

# **new zealand simmental**



**spring issue**

**1979**

**number nine**

# **NEW A.I. SIRES**

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## **FOR 1979**

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### **TRN MR. PARI IE — FROM CANADA**

This outstanding son of **PARISIEN** is deep red in colour and has good eye pigmentation. Adjusted 200 day weaning weight 345 Kgs. (763 lbs). At 104 days post weaning his average daily weight gain was 3.28 lbs. His adjusted 365 day weight was 577 Kg. (1272 lbs.)

SIRE: **PARISIEN**

DAM: **TRN SOUBRETTE**

SEMEN: \$12.00 per dose

### **ARDO FIGARO — FROM SCOTLAND**

The M.L.C. test for his 400 day weight was 717 Kg. (1581 lbs.). His average daily weight gain while on test was 4.7 lbs. per day.

**ARDO FIGARO** was Supreme Champion at the Perth Sale in 1978. At 2 years 3 months of age he weighed 957 Kg. (2,109 lbs.).

SIRE: **HOBSLAND COLUMBUS** (Son of **SCOTTISH NEFF**)

DAM: **GITTA** (IMP. G. 1973) 911107

SEMEN: \$10.00 per dose

### **PANTHER (BRED IN GERMANY) — FROM NORTHERN IRELAND**

Imported into Northern Ireland in 1971 he has developed into the largest of 11 bulls imported into the stud. His progeny inherit his tremendous growth capacity, and like their father tend to be dark coloured. **PANTHER'S** first performance-tested son finished top of 20 Simmental and Charolais bulls. 400 day weight was 628 Kg. (1384 lbs). Average daily gain on test was 3.18lbs. The test average was 520 Kg. (1146 lbs) and 2.72 lbs per day. He was Supreme Champion at the 1977 Royal Ulster Agricultural Show. At that time he was 39 months of age and weighed 3,000 lbs. **PANTHER'S** 8 performance-tested sons have averaged 431lbs above breed average.

SIRE: **PLAIN** (U5990)

DAM: **FLAUSE** (34996) RL.

SEMEN: \$10.00 per dose



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*A member of the Guthreys Group*

# THE SIMMENTAL CATTLE BREEDERS'



## SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)



118 VICTORIA STREET, CHRISTCHURCH 1, NEW ZEALAND.

P.O. BOX 25-100, VICTORIA STREET, CHRISTCHURCH. Phone 793-166

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## Editorial

Perhaps the most difficult part of production of a magazine such as ours is the writing of the Editorial. Once this is written, the rest seems to follow as a matter of course. To choose a theme is a soul searching exercise—four times a year.

In choosing a topic I often ask what have we done that is noteworthy? What have we achieved?

With our Annual Meeting, the cumulation of the Society year just behind us, we could perhaps look back at what has happened in the last year. One thing for certain, we have progressed in nearly all areas. In cattle we see the proliferation of Purebreds into many Members' Herds who until recently have had only graded cattle. Prices for beef has injected confidence back into the running of cattle with the result that the commercial breeder is looking closely at our breed. Weaner prices have again proved the 'proof of the pudding'. Clubs and individuals have all, in their own way, made their efforts to foster the Breed and its promotion

On a recent visit to Australia I was fortunate in being able to hear Mr Willie Angus, President of the South African Simmental Association, address a seminar. Simmental cattle have been in South Africa for over twenty years and it was heartening to hear this very able man make the same relevant points on the breed and its attributes that have been made here.

In an assessment of this past year it could be said we have probably come further in this year than any other. We have now reached a stage where our breed and our membership have objectives and direction. When you think about it, eight years in a breed's history in a country, is but a very short time—not even a cow's lifetime. For the future we must maintain our enthusiasm and progression. This past year has been a good one but the years following will produce the true potential of what we, as a Society, are doing with our Breed.

## Council Members

**President:** R. N. S. Cox, The Levels, R. D. 4 Timaru.

Phone: Timaru 82418

**Vice-President:** J. R. Sutton, Waihaorunga, R. D. 7 Waimate

Phone: Waihaorunga 878

**Councillors:** N. J. Barnett, Coopental, No. 9 R.D., Feilding.

Phone: Halcombe 630

J. D. Graham, Waingaro, R. D. Parnassus.

Phone: Parnassus 809.

W. Gut, R. D. 29 Kaponga, Taranaki.

Phone: Kaponga 741.

G. D. Locke, Gordonton Road, R. D. 1 Taupiri.

Phone: Gordonton 877.

H. R. Lowry, Pukekohu, P. B. Havelock North.

Phone: Waimarama 832

R. G. Macdonald, 15 Selkirk Place, Christchurch 5.

Phone: Christchurch 858-080

### CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

**FINANCE:** R. N. S. Cox **TECHNICAL:** J. R. Sutton **PRO-**  
**MOTION:** H. R. Lowry **SALES:** R. G. Macdonald.

# People

## DELEGATES MEETINGS

Two meetings were held in May, one in each Island. The first in Cambridge which was attended by nine visitors from six Clubs and the second in Timaru on the day following the National Sale at which twelve people represented the four South Island Clubs.

These Meetings have become a worthwhile fixture and many points are raised that are of benefit to the running of the Society. Space does not permit a 'verbatim' report on these Meetings, which have been minuted and sent to those who attended and their Club Committees, but contributions by delegates are wel-

comed and acted upon.

From both this year's meetings there was a message that came through. We must expand our activities within Club areas to include people outside our Membership wherever possible as it is with these people our future lies. Members must promote themselves and the Breed at all opportunities.

At future Meetings it is hoped to be able to introduce a 'workshop' type of situation in which some practical instruction can be given that will be of benefit to those attending and the areas they represent.



*North Island Delegates Meeting.  
L-R: Neil Barnett (Manawatu),  
Neville Reynolds (Taranaki),  
Bernie Cooper (Wairarapa),  
Dick Black (Hawkes Bay),  
Terry Sloane (Northland),  
Robin Lowry (Council), Sec-  
retary, John Absolom  
(Hawkes Bay), Stan Tim-  
perly (Northland), Garry  
Locke (Waikato), Aidan  
Schumacher (Taranaki),  
absent: Geoff Mathis  
(Waikato).*

*South Island Delegates Meeting.*

*L-R: Jim Sutton (Council), Rupert  
Martin (Nelson), Rodney  
Cox (Council), Hugh Irving  
(Southland), Barry Quan-  
tock (Canterbury), Robin  
Lowry (Council), Stuart  
Eason (Otago), Evan  
Thatcher (South Canter-  
bury), Ted Parr (South Can-  
terbury), David Cresswell  
(Marlborough), Noel Demp-  
ster (Otago), John Robins  
(Southland), Gray Robertson  
(Southland), absent: Jim Lis-  
saman (Marlborough),  
Oakleigh Osborne (Canter-  
bury), Ron Sycamore  
(Dunedin).*



## RECENTLY ELECTED PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

At a meeting of the Simmental Council held at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting in Nelson on the 4th July, Mr R. N. S. Cox was elected President. Mr Cox has served on the Council since the Society was formed and has held the position of Chairman of the Promotion Committee and more recently Vice-President.

