# new zealand simmental



autumn issue-may 1987 - number twenty seven

## RISINGHOLME

# FOR PRIVATE SALE

FIVE TWO YEAR OLD
HEIFERS. IN-CALF
TO A TOP SON OF
HOCKENHULL MAGNUM
(SOLID DEEP RED)
ALSO
TWO YEAR OLD BULLS

**CROSSON BROS** 

**RISINGHOLME** 

NO 2RD TIMARU STAN CROSSON HERDSMAN PHONE MAUNGATI 822

# THE SIMMENTAL CATTLE BREEDERS' SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

250 OXFORD TERRACE, CHRISTCHURCH 1, NEW ZEALAND. P.O. BOX 13-142, ARMAGH STREET, CHRISTCHURCH. Phone **793-166** 

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### Advertisers

Risingholme -- Crosson Bros Waimiro Simmentals-A. Perry The Lakes-V. Daly Gayley Stud-S. & G. Timperley Ailsa Simmentals-M. Coombs Wai-iti and Rotomara-P. McWilliam Tokaweka Simmentals-J. R. Houlbrooke Silvermoyle Stud-W. & G. Eccles Avon Park Simmentals-D. & M. Carter Sloane Simmentals-T. & L. Sloane Waikato Simmental Club Makerikeri Simmentals-1. & P. Wright K.G.M. Simmentals-K. R. Hinton Dunshaughlin Stud-P. Cooper Mt Hesslington Stud and Motiti Island Simmentals Brocade Simmentals-H. & J. McIntyre Woodstock Simmentals-M.B. & V.J. Harding Moneymore Simmentals-P. & R. Martin Rissington Simmentals-J. & S. Absolom

The Levels-R.N.S. Cox

### Office Staff

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### **EDITORIAL**

Promotion can be applied in many directions, many forms and to a multitude of things. In reality it is the progression of an idea or an item to stimulate the interest of others.

In its application it can range from a sign at the front gate to

a multi million dollar international exercise.

In our world of livestock promotion is as variable as those who are involved in its structure — some do, some don't. There is nothing however surer than those who 'do' have an advantage and usually progress ahead of the others.

Promotion does not necessarily have to be costly. In basics it can be good 'PR', reliability, a fair deal with sincere follow up. No matter what degree of effort is made in promotion, if you promote, you are assisting not only your own enterprise but that of the whole.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

President:

A. B. Perry, Penny Road R.D. 9, Palmerston North

Phone: Rongotea (063248) 772

Vice President:

D. C. Carter, Manor Farm, R.D. 1,

Lyttelton.

Phone: Christchurch (03) 299-731

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L. E. McLachlan, Clarendon, R.D. 1,

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R.D. 3, Lumsden

Phone: Lumsden (0228) 7621

J. B. Scott, Roberts Road, R.D. 2,

Cambridge

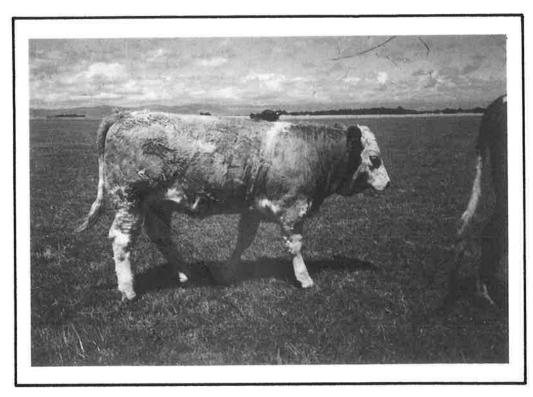
Phone: Maungatautari (071232) 864

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

FINANCE: A.B. Perry TECHNICAL: N.J. Barnett, PROMOTION: J.P. Absolom SALES: J.D. Graham

## WAIMIRO SIMMENTALS

Herd No. 294



WAIMIRO UDA 294/AU135E Polled Weaned: 28th April Weight: 418 Kgs.

SIRE: BAR 5 DIGNIFIED
DAM: WAIMIRO PATSY 294/AP 78E
Sire: ABC ADVANTAGE 6K ABC 6K
G.D. Sire: ARGOS P21421

This is the result of some of the embryo transfer programme being carried out at 'Waimiro'.

We have heifers, bulls and embryos for sale this season.

For further information, contact:

ALAN PERRY

Phone: Rongotea (063) 248 772

or write to:

Penny Road, R.D. 9, Palmerston North

## **WORLD CONGRESS**

### WORLD CONGRESS, SOUTH AMERICA 1986

(A contributed article by Harley Smyth, Atrig Station, Dannevirke)

South America has always held a fascination for me even though my knowledge of the country was somewhat limited. The opportunity to visit this country as a tour member with Simmental Group to the World Congress in Beunos Aires was a chance not to be turned down.

On the 5th of November at 6.30 p.m. the nine members of the N.Z. contingent met at Auckland International Airport for a tour briefing, group photograph and introduction to our Australian counterparts.

At 9.15 p.m. departure time, and an 11½ hour flight on Aerolineas Argentinas Trans Polar Flight gave us our first glimpse of South America as we crossed the Chilean Border, en route to Buenos Aires, where we landed at 8.30 a.m. N.Z. time.

Buenos Aires (pop. 10 mil) covers an area of 200 sq.kms. Obviously a beautiful city in its heyday, but now showing signs of a falling economy with many buildings badly in need of maintenance. A city with many beautiful buildings and statues, and jacaranda trees, and where driving is not unlike playing Russian Roulette, and a tot of Scotch Whiskey in a five star hotel is N.Z. \$20 a nip!

450 members and delegates attended the World Congress held in the Sheraton Hotel. A great opportunity to renew friendships made at earlier congresses and meet new faces, and of course talk shop. The Congress was well organised and the papers given were for the most part of good value, covering a wide range of topics.

The Simmental Dinner was run along similar lines as in Sydney in '84, where selected cattle were sold

in the hotel dining room during dinner.

A visit to a privately owned abattoir and packing plant proved most interesting. As it primarily produced meat for export, the hygiene was of a surprisingly high standard, not I gather typica of many throughout South America. Then a visit to Linier Stockyards, the second largest in the world, covering 35 hectares, with a capacity of 50,000 cattle. All the drafting, branding and general stock movements are done by Gauchos on horseback. The cattle that we saw were largely crossbred with a number having either Brahman or Zebu in their cross. I couldn't be sure whether many had Simmental blood.



Cows and calves at 'San Andres'.



Australian and New Zealand Delegates.

From Buenos Aires we travelled by train to Mar del Plata 500 kms to the south on the coast. The Pampas region, part of which we crossed was flat as far as the eye could see, and I'm told that the topsoil in parts is as much as 15 feet deep! Two ranches were visited, "San Andres", 20,000 hectares, owned by Senor Buck of German descent, and "Moromar", an

equally large property.

"San Andres" perhaps the more interesting of the two, was very impressive and obviously most efficiently run, employing a staff of 180 including 16 scientists and technicians. While grain is their principal venture, cattle play an important role, mainly Angus. An important feature of "San Andres" is their Simmental Stud which was on display for our benefit. They were almost without exception some of the better examples of the breed that I have seen, and this opinion was I feel shared by many others. Apart from some lameness caused by scauld, the cattle were all quite sound, a vast improvement over many cattle seen in both U.K. and Europe.

