


THE AUSTRALIAN



# Simmental

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2, No. 4

JUNE, 1974

## *Simmentals Still Creating Records!*

**Simmentals have done it again. Twice! Two sales in New Zealand last month once again created records and Australian breeders are responsible for one of them.**

On Friday, May 24 at the Levels Homestead, Timaru, a seven-months-old pure bred Simmental heifer was sold for \$47,500. She was sold account Fleckvieh Breeders Ltd., and was bought by Southern Breeders of Southland.

The heifers dam was Kerstnowe Alice, imported from Scotland, while the heifer's sire is well known Scottish Herod.

This world record Simmental heifer price stood for just three days for on the following Monday the sale was announced in Christchurch of a 6½-months-old Simmental heifer for \$48,000, this time bought by Australian breeders.

The heifer was purchased by Messrs. A. P. Wells and K. Read of Beef Enterprises Export Finance Co. Pty. Ltd. of Perth, W.A., for a syndicate of three W.A. breeders. Delivery will be given after the calf has been weaned.

The heifer, Risingholme Amanda, was sold account Mr. D. S. Crosson, Risingholme, Methven and her sire is also Scottish Herod. Her dam, Leader Amanda, is by Scottish Neff.

The same W.A. breeders also bought a four-months-old Simmental heifer calf, Blythe Entree by Scottish Pride from Mr. R. G. Macdonald of Kaiapoi, for \$40,000.

At the Levels sale 54 head were offered and they grossed \$134,470. Thirty-one Simmental-Hereford cross 18 to 21 months old heifers, pregnancy tested in calf, sold for a total of \$79,200 and an average of \$2,555. Only two made less than \$2,000. Two sold for \$5,000 each to Thanet Farm Co., of Ikawai.

### **BALIG AGENT --- WILL SIRE 1st AUSTRALIAN CALVES**

**The first pure bred Simmental calves will be born in Australia later this year, and the host brood cows to these ovum transplants are now in Australia.**

Sire of these calves is Balig Agent, who has just come through with a remarkable calving figure in a New Zealand test. In a test with three other Simmental bulls of high standing, of the 125 cows inseminated to him, not one received assistance with calving. He was the only sire with this perfect score in the progeny test.

These results were achieved at progeny tests sponsored by Southern Breeders, N.Z. and carried out under the supervision of the N.Z. authorities.

Balig Agent, by Scottish Neff from Alune, is a big, solid type of sire and has all the Simmental characteristics of size and quality.

Born August 14, 1971 he weighed 45 kg. (104 lb.) at birth and 549 kg. (1,210 lb.) at 300 days. He has since developed into a highly successful, proven sire with all the inherent qualities that one would expect from a bull with his pedigree.

Australian agents for Balig Agent are Animal Breeding Services, Sydney.

### **PLEASE NOTE!**

The Association's new, temporary address is:

**58 RILEY ST., EAST SYDNEY 2000  
PHONE: 31 7313**

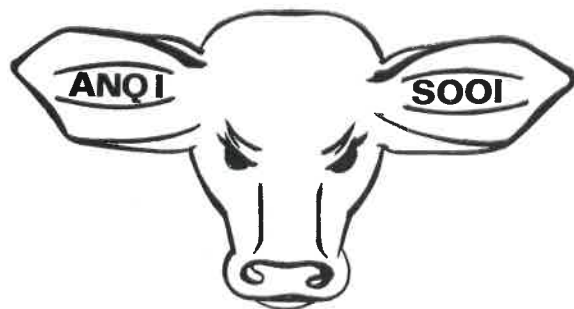
## ILLEGIBILITY OF TATTOOS

Most members of the ASBA should now be aware that it is one of the rules of the Association that all calves to be registered should be tattooed by the time they are 3 months old, the reasons being (1) to avoid mismothering and (2) it is easier to restrain a three month old calf for tattooing than say a six month old.

The ASBA's inspectors have found that in many cases tattoos are illegible and some cattle have not been tattooed at all.

In view of this it has been decided to reprint an article on tattooing which appeared in the Feb. 1973 issue of the Aust. Simmental Newsletter.

Further to that article it is essential that the number be placed as far into the ear as possible between the two large veins:—



To fulfill the Association requirements a breeder's herd designation letters plus the animals status whether it be F1, F2 or F3 should be placed in the off or left ear looking from the front, and the year letter plus the animal's No. be placed in the near or right ear as above.

YEAR LETTERS	1973	S
	1974	T
	1975	
	1976	

Anyone who discovers they have made tattooing errors should write to the Council and ask permission to rectify.

## RECOMMENDED TATTOO METHOD

Some members may be entering upon a stud breeding programme for the first time and may have had no experience in tattooing calves. The following basic instructions on tattooing as recommended by the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture will assist in giving you a clear, legible tattoo.

Each stud calf must be branded with some dis-

tinguishing mark to prevent error in identification.

