THE AUSTRALIAN



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2, No. 3

APRIL, 1974

Simmental "Royale" Sale Smashes Records!

Despite a persistent drizzle of rain the Simmental breed charged onto the Australian beef scene last month with a sizzling sale that saw world records topple in the space of a few minutes.

Four pure bred Simmentals were offered and from the moment the first one stepped into the ring before a large crowd, it was obvious this was going to be no ordinary sale.

Lot one was the heifer Southern Cynthia (26.7.73) by Scottish Herod from Bent Amanda who started the sale off with a world record price for a Simmental heifer when sold to Mr. A. S. Hilditch, Cobrabald River, Walcha, N.S.W. for \$42,500.

The record was probably one of the shortest lived in the history of world records, as lot two, Southern Cleopatra (11.8.73) by Scottish Neff from Laird Alison, went under the hammer for \$43,000 to the same buyer, Mr. Hilditch.

Records continued to topple as the first purebred bull entered the ring. He was Southern Christian (24.12.73) by Scottish Herod from Bent Andrewina and was sold to ASBA President, Mr. R. W. (Dick) Vincent, Hamelin Park, Williams, W.A., for \$25,000, an Australian record for a Simmental bull.

The second Simmental bull was sold for \$17,000 to The Fleurs stud, St. Marys, N.S.W.

He was Southern Claudius (21.7.73) by Scottish Herold from Bent Agatha. All the purebreds were sold account Southern Breeders, Invercargill, Southland, N.Z.

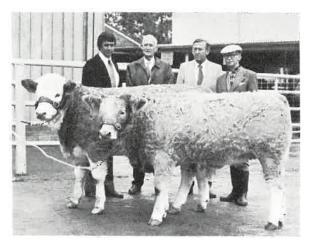
Buyer of the two record breaking heifers, Mr. Hilditch, also paid over \$31,000 buying F.I. heifers at the sale. He is also a Charolais breeder and has a 4,000 acre property in the New England country near Walcha. He sees a great future for the Simmental in Australia and his purchases at Glen Parc, Mittagong, were his first venture into the breed.

The sale grossed \$287,650, with 83 head of F.I. heifers selling to \$3,600 and averaging \$1,930.

Other main buyers were:

- Mr. Geoffrey Mort, principal, Mort and Co., Sydney, on account of Sundowner stud, bought 10 F.I. heifers for \$19,700.
- ◆ Elders-GM, Melbourne, on account of Mr. John Griffiths, bought 14 FI heifers for \$23,600.
- Cotswold Farm, Mittagong, next door neighbour to Mr. Charles Young, Glen Parc, walked home nine F.I. heifers at a cost of \$5,500.

-Continued on page 3



These two pure bred heifers made \$85,500 at the record breaking Australasian Simmental Royale Sale held at Glen Parc, Mittagong, Standing behind the heifers are Messrs. Alan Roe, Stud Stock, Elders-GM; S. Hilditch, Cobrabald River. Walcha, who purchased the two heifers; John Evans, manager, N.S.W. Elders-GM, and Charles Young, Glen Parc, Mittagong.

Heylesbury's "Wake Up and Think"

(By R. J. G. Schlenker, Jancourt East, Vic.)

The Victorian Branch of the Australian Simmental Breeders' Association maintained a small and interesting display at this year's Heylesbury Show — the "Future Show" of the Western District.

With three very well presented heifers (11 months old) of Hereford — base dams shown by H. W. W. Hopkins of Wormbete, Vic. and two bucket-reared (8 months old) heifers of Jersey-base dams shown by R. J. G. and M. Schlenker, of Jancourt East, Vic., together with a number of posters giving facts, figures and showing photos, we endeavoured to promote the economic value of Simmental in Australia. Mr. Begg, Mr. Hopkins and myself were in attendance.

Wanting the limelight, Henry's heifers were a little put out by the posters and nearly succeeded in destroying all our hard efforts and only a bucket of water saved the day.

However, judging from the number of inquiries we received regarding bulls, semen, A.I. programmes etc. I think the display was a success.

One of the tables displayed show that although the Simmental originated in a cold climate it is more than holding its own in heat tolerance trials with other breeds in South-West Africa conducted by Omatjenne Research Station. This is a semiarid country with an average summer rainfall of 400 ml and an average daily summer temperature of 33 degrees C. (Maximum of 40 dgrees C) and where the temperature during winter can sink below zero.

In another South and South-West African trial, the Simmental achieved a calving percentage of 92.5% against the Afrikander's 84%.

Other charts and graphs showed the production capabilities of the Simmental in relation to meat and milk and its excellent rate of gain.

On one particular poster we showed that on the Australian vealer market in January of this year at 45c a lb. for prime veal, the Simmentals would have brought in an average of \$40.50 over some breeds and \$80. 80 over one.

In many journals, beef cattle articles and literature on A.I., I consider the heading of "beef breed" in relation to the Simmental is due for an overhaul.

The Simmental breed can, and in time to come will, make a significant contribution to the Aus—Continued on page 9



50 HALF BRED SIMMENTAL HEIFERS

55 COWS WITH HALF BRED SIMMENTAL CALVES AT FOOT.

40 BASE COWS INSEMINATED TO SIMMENTALS

10 HALF BRED SIMMENTAL BULLS

TAMWORTH THURSDAY, 16TH MAY,

Full details will be appearing in Rural Newspapers or are obtainable from the Selling Agents;



WINCHCOMBE CARSON LIMITED

Sydney — Phone: 20552

Tamworth — Phone: 66-4560

ROYALE SALE RECORDS

-Continued from page I

• AML and F, Moss Vale, paid \$20,300 for nine F.I. heifers for Dr. F. Fisher, whose name had not appeared at recent stud stock sales in the district.

Dr. Messerschmidt, who opened the sale, said the Simmental breed had proved itself throughout the world and the animals were bred to pass on the best characteristics of the breed to other cattle.

His organisation was designed to lift up the basic material of the breed and an intensive programme was for an interchange of information on animal breeding between Germany and Australia.

Hosts at the luncheon before the sale were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Young who, with staff, prepared a meal of delicious Simmental beef.

The selling agents were Dalgety Australia Ltd., with Mr. David Marshall selling; and Elders-GM, with Mr. Tony Dowe, Goulburn branch manager, on the rostrum. Managing agents for the sale were Animal Breeding

Services (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.

These were the main buyers of F1 heifers:

A. S. Hilditch, Walcha, \$3,400, \$1,600, \$3,200, \$2,000, \$,700, \$2,100, \$2,700, \$1,750, \$3,600, \$3,000, \$3,500, \$2,500.

Billinudgel Pastoral Company, Mullimbimby, \$1,750, \$1,600, \$1,200, \$1,750, \$2,400, \$1,900.

Elders-GM, Melbourne, a/c John Griffiths, \$1,600, \$1,750, \$2,000, \$1,200, \$1,900, \$1,100, \$1,400, \$1,400, \$1,700, \$3,100, \$2,250, \$1,700, \$1,400, \$1,400,

\$1,700, \$2,000, \$1,200, \$1,700, \$1,400, \$1,400, \$1,400, \$1,400, \$1,600, \$2,250, \$1,700, \$1,400. Mort and Co., Sydney, a/c Sundowner stud, \$2,400, \$3,000, \$1,600, \$2,300, \$1,600, \$1,400, \$2,100, \$1,500, \$1,900, \$1,900, \$1,900.

Cotswold Farm Mittagong, \$1,700, \$1,900, \$1,100, \$1,700, \$1,400, \$2,000, \$1,600, \$1,600.

Tasman Simmental Breeders, \$1,800. Woodbury Farm, Bowral, \$1,600.

Paul Trenouth, Kurrajong, \$1,400, \$1,900, \$1,600, \$1,300, \$1,400, \$1,400.

AML and F, Moss Vale, a/c Dr. F. Fisher, \$1,700, \$1,600, \$3,000, \$3,000, \$1,500, \$2,100, \$2,300, \$3,000, \$2,700, \$2,400.

E. A. and C. W. Vincent, Williams, W.A., \$1,800, \$1,500.

Lowe, Manalooka, Minto, \$1,500, \$1,300, \$1,800. Rodger Kelly, Corringle, Rugby, \$2,000. Charles Jaeger, Lilydale, Victoria, \$2,800.