A man greatly involved in the breed with one of the largest purebred studs in the country, he farms at the Levels near Timaru. Mr Cox is married with three young children.

**VICE-PRESIDENT**—Mr J. R. Sutton who farms at Waimate. An early member of the Society he and his wife have a large grading-up herd that is just reaching purebred status. As chairman of the Technical Committee, Mr Sutton has done a great deal towards the establishment of our Computer Scheme and the Sire Reference Scheme. He is currently serving his second term on the Council.



*R. N. S. Cox*



*J. R. Sutton*

## COUNCIL ELECTION 1979

This year our Council Elections have brought two changes and we welcome two new Members to the Society administration. Mr Neil Barnett of the Manawatu who farms at Halcombe near Feilding and Mr Don Graham of North Canterbury who farms at Parnassus. Both these people have considerable practical involvement with the Breed over a number of years.

Mr Werner Gut of Taranaki, the only elected Councillor to stand for re-election, retained his position.

Where an election is held, someone must always miss out and we offer sympathy to Mr Geoff Palmer of Northland on his defeat, but hope it will not deter him from standing again or from continuing his vigorous promotion of the Breed and the Society in the Northland area.

Those who have stood down are our President, Mr Kerr who filled the temporary vacancy created by Mr A. R. Marshall's resignation and Mr Ted Turrell who completed a three year term, but did not seek re-election due to heavy commitments in other rural activities. During his time on the Council he has contributed strongly to Society affairs and we look forward to his continued support at Club level and as a Stud Breeder.

The strong support and interest in this Election demonstrates the strength of our Membership.



*N. J. Barnett*



*J. D. Graham*

## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Mr R. H. Kerr who recently retired from the Presidency of the Society after seven years in office was elected an Honorary Life Member at the Society's Annual Meeting in Nelson. Mr Kerr is thus only the second person to receive this honour.



**R.H. KERR**

# Technical

## SIRE REFERENCE SCHEME 1979

Members will have already been advised of details of the Sire Reference Scheme for 1979. We will, within the next month or two, be going back to those people who participated in last year's scheme for information on their calvings. Please ensure you have the identity of your calves available and such details as birth weights, etc.

### STOP PRESS

#### ADDITIONAL BULLS

Since sending out information on the 1979 Sire Reference Scheme, we have received approval to use two additional bulls. A Taranaki Group have arranged importation of semen from two proven merit dairy bulls from Austria. Councillor Werner Gut recently visited Europe and researched this project and inspected the bulls. Those who wish to do so, may use them within the Sire Reference Scheme.

Details are as follows:

#### MOSES

66 daughters on 1st lactation.  
4566 litres milk, 4.27% test, 195 kg. butterfat.  
+ 621 litres milk, +0.12% test,  
+ 30 kg. butterfat.  
139 sons, 1297 gr. per day up to 16 months.

#### PRIMANN

15 daughters  
4291 litres milk, 4.22% test, 181 kg. butterfat.  
+ 483 litres milk, +0.13% test,  
+ 28 kg. butterfat.  
2 daughters  
4624 litres milk, 4.35% test, 201 kg. butterfat.  
+ 197 litres milk, + 0.10% test,  
+ 12 kg. butterfat.  
2 sons, 1273 gr. per day up to 16 months.

Semen costs are comparatively high, but as merit sires in Austria these are also proportionately above the cost of normal sires. Costs per straw:

MOSES \$28.50

PRIMANN \$18.50

(10% reduction will be allowed for cash purchase.)

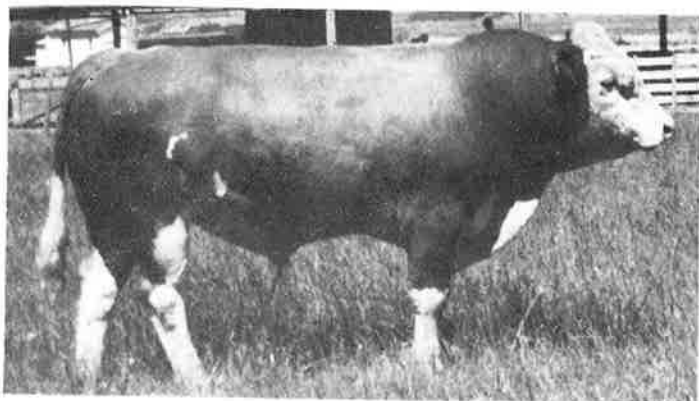
If you wish to use either or both of these bulls in the Sire Reference Scheme, please contact the office immediately. Semen for normal use should be ordered through K. J. Schumacher & Co., York Road, 26 R.D. Stratford, Taranaki.

ARE YOU IN THE  
SIRE REFERENCE  
SCHEME THIS YEAR ???

# Coopental

## Simmental Stud

### WHERE PRODUCTION COUNTS



*My wife and I wish to express our thanks and appreciation for your support in the recent Council Election.*

### Visitors Always Welcome!

N. J. Barnett 9 R.D., Feilding. Phone 630 Halcombe

## PROFILE

Roy Smith of Sherwood Hills on the eastern slope of Mount Maungatautiri not far from Cambridge, has a property that would be the envy of most farmers. Set on the upper slopes of one of the most predominant land masses in the Central Waikato, most of the country is above 1,000 feet which takes it out of the fog strip, that is one of the less attractive aspects of the beautiful Waikato area in winter. Those who developed this property must have had great foresight, as not only did they pick an area of great potential but in their wisdom left a lot of open standing bush, which make it one of the most attractive properties of its type in the country.

Roy, an Englishman by birth, was a highly successful farmer in Kent before leaving for New Zealand over ten years ago. His property was mainly arable growing grain and potatoes and as a diversion he bred pedigree Landrace Pigs with great success. He established himself as one of the top breeders in England and set a United Kingdom record with a sale at auction of a six months old boar at 1,500 guineas. He was also the first breeder in England to export Landrace Pigs to the United States of America. When he and his wife left England their destination was uncertain, they had time and the facility to look carefully at several countries before deciding where they would settle. They purchased a camper van and in two years clocked 43,000 miles through many countries on their journey south, spending time in Africa and Australia before finally arriving in New Zealand. The camper van is still with them and in regular use and more than one occasion has provided temporary overnight accommodation at Simmental outings where 'night watchmen' have been required.