Fire branding, acid branding, freeze branding and ear tagging have disadvantages. However, tattoo ear-marking has proved satisfactory over a long period. The calf may be tattoo ear-marked soon after birth without detriment to health or disfiguration of the hide. When the calf is 8 or 9 months old, fire branding will be satisfactory.

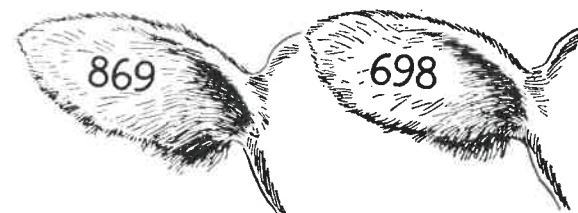
### Use high-grade ink

The tattoo earmark must be distinct and lasting. Care is essential when puncturing the ear with the tattoo instrument, and the dye must be good quality. China or india ink in tube form, preferably that used by tattoo artists, is satisfactory.

### Method

Remove the natural grease from the calf's ear by cleaning it with a cloth or swab moistened with methylated spirits. Select the part of the ear most free of large veins and hair, and smear it with ink where the tattoo is to go. Before using the tattoo, test its correctness on a piece of cardboard or the brim of an old felt hat; it is easy to insert the letters or figures wrongly. For instance 869 incorrectly inserted in the holder might read 698 and D9 could read 6D.

Puncture the ear quickly and decisively. Remove the clamp immediately to prevent the ear being torn should the calf pull away. Finally, rub more ink into the punctured area.



*Result of careless insertion of numbers in the instrument — above left: as the figures (869) should read from the front; above right: the operator has inserted the same figures incorrectly, looking from above and behind.*

Three or 4 days after tattooing, small blisters will probably appear on the skin. Do not interfere with them — they will disappear, leaving a legible brand.

### Some precautions

Unsatisfactory results can be traced to one or more of the following mistakes:

- Failure to remove natural grease from the ear before applying the ink;
- Puncturing the large veins of the ear, causing excessive bleeding;

—Continued on page 3

# New Dams or Old? -- or how to create new Base Dams without really trying

(By Frank M. Anderson, Senior Project Liaison Officer, N.B.R.S.)

Dams enrolled using the old style insemination slip which didn't include year of birth, were usually allocated the default year code of 'D' as suggested in the breeders' manual.

Since that time, however, many breeders have reinseminated base dams and allocated a new year code to the dam using the new insemination slips. This must not be done unless the base dam actually has a different year code written on her ear tag! As far as the computer is concerned dam XYZODOO28 is a different animal from XYZOPPO28. If D28 was the Ident of the dam as printed on your first Mating and Calving Form you must stick to that Ident unless the dam actually has some other letter on her ear tag. If she has another letter on her tag the change to her Ident should be made when returning the Mating and Calving Form.

To change the Ident on the form, cross out the printed Ident and print the new one clearly above it. From then on always refer to the dam by the new Ident.

If the first Mating and Calving Form has been

### TATTOO METHOD

—Continue from page 2

- Applying the tattoo to the part of the ear where hair growth is thick;
- Use of poor quality ink;
- Tearing of the skin, when the instrument is not released quickly enough after puncturing the ear;
- Carelessness in inserting the numbers or letters in the tattoo pliers; remember that the brand is to be read from the front and not from above and behind the ear, which is the position of the operator when puncturing the ear; and
- Failure to puncture the ear correctly, perhaps because the chisel or needle points of the letters are worn or damaged (chisel points are better than needle points).

### Tattoo age

Tattoo ear-mark calves before they are 2 weeks old; they are then readily identified and much easier to handle.

The recommended size of numbers and letters is half an inch high, as used for sheep, although three-quarter-inch characters are also satisfactory.

returned without the appropriate changes please send a covering note with the new insemination slips to indicate that Idents are being changed.

Remember that to the computer D28 and P28 are completely different animals. If she was originally cored and printed as D28 and then recorded as P28 two animals will be printed on all future Mating and Calving Forms.

If you change the Ident of any dam via the insemination slips it will

- (a) mean that dam 28's data is incomplete
- (b) cause confusion for you as 'new' animals suddenly appear on your reports
- (c) hold up A.B.R.I. processing and delay your reports
- (d) waste space on computer files.

If you **don't** mark year codes on base dam tags please retain the original Ident as printed on your Mating and Calving Form to avoid confusion.

If you **do** mark year codes on base dam tags and your codes disagree with the codes on the Mating and Calving Form please make the alteration to the Ident **on the Mating and Calving Form**. Cross out the printed Ident and print the correct Ident above it.

2. Old Dams or New?

(or How to Confuse a Computer in One Easy Lesson)

Have any of your base dams changed breed recently? The other day we had a problem. A base dam was inseminated in 1972. She was a purebred Hereford. She was inseminated again in 1973. During the 12 months she change to purebred Angus!

What did the computer think of this? It reported that sex changes are one thing — but this is ridiculous!

