



# Simmentales

**Targeted News from  
The Industry Heavyweights**

Issue 22 ■ May 2014

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello All

As I write this note most of the country to the north of us is receiving, or about to receive, a good soaking, so if you inhabit a part of the country that needed a decent shower I'm sure you will be grinning. The south of the South has seen quite a remarkable summer and autumn with plenty of grass and clover, if you aren't hosting too many of those voracious clover root weevils. They have finally emigrated to the bottom of the country but there are plenty of Irish wasps being introduced as well so hopefully we will get on top of them in a year or two.

Julene and I got up the East Coast with the tour in February and had a really enjoyable time. I have never really had much of a look at the Gisborne hinterland and was greatly impressed with the clean country and healthy stock. Thanks to Colleen for all her work in pulling the trip together and keeping everyone on task and on time. Thanks also to all our hosts, the Knaufs, the Sansons and the Absoloms, as well as their commercial clients that we visited. Talk is of a trip down our way for next year so mark your calendar!

The bull selling season is upon us once again and I wish you all good luck with your sales, whether they be at Expo, at on farm auctions or private sales. Our progeny have once again featured as top selling pens at weaner calf sales across the country, testament to the value their buyers receive through their accelerated growth and high yielding carcasses. For those members producing sale catalogues, Pivot can produce an 'e book' for between \$50-\$80 that can be emailed out or accessed off a web site or Facebook page. You just need to send in a pdf file of your catalogue (get one off your printer).

You will also have received recently an email from Brett at PBB regarding a new, and cheaper, way of creating a catalogue on Internet Solutions. Called Catalogue builder it allows you to post your own list of animals for sale. Total price for each animal listed, including a photo, is \$7+GST, compared to \$10.50+GST when PBB did it for you. Remember this service is not just for auction sales or large numbers. Neither is it just for bull sales. Even if you only have one animal for sale it gets it out there.

I hope you all have AgInnovation on your calendars. The Simmental bull sale and six entries in the Queen of Hearts heifer sale offer new genetics from around the country. The seminar programme on the Sunday and Monday also sounds extremely interesting and informative.

See you there

**Garry McCorkindale**

## EASTER SHOW

The Auckland Agricultural, Pastoral & Industrial Shows Board in conjunction with the Auckland A & P Association host the New Zealand Easter Show each year at the Auckland Showgrounds in Greenlane.

Tony & Glennis Thompson have been entering a team of Glenanthy Simmental cattle since 1989 when this show was known as the Royal Easter Show of Champions. In 1989 there were 34 Simmental cattle entered from 13 breeders out of a total 220 beef cattle entered. 25 years later in 2014 there were 25 Simmentals from 2 breeders out of a total of 80 beef cattle entered.

This year 24 Simmentals were entered by Glenanthy and the only other entry was Sue Wylie's yearling bull Ratalea Anchor who was prepared and shown by the Glenanthy team in Sue's absence. The Simmental judge this year was Peter Maxwell of Cornwall Park and in the Simmental section he placed Glenanthy Whitney to win the Senior Cow Class and go on to win the Female Championship. Glenanthy Y-arta was Peter's choice in the Senior Bull class, over Glenanthy Yale the current NZ Royal Show Champion. Glenanthy Apollo won the Yearling Bull class over Ratalea Anchor and Whitney's bull calf Glenanthy Bismark won the Bull Calf class. Both Ratalea Anchor and Glenanthy Bismark are by Y-arta. Peter placed Y-arta as the Champion Male with Bismark the Reserve. In the final event Y-arta won the Supreme Champion award over Whitney with Bismark at foot.

Unlike other years Simmental entries did not dominate the 12 Interbreed classes which was an indication of the high standard of all beef entries across all breeds. Gelbvieh entries won the Heifer Calf and Yearling Heifer classes but it was an excellent team of Salers cattle entered by Karen & Bruce Woolley of the Willowspring Stud that won most of the Interbreed classes relegating the Glenanthy team to a string of second placings. This included the Progeny class in which Y-arta and his two sons went out clear favourites. Glenanthy Y-arta was the only shining light for Glenanthy on the second day, endorsing Peter Maxwell's earlier judging by beating Glenanthy Yale into 2nd place in the Interbreed Senior Bull class and then going forward to win the Meat & Wool Cup.

A very satisfying conclusion for the Glenanthy show team and a great result for the Simmental breed. Thanks to this being the 11th Meat & Wool Cup win by Glenanthy at the Easter Show in the last 25 years Simmental cattle have won more than half these overall Supreme Championship awards in that time. Well done.