Council Phone Numbers

R. VINCENT — PERTH 32-242.

J. YOUNG — SPENCE 23.

H. HOPKINS - WINCHELSEA 108.

D. BAIN — SYDNEY 31-7313 797-8354.

G. QUINN — SYDNEY 36-5368 WARKTON 427-238.

C. BOWMAN — CANBERRA 86-1942.

T. LILEY — YANARIE 871-240.

P. McLAUGHLIN — GELANTIPY (051) 550-244.

R. BEGGS — STOCKYARD HILL 38.

D. BAKER — FURNER 34-3031.

A. FLETCHER — KEYSBROOK 6.

J. WITHERSPOON — RAVENSHOE 120.

J. A. DUMARESO — LONGFORD 91-1134.

D. G.MACTAGGART — SOUTHPORT 322 049.

S. S. BASSETT — DURHAM DOWNS 3H.

H. M. MILLER — SYDNEY 211 5055.

D. THOMAS — A.S.B.A. OFFICE SYDNEY 31-7781.
The Australian Simmental Newsletter — April, 1974

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

The next issue of the Australian Simmental Newsleter will be published in June, 1974.

Deadline for booking advertising space, and deadline for receipt of advertising copy and editorial contributions is Friday, May 24, 1974.

The Editor may be contracted by writing to Alan Kay, 51B Bundarra Road, Bellevue Hill, N.S.W. 2023 or phone: 26 6941 business hours; 36 5617 evening.

RECORDING REGISTER'S NEW MANAGER

Frank Anderson has taken over the management of the Simmental Recording Register at the A.B.R.I. He is a University of New England graduate in agricultural economics (1967) and has been actively involved in agriculture since that time.

He took a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Oregon State University in 1972 and followed this by 18 months of research and development of computer models for beef production systems. The latter work was sponsored by the U.K. Meat and Livestock Commission.



Frank Anderson

During the last two years Frank has also been involved in a regional development programme in Iran and a livestock development programme in Latin America. Frank is vitally interested in livestock production and is very enthusiastic about the positive role that research centres such as the A.B.R.I. can play for individual producers and groups of producers such as A.S.B.A.

He feels that the Simmental Recording Register has now developed to an extent when it needs a field liaison officer to help breeders to maximize their benefit from recording.

If you have queries, comments or suggestions on the Register please address them to Frank at the A.B.R.I. in Armidale.

Simmental Sales Boom in Australia

MT. GAMBIER SIMMENTAL SALE

Another very successful introductory Simmental sale was held by Southern Breeders at Mt. Gambier in South Australia on Friday, February 22.

Spectacularly staged under lights on the Mt. Gambier Racecourse, the sale was held account Glengeith Partnership, Glengieth, D. S. & R. D. Baker, Callendale, Nangwarry Pastoral Co., Nangwarry, J. W. Young and Son, Congeith and C. C. Seymour and Co., South Killanoola.

Demand was sustained and a record obtained by Congeith when they sold an unjoined FI heifer for \$1,700. Buyer was President, Mr. Dick Vincent, and the 10 months old heifer was by Scottish Herod from a Hereford cow.

In all 63 head were sold for a gross of \$54,000 a top of \$1,700 and an average of \$863.50.

STRONG DEMAND FOR SIMMENTAL FEMALES

Buyers at the McLaughlin Simmental sale at Glen Parc, Mittagong, on Saturday, bid keenly for the New Zealand bred halfbred heifers, tested in calf, and the Congi and Wallumumbi Hereford cows with calves at foot.

The auction resulted in a gross of \$31,400 with an average of \$1,308 for the heifers; \$13,600 for the foundation cows with an average of \$618; and two of the bulls were sold at auction for \$1,050. The auction sale gross was \$46,050 and other sales were made privately later in the afternoon.

Top price for a heifer was \$1,900 paid by Cotswold Farms. Mittagong, who also bought other lots for \$1,350, \$1,600, \$1,200, \$1,200.

Another prominent buyer was AML and F., Brisbane, account of Waterloo Grazing Company with lots for \$1,200 \$1,200, \$1,200, \$1,200.

Other buyers for heifers included Dalgety, Bombala \$1,150; Bunloogal Brazing Company \$1,100; R. D. & R. J. Bloomfield \$1,300, \$1,200; Woodbury Farms, Goulburn, \$1 600; Dalgety, Armidale, a/c Tolburst \$1,400; Stewart, Crookwell, \$1.200, \$1,200; and Mr. Jacobs \$1,200, \$1,200, \$1,400, \$1,500.

Woodbury Farm Goulburn, paid top price (twice) of \$1,200 for foundation cows with calves at foot. Other buyers include: Umbargo Pastoral Company, Wagga, \$800, \$900 \$800, \$900, \$750, \$700; Cotswold Farm, Mittagong, \$850;

Sundowner Ranch \$800; John Richards \$700, \$600, \$600, \$600.

There was little interest in the five half bred Simmental bulls offered and two were sold — one to AML and F, Moss Vale for \$600 and the other to Mr. Dunn, Bonalbo for \$450.

Private negotiations took place for the bulls

The sale, which was conducted by Dalgety Australia and AML and F, was the third by Mr. Dale McLaughlin at Mr. Charles Young's saleyards at Glen Parc, Mittagong.

SIMMENTALS IN DEMAND AT 'STREAMVILLE'

At "Streamville", Arthurs Creek (Vic.) on Friday, March 15, 84 Simmental half blood heifers were offered, and sold to a very good attendance of Victorian buyers.

Steady competition was experienced for this attractive yarding which was inspected and passed by appointees of the Australian Simmental Breeders' Association.

Main buyers were:—

W. R. Beggs, Beaufort; J. Canavan, Ringwood; J. Coburn, Kilmore; A. A. Davidson, Lilydale; J. Fraser & Son, Narbethong; Corhan-Golden-Genes Experimental Farm; Mrs. V. Kettlewell, Beaconsfield; D. & M. Major, Cohuna; G. & S. Raynor, Nar Nar Goon; I. Rhodes, Yuroke; Mrs. R. Ryan, Avenel; E. & N. Tauschke, Castella; Toorour Forest Pastoral Co., Ancona.

Quotations:— $\frac{1}{2}$ blood heifers, 18 months, P.T.I.C. to \$1,350. Ave. \$1,287.50.

 $\frac{1}{2}$ blood heifers, 9 to 12 months, unjoined, to \$900. Ave. \$504.50.

Hereford Cows with $\frac{1}{2}$ calves at foot to \$540. Ave. \$450.00.

Selling Agents were:— Keiran McNamara & Co. Pty. Ltd. and Wright Stephenson & Co. (Australia) Pty. Ltd.

WORMBETE SALE

The Simmental breed saw an uplift in prices at the Wormbete sale at Mr. Henry Hopkins property at Winchelsea on Thursday, February 14, 1974.

Although there was a small offering of 25 F.1. heifers and 3 foundation cows, there was a large crowd in attendance who bid strongly for each lot.

Top price of the sale was \$1,150 for an F.1.

—Continued on page 6

The Australian Simmental Newsletter - April, 1974

Books Wrong Date!

Make it Iriday September 20, 1974

Place: Waterloo Station, Glen Innes, N.S.W.

Time: 1 p.m.

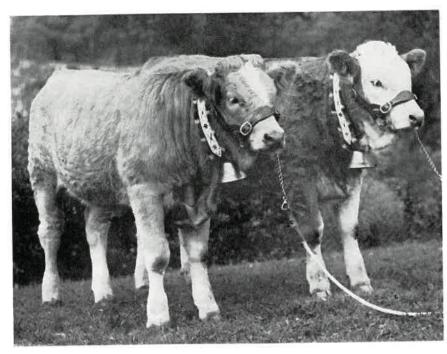


World record at Glen Parc 1974 Australian Simmental Royale

\$85,500

for two purebred heifers. The sale grossed

\$287,650



The two purebred heifers which made \$42,500 and \$43,000 at the Australasian Simmental Royale on 11th April establishing a world record.



Animal Breeding Services (Aust.) Pty. Limited are proud of their part in the dynamic progress of the Simmental breed in Australia. The Company has a firm policy of personal evaluation and selection of semen sires from the best available bulls and the 1974 Simmental Royale is evidence of the effectivness of this policy.