We were then invited to lunch. A sit down meal for 400 plus is no mean achievement. A superb meal it was, with excellent Argentinian beef and equally good wine.

Our tour was not confined to Simmental Cattle, although I would like to have seen rather more of

farming in South America.



Liamas, or are they Alpacas?

### WORLD CONGRESS

So with Dick Kerr at the helm, we flew to the Winter holiday resort of Bariloche on the Chilean border, a beautiful spot not unlike parts of the South Island of N.Z. From Bariloche we then flew via Mendoza and Cordoba to the spectacular Iguazu Falls on the border of Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina, a highlight of the trip.

Later we flew from Buenos Aires to La Paz in Bolivia, the highest city in the world at 13,000 feet

and dating back to 1500 B.C.

Lying in a vast crater, a sprawling city of reddish brown mud brick houses in a rather barren landscape. An intriguing city with its ancient buildings and Indian markets.

From La Paz by bus to Puno on the shores of Lake Ticicaca from an overnight stop. The following day, a 12 hour journey by bus and train, (it has been said, that travel broadens the behind!) to Cuzco in Peru. A tiring but fascinating journey. Sharing an "elderly" train with the locals, including Bolivian women in their colourful costumes and bowler hats. Local Indians beseiged the train at every stop to sell a variety of wares including Alpaca jerseys and llama skin floor mats. At an altitude of 11-13,000 feet the landscape was for the most part quite arid with few trees and dotted with small villages and isolated mud brick houses where Bolivian and Peruvian Indians, in primitive conditions, farmed llamas, sheep and the

occasional cow amongst the allotment type plots of land. Appalling squalor, but even the children appeared quite healthy.

Cuzco, a fascinating city, captial of the early Inca Empire with many fine buildings and of course the inevitable native stalls and markets where we all tried our skills at bargaining for souvenirs. Original Inca stone walls still form the foundations of many

buildings.

Before leaving Cuzco for Lima, the final stop of the official tour, we visited the Valley of the Incas and the awe inspiring fortress of Machu Picchu, only discovered in 1911. An incredible sight that we shall all remember.

It was a trip of a lifetime, perhaps not to be repeated too often as it was rather tiring, (more leisure time

would have been appreciated).

At times somewhat frustrating as punctuality doesn't seem to be included in their vocabulary. Not a country in which to be taken ill or lose travel documents, but for my part a thoroughly worthwhile trip.

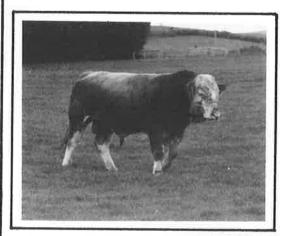
I'm sure everyone appreciated the stirling job our Tour Leader, Dick Kerr did for us. Any problems

that arose he took in his stride.

Hopefully we may read an account of the Amazon Trip made by five of our group. It should prove most interesting.

# THE LAKES

### **CHEVIOT**



LOT No. 16 'TONY' BY WBL TRANSMITTER



LOT No. 30 'TRISH' BY LJB JADE

TO BE OFFERED AT THE SOUTH ISLAND SALE SHOWGROUNDS, THURSDAY 4th JUNE

WE ALSO HAVE A GOOD SELECTION OF COMMERCIAL BULLS FOR SALE THIS SEASON

ENQUIRIES WELCOME: VINCE DALY, PHONE: CHEVIOT 773

## **Profile**

## FIELD DAY IN FAIRLIE AREA

The South Canterbury Simmental Club held a field day in early April on the property of Ted and Margaret Parr who farm at Middle Valley in the Fairlie area. The Rufford Simmental herd was established in 1974 and some eight years ago a similar fielday was held on the property. It was of great interest for those few who attended the earlier fielday to see the great progress that has been made in the ensuing eight years.

Ted Parr has been an advocate for performance recording since he started and has used Beefplan as an excellent mix with good stock management to

produce a herd of outstanding cattle.

The format of the fielday was extremely well set up and a great deal of preparatory work had been done. On arrival visitors gathered for a talk on the history of the herd, its management, selection, feeding and culling. Foundation cows were of mixed breeds with some Angus, polled Hereford and Friesan cross which were bred by A.I. Some of the original cows are still there, if in their last year, under the rigorous culling and replacement programme followed. Seventy breeding cows are maintained with a desired replacement programme of twenty heifers each year. Since the herd was started 180 females have been culled which gives some idea of the standard maintained. In each years calf drop about twenty bull calves are left 'entire' and from these ten or a dozen get through to the two year old sale stage. An interesting point in management is the wintering of cows which is done on a nearby riverbed area. In addition to the available roughage the cows are fed straw until shortly before calving when they receive a ration of meadow hay thus ensuring they are not over conditioned at calving. Following calving they are rationed on food availability for the first fortnight to reduce milk until the calf can cope with the supply. They are then put on fresh grass.



The Rufford cow herd.

Weaners from the Rufford herd have made a name in South Canterbury and on very few occasions have they been other than 'market toppers' in the annual calf fairs. Traditionally they have gone to Southland where they are keenly sought by fatteners. An interesting point made in the talk on the herd was the value of performance recording as a management tool. In his selection of bulls for the season Ted chose one bull bred on the property, which appealed to him visually despite that his performance records gave him a comparatively inferior ranking. The resulting calves were also poorly ranked. As Ted said 'you learn by experience'.



Ted Parr, Roger Caird and Rod Cox.

Following the herd talk and discussion people made their way to the cattle yards where the whole herd was assembled. A herd summary had been drawn up as a handout and this gave a complete link-up of cows, sires, calves and breeding with appropriate rankings and fate. Calves had been divided into sire groups and this in itself was an interesting exercise. With a little time one could look at a calf and then find its dam in the assembly of cows alongside.

On such days few people would put forward their 'culls' for appraisal — they were there and identified with the reason for their dismissal from the herd listed

on the summary.

Also on display were the 1987 sale bulls which comprised of both commercial and stud ranking — an impressive group.

After the herd inspection a general discussion was held on such topics as tattooing, various equipment and identification and dehorning.

Held on a beautiful autumn afternoon this fielday was a well worthwhile exercise, made so by such diligent preparation and careful execution of what was planned.

Ted Parr is a farmer who plans his objectives, analyses his results consistently and understands what his recording and management will do. His excellent herd of Simmentals are clear proof. Sadly this day did not receive the support it deserved. Those thirty or so people who attended were well rewarded.



## THE TWINNING FACTOR

In the issue No 24 of the 'N.Z. Simmental' we recorded the Trans-Tasman union of Eppi and Woody Rouse (Feb 86). We must record them again in this issue. Woody is our first Councillor (in office) to become a father — and didn't he do well! We congratulate Eppi and Woody on the arrival of their twins, Hugh and Samantha who arrived at the end of February.

### Miscellaneous

### OFFICE SYSTEMS/ COMPUTERISATION

Some members are already aware that the computer systems on which we have recorded and worked over the past several years will in the next few months be re-located. The N.Z. Meat Producers Board who have provided the pedigree and performance recording programmes for our computerisation are to hand over the programmes to individual Breed Societies for 'in house' operation on their own computer equipment. Considerable work has already been done in preparation for this change over by the Meat Board and we expect to be furnished with implementation plans in the next few weeks.

