sires List:

SCOTTISH PRIDE, SCOTTISH NEPTUNE, SCOTTISH NEFF, SCOTTISH MARQUIS, SCOTTISH HOPE, SCOTTISH HEROD, AVONCROFT JOGGI, AVONCROFT ASTER, FRIARTON AARON, TATTENHALL AMENDMENT, COWCROFT ALBION.

Members are reminded that if they purchase semen from bulls after August 1, 1973, the semen must be from bulls approved by the Association if they wish to register the progeny.

The list will be published in each issue of the Newsletter, but between publications members may ring me for advice on newly registered ulls.

We are at present waiting on the registration of sires from the Milk Marketing Boards of England and Wales and from other countries.

There is still some confusion regarding the

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numbering of base cows for the register and some herds are duplicating numbers. An example: Hereford cow, **red** ear tag No. 10. Hereford cow, **blue** ear tag No. 10.

Neither the register nor the computer are designed to handle colour identification, and where breeders have used this system for their own use, would they **please** ensure base cows of the same breed have different numbers when the details are forwarded, even if this means evolving your own home system so that **blue** ear tag No. 10 could be No. 11 or whatever the case may be, for our records.

Where the base cows are of two different breeds, say a Hereford and a Friesian, they can have the same number, if a breeder is using the colour system, although it is not recommended.

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Would those members who have not as yet applied for a stud prefix, please forward three alternatives at the earliest possible moment, for submission to the Central Prefix Register for approval. For complete recording of your herd on the Register a prefix is essential. A fee of $1 is charged.

Members with city addresses who have not so far notified the Association as to the location of their Simmental breeding enterprise, would they please do so. The information is needed for zoning purposes.

* * *

I will be attending the Annual General Meeting of the Queensland Branch of ASBA to be held at 5 p.m. on Friday, August 10, and will be pleased to give any assistance members may require. The meeting will be held in the meeting room of the Hall of Science on the Brisbane Showground.

David Thomas

CHRISTMAS ISLAND FOR OFFSHORE QUARANTINE

—Continued from page 1

ready in operation. The survey states Christmas Island is ideally situated for the movement of cattle from Europe, Africa, North America and Asia and for the movement of stock out of Australia.

Christmas Island is 192 miles from the nearest land, Java Head, 815 miles from Singapore and 1,630 miles from Perth (W.A.). Its nearest point to Australia is North West Cape (W.A.), 875 miles to the south-east. It is 52 miles square, its only industry being the mining of phosphate of lime. It has a population of 3,044 people.

The survey covered every possible aspect as to the establishment of the station, including its effect on the environment. Advice and comment was asked for and received from other countries operating offshore or maximum security quarantine stations, including N.Z.

In its summary, the report from the Department of health stated:

"In conclusion the Department of Health accepts the design concept and sketch plans of the proposed high security animal quarantine station for Christmas Island.

"It is recommended that the committee endorse the proposal to construct a high security animal quarantine station on Christmas Island as outlined above (in the report) at a estimated cost of $2.6m."

SIMMENTAL CAR BADGE STICKERS NOW AVAILABLE

Mr. Harry M. Miller, a member of the ASBA and vice chairman of the N.S.W. Branch of the Association, who is now on his way back from a trip through Europe and the U.K., has arranged for 2,000 of the above car stickers to be presented to the Association free of charge.

Mr. Miller will bring them back with him on his return to Australia.

The sticker reproduced above is actual size and is an attractive, four colour, "peel and stick on" product. Members interested in acquiring the stickers, for which there is no charge, are asked to compete the form below and post, together with a reply-paid envelope for return mail, to the Secretary, Australian Simmental Breeders' Association, Box 4317, G.P.O., Sydney 2000.

— AND REMEMBER — EACH STICKER HELPS PROMOTE YOUR BREED, THE SIMMENTAL, SO PLEASE USE THEM!

Pease forward me (at no charge) ..... Simmental Car Stickers.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

..... Post Code

First N.Z. Pure Bred

Wrightson NMA Ltd., Palmerston North, N.Z. have reported to Newsletter that the first purebred Simmental calf to be born naturally in New Zealand was dropped on a Canterbury property in May. Although other calves of the breed have been born in this country as the result of ova transplants, Bertha, as the heifer calf is named, is the first from a Simmental dam.