From this base herd was evolved one of the best graded enterprises in New Zealand. Initially he had the unhappy knack of producing predominantly bull calves which slowed his progress in building up his female line, but he was quick to capitalise on the situation and farmed these young bulls out with a good return. Only recently he marketed yearling three-quarter and seven-eighth bulls from the Frankton saleyards at an average of \$410 with a top price of \$460. In nearly eight years of grading-up he has finally reached purebred status and considers the wait well worthwhile. His simmental weaners produce 25% higher weights than weaners from the straight Herefords.



Once the Smiths had seen Sherwood Hills their search was over. The property previously owned by Sir Robert Kerridge, well known in the entertainment world of cinema, was everything they had looked for. Well endowed with first class buildings and facilities and in excellent heart, it has been meticulously maintained by the Smith family since they took over.

A man who obviously likes an objective, Roy purchased three hundred top quality polled Hereford cows and started a Simmental grading-up programme in 1972.

Over the last two years one cow has been assisted in calving. Heifers have been watched more closely but Roy considers most would have calved unaided had he not been so attentive. The potential value of the calves in his opinion precludes the taking of any risks.

In management he finds Simmentals good to handle and docile. A firm culling programme has been maintained from the start and as time moves on the Sherwood Hills herd must surely rank as one of the largest and best in this country.

# SYDNEY ROYAL SHOW



*N.Z. Secretary leads Simmental section in the first official grand parade at Sydney. Leading the grand champion is Swiss Consul General for Australia Raymond Tellenbach who had association with Simmentals as a boy.*

## NEW ZEALAND REPRESENTED AT THE SYDNEY SHOW

In April the Secretary travelled to Sydney for the Royale Sale, two day Simmental Seminar and Sydney Royal Show. Regrettably a strike by aircraft engineers delayed departure for four days and the Annual Sale was missed, but two highly interesting and informative days were spent at a Seminar held 60 km out of Sydney.

The Seminar organised by Mr Paul Trenoweth was an outstanding success and was made up of a series of lectures and demonstrations by leading people in the Beef Industry. Mr Willie Angus, President of the South African Association, travelled to Australia to present a paper and also to judge at the Sydney Show.

Papers were presented on:-

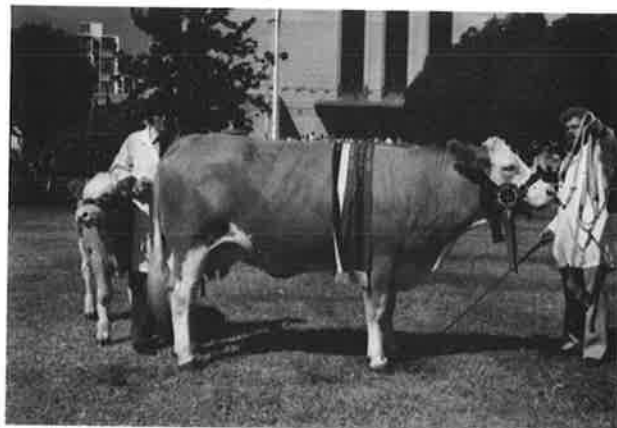
1. The Breed—Mr Willie Angus (South Africa).
2. Show and Sale Preparation—Mr Peter McWilliam of Scotland, who is a Member of the Stud Grooms' Association and a leading Studmaster.
3. Carcase Selection, Steers—Mr Peter Sutherland, a leading Murray Gray Breeder and a winner of numerous competitions in N.S.W.
4. Crossbreeding of Simmentals—Mr David Wright of Armidale who runs 10,000 breeding cows which are Simmental infused.
5. Fertility and Bull Care—Professor Larsen, a leading Australian Veterinarian.
6. Polled Genetics—Mr James Loneregan, a veterinarian from Mudgee.
7. Marketing—Mr Harry Miller, well known ex-patriot and Simmental Breeder.

Each presentation was of very high standard and the points made were all in one direction. The Simmental has great potential in this country (Australia) and elsewhere.

Papers from this Seminar have been promised and we hope to be able to publish some of the main points in future issues. At the conclusion of the Seminar several days were spent at the Sydney Show.

The highlight was the judging when close on forty animals were paraded before the judge and close on a thousand spectators. Mr Willie Angus carried out his judging in line with what he said in his presentation at the Seminar. He placed his animals and then gave his reason for doing so, concisely and without bias.

Grand Champion animal was a beautiful cow owned by Harry Miller and bred by D. S. Crosson in New Zealand. The Champion Bull entered by P. Trenoweth was also a New Zealand animal from A. R. Guthrey's stud at Amberley. Several lower placings were also taken by animals bred by R. G. Macdonald of Kaiapoi.



*Risingholme Dunmore Audrey, grand champion Simmental, bred by D. S. Crosson (N.Z.) shown by H. M. Miller.*

The Australian Association has a permanent pavilion at the Sydney Showgrounds which are more like a village than our New Zealand counterparts. In this pavilion New Zealand manned a display designed and produced by the Secretary's wife, Gail. Depicting a New Zealand map listing our Stud Breeders it drew much interest and favourable comment.



*The Australian Simmental pavilion at the Sydney showgrounds.*

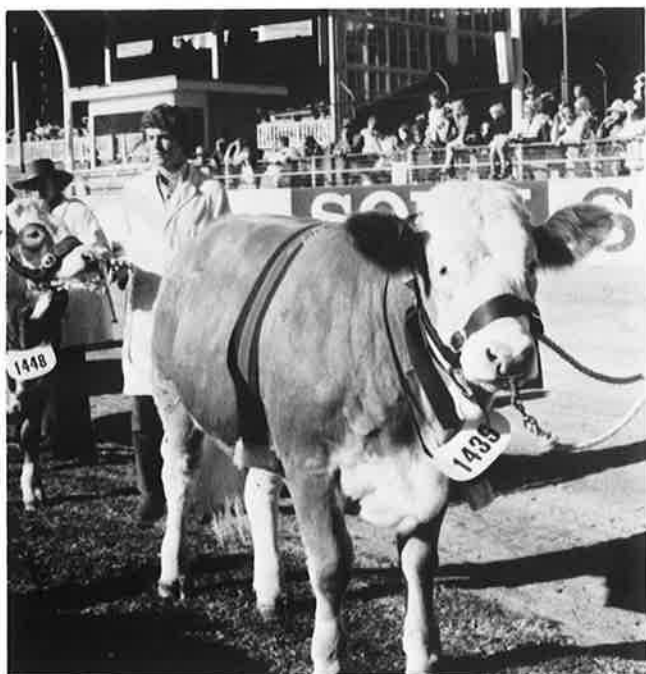


*Richmond Governor, champion bull, bred by A. R. Guthrey (N.Z.) and shown by P. Trenoweth. Winner of the N.Z. Challenge Trophy.*

While in Australia, the Secretary also attended The Australian Association's Annual Meeting and Dinner and spent some worthwhile time in the Association office.