Managing Director, Lionel Busquets is currently Overseas visiting the United Kingdom, Ireland, Europe and North America on an extended inspection of the latest sires qualifying for Australian entry. The most important criteria for sire selection will be their ability to upgrade Australian Simmental herds.

Already Animal Breeding Services (Aust.) Pty. Limited has established a marketing connection with the North Western Cattle Breeding Society, Sligo, Ireland and semen will be available in 1975 from the Elite bulls, GERMAN ULAN, GERMAN USCH and GERMAN ULMER.

Not only **UPDATE** but **KEEP AHEAD** of breed developments and market movements by using the semen services of Animal Breeding Services (Aust.) Pty. Limited.

Attractive discounts for volume orders.

Free storage for forward orders.



Council Sets Deadline for Herd Enrolment

Your council is very pleased with the rapidly growing membership of the ASBA which has now reached a total of 650 members. However, they are concerned that there are still some members who have not yet returned their 1972 Base Dam **Enrolment Certificates.**

To allow members to become accustomed to filling in these forms and become acquainted with the Simmental Recording Register, the Association has used some discretion in enforcing its regulations, regarding it as important that as many people as possible that should wish to register cattle are allowed to do so.

Nevertheless, members would appreciate that this situation should not be allowed to continue indefinitely and subsequently it has been decided

ALL BASE DAM ENROLMENT CERTIFI-CATES FOR 1972 AND 1973 MATING SEA-SONS MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF THE AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS RESEARCH INSTITUTE (ABRI), UNIBERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND. ARMIDALE, NEW SOUTH WALE, 2351, BY JUNE 30, 1974.

In order to clarify the requirements of the Association, we now outline the following procedure as a guide to members;

- 1. Before any Simmental cattle can be recorded with the ASBA the breeder must be a member of the Association.
- 2. For every cow or heifer joined the breeder is required to fill in a Base Dam Enrolment certificate. These prepaid forms are available on application to the Association. At the conclusion of each A.I. programme these forms should be immediately completed and sent direct to the ABRI where they will be programmed by the computer providing the breeders with a Mating and Calving Data Sheet.
- 3. On completion of calving this sheet should be filled in by the breeder recording all calves dropped, whether they be male or female. There will be no charge for this service. Again it is important that this sheet should be returned as soon as possible to the ABRI who will process the information and forward to the breeder a Calf Registration Form.
- 4. It is mandatory that weaning weights are provided for all calves that are to be registered and these should be entered on the Calf Registration Forms. When these forms have been completed they should again be forwarded to the ABRI with a cheque to cover the costs of registration of any calves that the breeder wishes to

8.

register, fees being as follows; \$4.00 for females, \$2.00 recording of grade bulls, \$0.75 recording

We urge members to fill in all forms as quickly as possible. It is not a difficult task with the aid of the ASBA register manual.

All members having seen the performance of their calves would, we feel, agree with us that the breed, although only in its early stages of development is going to have an enormous impact on the Australia cattle industry.

Make sure that you do not lose both the breeding and economic advantages of registration by completing all Base Dam Enrolment forms for 1972 and 1973 mating seasons by the end of June,

Any members of the State and Federal Councils would be only too happy to assist you if required

Signed: Vice Presidents, Jim Young, Henry Hopkins.

MORE CATTLE FOR ENGLAND

Two hundred Simmental cattle, valued at £220,000 left the Quarantine Station at Lowestoft on April 3 on their way to farms and Al Centres in England, Scotland and the Isle of

Twelve yearling bulls bought privately go to Scottish Milk Board and private AI Centres and 188 maiden heifers purchased by The British Simmental Cattle Society's Buying Mission in Germany last November, have been dispersed among members at the rate of two heifers each.

Total of Simmental cattle imported into the U.K. is now 1,500 — of which 67 per cent have come from Germany, 31 per cent from Switzerland and two per cent from France.

The 12 bulls averaged 1,400lb. liveweight at just over 14 months old — a daily gain of 3.1lb. from birth.

WINNING STEER PRESENTATION

At the recent annual general meeting the President Mr. Dick Vincent, made the presentation of a plaque to commemorate the first win by a steer carrying Simmental blood in a competition in Australia.

Organised by the Boorowa Show Society the steers (80 head) were run together for 114 days and the Hereford-Simmental cross entered by Theresa Park, Camden, N.S.W. was equal first for weight gain, putting on 100 kg. in the time.

The plaque was presented to Mr. Peter Meinderstmer, manager of Theresa Park and a replica was presented to Mr. P. Godbolt, stud manager.

The Australian Simmental Newsletter -- April, 1974

President Reports on Progress

At the well attended Annual General Meetina of the ASBA held in Sydney on April 4, the President, Mr. R. W. Vincent, was able to present a very heartening report of growth and progress to members. In his address Mr. Vincent said:

It is my privilege to report on the year's operation of the Australian Simmental Breeders' Asso-

Your Council has met on three occasions, whilst the Management Committee has held three meetings during the past twelve months.

Internationally the Association has been represented at a gathering of world breed societies in the U.K. last year by myself and last month in Louisville, Kentucky, where Geoffrey Quinn represented your Association at a meeting of International Societies to discuss the formation of a World Simmental Federation.

A further meeting is to be held at Zagreb in Yugoslavia in August to effect this formation.

Membership has increased to 650. a net gain of 200 for the year, and with it has increased our administration problems. It has now reached a point where these problems cannot be overlooked, and the incoming committee has immediate decisions to make in these directions.

I have had several discussions with Mr. Parry-Okeden and whilst I realise the Royal Agricultural Society have very real problems in staff availability, we have reached that point where the -Continued on page 10

"WAKE UP AND THINK" DISPLAY

-Continued from page 2

tralian dairy industry. One thing is certain its true dual-purpose characteristics will give to the Australian dairy farmer a flexability in production he is lacking sadly at the moment, mainly due to advice from so-called "experts" that have caused unnecessary hardship and financial loss to quite a number of dairy farmers in recent years.

The complete or partial changeover from milk to beef production or vice versa, depnding on the economics of the time, without great financial loss or outlay, would be possible with a Simmental

A sound economic venture in time to come will be the sale of 3 and 4 months old surplus Simmental calves from dairy farms to Australian feed lots which will have to grow as an industry if Australian meat exports want to keep abreast of growing overseas demand.

WILLIS FABER JOHNSON & HIGGINS

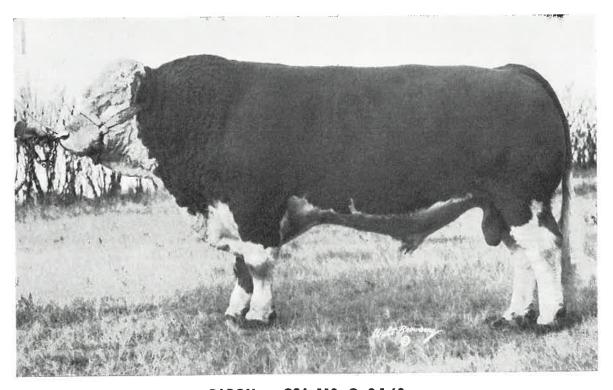
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CONTACT:

John Salmon WILLIS FABER JOHNSON & HIGGINS 280 George Street, Sydney. Phone: 25 5626.



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 Summar						Feed Test Summary				Carcass Evaluation Summary			
Number of Calves	Birth Weight	% Born Unassist.	% Death Loss	200 Day	200 Day Wn. Wt.		A.D.G.	A.D.G.	Weight At End	Carcass Wt. Per Day	Dressing %	Loin Eye Area	Cover Fat Per
				Male	Female	Calves	To Wean	On Feed	Of Test	Of Age	/0	Sq. Inch	Pe r 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

genetic engineering



Dalfarm A. B. SERVICES

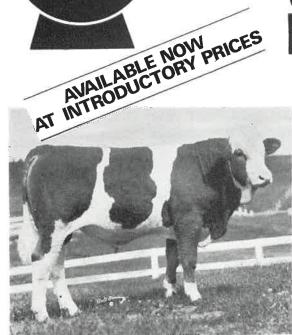
G.P.O. Box 1479, Sydney, N.S.W. 2001 Telephone: 2 0524 Telegrams: DALPAST, SYDNEY.