The problem can be caused by

(a) Inadvertently indicating the wrong breed in either 1972 or 1973.

This is a typical error which is difficult to avoid but it would help if breeders didn't include the enrolment date for dams that have been previously enrolled. All future Mating and Calving Forms will show the base dams breed in the column titled 'name'. Errors in the breed as noted on file may then be corrected by crossing

—Continued on page 4



# Distinguished German Visitor to Royal

An honoured visitor to Australia during the staging of the 1974 Sydney Royal Show was Dr. Heino Messerschmidt.

Dr. Messerschmidt is the director of all animal production organisations in the Federal Republik of Germany. His office is in Bonn and his organisation (ADT) is consultant to the Ministry of Agriculture and to the Farmers Union on all problems related to animal production.

His organisation the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutscher Tierzuchter (ADT) is entirely based on voluntary membership of farmers and breeders and their regional groupings and is officially recognised but not subsidised. The strongest components are those of cattle and pig production but horses, sheep and poultry are also included. With-



Dr. Heino  
Messerschmidt

## RECORDING REGISTER

—Continued from page 3

out the printed breed code and reprinting the correct one.

(b) Assigning the Ident to both the Angus and the Hereford.

This is against the rules! No two animals may be given the same Idents. Remember that the only way in which the computer distinguishes between animals is by the Ident. It can't look at the colour of the tag or other 'on farm' methods of identification.

There are plenty of facilities by which unique Idents may be created. With a range of year codes available and 9999 drop numbers a breeder should only run into trouble when he has something like 100,000 base dams in his herd!

**Change breed codes by indicating on the Mating and Calving Form that the printed one is incorrect.**

**Don't include base dam enrolment data on insemination slips if the dam is already enrolled.**

**Please allocate unique Idents to all animals.**

## ERRATA

We would like to draw your attention to one point on page 8 in the April Newsletter.

Council Sets Deadline for Herd Enrolment, Item 4, should read "When these forms have been completed they should be forwarded to the Secretary in Sydney with the cheque to cover costs of registration."

**Note that Insemination Certificates, Mating and Calving Forms and Post Weaning Forms are sent to A.B.R.I. but the Registration and Calf Performance Forms go to A.S.B.A.**

**Please contact the A.B.R.I. if you are uncertain about details of recording for the Simmental Register.**

in the cattle sector all breed societies, recording associations and a.i. organisations are combined.

Dr. Messerschmidt was trained in agriculture and genetics at Gottingen University and he did post-graduate work with Sir John Hammond in Cambridge, Prof. F. N. Bonsma in Pretoria, with Prof. A. M. Leroy in Paris, with Prof. Ivar Johannsson in Uppsala. In 1952 he helped to prepare the International Animal Husbandry Congress in Copenhagen, in 1961 the same Congress in Hamburg and in 1972 the International Congress on Reproduction in Munich.

Dr. Messerschmidt holds an honorary doctorate of the University of Gottingen and is honorary citizen of the veterinary college of Hannover. He is member of several academical societies within Germany and abroad.

Dr. Messerschmidt has a world-wide experience in animal production and was consultant to his government on a great number of technical aid projects in Africa and Asia.

In 1963 he served in a interantional consulting group under Prof. Earl Heady in Greece with the task to advise the government on the re-organisation of agricultural research. In 1967 he was for a month, guest lecturer, especially on common market problems, in the Department of Agronomy of Purdue University, Lafayette.