On the day before his return to New Zealand he was highly complimented in being invited to lead the Simmental section in the first official Grand Parade, an honour and an unforgettable experience. The main ring at Sydney is enormous and it takes an hour to get the hundreds of animals into the ring. The spectacle is watched by well over a hundred thousand people.

Also in Australia at the time of the Show were several other New Zealanders, Mr Rodney Cox, Mr and Mrs Ted Turrell and Mr Woodford Rouse. The hospitality of the Australian Council and the Members of the Association to the New Zealand contingent was tremendous and greatly appreciated.



*Blythe Holly, bred by R. C. Macdonald (N.Z.) reserve junior champion heifer, Sydney.*

## SOME SIMMENTAL HIGHLIGHTS

The undernoted figures are the plain facts—we cannot alter them for they actually happened. It is these facts and figures that build our breed. When we can prove we can do better than the other guy—and do it again and again, people start to take notice. It is happening now but we need more of this sort of information. If you have success let us know.

### Weaner Sales.

Temuka (South Canterbury) \$216 A. Squire.  
Te Puke (Bay of Plenty) \$273 R. Rosina.  
Addington (Canterbury) \$260 O. J. Osborne.  
Feilding (Manawatu) \$262 R. McIntyre.  
Burnside (Dunedin) \$224 R. Sycamore.  
Palmerston (North Otago) \$188 R. Sutherland.  
Heriot (South Otago) \$206 K. Morton.

In all cases Simmental cross weaners topped these sales. Premiums were up to \$20 ahead of other calves.

One offering in Hawkes Bay (not listed above) returned \$38 per head for Simmentals above that of straight Herefords of the same age from the same property.

### Carcass Competitions.

Hawkes Bay 1st Hoof and Hooks (Junior Class)  
Nelson 1st and 2nd. On Hooks.  
Canterbury 2nd Hoof and Hooks.  
Feilding 2nd On Hooks.  
Whangarei 1st Hoof and Hooks, 2nd Hoof and Hooks.  
The next time somebody asks you what the Simmen-



*Top weaners, part of O. J. Osborne's (Leeston) annual draft.*



### BEEF COMPETITIONS...

Have YOU selected YOUR animals yet???

Sort out your animals early so that you have a few to choose from on the day.  
Simmentals can win as has been proved this season.

**Simmental Cattle Breeders Society of New Zealand**

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**David Cleeton**, Phone 713 Inglewood  
**David Johnson**, Phone 1452 Waipukurau  
**Ross Macdonald**, Phone 87 580 Levin

NZS 1

# Technical

The following tabulations on sire evaluation and tests have been assembled by J. R. Sutton, Chairman of our Technical Committee for inclusion in this issue.

## REPORTS ON SCOTTISH SIMMENTAL BULLS

1. Report of a progeny test of six Simmental bulls conducted for the Scottish Milk Marketing Board by the Meat and Livestock Commission. Note: Calves were weaned at approximately 7 months of age. Autumn born calves from six herds were finished out of yard, and Spring born calves from two herds were mostly finished on grass.

### LIVEWEIGHT DATA

	BULLS							
	No of Calves	Big Michael	Matador	Metist	Standard	Extra Special	Excelsior	Average
Bth. Wt. (kg)	227	41.3	40.9	40.7	39.7	43.0	41.7	41.2
100 Day Wt. (kg)	59	140	140	142	140	145	145	142
200 Day Wt. (kg)	208	236	234	229	226	239	232	232
300 Day Wt. (kg)	142	333	309	307	297	319	309	312
400 Day Wt. (kg)	177	374	364	366	354	375	372	367
O'all D.gain (kg)	157	0.78	0.77	0.76	0.74	0.79	0.79	0.77
L/Wt. at slaughter (kg)	157	470	460	459	459	488	477	468
Age at Slaughter (days)	157	551	552	559	571	569	557	559
Carcase Wt. (kg)	137	246	249	241	245	264	255	250
Carcase Wt. per day of age (kg)	137	.467	.468	.447	.451	.477	.464	.462
Sub Fat Score*	137	2.52	2.65	2.91	2.60	2.82	2.69	2.69
Conformation Score**	137	3.37	3.47	3.28	3.30	3.39	3.24	3.34

\*on scale 1 (least fat) to 5 (most fat) Average Fat Score of 2.69 equivalent to MLC Carcase Classification 3L

\*\*on scale 1 (poor shape) to 5 (best shape)

2. Performance Test on Scottish Senator (carried out in Germany).

### SCOTTISH SENATOR

	No. 1	Contemporaries on Test	Difference
Position in Test	30		
Weight at 420 days	630 kgs (1,388 lbs)	608 (1,340 lbs)	+ 22 kgs (+ 48 lbs)
D.L.W.G. since birth	3.1 lbs	2.98 lbs	+ .11 lbs
D.L.W.G. on test	3.29 lbs	3.22 lbs.	+ .07 lbs
Wither height	134 cms	128 cms	+ 6 cms
Spiral Measure-ment (Pistal cut)	250 cms	247 cms	+ 3 cms
Height at Sacrum	137 cms	135 cms	+ 2 cms

NB. Scottish Senator will be 1979 reference sire.

3. Data from a progeny test involving Prinz, Senator and Pilot is currently being analysed. The following tabulation is an interim report and shows:-

Scottish bull	PRINZ	SENATOR	PILOT
Birth wt. kg.	43	43	42
500 day wt.	411	421	415
Conformation score	3.6	3.1	3.2
Fat score	3.2	3.0	3.0

## REPORT ON BRITISH MILK MARKETING BOARD BULLS

4. Calving Survey of MMB Bulls.

The figures are taken from the Bullpower New Zealand catalogue. Final progeny test results for the MMB Simmentals will be available soon and the most successful bull will be available as a reference sire for this year's matings. A few well known bulls of other breeds are included here as a matter of interest.