In preparation for this eventuality we have undertaken an analysis of our current systems by an outside Consultant to bring them into line to make ultimate use of computerisation in our day to day operations with the objective of increasing efficiency and effecting longterm cost savings. In sixteen years of operation many of our original systems have been added to and expanded to cater for new developments and have now reached a stage where they must be re-assessed to allow for continued future expansion and ease of operation.

The pedigree programme, with which members are now familiar and is working well, will be continued virtually unaltered. Minor modifications and improvements will be made as it is implemented in our new system. Performance recording facilities will continue to be available and details of how these will operate will be announced as soon as plans are finalised.

The provision of our own 'in house' computer facilities and the internal systems changes that are proposed we are certain will have great advantages both from an office point of view and that of our members.

## NEW PROMOTIONAL APPROACH

In the past several years we have promoted the sale of bulls by highlighting the success of our weaner sales. Large 'full spread' advertisements have been placed in such publications as Straight Furrow and N.Z. Sheepfarming with undoubted success. Allied with these advertisements we have advertised in the livestock auction columns of all major Provincial newspapers promoting our South Island and North Island Sales.

This year we have taken a new approach which is probably the most expansive impact promotional exercise we have ever undertaken. By direct mail we have dispatched over 13,000 pamphlets which are destined for every beef farmer with ten or more breeding cows, in the country. Each pamphlet is personally addressed by a computer label. The message as you will see is directed at the bull buyer and we have not only promoted our two major sales but those of Clubs, groups and private vendors together with the private treaty or on farm seller. The facility of 'Freepost' enquiry is there for those who require further information.

Our newspaper advertising will be limited to seven major papers in the country. Our three column advertisements will be in the Livestock Auction sections.



## **GAYLEY SIMMENTAL STUD**

'SHERWOOD EXTRA SPECIAL III', SEMEN AVAILABLE.
CALVING RESULTS ARE EXCELLENT FROM HEIFERS UNDER OUR MANAGEMENT.

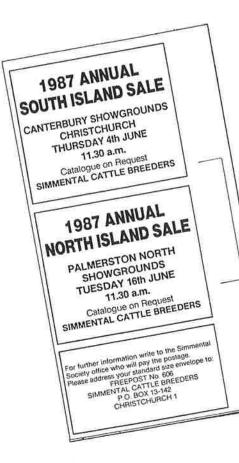
JOIN US AT THE KAIKOHE SALEYARDS JULY 9th 1987, 1 p.m. FOR OUR 3RD ANNUAL BULL SALE

(APPROXIMATELY 20 RISING 2 YEAR OLD BULLS)

ALL ENQUIRIES WELCOME
(WE ARE MEMBERS OF BEEFPLAN)

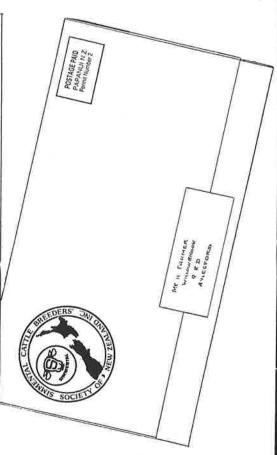
STAN & GAE TIMPERLEY, Phone 646 Kawakawa

R.D.1. MOEREWA, BAY OF ISLANDS



Simbleef crossbreeding, the symbol of progress





ARE YOU MEETING THE CHALLENGE . . . .

????

DO YOUR WEANERS TOP THE MARKETS . . . . .

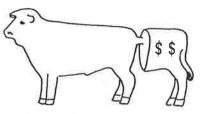
????

ARE YOUR CATTLE DEMANDING PREMIUMS . . .

????

IF THE ANSWERS ARE 'YES' YOU MUST BE USING A

SIMMENTAL BULL IF YOU WANT 20% MORE ON THE HOOF \$100 MORE ON THE HOOK



USE A
SIMMENTAL
BULL



SIMMENTALS have made the greatest single contribution ever made to the New Zealand beef industry. This is evident in the rapid expansion of the breed since its introduction to this country in 1972.

Forward thinking farmers have recognised the SIMMENTAL'S ability to cross with all other breeds to produce:

- HIGHER WEANING WEIGHTS
- A CARCASE FOR TODAY'S MARKET
- HIGHER PRODUCING CROSS-BRED DAMS
- . MORE DOLLARS IN THE POCKET

If you want to join the success story of crossbreeding

#### PURCHASE A SIMMENTAL BULL

In the next month or two, in addition to the two major sales listed in the brochure, a number of provincial and individual breeder sales will be held throughout the country. Buils will also be available by private treaty direct from a large number of our breeders. For further information on any of these sales, or the names of individual breeders in your area, contact your local stock firm, or the office of

SIMMENTAL CATTLE BREEDERS P.O. BOX 13142 CHRISTCHURCH 1 PHONE: 793-166

You are cordially invited to ring or write.

## AILSA G.R. SIMMENTALS



WINNER OF MEAT & WOOL CUP PALMERSTON NORTH 1985

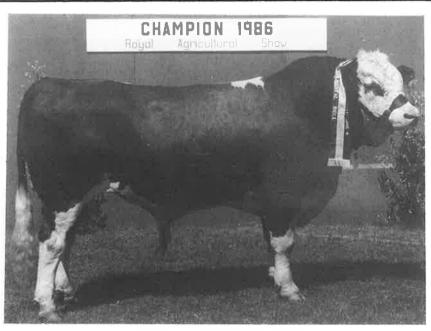
SPRINGBROOK McGREGOR

27 WEIGHT RECORDED BULLS FOR SALE
Including Sons of McGREGOR

60% of McGREGOR'S Progeny are POLLED

## SALE 15th JUNE ON FARM AT OHINGAITI AT 1.30 P.M.

RESERVE CHAMPION SENIOR BULL ROYAL SHOW 1986



**SIR LANCELOT** 

8 2½ YEAR HEIFERS for sale V.I.C. to SIR LANCELOT Enquiries Contact: MICHAEL COOMBS Phone: 839 Ohingaiti ALASTAIL MILNE Phone: 883 Ohingaiti

## Sales

## **'BAR 5' RISSINGTON SALE**

The 2nd of April was a memorable day at Rissington, the property of John and Star Absolom. It saw the cumulation of many months of work and planning in the offering of thirty-nine recently weaned calves which, although born on the property, were of pure

Canadian origin.

These 'Bar 5' cattle were the result of a transaction implemented by Wrightson Dalgety and the Woolrest Corporation to bring into New Zealand outcross bloodlines from the internationally known Bar 5 Ranch of Manitoba in Canada. Starting more than two years ago a visit was made to Canada when the whole project was set up and the dams of the calves selected from the extensive Bar 5 herd. The modern technology of fertilized embryo recovery and freezing made the whole project viable but required most careful planning and co-ordination to produce the calves in our normal spring calving season in this country. (Our summer is their winter.)

The frozen embryos were flown to New Zealand and 'implants' were made into the host or recipient animals in October of 1985 at Rissington with calving taking place in the spring of 1986. Rissington was chosen as a property with the size of herd and management capability to undertake such an expansive project. The embryo transfer co-ordination was undertaken by Dalstud of Palmerston North.