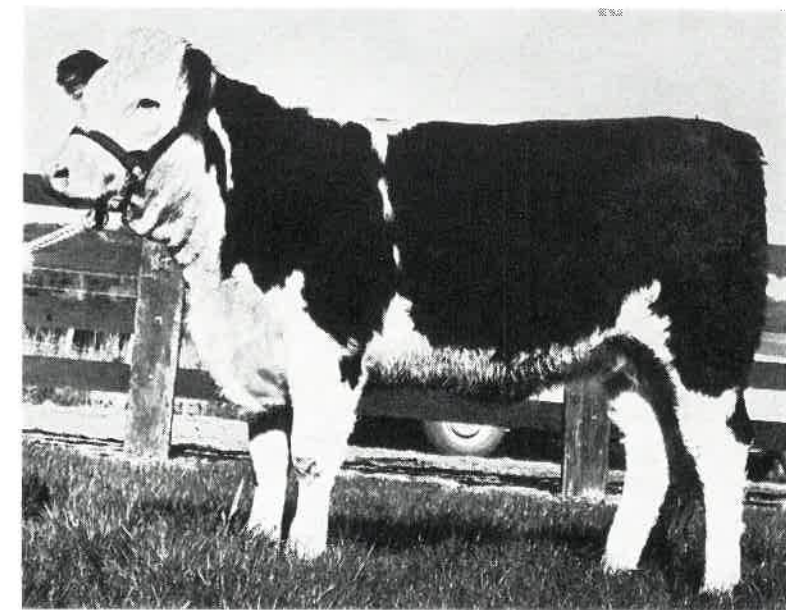
Dr. Messerschmidt serves on committees of the European Farmers Organisation (COPA) and the Commission of the European Community in Bruxelles.

~~~~~  
SIMMENTAL!—IN THE WORLD OF CATTLE

— THE CATTLE FOR THE WORLD! ~~~~~

The Australian Simmental Newsletter — June, 1974

# THIS POLLED HEIFER



## is a MAYER Sample!

She weighed 850 lb. at 390 days. We've got another 50 Mayer heifers like her, already carrying  $\frac{3}{4}$  calves by various German Simmentals.

Corhan Experimental Farm, adjacent to our licensed AB centre, enables us to offer a unique service.

(1) Visitors can compare half Simmentals with crosses of the other European breeds and

(2) Decide for themselves which Simmental sire to use in their herds.

**MAYER semen is in great demand but we've STILL got supplies. \$10 a dose.**

*Remember — if we haven't got the bull you want, we'll get it for you —at the list price.*

## CORHAN -- GOLDEN -- GENES

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

Phone 735 4171, 735 1663 or 735 0160.



# SEMEN

MMB

SCOTTISH

LANGLE

NEPTUNE

SCHOCK

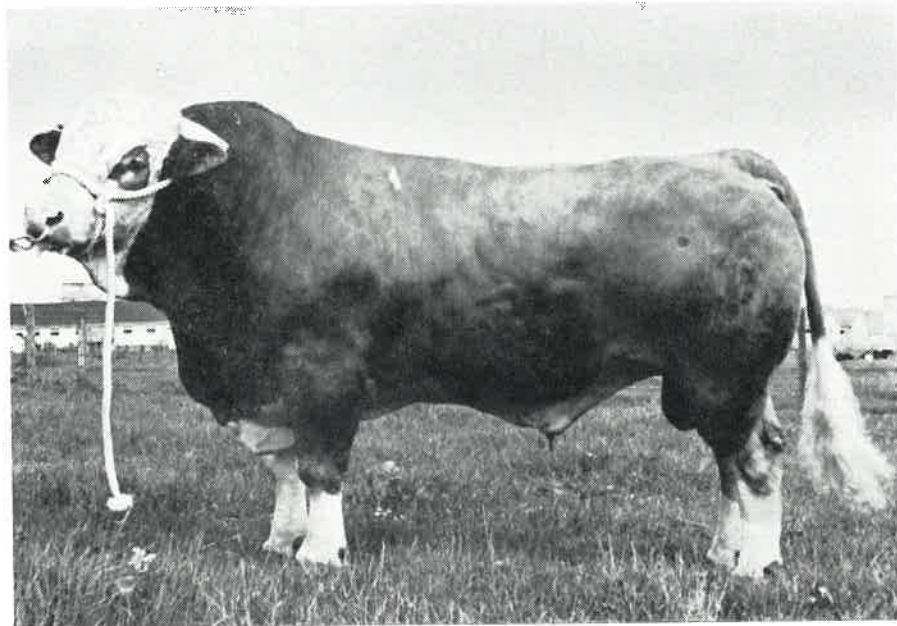
HEROD

THIERAUCH

PRIDE

REBHOLZ

HOPE



SCOTTISH PRIDE

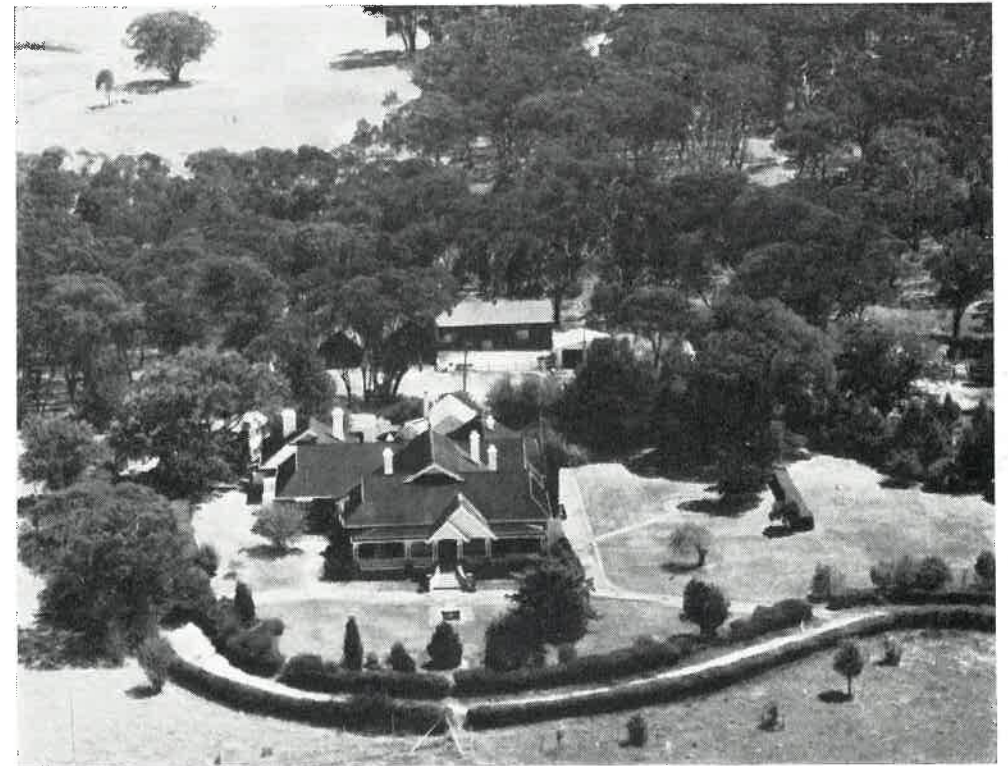
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REG. OFFICE: 6 SHERWOOD COURT, PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA. 6000. TELEPHONE 25 4695.  
CORRESPONDENCE TO: BOX 51308 G.P.O. PERTH. 6001 CABLES TO: "AUSTIMCO" PERTH.

*Third Time Proves It!*



*Make it Friday  
September 13, 1974*

*Place: Waterloo Station,  
Glen Innes, N.S.W.  
Time: 1 p.m.*





Willingale Atheni with Pride calf at foot alongside transplanted recipients immediately after operation.

# now 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 ATHENI | by SCOTTISH NEFF  |
| SCOTTISH PRIDE | out of | WILLINGALE ASTA   | by SCOTTISH NELL  |
| TATTENHALL     | out of | STUARTSLAW AMY    | by SCOTTISH PRIDE |
| AMENDMENT      |        |                   |                   |

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

#### Conditions of sale:

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 Societies.
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 incidental charges.



## TATTENHALL AMENDMENT

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





## 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. — Ireland.  
 Panzer, North Western Cattle Breeding Society Ltd. — Ireland.  
 Talent, Cattle Breed Improvement Services Ltd., U.K.  
 Milord, West Ontario Breeders, Canada.  
 Pirli, Canadian Stock Breeders.

### BILLINUDGEL PASTORAL CO. PTY. LTD.

OF MULLUMBIMBY, N.S.W.

Cordially invite you to our

### 2ND. ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE on AUGUST 5, 1974

Among the Simmental offering there will be—

- 1 FI Hereford base dam heifer on the point of calving.
- 1 FI Hereford base dam heifer, one of the first to be imported from N.Z. who will have been served by AI at the time of sale.
- 20 Hereford base dams with FI calves at foot.
- 28 Hereford cows PTIC to leading Simmental bulls.
- 2 FI bulls bred at Billinudgel.

A/c Mr. Chas. Young — 3 FI bulls.

A/c Baron Stiernblad — 3 FI bulls and 2 FI heifers PTIC.

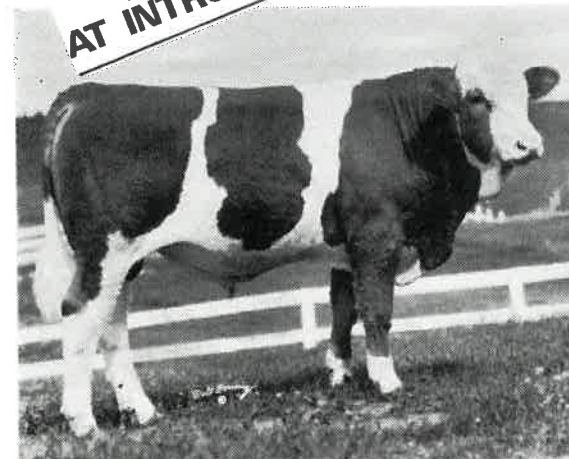
FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS — PHONE MULLUMBIMBY 521 (N.S.W.)



## semen\* from PUREBRED SIMMENTAL SCOTTISH SIRES

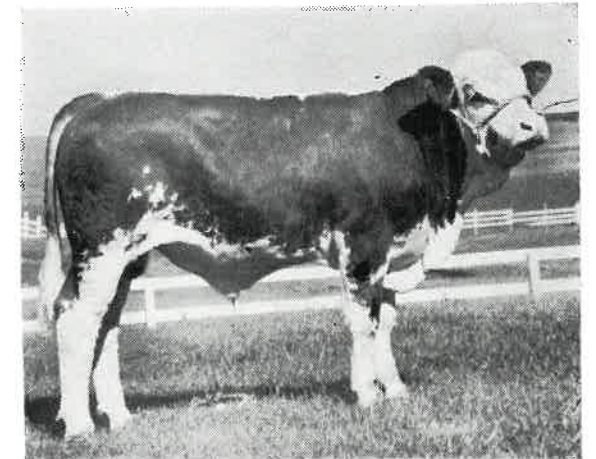
with advisory and  
practical service to  
back it.

AVAILABLE NOW  
AT INTRODUCTORY PRICES



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.

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engineering



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### SIMMENTALS "DOING BEST"