	No of Births	%Calving Ease
MMB BETA	325	99.7
MMB HALO	152	98.0
MMB HELMUT	255	99.2
MMB HERMAN	336	98.8
MMB LANGLE	320	97.2
MMB REBHOLZ	203	97.0
MMB THEIRAUCH	648	96.3
MMB PILOT	314	99.0
PRINCE POPEL OF ADDINGTON (Angus)	241	99.2
MMB AGHA KHAN (Charolais)	138	97.8
MMB CLOVIS (Charolais)	208	97.1
MMB JULOT (Charolais)	184	90.8
TATTENHALL GASCON (Charolais)	192	99.0
MMB IMPETO (Chianina)	216	95.8
OXTON HER	159	97.5
MMB FANFARON (Limousin)	191	97.9
CAERHAYES NAPOLEON (Sth. Devon)	371	97.0
WINSOR SLAM (Sth. Devon)	179	95.0

## NEW ZEALAND FIELD DAYS— MYSTERY CREEK NEAR HAMILTON

Once again the Waikato Simmental Breeders' Club, on behalf of the Society, has staged a most impressive exhibit at the National Field Days at Mystery Creek.

The display was covered by two marquees, and was centred around two classes of commercial Simmental cross animals.

First to be seen by the spectator entering the display was a group of five handsome weaner bulls belonging to Roy Smith, topped by a montage of colour posters of cattle on his most attractive property, 'Maungatautiri', and a large representation of an actual killing sheet from Will Eccles, which gave beef producers ample food for thought.

A few yards further on were two charming Simmental crossbred dairy cows, owned by Rollo Litchfield, and Mr and Mrs Will Eccles. Both ladies had their herd testing results prominently displayed, and these were subjected to intense study by a constant stream of dairy farmers and their wives. These people were identifiable by their reactions—a quick look over the cows, several minutes careful scrutinizing of the production records, then round the back to see the business end. Then they would be ready to talk, and even some of the staunchest club members were surprised at the extent of interest and the number of Waikato farmers with one or two Simmental crossbreds being milked. We can only urge all our dairy farming members to ensure their Simmentals are herd tested, so that farmers who are tempted

to try the breed can be directed towards suitable bulls. Reflect for a moment on the likely dairy merit of daughters by say, a Friesian bull selected entirely for his beef conformation.

The message from Mystery Creek to anyone organizing a Simmental promotion elsewhere, is to emulate the Waikato breeders by building the display around **top quality commercial cattle** with which potential converts can identify. At Hamilton, dairy cows and bull beef are the story, but somewhere else it might be crossbred steers, or crossbred cows with calves at foot. Also, the animals should be backed up by real commercial facts, as opposed to slogans and show ribbons which can hang on the walls ignored.

No praise could be too high for the efforts of the Waikato breeders. Barry Anderson, Roy Smith and Tony Rolley shared the duty of staying overnight with the cattle, keeping them fed, watered and freshly bedded. Prominent among those who gave up their time to help carry the message to the public were Betty and Jack Ashworth, Gary and Janet Locke, Geoff Mathis, Noel Buchanan, Mr and Mrs Will Eccles, and Dot and Barry Anderson.

I am sure I speak for the many members from all over New Zealand who dropped into the tent for a yarn when I say congratulations—it was a privilege and a pleasure to meet you.

Jim Sutton



*N.Z. Field Days, Hamilton. R-L: Jim Sutton (Society Vice-President), Betty and Jack Ashworth admire the display of Simmental cross dairy cows. The other visitors unfortunately could not be named.*

# The Council

The Council met in mid-June for their final Meeting of the year. Normally this Meeting is held at the Annual General Meeting venue the day prior to the Annual Meeting gathering, but due to difficulty in travel arrangements this has not always proved satisfactory. The Committees of Finance, Promotion and Technical met followed by a morning Meeting of Full Council.

**FINANCE:** The Committee considered the Annual Statement of Accounts which was circulated to all Members. The situation was better than anticipated and income was slightly up on what was budgeted.

The year showed a satisfactory situation, although it was anticipated that the next year would show some drop in revenue due to the decrease in exports and to some extent, registrations.

There was some build up of cash reserves and the Committee after consultation with the Society Sharebroker resolved to invest a further \$10,000 in Approved Shares.

**NOTE:** The Council's objective in investing funds not immediately required, is to maintain security for the Membership and the Administration. From these investments a considerable return is received which goes towards the cost of overheads in running the Society, which enables other income to be used for Promotion of the Breed as a whole.

**PROMOTION:** A review of the year's activities was made. Approximately \$13,000 had been put forward for Promotion purposes. This money had been made available to Clubs for Promotion in their own areas, Shows, Field Days and National Advertising.

The Committee discussed the implementation of performance criteria for competitive showing which will be further investigated. It is the Committee's aim to introduce performance criteria but considerable research will be done before such action is undertaken.

Consideration was also given to establishing a Beef Clinic at Massey University, the outcome of which is reported elsewhere.

A number of nominations had been received for the 'Levels Trophy', an award for Promotion of the Breed. From these nominations, Mr Rupert Martin was selected for the year 1979/80.

The provision of a Membership for 'Juniors' was also discussed and will be further considered by the incoming Promotion Committee.

Sales Levies introduced in September last year were becoming effective and revenue from this source would be available for Promotional purposes in the next financial year.

**TECHNICAL:** The Committee looked in detail at the various procedures for getting Members cattle onto the computer (since this Meeting, Members' have been made familiar with what is required).

The basic format for the 1979 Sire Reference Scheme was set, on which Members have been advised separately and on which further information is published elsewhere.

On the question of the Sire List on which approved bulls are registered for sale of A.I. semen, it was felt that the original registration fee of \$200 had become restrictive in the light of the decrease in A.I. use. In an endeavour to encourage registration of new bulls onto

the Society Sire List it was resolved that the fee be reduced to \$50 per bull for all sires from which semen is offered for sale.

The Committee also considered what should be the requirement of Members joining Beefplan in conjunction with the pedigree recording system of the computer project. No firm decision was made and it was decided that the matter should be discussed under general business at the Annual Meeting which was scheduled to be held in Nelson in early July.

The Council at the Meeting the following morning adopted the minutes of the various Committees.

In general business a number of matters were discussed which were of note. In view of the ever increasing cost of travel and accommodation, it was resolved that in future National Sales and Annual Meetings should be combined. This would allow a maximum attendance of Members without the double travel and expense presently incurred. The first such combined event will be held in the Waikato area in June 1980.