Publicity for this undertaking was impressive with regular progress being circulated to Simmental breeders throughout New Zealand and Australia cumulating in the production of a catalogue of quality seldom seen outside countries like U.S.A.

Within the contracts made, it was a clause that all the progeny produced must be offered at auction. Some may have asked why they were offered as weaners, but this was logical — to carry them through for another season would have been costly and a considerable responsibility for the owners and those involved.

Those at Rissington must be congratulated for the manner in which the whole project was carried to conclusion. On the day prior to the Sale an 'open day' was held which allowed prospective purchasers and visitors to view the cattle, stroll amongst them and see them paraded through the ring with commentary by Mr Wilf Davis, Vice President of Bar 5 who with his wife had flown out specially for the Sale from Canada. The cattle were well prepared and extremely quiet — they were as interested in the large number of people present as they were in them! The open day concluded with a barbecue, band and social evening held in a marque on the Rissington homestead tennis court. As with the proceeding organisation it was done to perfection.

Sale day saw a gallery of close on 500 people, representative of all areas of New Zealand and from

Australia, Canada and England.

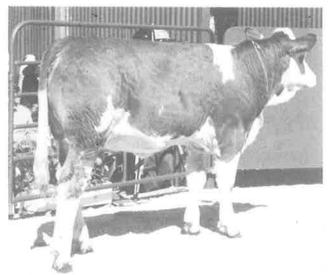
Starting on schedule at 11 a.m. bidding was highly competitive from start to finish resulting in an excellent average of \$7,730 for 30 heifers and \$10,122 for 9 bulls. Top price of the day was for a heifer by Shawest Big Red 17P at \$20,000 which was bought by the Rissington Stud who also purchased two other heifers and a bull. Top price for the bull section was \$16,000 (twice) with Landcorp and Rissington as purchasers.

Overall prices ranged from \$4,000 upwards with eleven lots exceeding \$10,000.

Australia made its presence felt with purchases totalling \$66,000. New Zealand buyers were also very active and cattle were widely dispersed throughout the country. The gross turnover for the Sale was \$323,000 with a overall average of \$8,282.

The Bar 5 Sale was probably unique in its concept. It produced a spectacle and a return which was

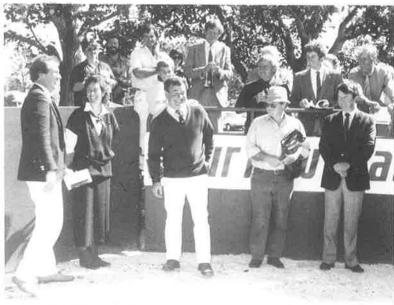
memorable.



A stylish 'Bar 5' heifer.



Wilf Davis of 'Bar 5', Tim Murphy and President, Alan Perry.



Guy Sargent, Star and John Absolom, Jim Mahony (Australia) and a representative from Air New Zealand.

## Miscellaneous

### JUNIORS WILL BENEFIT FROM CANADIAN AWARD

In April the Director of Beef Programmes Western Breeders Service Ltd., Mr Perry Wilkes was in New Zealand and while here presented to the Simmental Society a grant of \$NZ500 for the benefit and encouragement of junior people involved with the Simmental breed. This money will be invested to set up a fund to be used as directed by the Simmental Council.

The grant was made in recognition of the association the Simmental breed in N.Z. has had with Western Breeders who have lately marketed semen from such sires as Duncairn Modeler, F.C.F. Sonny Boy, and W.B.L. Transmitter in this country.

The Council are most grateful to Western Breeders

The Council are most grateful to Western Breeders for this generous grant which will be put to good use in the coming season.



Paul Trenoweth (Australia), Jim Mahony (Australia),
Perry Wilkes of Western Breeders (Canada).

### **COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

Three Councillors completed their three year term this year. Messrs. David Carter, John Absolom and Woody Rouse stood for re-election for a further term and were not opposed. This means that the candidates equal the vacancies available so no election by ballot is required. We congratulate these Councillors on their re-election and their continuing contributions to the Society's administration.

## TRANSPORT OPERATOR PLUS

Most operators contracted to transport your stock do what is required with a good grace and efficiency but once the animal leaves the deck 'its yours'. Central Hawkes Bay have one who is a 'Transport Operator Plus'. Kevin Isaacson of Waipukarau has taken Tony Thompson's and Tim Murphy's cattle to a lot of shows in the past season or two. On arrival at the Show venue he fills in his time by giving a hand with washing, grooming and feeding and is not beyond doing a little leading. The accompanying photograph shows him on the job. It is good to know such people are appreciated — we wish him every success.



Kevin Isaacson heads for the Grand Parade.

## BAY OF PLENTY 'SHAKE'

We have a number of breeders in the Bay of Plenty area, but have not really heard how they got on in the big shake. The only recognition that we have directly is by a report received on a calf sale. District of origin was simply titled 'Earthquake'. We hope our members and those many others who were affected by the earthquake are at last getting sorted out.

## **WAI-ITI** and **ROTOMARA**

- NATIONAL SALE BULLS PALMERSTON NORTH ●
- \* ROTOMARA TAYLOR by NORLAND LOT out of SC. METIST COW
- \* WAI-ITI TYPHOON by RISSINGTON NATIONAL out of HERMAN COW
- \* ROTOMARA TALMAN by NORLAND LOT out of CAMBRIDGE RHUMA COW

INSPECTION OF SALE BULLS AND LATEST IMPORTED CATTLE WELCOME

PETER McWILLIAM 139 UPPER PLAN ROAD, MASTERTON Phone: (059) 87-575 or (059) 86-768

## 5ales

### LAND CORP BUYS SIMMENTAL HERD

The well known Coopental Stud of Neil and Derian Barnett of Arohena was scheduled to go to auction at the beginning of April. The Land Corp (formerly Dept. of Lands & Survey) who already have a well established Simmental herd at Paekakariki north of Wellington (which is based on a direct importation of 18 heifers from Germany 1974) saw the opportunity of expanding their bloodlines and breeding herd and negotiated a private treaty sale for the total herd.

The Coopental herd has been Beefplan recorded since its establishment and will match in well with the Land Corp cattle. Coopental cattle have been shown with considerable success in the past few years and many bulls have been sold from the property. While the Barnett family have given up stud breeding after some twelve years Simmentals will still be run

commercially.

We will watch with interest the progression of this herd at Paekakariki which will now have one of the largest Simmental breeding units in the country.

### SIMMENTAL SALES CALENDAR — 1987

The following Sales have been notified and will be held on the dates and in the areas notified: MAY

6th: Owaka, North Otago. Combined Breed Bull Sale. Commercial. Owaka Saleyards.

13th: Timaru, The Levels, 4 R.D. Timaru. Stud and Commercial. On the property.

15th: Mossburn, Southland Club, Annual Sale. Stud and Commercial. Castlerock Saleyards. **JUNE** 

4th: Christchurch, Annual S.I. Sale, Canterbury

Showgrounds. Society sponsored.
9th: Temuka, South Canterbury Club, Annual Sale.
Stud and Commercial. Temuka Saleyards.

10th: Omakau, Central Otago, Combined Breed Bull

Sale. Three Simmental vendors. 12th: Waikato, W.R. & G.E. Eccles, Te Aroha. Annual Sale Stud and Commercial. On property.

15th: Ohingaiti, Manawatu, Ailsa Farm. Annual Sale. Stud and Commercial. On property.