A Division of Dalgety Farm Management Pty. Ltd. (Inc. in A.C.T.)



Semen* from **PUREBRED SIMMENTAL** SCOTTISH SIRES

with advisory and practical service to back it.



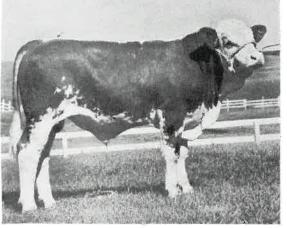
BEAUFORT ADVENTURE \$8 a dose

Born: July 16, 1971 CSA 751 ASA 39440 Weight: October, 1973 — 2,050 lbs. Owned by: New Breeds Industries and Western Breeders Cattle Co.

Housed at: Western Breeders Ltd., White City, Sask.

Sire: Scottish Neptune 5055429

Dam: Sandra 5345682



BEAUFORT AUGUSTUS \$6 a dose

Born: August 1, 1971 CSA 752 ASA 39441 Weight: October, 1973 - 1,910 lbs.

Owned by: New Breeds Industries and Western Breeders Cattle Co.

Housed at: Western Breeders Ltd., Balzac, Alta.

Sire: Scottish Herod 5051373

Dam: Lyra 9058682

*Registered with the Australian Simmental Association. *New South Wales government tested.



available from Dalfarm A. B. SERVICES

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or any DALGETY BRANCH or A.I. CENTRE

PROGRESS REPORT TO MEMBERS

-Continued from page 7

Association cannot be depending on co-opted casual staff to enable David Thomas to carry on on a day to day basis.

We regret the transfer of Herb. Plunkett from the A.B.R.I. and thank him for his efforts in the period of formation of our Recording Scheme. Dr. Frank Anderson takes his place, and together with Arthur Rickards I think we will continue to have a fine working relationship.

Your Council has under review a proposal for the appointment of a joint Field Officer serving both A.B.R.I. and the Australian Simmental Breeders' Association.

Our Newsletter must continue to be the envy of other breed societies, and to Alan Kay we are most appreciative of his high standard of presentation.

We have entered into a contract with Alan Jackson of Stud Stock Advertising entailing the expenditure of \$10,000 on promotion, and I hope this satisfies a situation that members have been impatient for but finance has not permitted.



Mr. Dick Vincent

We were privileged during the year with the visit of Dr. Carl Mueller to all States and I would like to thank Harry M. Miller for organising and accompanying him for most of his itinerary.

I would like to express our profound gratitude to IMEX for the visit of Peter Massmann as the conditions under which he comes are a great help to the Association. We are most fortunate to have Peter Massmann and Dr. Messerschmidt with us over the next few weeks.

The State Branches I feel have started to really

fill their role and the effort of the Victorian Branch during the Melbourne Show and the performance of Jim Young and Dale Baker's team at the Mt. Gambier sale all helped to put the Simmental breed in the forefront.

Doug. Bain and the N.S.W. Branch are organising the display at this year's Royal Easter Show, and we hope it will also be of value.

and we hope it will also be of value.

To avoid repetition I will not touch on finance and will ask our Treasurer, Geoffrey Quinn to elaborate fully on this in his report.

Last year I stated that we were on the threshhold of an exciting era. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I feel our thoughts have been fully justified and, before Show week is over, I feel we will see just what an impact the Simmental breed is having on our industry.

We expected spectacular results and we are getting them and as our F1's appear I feel our expectations are going to be really fulfilled. We are associated with a great breed of cattle.

But, breeders, you are the people who make or break the breed. We are dealing in a sensitive area with an upgrading programme. We are not entirely dependent ON THE SIMMENTAL BREED. We have a base herd also effecting the situation, so I appeal to you to be judicious and scrupulous to give the breed a fair go.

Your Council was unfortunate to lose the ser-

Your Council was unfortunate to lose the services of Eric Ryland during the year, and Chris. Bowman is also shortly being posted overseas. Chris. has been highly contentious, most volatile, and one of our greatest contributors. He has been invaluable in his efforts towards the Recording Scheme. We also regret the passing of Mr. Charles Foreshaw, a Councillor of the New South Wales Branch.

To David Thomas, our hard pressed Secretary, to the full Council, whose performance has been second to none, and to Alan Kay, I record my sincere thanks for the efforts and loyalty over the past year.

To all members, may I appeal to you to manage our Australian Simmental to the best of your ability.

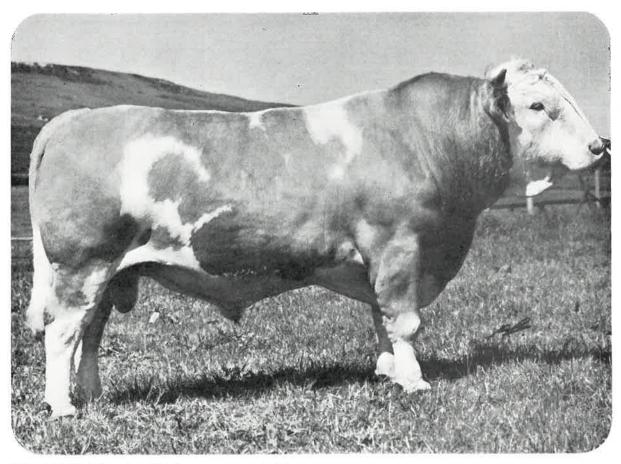
TEN THOUSAND GRADING-UP HEIFERS IN SIMMENTAL REGISTER

Exactly two and a half years after the first Grade "A" calf was entered in the Grading-Up (Supplementary) Register of the British Simmental Cattle Society, the tenth thousand was notified to the Society and registered recently.

She is Torrs Daisy (T.M. JCP-ADI), born on January 23, 1974 in the herd of Mr. James C. Picken at Torrs, Kirkcudbright, by the Scottish Milk Marketing Board's bull Marquis (imp. G. 1970) 9056207 and out of a Ayrshire cow, Picken's Peggy. The calf was mostly brown in colour.

The Australian Simmental Newsletter - April, 1974

H:] I POWER



MMB Thierauch

Eyes

Fully Pigmented

Ease

Of the 648 recorded births to MMB Thierauch on Progeny test 626 were easy.

MMB Thierauch semen available now \$10 per dose — order from your normal supplier.

Growth

MMB Thierauch weighed well over a ton when exhibited on the M.M.B. stand at Britain's Premier Fatstock Show — ROYAL SMITHFIELD December 1973.



The Milk Marketing Board of England & Wales, Thames Ditton, Surrey, U.K.

FIRST ANNUAL SIMMENTAL SALE



F.I. HEIFERS TO BE OFFERED

FIRST EVER BY AUCTION IN NEW ZEALAND

I PUREBRED HEIFER

(C. NOV., 1973)

DAM BY SCOTTISH PRIDE --- SIRE, SCOTTISH HEROD

APPROX. 30 F.I. SIMMENTAL-HEREFORD
HEIFERS PTIC
20 HEREFORD COWS PTIC TO SIMMENTAL

All cattle of highest quality being by and mated to Scottish and Fleckvieh Simmental Sires

ALL CATTLE ELIGIBLE FOR EXPORT

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY

WRIGHTSON NMA LTD. --- TIMARU AND BRANCHES

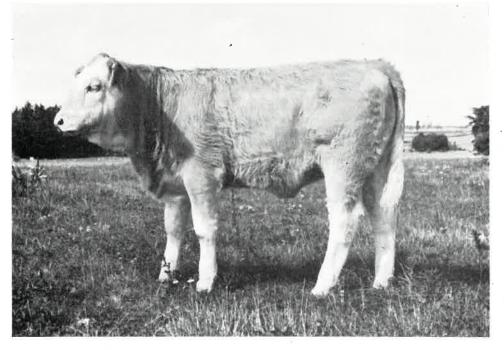
FRIDAY, MAY 24 at 1 p·m· at Levels Homestead Pleasant Point Road, Timaru N.Z.

ON ACCOUNT OF

FLECKVIEH SIMMENTAL BREEDERS LTD.,

D. G. BAKER & CO. HARLAU FARM LTD.

LEVELS FARMING CO.