In consideration of escalating costs, particularly telephones and postage, the Council felt that some effort should be made to recover communication costs where it was necessary for the office to communicate with a Member due to his or her incorrect advice or documentation. In some instances a great deal of time and expense was incurred through what can only be termed, poor preoatation. It was resolved that where such instances occurred, Members would be charged for the costs involved.

## NEWTON SIMMENTAL STUD



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# Sales

## 1979 NATIONAL SALE

Members have been circulated on the results of our Sale which was a good one. As in past years effort is rewarded and those cattle that had had time put in on them brought the best prices. Each year we learn something both on organisation and in presentation and now we have included unled cattle in our catalogue and we learn again.

Unled cattle, to some extent, have to be handled if we are not to stage a rodeo each year. You cannot expect an animal that has been run in a fifty acre paddock for most of its life to be yarded, trucked and shut in a small pen where it is ogled at close quarters by the populace to behave like a gentleman, or lady. This year some did and some didn't get the chance. Any animal can decide it does like the lights of publicity, but most remain quiet if they have some preparation — a small pen, people, a bit of feed and attention over the last week or two before the sale on the home farm.

Our sale venue was prepared in excellent manner by our hard working South Canterbury Club Members under very cold and wintry conditions. The day itself was extremely lucky, the only really fine day in the week.

The sale was supported by a very good crowd with a considerable number of new faces in the buyers gallery. Next year we are hopeful that the sale in the South Island will be held totally under cover, most probably in Christchurch.

For those who may not have received our Sale report or read it:-

- \* Fifteen Bulls averaged \$2,220 with top price of \$3,800 for a Bull by Bavarian sold by W. A. Rouse to Australia.
- \* Eleven Heifers averaged \$1,990 with a top price of \$4,000 for a Hamlet Heifer bred by D. S. Crosson and sold to W. A. Rouse.
- \* Eight Cows (some with calves) sold for an average of \$1,912 with top price of \$4,700 for a particularly attractive Cow and Calf unit sold on behalf of an Australian vendor to J. A. Robins of Southland.
- \* Thirteen Seven-eighths Heifers averaged \$729 with all but three smaller animals bringing over \$700. Top price was \$1,400.

Champion Bull went to O. J. Osborne's Acajou entry 'Winfield Herzog'. This entry also took the Macdonald Challenge Cup.

Champion Female went to R. N. S. Cox's Levels Stud Heifer Simbex AG32.

D. S. Crosson's Seven-eighth Heifer by Scottish Extra Special was judged top Seven-eighth in the Sale.

## IT'S ALL A MATTER OF DIET

Calves are often 'fostered' onto mums particularly in the Dairy Industry. We have picked up one 'snippet' which is an interesting diversion. A Taumarunui farmer has fostered calves onto goats! A three-quarterbred Simmental bull calf weighed 400 lbs at four months on a diet of goat's milk—we hope it was a big nanny!!

## NORTH ISLAND SALE, HAMILTON

Held at Claudelands on 27th June, this sale presented a large catalogue of animals (76) which varied considerably in quality and presentation. Led cattle generally were of high standard and sold accordingly, but there was a large entry of cattle of indifferent quality which did little to raise the tone of the event. It was however, pleasing to see an almost total clearance of animals and many of the large number of bulls offered were purchased by commercial breeders. The sale virtually divided into two sections and prices realised were as follows:

Led Bulls—17 @ \$1,441 average. Top \$2,600.

Led Females—8 @ \$1,737 average. Top \$2,600.

Unled Bulls—29 @ \$608 average. Top \$1,200.

Unled Females—10 @ \$880 average. Top \$1,200.

Seven-eighths Females—5 @ \$1,050 average. Top \$1,500.

In the judging, places were as follows:

Bulls: 1st P. Weenink's two year Ueli bull 'Kindair Lord Alister' sold to an undisclosed Auckland buyer for \$2,400.

2nd M. E. Cowan and I. W. Smith's 16 month MMB Thierauch bull 'South Pacific Duke' sold to J. P. Absolom, Hastings, for \$2,600 (Top price).

3rd G. D. Locke's 4 year Herod bull S/R Frederick sold to Pukerangi Station, Waipawa for \$1,100.

Females: 1st H. R. Lowry's two year Ueli heifer sold to N. Buchanan for \$2,600 (= Top price)

2nd D. Smith's three year seven-eighths heifer by Herod, sold to W. Bishop, Australia for \$1,200.

3rd P. Weenink's two year Bavarian Knight heifer sold to K. R. Lowe, Sydney, for \$2,600 (= Top price).

It was rewarding to see a strong demand for seven-eighths females which outsold many purebreds. The second placing on one seven-eighths heifer in the female judging also illustrated the quality that is within the graded system.

The sale was promoted and organised by the Waikato and Districts Simmental Club in conjunction with local Stock and Station Agents. While some aspects of the sale, in hindsight, may not have been up to standard, their efforts and enthusiasm must be commended. The Club Committee worked hard and long to establish a good sale but they were let down by some of the vendors.

## SALE AT GORE—28th JUNE

The Southland Club organized a Sale at the McNab Saleyards again this year. Despite their best efforts the event lacked buying power and there were many passings. While there were some excellent commercial bulls offered the few purebreds offered left a great deal to be desired in presentation and temperament. It is enough to say if you expect to sell cattle at good prices you must do your homework.



*Peter Weenink with his prize winning Ueli bull at the N.I. sale*



*Robin Lowry parades his top heifer*



*Tony Thompson (cap) sums up the judging. On his right is co-judge Oakleigh Osborne.*

## PRIVATE SALES— DOCUMENTATION, TRANSFERS

From time to time sales other than the Society sponsored National Sale are held and will be held, as the Breed increases in numbers. There is no reason to question the ethics of private sales, they are part of the farming scene.

There is however a tendency for these sales to be ill-prepared and at times badly run. A Breeder, having decided to set up a sale, be it a dispersal or a clearance of surplus stock, has a degree of responsibility in what he does if he is selling registered stock. He has responsibility to the Breed and to the purchaser of his stock. A potential purchaser attends a Sale to buy registered stock with an element of trust that what he purchases will at least be as stated.

Recently there has been a sale where it has subsequently been found that a number of the stock offered were not registered. Some were not tattooed and some had lost their identification tags. As a result the Society office has been involved in a great deal of unnecessary work checking and authenticating the catalogue. Purchasers have been involved in checking the tattoos of their purchases, an exercise that does little to enhance their confidence or their opinion of the vendor. From an administrative point of view it is a waste of time that we can ill afford.