16th: Palmerston North, Annual N.I. Sale,

Showgrounds. Society sponsored. 17th: Napier, Rissington, J.P. & S. Absolom. Annual

Bull Sale. Stud and Commercial. On property. 19th: Wairoa, A. Black. Commercial Bulls.

22nd: Dannevirke, C. Hutching. Commercial Bulls. 23rd: Northland, J. R. Houlbrooke, Annual Sale. Stud and Commercial. Kauri Saleyards.

2nd: Waikato. Waikato and Districts Club, Annual Sale. Stud and Commercial. Frankton Saleyards.

3rd: Te Puke, Bay of Plenty, Rangiuru Simmental Breeders. Bull Sale. Rangiuru Saleyards.

8th: Northland, T.A. & L. Sloane, Annual Sale. Stud and Commercial. Kauri Saleyards.

9th: Northland, S. & G. Timperley, Annual Bull Sale. Stud and Commercial. Kaikohe Saleyards. **AUGUST** 

Christchurch, Canterbury Club. Annual Commercial Bull Sale.

### **SEPTEMBER**

8th: Waikato, J.A. Middleton, Pokeno. Annual Sale. (Venue to be finalised).

### ARAHI DISPERSAL

On the 3rd of April Rob and Katherine Wallace of Raupunga, inland from Wairoa dispersed their herd at Stortford Lodge, Hastings. Established in 1983 this herd was based on many of the Simmentals bred by Robin Lowry. The main reason for the dispersal was the remote locality of the Wallace's property which made stud marketing difficult.

The catalogue totalling over 128 entries came forward in what could be described as good commercial order. Cows with calves at foot tended to show the hard season they had had until recently but their strength showed in the excellent calves with them. A good line of sound cattle with useful bloodlines, they met a strong and buoyant interest that lasted

throughout the sale.

Top price of the sale was for a six year old 1/8th cow at \$3700 by a Ueli bull from a Beat dam. Her bull calf at foot by a bull of German bloodline sold for \$1900 (top of the calf prices). Cow and calf were both purchased by G. Kemp of Gisborne. Cows with calves at foot were sold as separate units. Calves brought excellent prices with many over \$1000. In calf heifers also sold well with a top price of \$3200 for a Siegfried heifer and an average of \$1285.

Buyers came from virtually all over N.Z. — two lots were reported as being purchased by an Australian

### ANNUAL PERTH BULL **SALES** (Scotland)

One of the most outstanding sales was how David Gaunt described the Simmental Sale at Perth in February. A record of 121 bulls sold to a record average of £1885.

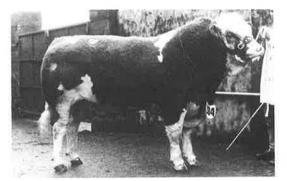
Supreme Champion was Hugo Arnold's Hockenhull Rathbone, sired by herd sire Overhall Hivy and out of a Register of Merit cow Hockenhull Lupine. He weighed 773 kg. at 100 days and had a yearling withers height of 137 cm. and conformation score of 82/100. He sold for 4100 gns. Reserve Supreme was Blackford Roscoe from Billy MacPherson. The home bred bull sired by herd sire Hockenhull Marvel had a daily liveweight gain of 1.7 kg. He sold for 4300 gns.

Top price of 6000 gns. went to Revelex Rory out of the famous Wilde RM family and sired by the wellknown herd sire Rickardstown Jumbo, who has made such an important contribution to the breed. The dam is 16½ years old safely in calf again and was twice winner of the Cow Production Class at the Royal Show

in 1985 and 86.

Averages: 43 Senior bulls averaged 44 Intermediate bulls averaged 34 Junior bulls averaged

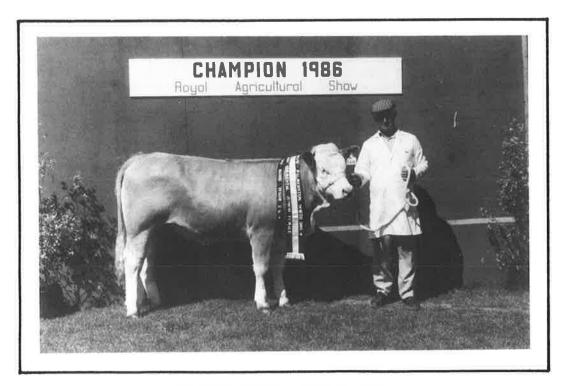
£2100 £1613



Supreme Champion Hockenhull Rathbone.

## **TOKAWEKA SIMMENTALS**

Herd No. 79



### **TOKAWEKA TRINITY**

## NATIONAL SALE PALMERSTON NORTH 16th JUNE TOKAWEKA TOPSIDE

A cream bull, fully pigmented, from our top Maitapu cow who has produced two Royal Show All Breeds Champions. TRINITY, pictured above, from the same transplant as TOPSIDE was Reserve Junior Female Champion and 1st Junior Heifer at the last Royal Show. The sire was HOCKENHULL MAGNUM, a leader in growth rate trials in the U.K.

### **TOKAWEKA TRIDENT**

A solid red, polled bull, fully pigmented with plenty of length and placid temperament by our Polled Herd Sire TOKO MAGISTRATE

### **TOKAWEKA ANNUAL SALE**

Kauri Saleyards, Whangarei, 23rd June 24 2 year Bulls Over half offering Polled Several Stud Prospects Farm Inspection Welcome

J.R. HOULBROOKE, SOUTH ROAD, WAIPU. Phone: WD (089) 80105

## Shows

### **AUCKLAND EASTER SHOW**

A small group of breeders supported the Easter Show at Auckland. Oakleigh Osborne from Canterbury was invited to judge, and was sponsored by the governing body of the Show, which he said was a most interesting few days. This Show differs from our normal A. & P. event in that it is very much a metropolitan exercise with little of the rural atmosphere found at most shows. It is however quite strong in its beef classes which attract substantial sponsorship.

Class results were as follows:

Heifer Yearling

J. & L. McNaughten 1st Karewa Jewel J.R. Houlbrooke 2nd Tokaweka Treasure A.J. Fleming 3rd Waingata Tania

Heifer Calf J.R. Houlbrooke

Female Championship J. & L. McNaughton 1st J.R. Houlbrooke 2nd

Bull Yearling — over

J.R. Houlbrooke 1st Tokaweka Rascallion J.B. Scott 2nd Puketawa Tallboy

Bull Calf J. & L. McNaughton 1st A.J. Fleming 2nd J.R. Houlbrooke 3rd

Male Championship J.R. Houlbrooke

Supreme Championship
J.R. Houlbrooke Tokaweka Rascallion
L. & R. McNaughton Karewa Jewel

### **INTERBREED COMPETITIONS**

Sponsored by Settings International, a division of L.D. Nathan. (Prizes totalling a value of \$5,000). 1st Angus, 2nd Shorthorn, 3rd Simmental (J.B. Scott) 4th Angus. Simmentals were the only newer breed to be placed in this competition.

### **NELSON SHOW**

Simmentals have only appeared once in classes at Nelson until this year. This year there were four entries and they did well in a showing of forty beef animals of five breeds.

The exhibitors were the Martin Brothers who are also Angus breeders.