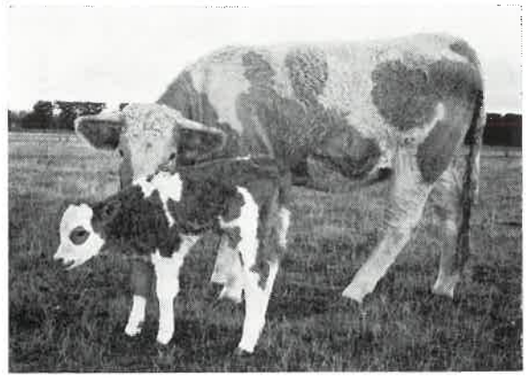
Weighing 75lb. at birth, Bertha first saw the light of day on Mr. A. R. Guthrey's Richmond Downs property at Amberley, where the Richmond Simmental stud is situated. Her mother is Friarton Astrid, a rising-two year old daughter of Scottish Neff, who is known internationally as one of the great sires of the breed.

Bertha herself is by Friarton Aaron, a son of Scottish Herod.

Mr. Guthrey is also awaiting the birth of a second calf early in August from his other Simmental heifer, Stuartslaw Alison, by Scottish Pride. Alison is in calf to Friarton Actor, a resident New Zealand sire also belonging to the Richmond Simmental herd.

A comprehensive Simmental stud is being established on this Amberley Farm, and in addition to the purebred nucleus, over 150 first-cross Simmental heifers form the basis of a select herd for future up-grading.

The first sale of Simmental cattle from Richmond Downs is expected in the autumn of 1974 when three-quarter bred cattle will be available. □



The Simmental calf, Bertha, shown here with her imported dam, Friarton Astrid, was photographed at Mr. A. R. Guthrey's Richmond Simmental Stud, Amberley, Canterbury in June this year.

SOLID DEMAND IN CANADA

In a letter to ASBA councillor, Mr. Doug. Bain, Mr. Ron. L. Holland, Director of Canadian Stock Breeders Service (Int'l.) Ltd., Alberta, reports a solid demand and good prices for Simmentals and their cross progeny. Mr. Holland reports:

Demand for percentage and purebred animals continues to increase along with the prices! Some sales for the breed are up at least 300% over the same period last year with more yet to come.

Three of our sires, Munter, Pirli and Harold are in short supply due to the current demand. Harald has been particularly popular with percentage and pure bred females because of his high index on calving ease. The best in the breed as a matter of fact.

All in all a very healthy position for Simmental. There are many reports of top placings of Simmental crossbred steers in 4-H Shows and other fat stock shows throughout North America.

In one case the first four places at a show were taken by Munter-sired calves. The breed has proven to the slaughter trade that it can yield and grade as well as gain weight.

This in itself will give Simmental a long range future. The same pattern is bound to develop in your country. □

MEMBERS! THIRD TIME LUCKY!

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.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

STATE..... POST CODE.....

Signature.....

IMPORTANCE OF PROGENY TESTING AI PROGRAMMES

(By Douglas C. Blair, General Manager, Western Breeders, Balzac, Alberta, Canada)

The following is an interesting article by Mr. Blair on the role of progeny testing in an A.I. programme.

Artificial insemination (A.I.) has become a very common phrase with livestock improvement throughout the world. The true definition of the words "artificial insemination" is, however, the mechanical depositing of semen.

The words through common usage have come to mean much more than this simple definition. A.I. now includes bull selection, bull proving, semen collection and processing, semen distribution and the actual insemination of the cow.

Artificial insemination has been promoted as a method of livestock improvement because it makes possible, through the magic semen, very wide use of outstanding sires.

Instead of a bull being able to service 30 to 50 cows per year, he is now able, through A.I. to breed 10, 20. 30 or more thousand cows per year. A.I. can only be supported as a livestock improvement method if the bull who breeds so many cows is, in fact, genetically superior to the average bull used by natural service.