Kevin Elsley, Country Life's man on the North Coast of N.S.W. had this report in his column a few weeks ago regarding Simmental performance. He wrote:

"Simmentals are doing the best so far in the cross-breeding work at Grafton Agricultural Research Station. Hereford cows were joined to Hereford, Brahman, Friesian and Simmental bulls by A.I. and the Simmental calves had the best daily weight gain to weaning when they were also valued on top as store weaners.

"How they perform from now on their own resources will be interesting."

### FIRST AUSTRALIAN BORN PURE SIMMENTALS DUE IN AUGUST

The very first purebred Simmentals ever born in Australia are due to be calved in August this year. In making this announcement Mr. Lionel Busquets, Managing Director of, part owners, Animal Breeding Services (Aust.) Pty. Limited, said that an early breakthrough had been achieved in Australian cattle breeding with the arrival of these very valuable calves.

The calves recently arrived in Australia in utero.

Animal Breeding Services has been very actively involved on an international scale in the introduction of the new European breeds of cattle, and has many other projects in the pipe-line for breeding stock from several of the new breeds.

One of the closest overseas associations has been developed with Southern Breeders, comprising 10 prominent New Zealand South Island cattle men who were responsible for the Ovarian Transplantation of the four purebred Simmental calves.

The other Australian partners with Animal Breeding Services in the ownership of the Simmental calves are Mr. Dudley Ross of Aberfeldy, Holbrook, who is very well known in the commercial cattle world, and Mr. Rodger Kelly, a prominent Poll Hereford breeder of Corringle, Rugby.

The unique venture is a culmination of careful planning by the company over several years and has resulted in new concepts not only in breeding but also in insurance.

A policy was taken out through Lloyds of London by the Australian brokers Willis Faber Johnson and Higgins carrying a live calf guarantee and this is regarded by the brokers as the first policy of its kind in the world outside North America.

Lionel Busquets, who has seen every prominent Simmental sire says that Balig Agent, sire of the four calves, is one of the top Simmental bulls in the world available to Australian breeders.

Final choice of Balig Agent was only made after a very close evaluation of a large number of his progeny.

### IMEX CATTLE TO ZAMBIA

A communication from Imex in Germany advises they have sent a shipment of 51 head of cattle to Zambia. The cattle were selected by Zambian graziers, Tony Lenton and S. Marshall. Of the shipment 24 were Fleckvieh and of these Imex states:

"The 21 Fleckvieh heifers present the outstanding dual-purpose characteristics of this breed and 81% have a positive progeny tested sire, i.e. conformation, gain, size, milk, fat, milkability and calving data are available.

"Sires include the German grand and reserve grand champion bulls Honig and Portibus.

"The three young and promising Fleckvieh bulls are sired by the wellknown proven bulls Basalt, Hellas and Honig. Official weights taken at auction sales, indicate that 828 sons of these bulls had an average weight of 1,356 lb. at 15.7 months, and a daily gain since birth of 2.69 lb.

"The growthy dams of the three bulls purchased have an average production of 11,073 lb. milk with a butterfat percentage of 4.64.

### IRISH FLECKVIEH BULLS RECORD FIRST

The first ever public auction of purebred Fleckvieh bulls in the Republic of Ireland took place on Wednesday, March 27, 1974 at Tully, Co. Kildare.

Thirteen Fleckvieh bulls, all performance tested under the first ever bull testing programme set up by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, were being offered for sale.