PURE HEIFER TO BE OFFERED

WORLD FEDERATION TO BE FORMED

The Australian Simmental Breeders' Association was represented in Louisville, Kentucky, U.S.A. in February this year, by the Secretary, Mr. G. F. M. Quinn, at a meeting called by the American Simmental Association to form a World Simmental Federation.

It was the policy of the Association that they supported the formation of such a body, but considered Louisville was not the venue for such an occasion.

In his address to the Louisville meeting Mr. Quinn said:

"My Council is of the opinion that as this is a strongly based European breed that the natural home of a World Federation is in Europe. However, whilst we welcome the American's initiative in establishing a World Federation we believe that its ultimate fulfilment should take place in Zagreb, Yugoslavia in September this year.

"We are somewhat disappointed that our European colleagues have not moved with more haste in the formation of a World Federation, and similarly are disappointed with the reluctance of the Eastern European countries to join in a World Federation.

"The Australian Association feels that if there are firm indications given by our European colleagues that a World Federation is to be formed at Zagreb, and that there will be full participation of all nations in that Convention, we would support that. If those firm indications cannot be given, then my Council has directed me to join with America in the formation of a World Federation."

In an interview with Newsletter on his return, Mr. Quinn said:

"During the meeting it became obvious that European delegates, New Zealand and Australia were opposed to such a body being formed by the U.S., and it was finally decided to form a sub-committee to prepare a draft constitution. This sub-committee will meet again in Munich on May 30-31, and will mould this constitution for presentation to member countries at a World Federation Meeting to be held in September in Zagreb, Yugolslavia."

Mr. Quinn said it was a compliment to New Zealand and Australia that these countries' delegates had been elected to the sub-committee. Other countries represented on the sub-committee were U.S.A., Canada and three European representatives. Mr. Quinn said the committee was hopeful East Europe would also be represented.

\$100,000 SIMMENTAL BULL!

The remarkable growth and strength of Simmentals in the United States of America was vividly illustrated at a sale in Louisville, Kentucky, in February, when 86 lots went under the hammer for an average of \$14,222 and a top of \$100,000 for a purebred Simmental bull.

This was stated in Sydney by the treasurer of the Australian Simmental Breeders' Association, Mr. G. F. M. Quinn, who was in the U.S.A. on association business and attended the sale.

"There was an air of excitement about the sale," said Mr. Quinn, "which was attended by about 4,000 people. The \$100,000 bid was for a September, 1972 bull consigned by Kingfield H.B., King City, Ontario, Canada. Purchaser was American Breeders' Service, DeForest, Wisconsin. The first lot, a pure bred Simmental heifer made \$62,000."

Mr. Quinn said the sale grossed \$1,223,100 and another record was set when Stevenwood Farm, Lexington, Kentucky, paid \$35,000 for a three-quarter blood in-calf Simmental heifer.

Yet another American record was set when an unmated Simmental heifer made \$30,000.

"Interest in the breed and demand for Simmentals is remarkable," said Mr. Quinn, "and this is well documented by the following sale figures.

"At the American Simmental Association's First Annual Sale in 1971, 97 females averaged \$1,292 at Denver. The following year 126 head averaged \$3,099 at Fort Worth and in 1973, 97 head averaged \$6,932. Now we have this year's grand average of \$14,222. This year's gross of \$1.223, 100 exceeded estimates by a quarter of a million dollars."

Mr. Quinn said all the above prices were in U.S. dollars.

SURE OF SIMMENTAL SUCCESS IN AUSTRALIA

A very welcome visitor to Australia during the recent Sydney Royal Show was Mr. Peter Massman, of Imex, West Germany.

In a short address to the ASBA's annual general meeting, Mr. Massman said the Simmental breed was assured of success in Australia as it was in the hands of "practical cattlemen".

"I have seen the development of the breed in other countries," said Mr. Massman, "and although it has had its ups and downs and its disappointments, after the introduction of the first crosses to commercial cattlemen a big change takes place in their outlook.

"The Simmental has also been used with great success on bos indicus cattle and results in South and South West Africa have been excellent. I think it will do the same in Australia."

another ABSENV 1st

IN AUSTRIAN FLECKVIEH IN AUSTRALIA

"HORST"

The superior Simmental Sire from Austria, world leader in national herd performance testing. "Horst" has been inspected by Australian Simmental breeders who have backed their judgment by placing forward semen orders.

Born 25/7/70. Weighed 2268 lbs on 14/8/73.

Wither Height 146 cms. Chest depth 89 cms.

Sire: Hugo 479366. Dam: Eveline 479892. Grandsire: Fink, one of the best tested bulls in Austria.

SEMEN HAS JUST LANDED
\$10.00 ORDERS NOW ACCEPTED

ANIMAL BREEDING SERVICES (AUST.) PTY. LTD. 275 GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY, N.S.W. Phone: 29-5013



Telephone: Kaiapoi 6173

now recipients immediately after operation. is your opportunity to secure pure bred Simmental.

We are pleased to introduce for sale progeny of these outstanding Simmental Cattle.

The pure-bred progeny now in utero in Friesian recipient cows comprise the following matings:

PETUNIA	out of	WILLINGALE ASTA	by SCOTTISH NEFF
BALIG AGENT	out of	STUARTSLAW AMY	by SCOTTISH PRIDE
SCOTTISH PRIDE	out of	WILLINGALE ATHEN!	by SCOTTISH NEFF
SCOTTISH PRIDE	out of	WILLINGALE ASTA	by SCOTTISH NELL
TATTENHALL	out of	STUARTSLAW AMY	by SCOTTISH PRIDI
AMENDMENT			·

Calves of these matings are bringing premium prices in the U.K.

1. All recipient cows to be guaranteed against slipping or aborting between the age of 90 days and 7 months.
2. All progeny guaranteed true to description and registerable either with the applicable New Zealand or Australian Breed

3. All progeny, whether male or female, guaranteed against infertility up to the age of 2 years.

4. Where the purchaser requires the recipient cow to be held on the Vendors property until calving, a live calf guarantee will be given. For this service a fee of \$1,000 will be charged. This fee will cover agistment, veterinary services and other



TATTENHALL AMENDMEN

Chosen by the New Zealand Simmental Society to represent the breed at the New Zealand Royal Show.

Tattenhall Amendment was the first choice of the Curtis Breeding Centre U.S.A., whose U.K. associates had contracted to supply them with their pick of the first calf drop in the U.K. Their selection of Tattenhall Amendment at a price of \$125,000 U.S., from some 300 Simmental bulls is an indication of his worth. (The bull had previously been selected by Ran MacDonald for importation into New Zealand to stand at the South Island Breeding Centre). Progeny tests for both meat and milk production are currently being conducted.

Semen is available from: I.S.D. LTD., P.O. Box 209, Moonee Ponds, Victoria 3039. Telephone: Melbourne 67 8575

A.B.S. (AUST.) PTY LTD.,
Bank of Adelaide Building 275 George Street, Sydney, N.S.W. 2000 Telephone: 29 5013

South Island Breeding Centre Ltd.,

P.O. Box 20, Kaiapoi, New Zealand. Telephone: Kaiapoi 6173



DUNMORE SIMMENTALS ON FEED TRIAL

The first experiment to evaluate in Australia, Simmental x Hereford steers under feed lot conditions is about to be made by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries Animal Breeding Institute using steers from the breeding herd of Dunmore, Manilla (N.S.W.) owned by Mr. Harry M. Miller.

Mr. Ralph Gartner, Chief Husbandry Officer of the Animal Research Institute at Yeerongpilly, said the Dunmore, Manilla herd was chosen because the Institute required accurate records of birth weight and birth to weaning rate of gain and Mr. Miller's property is one of the few large commercial breeding operations which records performance information of all of its stock through the National Beef Recording Scheme.

The Simmental x Hereford steers chosen from Dunmore represent the progeny from semen imported from seven Simmental sires. Mr. Gartner pointed out that because differences in performance due to the influence of the sire can be greater within a breed compared with the differences between two different breeds, it is important when conducting such experiments to have a large sire pool from the prospective breed being evaluated. On the other hand Hereford steers chosen (to be used as a control group) were representative of an average commercial calf population from a large commercial breeding herd.