In the dairy industry where artificial insemination has been used for over 30 years, a very sophisticated method of progeny testing has been developed in order to evaluate sires for their genetic worth.

The first cross Simmental population in Australia is growing apace, and many breeders have used well known dairy breeds as their base cows. This photograph from Mr. John Richard's Trendally Simmental stud, Kangaroo Valley, N.S.W., shows an Australian Illawarra Shorthorn base cow with her first cross heifer calf, who is too busy about the goodies of life to bother about the camera. The calf, c. 8.2.73, weiged 65lb. and was three weeks early.

In both Canada and the United States all A.I. organizations carry on a young sire's proving programme in order to develop outstanding dairy sires. This programme involves the selection of young sires based on pedigree merit for production and conformation. The bulls are sampled in many different herds and evetually their contemporary comparison rating for milk production and important conformation traits.

The experience up to the present time has been that even though these bulls are highly selected on pedigree merit, it still takes 5 or 8 young sires sampled for every one Superior bull returned to service.

The dairy A.I. programme has always been used as an example to the beef man to show him what a progressive sire programme is. It should be remembered, however, that the present system of sire proving was not developed until 50 years after the start of official dairy production testing and approximately 20 years after the start of dairy A.I.

When it is considered that the wide use of performance testing in beef cattle has been a relatively recent development, and the use of A.I. in beef herds is even more recent, it is not surprising that highly developed sire proving programmes have not been common in the beef industry. It is essential that bulls who are widely used through artificial insemination be genetically superior in order that A.I. may make a contribution to the livestock industry and maintain its place as an important management tool.

The only sure method developed to date, considering our beef breeding industry, to ensure that sires who receive wide use through A.I. are, in fact superior, is through the progeny test.

What is a progeny test?

(a) It is **not** using 1 bull in a herd and weighing the resulting calves to see how much they weigh.

(b)It is **not** selecting 5 or 10 steers and putting them in a feedlot to see how fast they will grow.

(c) It is **not** setting a world record weaning or yearling weight.

(d) It is **not** waiting until progeny of a bull are mature to see how much they weigh at maturity.

The above are not progeny tests because in each case other factors are more influential than the genetic contribution of the bull. For example, in (a) the set of calves by 1 bull in 1 herd measures the man's ability to care for cattle. There are no other sires used in order to compare how

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TWINS GALORE!

A percentage of twins that could rewrite the record books is a highlight of the Simmental breeding programme at the Bowman's Wargundy property, Craboon, N.S.W. (Chris. Bowman is a Councillor of the ASBA.)

Chris reports to Newsetter:

We now have had six sets of twins in 73 calvings and all were natural, unassisted births. The twins comprise three sets of males, two sets of females, and one of mixed sexes.

The sire, Thierauch, was resposible for one set of bull twins and Herod for the rest. (I would like to mention here that the bulls are not responsible for this twinning. but our good cows! Bulls only influence twinning through their daughters—having a greater, or lesser, propensity to twin.)

All were born April/May, 1973, the first on April 15 and the last on May 23 and all are well.

They ranged from being two weeks premature to being on time. They averaged 55lb. at birth with a low of 40lb. and a top of 64lb.

Mr. Bowman adds an interesting point on this twinning rate. He writes: According to Prof. Neil Yates' book "Modern Aspects of Animal duction" the normal twinning rate in beef cattle is about 4.4/1,000 calvings, which makes our results quite remarkable. □

PROGENY TESTING

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good or bad a job the bull did. In (b) the man's aility to select cattle to go into the feedlot is the most important evaluation as well as the differences in environmental background of the different sets of calves. In (c) we are again measuring the man's ability with the feed bucket as well as his ability to select a single animal for growth rate.

It is very possible for even the poorest quality bulls to have a few outstanding offspring, therefore the singe calf is no measure of the bull's true genetic worth. In (d) if we wait until progeny are mature, there will be many environmental factors which will effect the mature weight of the animal making it impossible to compare sires but more important is the fact that the bull being tested will be old, therefore of very little further use when he does become progeny tested.