In the interbreed classes: Champion All Breeds Yearling Bull: Simmental Champion All Breeds Yearling Heifer: Simmental (A Simmental also took 4th in the heifer class)

### WHAKATANE SHOW

Again, as far as we can establish, a first exhibiting of the breed David Leaf of Awaiti, near Whakatane took a 'team' and had success.

Bull Calf 1st and 2nd

Heifer Calf 2nd

Yearling Bull 2nd

Yearling Heifer 2nd

2yr Heifer with calf at foot 1st Bull 2 yrs 1st Cow over 3 yrs 2nd Junior progeny class 1st Reserve Male Champion Reserve Female Champion 'Well done David Leaf'

### **NORTHERN SHOWS**

#### **NORTH KAIPARA SHOW**

Strong entries in all beef breeds which were judged only as 'All Breeds' classes:

Heifer Calves: Tokaweka Unity
Yearling Heifer and Champion Female: Tokaweka
Treasure
Bull Calves: Tokaweka Ulysses
Senior Bull, Male Champion and Supreme Beef Animal:
Tokaweka Rascallion

#### **WELLSFORD SHOW**

Judged on the same basis as Kaipara.

Bull Calf: Tokaweka Ulysses

Male Champion and Supreme Beef Animal: Tokaweka
Rascallion

Jim Houlbrooke with his team has had outstanding

Jim Houlbrooke with his team has had outstanding success with Simmentals in these interbreed competitions in Northland.

### LITTLE RIVER SHOW (Canterbury)

Bull over 2 yrs: A.A.T. & L. Partridge 1st
Bull under 2 yrs: D.C. & M.J. Carter 1st
I.G. & P.J. Wright 2nd
A.A.T. & L. Partridge 3rd
Heifer over 18mths: D. & J. Matheson 1st
A.J. Banks 2nd
A.A.T. & L. Partridge 3rd
Heifer under 18mths: D.C. & M.J. Carter 1st and 2nd
D. & J. Matheson 3rd
Champion Bull and Supreme: D.C. & M.J. Carter with

'Avon Park Tom Selleck'
Champion Female: D. & J. Matheson with 'MacMathan Rosette'

OTAGO SHOW (Dunedin)

Yearling Heifers: K. Hinton 1st G.M. & L.E. Bain 2nd 2 yr Cow with calf: N.G. Hellyer 1st Yearling Bull: K. Hinton 1st Senior Bull: G.M. & L.E. Bain 1st Champion Female: K. Hinton Champion Male: G.M. & L.E. Bain Supreme Champion Simmental: K. Hinton All Breeds Male: G.M. & L.E. Bain 1st All Breeds Female: K. Hinton 2nd



Born from recently imported Australian cow, Dunmore Mahogany 'U.F.O' has joined the Wai-iti Stud at Masterton.

## SILVERMOYLE SIMMENTAL TUD



# SECOND ANNUAL SALE FRIDAY 12th JUNE, 1.00 p.m. ON THE PROPERTY (UNDER COVER) 25 SERVICE BULLS 8 IN-CALF COWS

We have pleasure in offering this line of rising 2 year bulls. We believe they are of a sufficiently high standard to be of use to stud and commercial buyers alike. Last year half of our transferable bulls sold, went to stud farms.

We are also offering a few of our breeding cows, as we are replacing with polled heifers.

The bulls were sired by SILVERMOYLE NEHIMIAH (an excellent son of CORHAM POLONIUS). REDWOOD AP3 (son of WHITELODGE AL11), and SILVERMOYLE PRESSMAN (son of SILVERMOYLE MODESTY of 63K line), all polled sires.

We did not have a single complaint from our customers last year and we hope to retain our high standard of soundness and performance this year also.

Half of the bulls will be natural polled, also half will be transferable.

We invite you to make it 'A Weekend in the Waikato' as the Field Days will be in action at Mystery Creek at that time also.

Catalogues will be sent on request.

All animals will be displayed and sold on concrete.

Inspection by appointment anytime.

Vendors: WILLIE & GENE ECCLES, R.D.1, TE AROHA. Phone: Manawaru 808

## Simbeef

Despite a hard situation in the farming scene Simbeef weaners have continued to make their mark with strong prices throughout the country.

Listed market toppers are as follows:

WELLSFORD (Nth Auckland)

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$415

Simbeef Heifers \$292

(Yarding 2,200 steers, 1750 heifers)

TE PUKE

Market Toppers, Simbeef Heifers \$260 (Yarding 860)

**TAIHAPE** 

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$435 J. Russell, Ohingaiti (4th year)

MATAWHERO (Gisborne)

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$387 Te Kowhai Station, (Yarding 3679)

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$324 C. Gorman, Awatere (Yarding 2,000)

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$350 W.H. & R. Croft, Omihi

OWAKA (Otago)

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$472 B. Murray (Premium of \$97)

RAGLAN (Waikato)

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$385

STORTFORD LODGE (Hastings)

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$380 Atrig Station, (Premium \$40)

CROMWELL (Central Otago)

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$394 R. Daggard (Yarding 1,500)

**ADDINGTON** 

Market Toppers, Simbeef Steers \$470 O.J. Osborne, Leeston (10th consecutive year)

TE TEKO (Bay of Plenty)

Market Toppers, Friesian Cross bull calves \$246

Friesian Cross heifers \$200

D.H. Leaf (The sale was poor but Simmentals were well above average)

Other sale results received as 'average' which topped the market:

WAIPUKURAU

251 Simbeef Steers averaged \$349 (\$50 above other averages)

DANNEVIRKE

Simbeef Steers averaged \$324 (\$36 above other averages)

While this issue has been set up we know there have been further sales and we look forward to their results. Other noteworthy sales reported were:

> A. Plummer, Dannevirke, 102 Simbeef Steers average \$350

K. Cameron, Pahiatua, 30 Simbeef Steers \$400 each

Masterton vendor, \$375 Simbeef Steers — 2nd top price

Castlerock vendor, \$398 Simbeef Steers — 2nd top price

W. Leslie, Owaka, \$465 Simbeef Steers — (Premium \$80)

B. McLachlan, Owaka, \$460 Simbeef Steers — (Premium \$85)

CANTERBURY STEER COMPETITION 220 — 300 kg Hooks, A.A.T. Partridge, Ladbrooks 4th (Simbeef) 300kg + Hooks, G.A. Pearce & Co. 2nd (Simbeef); B. Gallagher, 5th (Simbeef)

### TOP STEERS

For the 4th successive season Simmental cross yearling steers bred by Howard and Ruth Symons on their Mokauiti property at Te Kuiti have fetched the top price for the selling season.

A pen of 14 ½ and ¾ bred yearlings made \$510.00 while a pen of ¾ breds (Autumn calves) from the

same property made \$710.

The star line of yearlings from this property has,

over the last 4 seasons averaged \$635.

The purchaser for the last 3 years has been the well known Aria stud farmer Mr Keith Tucker. At Tuckers 1st Annual Ram fair (500 rams) held on the property in early December, they had on display 2 lines of these tremendous steers.

The 4 year Bullocks were killed the following week at 502 kgs while the 3 year cattle did 420 kgs, and

all cattle graded well.



Tremendous! Steers from Howard and Ruth Symons.