In another instance a sale held some time ago produced not a single transfer and over the past six months there has been a constant howl from purchasers for documentation for their purchases. A very unfair and selfish situation.

If you hold a private sale or dispose of cattle that are registered and worthy of transfer play fair and do a little homework before you start.

1. Make sure your cattle are registered.
2. Sort out their Certificates of Registration.
3. If some are in-calf make sure you have mating details documented and available.
4. Ensure all your animals offered are tattooed and easily identified.
5. Check and double check the information for your catalogue.
6. Obtain the necessary transfer forms from the office.

If you cannot reconcile something, contact the office— we would sooner help you run a well organised sale than pick up the debris afterwards.

In all sincerity we ask you to consider the points that have been enumerated. If these are followed on each occasion the problem ceases to exist.

THE TATTOO LETTER FOR  
CALVES BORN THIS YEAR, 1979  
IS **'K'**

# Club News

## DELEGATES' FIELD DAY IN WAIKATO

Following the North Island Delegates Meeting at Cambridge, a short Field Day had been arranged on the property of Mr Willie Eccles of Te Aroha, North of Morrinsville. Mr Eccles and his family moved to New Zealand from Ireland some nine years ago and took up their dairy unit soon after. During their time here they have introduced Simmental over Friesians and have milked many of these crossbred cattle with success. The recent increase in beef prices has enabled them to convert their enterprise to beef and the last milking season saw the finish of their dairying.

A diligent and progressive farmer, Mr Eccles is well pleased with his cattle. His 'quip' that 'he doesn't keep Simmentals, they keep him' summed up the situation perfectly. This breeder is producing good cattle in numbers and it was an interesting visit. This herd will develop into yet another good example of how the Breed, under sound management, can progress.

The Club and visitors were most grateful for the hospitality given by the Eccles family and the opportunity to visit their property.



*Willie Eccles (centre foreground) talks to visitors on his Waikato property.*

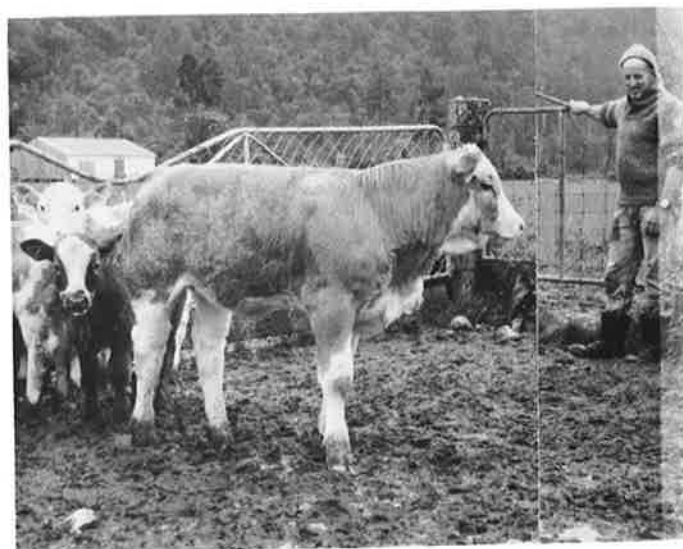


*Some of Trevor Mitchell's graded herd at Hari Hari Westland.*

## SIMMENTALS IN WESTLAND

A note from a Kumara Breeder, Mr J. J. Robinson (North Westland, South Island), is of interest. He sold six month old weaner steers in the local sale for \$212, a premium of \$50 a head over other weaners.

The 'Coast' has but few Breeders but a nucleus of Herds is building up in this area and some very good cattle were seen on a brief visit late last year. One Breeder, Mr G. Butler, is about as far south as you can go at Bruce Bay (just north of Haast). Not only has he graded cattle but several Purebred cows and some potentially very good young progeny.



*A smart young purebred Extra heifer on George Butler's property at Bruce Bay.*

## CANTERBURY CLUB HOLD FIELD DAY

The Canterbury/Westland Club don't hold many fixtures but when they do they seem to make a job of them. A recent Field Day held in mid-Canterbury was highly successful and attracted over seventy members and friends. With first call at 10.30 a.m. it was a comparatively early start for many who had to travel some distance but about thirty people were at Mark and Carl Nordquist's near Methven for morning tea and a look at their cattle which were impressive. The Nordquists have been involved in grading up on a small scale for some time but have recently expanded their herd with addition of some purebred females. It was pleasing to visit this property and see the nucleus of another substantial Simmental herd establishing in this area.



*Stan Crosson, Oakleigh Osborne and veterinarian Alec Haywood.*

The second call was at the property of the Crosson family at Methven by which time the number of visitors had increased to over double. Stan and his sons had done a great job and had eleven pure females tied with their progeny along a fence-line near the home-stand. It was impressive to see such a line up of top cows from which so many equally good progeny have been produced. Leader Amanda, the herd 'Matriarch', was there still an outstanding female and still producing her 'hall mark' heifers, which have been judged highly both here and in Australia. Lunch was held in an immaculate woolshed at the Crossons' and (one very nervous) Mrs Melinda Carter proved totally that she had nothing to be nervous about, when she delivered a very instructive and interesting talk on preparation of cattle for sale or show. A person who has a natural ability with animals of all kinds, she has demonstrated on a number of occasions her inherent skill in getting the animal to do exactly what she wishes, without hassle, as well and presenting it in the optimum of conditions. It must follow that she will be called upon to talk to other gatherings elsewhere. She has a great deal to offer and also has the art of communication of her skills.

After lunch a move was made further South to the property of Barry and Natalie Quantock, near Mayfield, where a large number of graded cattle had



*Barry Quantock talks to his visitors.*

been assembled, some of which had been transported from the neighbouring property of the Rushton family. Members were able to look at various grades from a number of Sires. With the Quantocks and the Rushtons the cattle are run as a commercial enterprise as well as a grading-up programme, balanced with a few purebreds. The commercial side of the project was well illustrated with a large line of excellent steers, which would have done credit on anyone's property.

The visitors gathered in a convenient barn later in the afternoon for a cup of tea and an address by a visiting veterinarian, Mr Alec Haywood, who came on the Field Day. He spoke on a number of interesting topics including internal parasites in cattle, synchronised matings and general veterinary practice as applied to cattle. His talk provoked a number of questions and discussions. At the conclusion of the talk the Club held its Annual Meeting resulting in Oakleigh Osborne being re-elected as Chairman, Barry Quantock as Vice Chairman and Ian Reed as Secretary. A substantial Committee was also elected whose names I am not at this stage prepared to tabulate for fear of omission.