With the purchase from Mr. Harry M. Miller of the 21 Dunmore Manilla Simmental x Hereford steers (3 from each of 7 sires) and a similar number of comparable Hereford steers the experimental programme will commence within two to three weeks.

-Continued on page 22

C-G-G Research with Simmentals

Simmental semen buyers will soon be able to buy semen and at the same time inspect a quality herd of 50 Simmental females at the Corhan-Golden-Genes experimental farm at Lilydale. 25 miles from Melbourne.

The Corhan-Golden-Genes A.B. Centre has established this experimental farm to enable buyers or intending users of semen to gain some comparison of the progeny of bulls and of the different breeds.

The herd now consists of 50 first cross heifers mainly from good quality Hereford cows and by German Simmental bulls. The eldest are 12 months and are among the eldest in Australia.

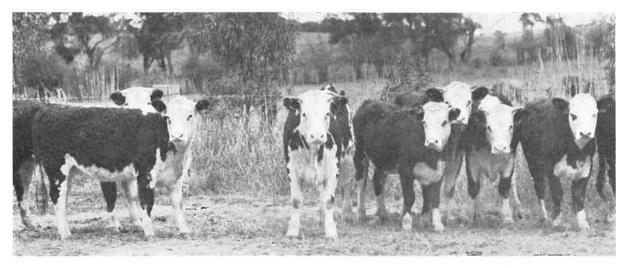
To help build numbers, Mr. Charles Jager, chief executive of Corhan-Golden-Genes has been buying selected top heifers at recent Victorian Simmental sales and at interstate sales.

His first cross females will be joined to the German Simmental bulls, Scottish Neff, Herod and Pride.

Most of the heifers are by Hampshire Mayer. Mr. Jager has been so impressed with the Hampshire Mayer progeny that he is using Hampshire Mayer semen in a contract mating programme in selected Hereford herds.

Mr. Jager said this will allow him to cull ruthlessly and quickly build up his ideal herd of 50 top quaity Simmental females.

Cattlemen interested in Simmentals are invited to inspect the Corhan herd. An appointment is all that is necessary.



Simmental F.I. heifer calves at C.-G.-G.

HAMILTON SALE

The first considerable public auction of Simmental first-cross cattle was held at the Hamilton Showgrounds (N.Z.) on Tuesday, March 19. Approximately 170 animals were offered before a gallery of some 500 people, including buyers from Australia and many parts of New Zealand. Interest ran high throughout the day and, although it began slowly, the sale quickly gathered momentum and some excellent prices were obtained. An apparent preference for animals with Hereford blood was reflected in the prices, particularly those presented in good condition and of quality.

The top price for the sale was \$3.750 paid for an 18 months old, in-calf, heifer by Scottish Pride out of a Hereford cow. The vendor was Mr. Ian McKenzie of Ohaupo. This animals was of excellent conformation and well grown.

Top line in-calf heifers ranged from \$1,800 to \$2,500 with good from \$1,000 to \$1,700, and small and backward down to \$450. The younger unmated animals offered, met good competition.

As the first big sale in New Zealand, it was something of a sounding board. The keen interest of breeders and buyers and the prices obtained can only fortify confidence and acceptance of the Simmental in both the beef and dairy industry of New Zealand.

Record New Zealand Price

The sale to Australia at \$30,000 of the purebred heifer calf C. S. Anna, reported last month, is almost certainly a record New Zealand price. Anna was bred by Canterbury Simmental Partners, the group owned by Messrs. R. E. Hiatt, Culverden, R. B. Johnson, Springfield, and Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Turrel, Kaitunla.

Anna's dam is Leader Anita, imported from Scotland in 1972 as a calf. She is by Scottish Neff out of the cow Samantha, both imported to Scotland from Germany in 1970. Anna is by Scottish Herod another very successful bull among the cattle brought over to the United Kingdom in the early days of the breed there.

The price paid for Anna is about \$5,000 higher than prices paid previously for purebred heifers in New Zealand, and seems to be not far out of line with North American prices for similar cattle.

Another notable recent sale is that of Richmond Betsy, by Friarton Actor from Stuartslaw Alison, bred by Mr. A. R. Guthrey at his Amberley property. She was bought by Mr. B. Blogg, a Christchurch man with interests in Australia, where it is intended that Betsy will be shipped. Alison is by Scottish Pride out of Evonn, both imported into Scotland from Germany in 1970.

The Australian Simmental Newsletter — April, 1974

NEW SECRETARY IN N.Z.

The Simmental Cattle Breeders' Society of New Zealand Inc. in March appointed a new secretary. Mr. H. Studholme, who assisted to launch the Society in 1972, decided it was time he went into semi-retirement.

The new Secretary is Mr. Ian S. Johnstone, of Christchurch. Mr. Johnstone, who is 44, married, with three sons, is of a farming family (his father once owned Erewhon Station) and spent some years after leaving school on various high country properties in both Islands. He was assistant manager on the famous Marshlands Station in Marlborough when he left farming to join the staff of the Shell Company. His work on the sales staff of the company where be became chief clerk, kept him in touch with farming, in which he has maintained a close and well-informed interest.

One of his attributes which will be invaluable to him and to the Society, is a flair for designing and setting-up exhibition stands, advertising brochures and the like. His farming and commercial experience combine to make his a particularly suitable appointment.

WORMBETE SALE

-Continued from page 4

Simmental heifer from a Shorthorn Friesian cross dam by Hampshire Mayer purchased by Mr. J. Coburn of Kilmore. Mr. Coburn also paid \$700 for an F.1, heifer from a Friesian dam by Scottish Neptune.

The sale grossed \$21,350 with 25 F.1. blood heifers to \$1,150, averaging \$735 and 3 foundation cows with F.1. heifer calves at foot, selling to \$1,125, averaging \$1,000.

Leading buyer was Mr. E. Perignon. Moulemein. New South Wales who bought 12 lots for \$8.850.

Top price in the foundation cows of \$1,125 was paid by Mr. Perignon for a stud Shorthorn heifer cow with an F.1. heifer calf at foot by Scottish Neptune.

Other details were:—

Half Cross Heifers: J. Coburn, Kilmore paid \$1.150; \$700. Corhan-Golden-Genes, Lilydale paid \$900; \$850; \$850; \$850; \$800; \$800; \$750; \$650. E. Perignon. Moulemein paid \$825; \$775; \$750; \$700; \$700; \$675; \$650; \$650; \$575; \$525. G. M. & S. P. Rayner, Narre Warren paid \$675; \$650. E. W. & N. A. Tauschke, Yea paid \$550; \$550. R. Beggs paid \$800.

Foundation Cows with Calves at Foot: E. Perignon. Moulemein paid \$1,125; H. M. Hedges, Colac Park paid \$975; E. Perignon, Moulemein paid \$900.

MEN WHO BREED SIMMENTALS

One of the most progressive group of cattlemen in New Zealand with whom many Australian breeders have done business in the past few years is Southern Breeders Ltd., which is composed of 10 forward thinking Southern Island cattle breeders, each member being a director of the company.

One of the directors Newsletter had a few words with during the Sydney Royal Show was Mr. Hugh Irving, Wairaiki Station.

He explained that as new breeds became available through the use of A.I., each member mates a given number of base cows and when the FI stock from this mating are 15 months old the best are selected from each herd, and these are then run together to form the basis of an "elite" herd. Each member then handles one particular breed.

Mr. Irving said they were particularly fortunate in that the 10 members' properties covered every kind of country "from growing mountain country to fine finishing country".

Ovum Transplants

Apart from the grading-up herds the group also bought purebreds of various exotic breeds, mainly Simmental and Limousin.

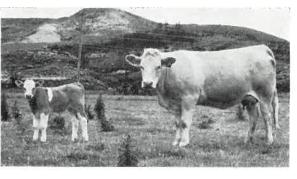
They also quickly grasped the great opportunity to build up the number of purebreds — which are scarce and expensive — through the use of ovum transplants and a most comprehensive and well equipped veterinary staff and centre has been added to the goup's enterprise.

Development of this side of the business started in March 1973 and a surgery was built on Wairaki Station near Lake Manapouri.

Mr. Irving said the surgery was "built in the sticks" rather than in the confines of a university so that operation could be under direct control of the management and to facilitate the provision of a large number of recipient cows, essential to a successful programme.