### SIMMENTAL WEANERS TOP ADDINGTON FOR THE TENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

O.J. Osborne of Winfield near Leeston in Canterbury has contributed strongly to the Simmental scene since he established a herd in 1973. He is well known in the showring and the Sales arena with his stud cattle.

As an addition to his large and varied farming enterprise he runs a large commercial herd of Simmental cross cattle and from this herd each year he presents a large group of weaner steers and heifers which he markets through Addington in April. These calves have become a feature of the years weaner sales and 1987 saw Winfield calves top the market for the tenth time with a top price of \$470 for eleven steer calves, a premium of over \$40 on the next highest pen of another breed. Looking back through the records his first 'market toppers' were in 1978 when they made \$105. His entry that year was 93 steer calves. The premium was \$30. In succeeding years the same relevancy has continued. In his annual draft his heifers have had similar success and this year was no exception with top price of \$328 for twelve.

Winfield calves are spring born and run on the Lake

Ellesmere flats. The Winfield annual draft is normally around 140

There must be few breeders of any weaner calves who can claim such continuing success anywhere in the country.

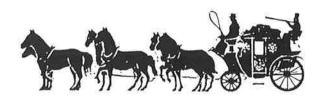
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# Avon Park Su

# WE HAVE DIVERSIFIED INTO THE END The Coac

\* CENTRAL CITY LOCATION



A Conchrison for

\* THREE COMFORTABLE BARS

(144 GLOUCESTER ST

# VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME AT THE OR OVER THE HILL AT MANOR

DAVID & MEI

MANOR FARM, No. 1 RD LYTTELTON.

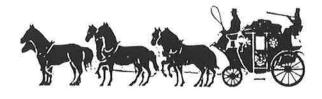
# nmentals



# PRODUCT WITH THE PURCHASE OF hman Inn



EIGHT EN SUITE BEDROOMS\*



**OUTSTANDING STEAK RESTAURANT★** 

REET, CHRISTCHURCH)

# COACHMAN FOR A TENDER JUICY STEAK FARM TO SEE OUR SIMMENTALS

INDA CARTER,

CHRISTCHURCH PHONE: (03) 299 731

## Miscellaneous

### 1987 SALES — CHRISTCHURCH AND PALMERSTON NORTH

This years sales are on the 4th June — 16th June at the same venues as previous years.

We ask people to note the change in time schedule from previous years:

BOTH SALES WILL START AT 11.30 A.M.

The earlier timing has been set as it has been felt that the mornings have been a little 'drawn out' in the past. A parade of cattle will be held with commentary at each sale. Catalogues this year have been reduced and the offering at Christchurch will be 28 bulls and 5 heifers and at Palmerston North 31 bulls and 3 heifers.

### 1987 ANNUAL MEETING

This function will be held in Christchurch in conjunction with the S.I. Sale over 3rd and 4th June. The formal meeting of members will be held at 5 p.m. on Wednesday 3rd June at the Avon Hotel, Oxford Terrace. This venue will be used for accommodation and also the A.G.M. dinner to be held on the evening of 4th June. Tickets for the dinner may still be obtained on application to the Society Office.



### CANTERBURY/ WESTLAND SIMMENTAL CLUB

(Contributed by P.H. Sibley)

Sunday, May 3rd was fine and sunny as fifty-five Simmentaliers and their children gathered at Neil Oliver's Springfield Stud, Hororata for what turned out to be one of the Club's most interesting field days.

After inspecting Neil's Springfield herd the convoy of some twenty-five vehicles drove westwards towards the Southern divide, past Lake Coleridge to Peak Hill Station which is farmed in partnership by Michael and Johann Groters. Michael took the visitors on a conducted tour of the property which included commercial Simmental cattle, stud cows, calves and rising two year old bulls. Johann, who runs the deer side of their farming operation took the party through his deer complex explaining their breeding programme which now includes 'Herman the German', their imported stag.

À picnic lunch was enjoyed on the homestead lawn. One of the highlights of the day was a visit to the Lake Coleridge Salmon farm. Here the staff spent considerable time explaining how a Salmon Farm functioned from the time the fish jumped the gates into the farm complex until young fish were distributed to various 'farms' in the South Island. The day concluded with a visit to the historical Lake Coleridge Power Station. A day which everyone agreed was a most successful and enjoyable one helped by the marvellous autumn day.

# SLOANE SIMMENTALS

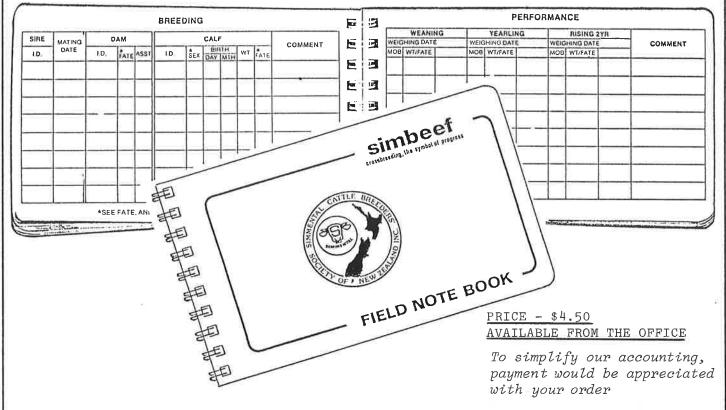
### TERRILYNNE STUD Herd No. 897

A selection of approximately 20 Stud and Commercial Sires will be offered at our 3rd Annual Sale at

## KAURI SALEYARDS JULY 8th 1987 at 11 A.M.

Herd Size: 170 Cows. Beef Plan: 14 years
Females also available.
Enquiries also welcome.
TERRY & LYNNE SLOANE, MATA, WHANGAREI
Phone: Oakleigh 823

### PADDOCK RECORDS · · FIELD NOTE BOOKS



We have produced for you a Field Note Book, similar in design to the old Beefplan note books. These are of very good quality with plastic coated cover and spiral binding measuring 6" x 4". Those who have used them in the past find them excellent as they are very durable and form a paddock record of each year's calvings in a similar format to the Calf Entry Sheet with space for performance records.

#### **STOP PRESS!! SALES**

LEVELS 13TH MAY

21 BULLS, AVERAGE \$2,143 TOP \$4,000

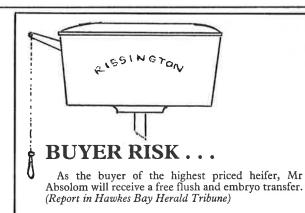
11 HEIFERS, AVERAGE \$2,764

TOP \$5,000

CASTLEROCK, 15TH MAY

27 BULLS, AVERAGE \$3,025

TOP \$6,000



WAIKATO & DISTRICTS SIMMENTAL CLUB

### ANNUAL BULL SALF THURSDAY, 2nd JULY, FRANKTON SALEYARDS

'40 BULLS FROM 15 VENDORS'

NOTE: PURCHASERS WILL PARTICIPATE IN A DRAW FOR A FREE FISHING HOLIDAY SPONSORED BY 'ISLAND AIR SAFARIS'



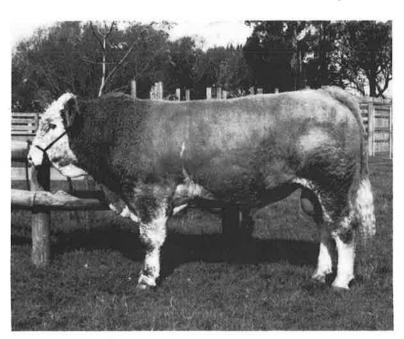
THE WAIKATO & DISTRICTS CLUB ALSO GIVE ADVANCE NOTICE OF THEIR FIRST ANNUAL INVITATION FEMALE SALE TO BE HELD AT THE CLAUDELANDS SHOWGROUNDS ON APRIL 19th, 1988

## MAKERIKERI SIMMENTALS

(Herd No. 1226)

OFFERS SOME OF THE BEST NORTH ISLAND BREEDING AT THE SOUTH ISLAND NATIONAL SALE:

MAKERIKERI THOMAS: for size and good bone.....



by L.J.B. Jade out of a Rissington Ueli Cow

500d wt 742 kg Frame Score 8 plus Scrotal Circumference 44 cm

Champion Simmental Bull Champion Beef Animal, Courtenay A & P Show

In calf yearling heifers also available.