The Station at Tully cost £200,000 and it housed 95 bulls from five beef breeds, Fleckvieh, Angus, Charolais, Hereford and South Devon and these were tested under uniform conditions of feeding and management.

Fleckvieh bulls broke all Irish records for pedigree bulls of any beef breed. The thirteen bulls grossed over 48,000 guineas for an average of 3,715 guineas. Two bulls were unsold and three bulls in the test were not on offer.

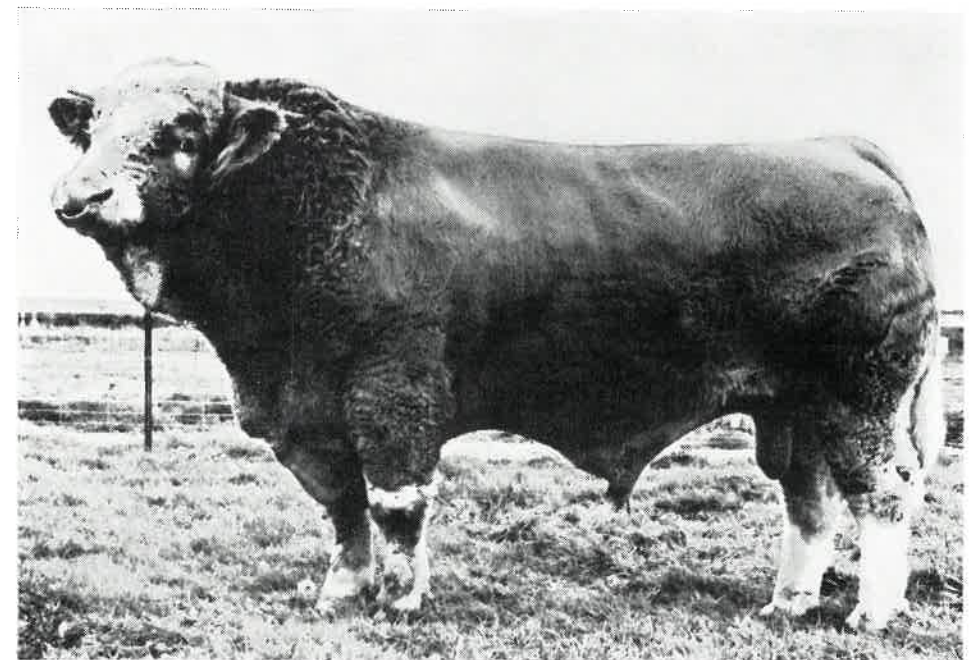
The highest price was paid for Hibernian Patrick, bred by Hibernian Livestock Ltd. of Cork, a son of Palm. This bull had the highest 400 day weight at 1,300 lb. and was sold for 6,200 guineas for export to the United States.

United States buyers were very active in a highly enthusiastic sale for this breed. Buyers included Edwin Allday of Texas, Howard Greiner of Iowa, Henry Uihlein of Indiana, Everglades Cattle Company of Florida, Ernie Dodd of Cheshire and some buyers from Northern Ireland and the U.K.

The total for the entire sale grossed 86,000 guineas, a record for a special one day sale in Ireland.

The Australian Simmental Newsletter — June, 1974

# Balig Agent!



In a comparative test with three other bulls of high standing Balig Agent achieved a remarkable result in that of the 125 COWS INSEMINATED TO HIM — NOT ONE REQUIRED ASSISTANCE WITH CALVING!

HE WAS THE ONLY SIRE WITH THIS PERFECT SCORE IN THE TEST.  
Born: 14.8.71. Weight: 47 kg. (104 lb.). At 300 days: 549 kg. (1,210 lb.).

### PEDIGREE — BALIG AGENT:

|                            |                   |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Scottish Neff<br>(5055483) | Neff U.5462       | Neo O/5520        |
|                            |                   | Anneliese O/28592 |
|                            | Themse U.65469    | Honan U.4211      |
|                            |                   | Therri U.56283    |
|                            | Postillion U.4119 | Polli U.3479      |
| Alune<br>(5057782)         |                   | Daune U.36511     |
| (imp.Germany '70)          |                   | Hans U.5076       |
|                            | Alge U.71116      | Alma U.51098      |

Further information can be obtained from Animal Breeding Services,  
13th Floor, Bank of Adelaide Building, 275 George St., Sydney, N.S.W. 2000  
Phone: 29 5013 - 290 2098



## Animal Breeding Services (AUST) PTY. LTD.

13th LEVEL, BANK OF ADELAIDE BLDG. 275 GEORGE STREET SYDNEY N.S.W. 2000 Telephones 29-5013 290-2098 Telegraphic Address "ABSERV" SYDNEY



# Result of SMMB Calving Survey

Newsletter is indebted to the U.K. Simmental News for this item. The following results of a survey conducted on 939 calvings has been released by the Scottish Milk Marketing Board. The survey covered the calving results of cows bred to six Simmental bulls stationed at the S.M.M.B. Centre.

|                                 | Total No.<br>of<br>Calvings | Ayrshire<br>Dams<br>Average<br>Birth<br>Weight | Friesian<br>Dams<br>Average<br>Birth<br>Weight | Assisted Calvings<br>All Breeds |                        |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                 |                             |                                                |                                                | Farmer<br>Assisted              | Assisted<br>Veterinary |
| S. Neff (Imp.G.1970) 5055483    | 125                         | 85                                             | 96                                             | 4.8%                            | 0%                     |
| S. Marquis (Imp.G.1970) 9056207 | 144                         | 94                                             | 94                                             | 0.7%                            | 0.7%                   |