What **is** a progeny test? The key word in a progeny test is "comparison." The bull must be compared with other sires, preferably of the same breed, for economically important traits. The following steps are necessary in order to have an accurate comparison.

(a) The average genetic merit of the cows bred to each sire must be the same. This is accomplished by random mating, preferably in several herds.

(b) The progeny to be compared must be under the same environment. This means that we must do a within herd comparison of the results of each sire.

In other words, we must compare the progeny of each sire with the progeny of other sires in the same herd, born in the same season. We can add the information on each sire from the different herds only after we have made a within herd comparison. If we think of a progeny test as a horse race, the essentials are to start at the same point and race down the same track.

An ideal progeny test is where a sire as well as several other bulls are used on many cows in many different herds. This gives a good cross section of environmental conditions that bulls may be used under when they are used widely through A.I.

WHAT TO MEASURE

What Traits Should be Measured in a Beef Bull Progeny Test:

(a) Relative calving ease
(b) Growth rate
(c) Carcase quality
(d) Material traits

Results of Progeny Testing:

Up to the present time no standard method has been developed for presentation of the results of progeny tests. It is important that progeny test information be published in a manner that is quickly understood and clearly shows the differences, or lack of differences between sires.

A table is being experimented with by Western Breeders Service for the 1973 breeding season. This tale is being used for presenting the results of the Conception to Consumer programme. The plus factors are:

Low birth weight
High percentage born unassisted
Low death loss
High indexes for growth and carcase traits.
The minus factors are:
High birth weights
Low percentage born unassisted
High percent death loss
Low indexes for growth and carcass traits.

The results are then presented in simple table form.

Summary:

The use of artificial insemination by the beef cattle producers has increased very rapidly during the past few years. Many beef bulls in A.I. Studs breed thousands of cows each year. If A.I. is to continue to be an important management tool, the bulls who are used on many thousands of cows must be genetically superior sires. The progeny test is the best known method to date to identify genetically superior sires. □

Simmental Figures

Average milk yield of the Simmental breed in Switzerland is around 880 gallons at 4.03 per cent butterfat, but individual yields range to over 2,000 gallons, not necessarily with any less butterfat. Average production for "an adult flat land cow" is put at just over 1,000 gallons at 4 per cent.

Fecundity is a claimed strong point of the breed with an average calving index of 385 days being one figure quoted.

The German Simmental strain has been developed by successive crossing of Swiss Simmental animals on the local breeds for upwards of 250 years.

It has been suggested that a little less emphasis has been placed on milk production and a little more on beef, yet figures from the two countries vary but little in either characteristic.

Bulls are given a rather higher mature weight in Germany but cows a rather lower one. Milk yields are given a rather wider range — 800 gallons for all recorded cows, 872 for all registered ecorded cows, but going to 2,200 gallons for the best individuals. Butterfats are in the same range as the Swiss — 4.03 to 4.11 per cent as averages obtained in different ways.

Young bulls (not steers) are expected to achieve liveweights of 990 to 1,430lb. at 10 to 18 months and to dress out at 55 to 60 per cent. □

VICTORIAN MEETINGS

Newsletter has been advised that the Victorian Branch will be holding a committee meeting at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, September 24, on the Melbourne Showground during the period of the 1973 Melbourne Royal Show.

An ASBA council meeting will be held the same day at 2 p.m. in No. 1 meeting room of the Members' Stand of the TBC Trotting Club on the Showground.

The Victorian Branch will be holding a cocktail party the same evening at the Melbourne Cricket Club. Tickets are $5 per head. □

SIMMENTALS TEST WELL

Following are some highlights as they affect the Simmental breed from a interbreed test conducted in the U.S.A. in 1971.

On fertility, Fleckvieh topped the poll with two others, Angus and Galloway, while three different strains of Simmental showed the best milking ability, with the German Simmental at the top for mothering ability.

The German, Swiss and French Simmentals also lead the field for feed conversion and the Fleckvieh was equal top for post-weaning growth.

For disposition the Simmentals lead all the way and in the overall calculation the German Simmental led all breeds. followed by the French and Swiss Simmental, tied in second place.