Mr. Irving said no oestrous synchronisation drugs were used in the ovum transplant programme, which so far had proved extremely successful.

Directors of Southern Breeders are: Hugh Royds Irving, Wairaki Station; Alastair Annan McGregor. Mt. Linton Station; David Napier Speight. Tower Peak Station; James Ian Innes, Haldon Station; James Ian Stanley Innes, Haldon Station; David John Reid, Christchurch; Bernard Pinnev, Dunrobin Station; Herbert Edney Robertson, Blackmount Station; Gray H. Robertson, Blackmount Station; Richard Henry Horsman, Parkhurst Geraldine; Alfred Dillon Bell, Shag Valley Station; Peter James Cruickshank, Rosedale, Invercargill.



This little fellow made Simmental history in Australia when he was bought by President of ASBA, Mr. Dick Vincent at the recent "Royale" sale at Mittagong, N.S.W. for \$25,000. He is Southern Christian by Scottish Herod and he is here with his proud mother, Andrena, and was bred by Southern Breeders.

Should anyone overseas wish to receive regular copies of the Australian Simmental Newsletter, please send your name and address to the Secretary, Australian Simmental Breeders' Association Ltd., Box 4317, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia 2001. \$2 per annum will be charged to cover the cost of postage.

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.

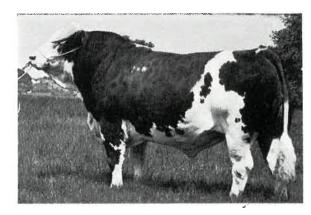
-Continued from page 20

As each steer reaches 200 kg liveweight, it will be stalled and changed over to a 90% grain, 10% roughage diet over 28 days. Thereafter feeding will be ad libitum.

Steers will be slaughtered at three pre-determined body weights and carcase parameters measured. It is suggested to slaughter 7 Simmental x Hereford steers (one from each sire) and 7 Hereford steers at 420 kg liveweight (at which weight the Herefords produce ideal carcases for the local trade). Two further groups of 14 steers will be slaughtered at 460 and 500 kg live-weight.

The Australian Simmental Newsletter - April, 1974

SEMEN FROM THESE BULLS AVAILABLE NOW



Hampshire Mayer (U.K.) — \$10

- LPRS SUPREME 3A (CAN) \$10
- EXTRA (CAN) \$12
- HAMPSHIRE MAYER (U.K.) \$10
- MMB CLAUS (U.K.) \$10
- MMB REBHOLZ (U.K.) \$10.
- CAMBRIDGE RHUMA (U.K.) \$6.80
- MMB SCHOCK (U.K.) \$10
- SCOTTISH HEROD (U.K.) \$10
- MMB SEEGAR (U.K.) \$10
- ESO SEPP (U.K.) \$10
- ESO SIBEAU (U.K.) \$10
- MMB THIERAUCH (U.K.) \$10

Semen from all these bulls is in stock but supplies are limited.

CORHAN-GOLDEN-GENES

ARTIFICIAL BREEDING SERVICE

P.O. Box 299, Lilydale, Vic. 3140.

Phone 735 4171, 735 1663, 735 0160

BASICS FROM ASBA BASE . . .

A step forward in promotion of the Simmental breed was the Simmental stand operating for the first time at the Sydney Royal Show. This not only produced 10 new, fully paid up members, but also produced a flood of inquiries, some of which I am sure will bear fruit in the future.

The stand also provided a convenient meeting place for members and no doubt many business transactions were concluded in the comfort of the caravan provided.

Peter Massman of Imex was on hand to assist, and his valuable advice on and first hand knowledge of the Simmental in Europe and South Africa was very beneficial.

I would also like to thank those members of the N.S.W. Branch who helped staff the tent during the show.

The buffet dinner-dance, held at the White City, Rushcutters Bay, was the second held by the Association and was attended by approximately 125 people, an increase of 40 on last year. General opinion seemed to be that a good time was had by all.

We were extremely fortunate in having the talented quartette, Vicki and the Spotlighters, to provide background music for dining and later the floor was cleared and filled with enthusiastic dancers.

Now, to business. Would members please note that closing date for enrolment of all cattle inseminated before 31.12.73 will be June 30, 1974, and all outstanding certificates for this period should be forwarded to this office immediately.

Would any member still using the old type of A.I. certificate return them to this office immediately and they will be issued with the current type of Base Dam Enrolment Certificates.

When we have received all these old certificates and members have been re-issued, you will be circularised by letter, following which all enrolment certificates will be forwarded direct to A.B.-R.I. instead of to this office.

DAVID THOMAS, Executive Officer.

INSEMINATION CERTIFICATES

New manager of the Simmental Recording Register at A.B.R.I., Mr. Frank Anderson, during the annual general meeting made an urgent plea to all members to please complete and forward all insemination certificates at the earliest possible moment.

ASBA REGISTERED SIRES LIST

The following bulls have been registered with the ASBA. Members will be advised as more sires are added. Only semen from bulls registered with the Association may be used if the progeny is to be registered with the Association.

Scottish Herod, Scottish Milk Marketing. Scottish Hope, Scottish Milk Marketing. Scottish Marquis, Scottish Milk Marketing, Scottish Neff, Scottish Milk Marketing. Scottish Neptune, Scottish Milk Marketing. Scottish Pride, Scottish Milk Marketing. Avoncroft Joggi, Avoncroft Cattle Breeders. Avoncroft Aster, Avoncroft Cattle Breeders. Friarton Aaron, New Zealand. Tattenhall Amendment, New Zealand, Cowcroft Albion, New Zealand. Hampshire Mayer, Hampshire Cattle Breeders. Hampshire Robinson, Hampshire Cattle Breeders. Thierauch, Milk Marketing Board. Paul, Milk Marketing Board. Rebholz, Milk Marketing Board. Langle, Milk Marketing Board. Schock, Milk Marketing Board. Diplomat. Genetics International, U.K. Munter, Canadian Stock Breeders. Canadian Harald, Canadian Stock Breeders. Sambo, Canadian Stock Breeders. Baron, Canadian Simmental Assoc. Texas, United Breeders, Canada. Bonami, United Breeders, Canada. Fendt, Galtee Cattle Breeding Station and Farm. Horst, Galtee Cattle Breeding Station and Farm. Ami, Universal Livestock Services.

Cambridge Ruhma, Cambridge & District Breeders. Friarton Actor, Cambridge & District Breeders. Balig Agent, Southern Breeders, N.Z. Matching Famos, Matching, England. Extra, Western Breeders, Canada. Supreme, or Soisson, Western Breeders, Canada. Ulmer, Ireland. Usch, Ireland. Ulan, Ireland. Avoncroft Nestor, Avoncroft Cattle Breeders, U.K. Bismark, American Breeders Service. Florian, American Breeders Service. Eiger, American Breeders Service. Ueli, American Breeders Service. Soleil, American Breeders Service. Held, American Breeders Service. Beat, American Breeders Service. Friarton Tarzan, New Zealand. E.S.O. Julius, E.S.O. Ltd., U.K. E.S.O. Sepp, E.S.O. Ltd., U.K. Beaufort Adventure, American Breeders. Rougeatre, American Breeders. Signal, American Breeders. Tempo, American Breeders. Cyr, American Breeders. Royal Reward, American Breeders. Ural, American Breeders. Beaufort Augustus, American Breeders. Abricot, American Breeders. Petunia, American Breeders. Planet, North Western Cattle Breeding Society Ltd. --Panzer, North Western Cattle Breeding Society Ltd.

What Is Double-Muscling?

(By F. D. Mays, B.V.Sc., Logan Park Simmental Stud)

The name is slightly misleading, as in no case is there a doubling of any muscles, rather certain muscles are greatly increased in size and the term Muscular Hyperplasia would be more accurate. But face facts we must, and the expression double-muscled is here to stay.

Double-muscling has existed in various cattle populations of the world for at least 200 years, probably originating in the native cattle of the low countries of Europe.

Because double-musced animals have less fat and a greater preponderance of good cuts they have, from time to time, been looked upon favourably, especially in France and Germany. (About half the cattle shown as slaughter animals at Berlin in the years 1890-1909 were double musled to some extent.)