| S. Pride (Imp.G.1970) 9461886   | 141                         | 97.5                                           | 104                                            | 2.8%                            | 1.4%                   |
| S. Neptune (Imp.G.1970) 5055429 | 154                         | 90                                             | 92                                             | 3.9%                            | 0.6%                   |
| S. Herod (Imp.G.1970) 5051372   | 298                         | 90                                             | 100                                            | 3.0%                            | 0.6%                   |
| S. Hope (Imp.G.1970) 5051699    | 77                          | 88                                             | 94                                             | 0%                              | 1.3%                   |
| OVERALL                         | 939                         | 91                                             | 97.7                                           | 2.7%                            | 0.7%                   |

## Cattle trends in the United States

Newsletter is indebted to Grazcos Co-operative Ltd., and to Mr. Vic. Cole, for permission to publish the following comments on the beef industry in the U.S.A. by Mr. Cole, on his return from a recent study tour and published in the April issue of Grazcos Notes.

In brief, what did we learn from the beef industry of the United States after a short visit of a little over two weeks?

We saw for ourselves what a gigantic industry it was. In the three States we visited — Colorado, Nebraska and Iowa — there were 16 million beef cattle out of a total for all States of 122 million — just four times more than in Australia.

We found that Americans eat 25 per cent more beef than Australians. Sixty per cent of its grades "Choice", i.e. rather fat by our standards. Supermarkets have created a year-round demand for beef and, to supply this demand, 7 out of 10 calves weaned are currently finished through feedlots, the rest are needed for replacements.

A total of 5 billion bushels of corn and almost one million bushels of sorghum are produced annually, most of which is fed to fattening livestock. Also, over one billion bushels of soybeans are produced, a good deal of which is again fed to livestock. This year it skyrocketed in price and largely put itself beyond the reach of cattle feeders with the result that they turned more towards urea.

Grain also rose in price as did store and fat cattle. This forced the feedlotter to trim his margins and watch his costs closely to avoid going into the red. A general shortage of store cattle was another factor adding to his problems.

According to predictions, the 1970's will be

the "cow-calf" producer's golden era because of the need to increase cow numbers so as to produce more calves for feedlots. By 1980, with a rising population and an increase in beef consumption, an additional 7 billion pounds of beef will be needed — just over twice as much as Australia currently produces a year.

At present the United States has a beef deficit. She cannot produce enough beef to meet her own requirements. This is in spite of the importation of one million calves annually from Canada and Mexico. This situation explains her need to import beef which is to the benefit of Australia with a surplus to sell.

The American cattleman is showing considerable interest in new breeds to put additional size into his cattle. However, it is difficult, on a short

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# Simmental Power from Scotland