*Arnold Rushton discusses one of the animals he brought to the Field Day.*

The day was well organised, had a good balance of both cattle and people interest. I am sure those who attended went away with something to think and talk about. It was the type of Field Day which other areas could consider following.

# Miscellaneous

## A MATTER OF VISUAL IDENTIFICATION

(One breeder's views)

At the Annual Field Day of the Marlborough Nelson Club a guest speaker gave a few hints on identification of beef cattle and described the tagging system he now uses.

Why do we want to identify our beef cattle? If we are members of a breed society that society requires us to register our animals for pedigree recording either purebred or grading up, but far more importantly if we as breeders are going to improve our stock we must know from what animals good or bad traits, high or low production are derived. As much as we would like to have a swift Secretary travelling around our farms with us, with the books full of breeding information, this doesn't seem to be possible, so we must try to get as much information on our tags as possible. It must be simple and above all our system should be designed for the minimum of mistakes. There is nothing a cow hand enjoys more than seeing the boss make a mistake in identification; and bosses can make mistakes so get a system that eliminates the risk of human error.

Let us look at the numbers on tags. Some farmers buy tags with the numbers already stamped on them. This is more expensive than buying plain tags and unless our system is elementary you will have tags left over from each year or too many or not enough for steers, heifers etc. If you number your own tags try to make sure that the same person does them all so that the style is uniform. Get the lettering reasonably wide and consider the following:



The bottom half of the line through these letters is often all you can read. How many numbers can you confuse? The 1 and 7 and 9 can be mistaken, as can 6 and 8 and perhaps 0, but the worst is 3 and 5. Compare this style:



The speaker said that he has changed his tagging system three times and feels that his present method is suitable for his requirements although holes can be picked in it. You can't put full pedigrees on a tag so one must draw the line somewhere. In selecting a tag, the ones with a round shaft do not wear the hole in the ear bigger as do the flat ones. Tags catching on fences especially wire on strainer posts, scrub and yards are always a problem. (Your second identification comes into its own here, tattoo or small brass or similar clip in the base of bottom of ear that can only be read under animal restraint).

Tags too small can't be seen and those too big catch more easily and cost more. A tag that allows for writing on the back is important. With a range of colour tags available advantages can be taken to introduce colour into the system, but don't get it like licorice all-sorts. The Simmental Society use different colours for their

registration cards. The same colour system for the tags works well i.e. orange for  $\frac{1}{2}$ 's, blue for  $\frac{3}{4}$ 's, yellow for  $\frac{7}{8}$ 's and white for pures. For all females use black letters and for steers use white letters. With the steers several options are open. You can start from number 1 each year and only use the orange colour with the same number on the front and back, which gives easy reading for weighing, or you can use a different tag colour apart from your heifer range still with white letters or you can have them exactly the same as the heifers distinguished only by the white letters.

Now for the heifer system—some systems try to incorporate the dam's number in the calf's number. I don't think this can be done because after three generations the numbers become too large and confusing. If you want the dam recorded on the tag, buy the back tag the same size as the front and put the dam's number underneath the sire's letters.



This would mean that this sire is Goliath and the dam DE421. Use the first two letters of the sire as his code, i.e. G.O. for Goliath or S.A. for Salz. On the front of the tag at the top put the grade of the heifer and the year letter.

Because these are often difficult to read and one can't remember which year it is use also the last number of the year as the first number of all heifers for that year:



This is D for a  $\frac{1}{2}$  and K for born in 1979. 9 also for 1979 and the 1 is the first one born.



The 10th one born will be: not 100.

These are all orange tags. The system is the same for threequarters using blue tags etc. e.g. CK91 and so on.

This system will allow for 99 animals in each class in a herd without resorting to 4 numbers in a row which is too hard to fit in, so this should be adequate for most New Zealand herds.

## SIMMENTAL BEEF CLINIC PLANNED AT MASSEY UNIVERSITY

'Beef Clinics' organised and run by Mr R. A. Barton of Massey University, are a well known facet of the beef industry which have been attended by a number of our members. Basically an appraisal of the beef animal from the skeleton to the dressed carcass, these courses are tremendously instructive to anyone producing beef animals.

The Promotion Committee is investigating the possibility of establishing a Clinic specifically for Simmental Breeders to be held in early 1980. It is envisaged that this Clinic will cater for about twenty five people.

# BULLPOWER FOR SUPER SIMMENTALS!



## MMB HERMANN

MMB Hermann is considered one of the best Simmentals ever to enter the UK from Germany. In 336 births he recorded 98.8% easy calvings. A long, deep bull with a very good rump, he has inherited the deep red colour of his dam, Freude, a very deep-bodied cow with good length. Hermann leaves a high proportion of single-colour calves out of broken-coloured dams and his progeny are noted for fast growth. Available at \$6.00 per straw.

*MMB Hermann photographed at 4 years 4 months.*

### Other Super Simmentals available for New Zealand breeders are:

	Price	No. of Births	% Easy Calving
MMB Beta	6.00	325	99.7
MMB Halo	4.50	152	98.0
MMB Helmut	6.00	255	99.2
MMB Langle	4.50	320	97.2
MMB Pilot	6.00	314	99.0
MMB Rebholz	10.00	203	97.0
MMB Thierauch	8.00	648	96.3

Your local L.I.A. or usual semen supplier has illustrated information sheets on all Bullpower bulls. Or contact Tom Evans, Overseas Services, Milk Marketing Board, Thames Ditton, Surrey, England. Tel: 01-398 4101. Telex: 928239.

**The best for the next generation.**

**BULLPOWER**

# Scottish Prinz boosts Simmental bloodlines.



The better the bloodlines, the better the beef cattle you breed. That is why the importation of Scottish Prinz by Scottish Semen Services represents such an important opportunity to Simmental breeders. His record speaks for itself; and he is just one of many sires representing most of the popular breeds that are available through SSS. Contact your nearest SSS centre (see below) for a full list.

SCOTTISH PRINZ, 1040 kg (2292 lb), 152 cm at 3 yrs 11 months. An Austrian Simmental bull imported by Scottish Semen Services in 1975. At the recent "Simmental '78", his progeny won no fewer than three out of the eight classes, including reserve Champion bull and reserve Champion female. In Class 7 (heifers 16 months — 2 years) Scottish Prinz progeny were first and second.

## Scottish Semen Services

Southbar Cattle Breeding Centre,  
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Newlands Cattle Breeding Centre,  
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Division of the S M M B Underwood Road Paisley

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