Twenty-one breeds were represented in the test. □

$31,800 SIMMENTAL

It has been reported from New Zealand that Mr. K. Rathie, of Finley, N.S.W., has purchased a third share in a Simmental bull for $10,600. □

SIMMENTALS ON GRASS

Particular emphasis is laid on the grass and hay consuming abilities of the Swiss strain of Simmental, it having been named after the Simme valley in the Bernese Oberlant of that country.

Both feeds are considered to be of very high quality however, with the grass growing quickly in warm spring conditions and with adequate soil moisture left by retreating snow, and hay being typically made in small patches with the aid of various above-ground air-drying techniques.

The cattle graze up to heights of 8,000 feet above sea level in the relatively short summer, mid-May to the end of August and the exercise promotes good feet and legs and general hardiness. In winter the cattle are housed and are fed hay but also silage, kale, fodder beet, but very limited concentrates because of their high cost.

There is a wider range of feeding, but still mainly forage feeding. suggested for the German Simmental according to the pattern of farming in different districts. Straw plays an important part, even to the extent of 50 per cent of total winter feed it is claimed in some districts.

N.S.W. COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee of the N.S.W. Branch of the ASBA will be held on Wednesday, September 19.

Time is 2.30 p.m. and venue is the home of committee member, Mrs. R. F. Mason, 15 Watlong Crescent, West Pymble. □

QUEENSLAND INITIATIVE

Spreading the Simmental word at this year's Miles Show in Queensland was a display of non-competitive Simmmetal cross cattle which created more than their share of interest.

The idea to promote the breed, and the cattle, came from two active ASBA members, Mr. Eric Ryland of E.G. and M. Ryland, Woodlands, Condamine and S. Pohlner and Sons of Wandoan.

Mr. Ryland in a letter told Newsletter they were kept busy all day answering questions regarding Simmentals.

The idea is one that could be expanded by members in other centres. □

Large Scale Simmental Trial in Queensland

The ASBA has received the following letter from Mr. B. A. Woolcock, Director, Beef Cattle Husbandry Branch of the Department of Primary Industries, Queensland, re a Simmental grazing trial. Mr. Woolcock writes:

"Your association will no doubt be interested in a large scale experiment aimed at evaluating the Simmental breed under extensive grazing conditions in the Brigalow region of Central Queensland. This study is in progress on this Department's Brigalow Research Station, some 27 miles north west of Theodore.

"Over a period of three years (1972-74) some 600 Hereford females will be inseminated with semen from twelve randomly selected Simmental sires standing at various overseas centres.

"The F1 progeny will be compared with straight Hereford progeny run under identical conditions. Reciprocal back crosses to Hereford will also be compared with straight Herefords. The dams are excellent quality grade Herefords of "Playfields" and "Meemooloo" origin and the Hereford bulls used to date are sires from "Torsdale", "Devoncourt", "Charvel", "Boggomos" and other studs.

"In addition semen from the noted Hereford "Woodlands Shah" has been used to produce some of the calves which will be compared with the Simmental progeny.

"Simmental sires used in the first year were Cambridge Ruhma, Otto, Talent and Kilian. Those to be used this year are Landmark, Hampshire Mayer, Scottish Pride and Scottish Neptune.

"Fertility ease of calving birth weights, growth rate to weaning, weaning weights, post-weaning growth, carcase traits and cancer eye incidence will be monitored.

"The first F1 calves are due early in August, 1973 and the initial weaning data should be available by June 1974.

"I would be pleased to provide any further information requested by your association and would welcome any comment on this study."

N.S.W. BRANCH MEETING

Results of elections held at the Annual General Meeting of the N.S.W. Branch of ASBA at White City in June were:

Chairman: Doug Bain.

Vice-chairman: Harry M. Miller.

Committee: G. F. M. Quinn, P. Magennis, P. Bowen J. Richards, C. Foreshaw, I. McDuie, A. Birdsall and Mrs. R. Mason.

Incidentally, Mrs. Mason has the distinction of being the first woman elected to a committee of the ASBA.

The Branch recommended that Council of the ASBA support moves by various beef industry authorities to have an offshore quarantine station established.