Four young Simmentals in the S.S.S. stud (left to right) — Scottish Command; Scottish Gerald; Scottish Patron; Scottish Hellas.

**Soon we'll be asking...**  
**"Which of our 16**  
**German Simmental Sires**  
**would you prefer?"**

When a further six bulls arrive shortly at our cattle breeding stations Scottish Semen Services will have the largest stud of German Simmentals in Britain.

When it comes to Simmental we can offer you better choice, better quality.

All these sires are being progeny tested in a 1000-cow scheme set up by S.S.S. and M.L.C. — the Meat and Livestock Commission. Semen from these and other bulls is being laid down in the company's new £25,000 semen quarantine station.

When Scots want Simmental power, they turn to Scottish Semen Services. Why don't you?

If you breed Simmental — Buy Scottish!

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Division of the S.M.M.B. Underwood Road, Paisley

**Breed Scottish—Breed Best**

Selected by Stockmen for Stockmen



SM15



## BEEF IN THE U.S.A.

—Continued from page 14

visit, to find out how much is genuine interest and how much is sparked off by clever opportunists. There is no doubt that the Charolais is now an established breed in the United States and has performed well for growth. This has not prevented interest spreading to a wide range of other "exotic" breeds from Britain and several other European countries. It has spread also to the Murray Grey from Australia.

However, a problem associated with breeding for heavier weights in cattle, common to both new and old breeds, is that it increases calf size. This, in turn, increases calving trouble. The lesson has now been learnt that big bulls should not be used on heifers specially if they are to calve as 2-year-olds. Even with mature cows they give more than average trouble. For joining with heifers, trials have highlighted the fact that the Jersey bull gives considerably less calving trouble than bulls of any of the other common breeds.

With the object of getting factual information about the new breeds of cattle, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has established a large breeding complex at Clay Centre in Nebraska. Here the Hereford and Angus are being compared with them for characteristics such as fertility, calving difficulty, growth, food conversion efficiency and carcass quality. So far, the results available relate to calving difficulty, growth and carcass quality. They show that, while the large breeders grow faster and finish at heavier weights without getting too fat, they give considerably more calving trouble. Thus, these two factors have to be weighed together in assessing the new breeds. The trials are not far enough advanced yet to demonstrate their relative importance.

One aspect of beef production of which we learnt very little was the carcass side. Choice carcasses on exhibition at the Great Western Beef Expo seemed over-fat by our standards. In view of their 701lb. average weight perhaps this was not surprising. Yet we heard a good deal of discussion about the American housewife wanting less fat and more lean. This raises an interesting question — how will the U.S. beef industry handle this situation in the future? Yield grading is a step towards identifying carcasses with a high percentage of lean but it is not yet used extensively. If there is a trend towards finishing cattle at heavier weights this will certainly favour the heavy breeds. Only one thing seems certain. The profit-oriented commercial feeder will buy the cattle which give him the greatest return in money and his preference, based largely on consumer preference, could well determine the way in which the beef industry will go in the future to provide him with the type of carcasses he wants.

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