Other advantages have been cited too, for instance double-muscled calves have a faster growth rate (up to one year only) and calves are more efficient feed converters. Carcases tend to have a higher dressing percentage, and probably also a higher percentage of desirable retail cuts. As well, the eating quality of double-muscled carcases appears to be equal or superior to normal meat.

Unfortunately other differences resulting from the influence of the double-muscle gene are definite disadvantages to efficient cattle production.

Problems associated with double-muscling include:-

1. Infertility of some females and males with poorly developed reproductive organs.

2. Slow sexual maturity, some cows not calving till 4-6 years of age.

3. Lengthened gestation (up to 10 days longer).

4. Increased calving problems.

5. Difficult rearing and higher calf mortality.

6. Smaller mature weights.

7. Lower milk production.

8. Lower value on the U.S. market due to lack of marbling.

9. Less suitable for range conditions.

There is a wide variation in the degree of double-muscling, from nil to complete, and it is not always possible to be sure the condition exists in its milder forms. Complete double-muscling would be hard to mistake.

Most cattle producers agree that the true extreme double-muscled animal is undesirable and should be selected against. On the other hand, the animal which has some, but not necessarily all, of the double-muscled characteristics often has the body conformation of a very muscular animal that will produce a carcase with high cutability. Double-muscling is a genetically controlled trait. Thus, when animals that have some of the double-muscle characteristics are given selective preference in breeding herds because of

The Australian Simmental Newsletter - April, 1974

their apparent carcase desirability, animals that are decidedly double-muscled will be produced sooner or later.

Animals which are mildly double-muscled will show some of the following signs, animals severely double-muscled will have most, if not all.

- 1. Outline of rump forms an arc of a circle with centre at the stiffe.
- 2. Tail is attached further forward.
- 3. Definite creases can be seen in the round and rump, both in live animal and carcase.
- 4. The body is shallow, the flank high, and overall a "leggy" appearance.
 5. The animal stands further forward in front
- and further back of its hind legs giving it a "stretched" and "saddle-back" appearance.
- 6. The head appears smaller and longer than normal.
 7. Tongue very enlarged.
- 8. Shoulder muscles thick and plump, Withers are wide and shoulder blades appear separated
- 9. On females, the vulva is smaller and higher and more forward.
- 10. Males have smaller testes carried higher.

As Simmental breeders trying to produce the highest possible standard and to justify the good prices we will ask and must surely get, the important thing is to recognise double-muscling when it occurs, and to report it to the ASBA as required.

BILLINUDGEL SALE

Billinudgel Pastoral Co. Ptv. Ltd., of Mullumbimby, N.S.W. has advised Newsletter they will be holding their 2nd Annual Production Sale on August 5, 1974. Simmental will be represented at the sale with base cows and F.Is.

OVERSEAS READERS

Should anyone overseas wish to receive regular copies of the Australian Simmental Newsletter, please send your name and address to the Secretary. Australian Simmental Breeders' Association Ltd., Box 4317, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia 2001. \$2 per annum will be charged to cover the cost of postage.

Harry M. Challenges Sire of Year

Newly-elected Councillor of ASBA, Mr. Harry M. Miller, socked it to 'em as guest speaker at a recent Farm Writers' and Broadcasters Society luncheon. Mr. Miller said present contests to find the Sire of the Year in Australia may be finding "the Eunuch of the Year".

Mr. Miller, whose property is Dunmore, Manilla, N.S.W., revealed he has some of his FI Simmental-Herefords under test in lot feeding experiments with the Queensland Department of Primary Industries, at Yeerongpilly. (Page 20.)

Discussing the Sire of the Year competition Mr. Miller said:

"Is the Sire of the Year really the Father of the Year? It's my opinion that some of the animals selected for the quarter-finals of Sire of the Year may, in fact, be better qualified to be judged in contests to find the Bachelor of the Year, or even Eunuch of the Year.

"Any scheme that's basically aimed at improving the quality and productivity of our beef cattle surely must have, as its main spearhead, consideration of economic factors.

"Everyone likes an animal to conform in type to the breed they're producing, but they must be allowed to make a dollar or two in the process. Isn't it really all about how many kilos of beef a hectare a year, and at what cost?

"It will take a very powerful National Beef Recording Scheme to provide a satisfactory alternative to the show ring in its present form, but in terms of efficiency it would be a highly rewarding investment.

"Research has shown that well-trained personnel can estimate carcase cutability in live animals as well as any other available method. This appears to be the ONLY trait of economic importance that can be accurately estimated in live cattle that are structurally sound."

"We have a fantastic device at our disposal to help us rank our cattle within our own herds the National Beef Recording Scheme.

"My suggestion is that a productivity incentive be paid to beef growers who are prepared to spend that little bit of extra time recording the performance of their animals. My productivity incentive would be in the form of a minimum of \$2 a cow each year for a maximum of three years each animal.

"That simply means that for every breeding cow enrolled on the performance recording scheme and completing a season's enrolment, the grazier receives an incentive of \$2 or a total of \$6 an animal enrolled for three years.

"Mr. Artdur Rickards, director of the Agricultural Business Research Institute, has estimated that the cost of this scheme nationally at most would be \$1.5 million a year.

"Productivity increase once the scheme got going would be about \$19 million — that's not bad at a cost of \$1.5 million," said Mr, Miller.

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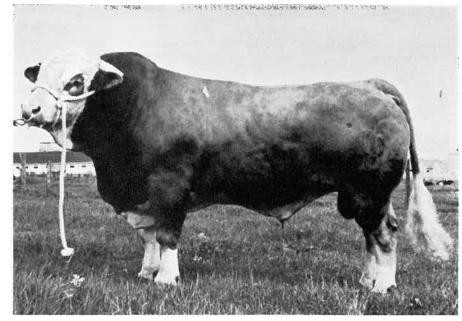
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KNOW YOUR COUNCIL C'LOR. DUGALD MACTAGGART

The new breed, Simmental, is being established on one of New South Wales most historic properties by Councillor, Mr. Dugald Mactag-

gart, of Southport, Queensland.

The property is the 4,000-acre Waterloo, 12 miles west of Glen Innes on the Gwyder Highway. Originally 118,444 acres, the property has only been in the hands of three families since it was settled by the MacIntyres. It stayed in their hands until 1897 when it was bought by the Sinclair family and held by them until sold to the Mactaggarts last year. The magnificently preserved homestead was built in 1908.

Mr. Mactaggart and his wife Judith, with their four children, Helen, Barbara, John and David, also have a property at Beaudesert, Queensland, where, while conducting a feedlot enterprise, "they ran out of room". This led to the purchase of

Waterloo.

The entry into Simmentals Mr. Mactaggart considers is largely through the promptings of his wife, who was impressed with the economic potential of the breed.

Waterloo is the centre of the Simmental enterprise and the first production sale is scheduled to be held there in September. A new set of cattle handling yards, capable of a six-way draft by one man and holding 1,000 head, was designed by Mr. Mactaggart, and it and an octagonal sale barn are now being built. It is hoped to have them operative by sale time.

Waterloo at present has 500 acres of cultivation for cash crops such as corn, barley and oats and carries 1,000 head of cattle plus calves and

5,500 sheep.

In his Simmental breeding programme, Mr. Mactaggart has 120 calves on the ground, 50 FI heifers in calf and he has just finished inseminating 300 head using Canadian bulls.

His aim is to build up a purebred herd of 450 head, running both stud and commercial cattle.

Mr. Mactaggart bought the first purebred Simmental bull sold in N.Z. for export. He is Aroha Daniel bred by Mr. John Austin of Aroha Downs, and is by Scottish Neff. His 220-day weight was 950 lb. He will be arriving in Australia in August.

Mr. Mactaggart also has shipments of FI heifers arriving in July-August. Some of these will have calves on the ground by Cowcroft Albion through

natural service.

Mr. Mactaggart is principal of J. L. Mactaggart Industries, a hide buying and exporting enterprise started in 1928 by Mr. Mactaggart's father, John L. Mr. Dugald Mactaggart took over as managing director in 1962 and opened a Melbourne branch of the business in 1972.

Today, J. L. Mactaggart Industries Group has

an annual turnover in excess of \$15m.

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