The Branch also recommended that Council provide a Standard of Excellence for the Simmental breed in Australia.

A very warm motion of appreciation was adopted concerning the work of drafting and organising done by Mr. Chris Bowman in launching the Simmental Recording Register. □

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.

SWISS "BARON" NOW AVAILABLE TO AUST.

A new bull that has arisen on Australian breeders' horizon is Baron, bred by Franz Burren, Hubel-Oberwangen, Switzerland, and now owned by the Big Barr Mountain Cattle Co., Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

This lengthy. Hereford-marked bull, has a very good progeny test summary behind him, which can be seen elsewhere in this issue. He was calved 8.1.69 and at 1.11.72 weighed 2,325lb.

His sire, Forester, owned by the Swiss Federation for A.I., had a type score of 94 out of 100, and his dam, 96 out of 100.

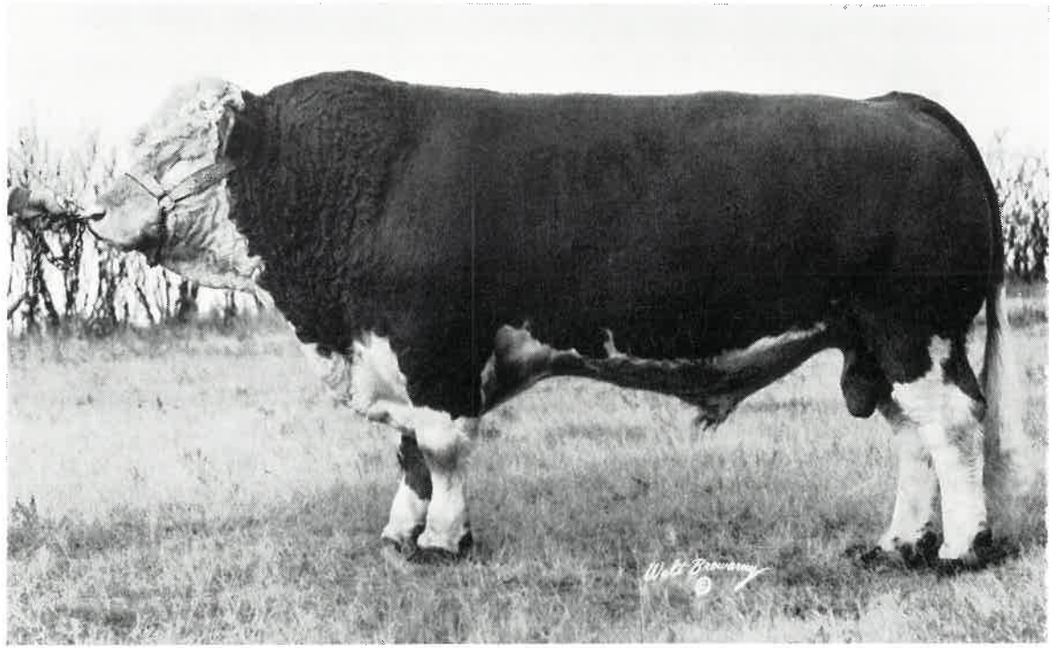
Baron's dam, Bologne, had a type score of 95 out of 100 and in five lactations averaged 9,414lb. of milk at 396lb. butterfat at 3.8%. She showed a calving interval of 12 months.

Baron is described as a real breeder's bull. He is masculine. is well marked and has plenty of length. He stands on excellent feet and legs.

His sire, Forester, is long and trim with really good muscling in his hindquarters.

Longevity, steady milk production, high test and regular breeders are strong in Baron's pedigree.

His sire has been a top money winner four times in annual competitions. A Baron-sired calf topped the 1972 Canadian Simmental Sale at $16,200. □



BARON — CSA 113. C. 8.1.69

Weight: 1.11.72 — 2,325lb. by Forester — MM4799 from Bolongne — MM 3640.

"Baron" is a real breeders bull. He is masculine, is well marked, has plenty of length. He stands on excellent feet and legs. His sire, Forester, is long and trim with real good muscling in his rear quarter. He is in service at the A.I. Centre in Neuchatel, Switzerland and has a score of 94 on classification. Longevity, steady milk production, high test and regular breeders are strong in Baron's pedigree. His sire has been a top money winner four times in annual competition. A Baron sired calf topped the 1972 Canadian Simmental Sale at $16,200.00.

