

Simmentales

Targeted News from
The Industry Heavyweights

Issue 20 ■ December 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Waitahuna.

I hope all is well in whatever part of the country you call home, although as farmers we all know there will be too much or not enough of something, usually weather related! Down here the spring has been generally colder than normal (we had the most miserable October I can recall!) and we are hanging out for some warm, settled weather.

It sounds like Sarah and her crew from Northland have a great tour lined up for us next February. I'm certainly looking forward to it, not having been on many properties up that end. Please mark your calendar and give consideration to joining us. Tours like this are a great way of keeping up with what's happening in our industry and seeing other breeders on their home patch, as well as being a great social and networking occasion. See you there!

Next year's Beef Expo is shaping up to be bigger and more diverse with a wider range of events planned. The introduction of an all breeds PTIC R2 heifer class, run along the same lines as the successful Queen of Hearts sale, is another opportunity for members to 'swap' genetics, and I would urge all members to consider one of your top heifers for these sales and/or be there to buy someone else's.

Following feedback from the discussion at our last AGM entries will be open for 2yr led and unled bulls, as well as yearlings, semen embryos or other genetic packages. Our plan at the moment is to have all animals inspected with one group of inspectors covering all breeds, and a higher standard maintained. More on that later.

From Julene and myself I wish you all a relaxing holiday season and all the best for 2013.

Garry McCorkindale

HOUSEKEEPING REMINDERS

- DNA samples of bulls used in stud service
- Calf Entries
- Female Fees were billed in September and should have been paid by now
- Female Fees for 2yr olds will be billed in December



NORTHLAND BREED TOUR 2012

This event is being held on the 12-14th February 2013. There is a mixture of visits to studs and commercial beef operations. The AGM will be held on the evening of the 13th of February and the tour will culminate with a heifer calf sale run by Vaughn Vujcich on behalf of PGG Wrightsons.

We are in the process of finalising quotes so we can give you a firm cost, but for those wanting to plan ahead here is the vital info...

The bus will depart from our Kerikeri accommodation at 8.30am on Tuesday 12 February 2013, and the tour will end back at the same accommodation at 4.30pm on Thursday 14th February 2013. We have opted for basing ourselves in Kerikeri so those who plan to arrive by air, can catch a shuttle from the airport and will not need to hire a car. While we all appreciate that it takes a great deal of forward planning to leave the farm, you will be visiting Northland at the best time of the year, so you may wish to pack your swimwear and suntan lotion/fishing rod and take a couple of extra days to enjoy what our region has to offer.

BEEF EXPO UPDATE

Since Expo 2012 there has been a "think tank" held to brainstorm ideas to grow "Beef Expo" into a must attend event. Four subcommittees were formed and charged with looking at the following areas: **Genetics, Education/Technology, Associated Activities and Governance.**



These sub committees have been working towards some initiatives for Expo that were presented to the 2012 AGM held on the 28th of November that will make Expo The Premier Front Window for the Beef Seed Stock Industry in NZ.

Under the new Chairman of Phil Barnett and Vice Chairman Will Morrison, the Expo Executive will be incorporating these new ideas into the programme over the next couple of years.

Some of these ideas are Technical seminar sessions/farm tours held over the four days, more events to help draw more of the community such as cooking competitions, BBQ competitions, include celebrities (Prime Minister, Masterchef winners, etc). Also childrens competitions (wearable arts, static art displays, etc).

A new governance structure will be formed involving much wider groups of the community.

SIMMENTAL CLASSES

Your Council has taken on board your feedback from the last Simmental AGM and are opening up the classes to include Led and Unled R2 year old bulls as well as bull calves. The Multi breed Queen of Hearts heifer calf sale (note only led heifer calves are eligible) will continue and they are also looking at holding a new Multi breed Led R2 year In-calf heifer class as well.

Council are pursuing the idea of a video Auction for 20 month and MA bulls as well.

The Council will be meeting in early February when the programme will be finalised and costings obtained

STEAK OF ORIGIN

This competition grows each year and results from last year show that Simmental can match the best. So give some thought as to what you can enter as it is a great way to help promote your breed as well as getting feedback on your cattle.

FUTURE BEEF

This Hoof & Hook competition goes from strength to strength and don't those Simmental steers stand out in the lineup. It is another great way to promote the breed so if you know of a young keen person get them involved with a 20 month steer.



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PBBNZ XMAS OFFICE HOURS

The PBBNZ office will close for the Christmas Break from 5pm on Friday 21st December 2012 and will reopen at 8am on Monday 7th January 2013. The PBBNZ management & staff would like to wish you a very **Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.**

merry
christmas
from 
performance livestock solutions

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