## 2014 TOUR REPORT

2014 Simmental Tour has been and gone and those 24 people who went, are keen for another tour next year – Southland! So, if you didn't make it this year, make a mental note to come along and enjoy the fun, the cattle, the people, the food and the scenery.

We travelled a lot of kms – as you do on the East Coast. People were great about getting back on the coach to keep to time, aided somewhat by a cowbell and gold coin fine jar for Orphans Aid. No names, but I think Mr President and his wife were the most frequent donators. Quite a few folk generously donated at tour's end which was great!

Some got a bit disoriented and were not quite sure where they had been, so here it is in brief.



### DAY 1

Took SH 2 from Napier. Turned off at Raupunga, up Putere Road to go to Brickells, commercial user of Simmentals.

Continued on the back way to Dever's, also a commercial operator on Waihi Road. We had lunch at Devers with opportunity to purchase homemade chocolate truffles.





From Devers, we travelled to Frasertown (Lake Road) and turned off on to Mangapoke Road to go the back way in to Kerrah Simmentals. Most managed a brief 4x4 motor bike tour and saw some real hill country Simmentals. Those that preferred could look at some cattle and have a cuppa at the woolshed.

performing female cattle were on display. Delivered a very interesting presentation about Silver Fern's new quality grading system. This could be very favourable to Simmental, and John gave an interesting talk about the arrival of the breed to NZ and the highs and lows of establishing the breed in New Zealand.

Left at 4.30pm to head out to SH 2 and up to Gisborne for AGM, dinner and bed.

Tour finished with lots to think and talk about. See you all next year!  
Colleen Knauf

## DAY 2

Headed towards Matawai to see Gold Creek Simmentals at 2 venues. We saw some impressive stock in the yards at the first venue and the trip to the 2nd venue showed us what their hill country is really like. A great view and scrumptious morning tea.



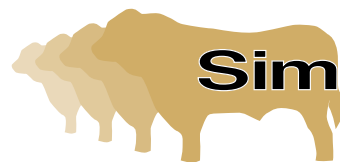
Then we headed 7km north of Matawai and turned left to get to Ramoe Station, our next destination. By this time, there were a lot of rude comments about us really knowing where we were going! Sounded like a bunch of townies! Just as well, Glenn was a capable, cheerful, can do coach driver. It had started to drizzle as we turned off the road on to the farm track into the cattle yards to see the Simme bulls (ex Goldcreek) that they fatten before the 2nd winter. It was good to see a big commercial operation. Good to make it back on to the road before it got too wet, too! A bit of excitement for all, including Glenn!



On to Wharekopae Road and all downhill to Gisborne for lunch. Back into the coach to Wairoa to Turiroa Angus and a cuppa. An interesting stop, it generated lively discussion all the way back to Napier.

## DAY3

A half day trip out to Rissington, where some of the studs top



## AGINNOVATION 2014

**10th – 13th May – Manfeild Stadium, Feilding**

This year's AgInnovation 2014 promises to be even bigger and better than last year's inaugural event, and once again Simmental NZ will be well represented.

The event runs for four days and offers a variety of competitions, sales and seminars that will appeal to a wide range of farmers.

This year, the commercial strengths of the Simmental carcass will once again be proven in the hotly contested Future Beef Hoof and Hook competition.

We are fortunate to have a strong lineup of six quality heifers "strutting their stuff" in the Queen of Hearts Show and Sale. This is a great stage to showcase the excellent maternal qualities of our breed, and of course a unique opportunity to acquire elite genetics to introduce into your stud herd.



For those on the hunt for a new herd sire, this year's lineup of bulls is well worth a look. These cattle have plenty of performance on paper and are phenotypically attractive cattle – the ultimate package! Can't wait to see them lined up together in one location.

At the time of writing, the Steak of Origin finalists have yet to be announced. Traditionally, Simmental has had a strong showing in this event, so this year should be no different. Simmental NZ wishes all the farmers who have Simmental and Simmental X cattle entered the very best of luck.

If that isn't enough to keep you enthused and entertained, these events are intertwined with cutting edge beef genetics workshops, technology seminars, and local field trips. For the timetable and more information on all of these events go to [www.aginnovation.co.nz/](http://www.aginnovation.co.nz/) and we look forward to seeing you all there.

## PRIZE-GIVING

Simmental prize-giving will be held following the sale at approximately 2.30pm, upstairs in the Mezzanine lounge. There will be drinks and nibbles available.

## DINNER

An informal dinner will be held on Tuesday 13th May 2014 at Essence Café, Manchester Street, Feilding at 7.00pm.

Please RSVP to Lindy by Friday 9th May, phone 06 323 4484 or Email [lindy@pbbnz.com](mailto:lindy@pbbnz.com)

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