BARON PROGENY TEST SUMMARY

Ease of Calving Summary				Weaning Summary		Feed Test Summary				Carcass Evaluation Summary			
Number of Calves	Birth Weight	% Born Unassist.	% Death Loss	200 Day Wn. Wt. Male	200 Day Wn. Wt. Female	No. of Calves	A.D.G. To Wean	A.D.G. On Feed	Weight At End Of Test	Carcass Wt. Per Day Of Age	Dressing %	Loin Eye Area Sq. Inch	Cover Fat Per 100 lb
223	85.5 lb	99	0	521 lb	488 lb	15	2.37 lb	2.83 lb	1131 lb	1.60	59.7	11.56	.09
STATION AVERAGE						50	2.09 lb	2.09 lb	1058 lb	1.47	59.7	11.07	.10

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. □

READERS' OPINIONS

Have you some thoughts on the Simmental breed and its place in the Australian beef industry? Have you been overseas inspecting Simmental cattle? Have you any suggestions as to the type of material you would like to see in your Newsletter? Then please write to the Editor, Australian Simmental Newsletter, Box 4317, G.P.O., Sydney, 2001. He will be pleased to hear from you. □

COUNCILLOR BOWMAN

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and after seeing dramatic evidence of the Simmental calves outstripping their Shorthorn counterparts in growth.

Mr. Bowman is firmly committed to the Simmental, believing that it will make a major contribution to the Australian cattle industry of the future. He has been particularly impressed by the very advanced breeding techniques that the Europeans have use to develop the breed, and is glad to have been associated with a Council that has adopted similar techniques for Australia. □

BREAKDOWN OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the ASBA now stands at 516. This gives a State representation of: N.S.W., 167; Victoria, 141; Queensland, 91; W.A., 59; S.A., 50 and Tasmania 8. There are 16 associate members.

BASE COW AND CALF TRANSFERS

Would members please take particular note that when they sell a base cow with a first cross calf at foot two basic rules must be followed.

(1) Make sure the calf has been tatooed.

(2) Ensure the purchaser knows the date of birth of the calf and the name of his sire.

Know Your Council

COUNCILLOR BOWMAN

A New South Wales representative, Mr. Christopher Bowman, 26, is the youngest member of the Council of the ASBA.

His major interest in the land is through his family property "Wargundy" Craboon, N.S.W., which is managed by his father, Mr. Ken Bowman, mother, Mrs. Beryl Bowman and brother, Mr. Garwain Bowman.

"Wargundy" has been in the Bowman family since 1835, but the history of the family in Australia dates back much further than that. As a sixth generation Australian, Mr. Bowman traces his heritage to 1798 when John Bowman arrived in Sydney Cove to settle at Windsor.

From there the family branched out to Singleton and Mudgee and having "come forth, they multiplied" to establish many family properties in these areas of N.S.W.

Chris Bowman

Chris. Bowman completed a Bachelor of Rural Science (Hons.) at the University of New England, Armidale in 1968. He continued his agricultural career as a Teaching Fellow in Agronomy at the University while studying for a Master of Rural Science degree.

While at Armidale he married Syndy Tarrant of Goondiwindi, a psychologist who is presently studying for a Doctor of Philosophy Degree at the Australian National University. This year he resigned from the University to join the Trade Commissioner's Service and expects to be posted overses in 1974.

Now living in Canberra, Chris Bowman continues to play an active role as advisor to the Simmental breeding programme being carried out at "Wargundy."

The family plans to build up a 250 cow pure bred Simmental herd by 1985 and aims to provide the surrounding areas with high grade Simmental seed stock.

Mr. Bowman says that the family has 80 calves on the ground at this stage and expects another 150 by the end of this year. They have been exceptionally pleased with the animals born to date after having virtually no calving difficulty

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COUNCIL OF THE AUSTRALIAN SIMMENTAL BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION LTD.

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