Enquiries and Inspection welcome:
IAN AND PENNY WRIGHT
Carrs Rd, Loburn, Rangiora R.D.2, North Canterbury
Phone Loburn 788

YEAR LETTERS TATTOOING —

1985 — T 1987 — W 1986 — U 1988 — X

PLEASE USE OUR NEW POST OFFICE BOX . . . .



P.O. BOX 13-142 CHRISTCHURCH 1.

## Miscellaneous

### **OUR OFFICE** — 250 OXFORD TERRACE

We are now well settled in our new office at Oxford Terrace after the initial trauma of such a move. Things invariably don't go quite to plan and our move was no exception — the move day found quite a few preparatory things not finished in our new premises and things were not easy. Our grateful thanks to those who spared no time or effort in getting things done, Rod Cox, David and Melinda Carter, Peter Sibley and of course our two staff members Ann and Yvonne. They somehow got all our things up the stairs and in place according to plan. The Secretary had somehow managed to escape overseas two days before the move — not by plan.

### **OWAKA BULL SALE** (5.4.87)

The bull selling season started well at Owaka in Otago with about 15 bulls being offered. Top price was \$3,600 with a sale average of approximately \$2,100. It is reported that a number of new commercial buyers were operating. The Owaka sale has included Simmentals for a number of years from the herds of L. McLay and W. Leslie.

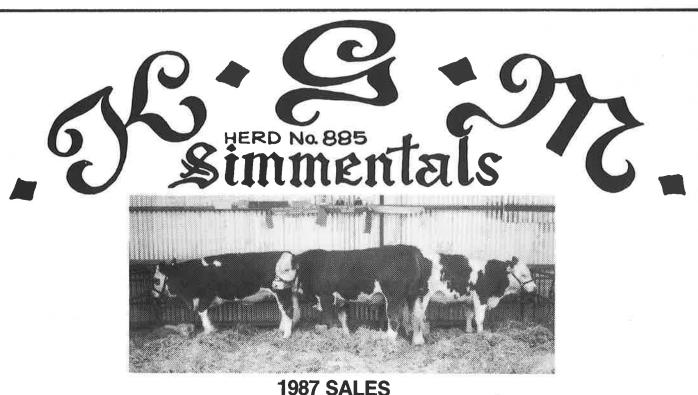
### TRANSFERS

A reminder to established members and a note to newer ones. If you sell an animal as registered it must be transferred. Transfer forms are available from the office on request. Please read and follow the instructions carefully. It is quite simple.

### **CAR RIDE**

Ever felt you have been taken for a ride when ordering a new car? Seen in a recent edition of Royal Auto, the RACV's magazine was the tale of a farmer who thought the price for several extras on his new vehicle was a little steep. When the car dealer needed to buy a cow a few weeks later, the farmer constructed the bill as follows:

Basic cow:	\$200.00
Extras	
Two Tone exterior	45.00
Genuine leather upholstery	125.00
Dual horns	20.00
Product storage dept.	60.00
Dispensing devices @ \$10 ea.	40.00
Automatic fly swatter	35.00
TOTAL: plus delivery	525.00



**1987 SALES** 

2 Rising Two Year Bulls Palmerston North 16th June 2 Rising Two Year Bulls Christchurch 4th June

7 Rising Two Year Heifers in Calf

8 Rising Two Year Bulls

Omakau 10th June

Enquiries and Inspection Welcome. K.R. HINTON, R.D. 1, ALEXANDRA PHONE: 87509

## **DUNSHAUGHLIN STUD**

FOUNDATION SIRE: MARQUIS

**BAVARIAN** 

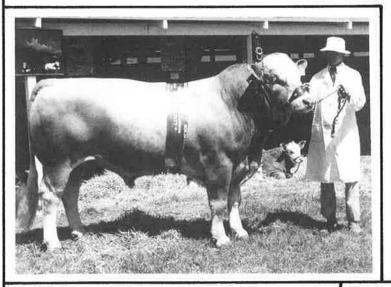
**IRISH EMPRESS** 

**NEW SIRE: RUFFIAN** 

**MULDOON** 

TIPAPA FIONA

HAWKES BAY MEAT & WOOL CUP 1986 SUPREME CHAMPION HAWKES BAY & MANAWATU ROYAL



Typical son of MARQUIS
JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL
four times in 1986
and INTERBREED CHAMPION
at Gisborne, Hawkes Bay,
Dannevirke and
Masterton

This bull has an excellent temperament, feet, and growth rate AND IS NOW FOR SALE



Limited number of Station or Run Bulls for sale.

For enquiries Phone:

PAT COOPER, WRIGHTSON DALGETY, HASTINGS

or TIM MURPHY 89869 WAIPUKURAU

The following paper was presented at the World Simmental Congress (1986) in the Argentine, by Peter Massmann, Breed Director of the South African Simmental Association.

### BETTER ADAPTED SIMMENTAL ON THE BASIS OF APPEARANCE

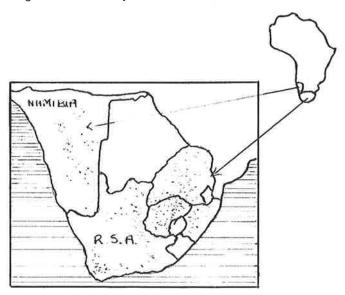
#### C. P. Massman

The object of this discussion is to provide information on the functional merit of some conformational features of the Simmental in Southern Africa where the breed is known as Simmentaler. Due to reasons I will explain, it is necessary to evaluate the functional efficiency of cattle in our country on grounds of appearance as well as performance. The two cannot be separated and we should not run away with weights and indices only. Nature does not tolerate extremes or as Berg (1976) puts it: "Nature is concerned about adaptability and man is concerned about productivity."

### **SOUTHERN AFRICA**

In order to interpret this paper, it is essential to have a brief background of the environmental conditions to which our Simmentals are subjected. Our Breed Society area covers Namibia and the Republic of South Africa (RSA) an area  $\pm\,\,^{3\!/}\!_{4}$  the size of Argentina or 80% larger than the traditional Western European Simmentaler countries, Austria, France, Switzerland and Western Germany. (Refer Fig. 1)

Fig. 1: Breed Society area and distribution of breeder's.



Namibia and the RSA are often referred to as "a world in one" country. Hot, humid, tropical conditions along the low lying regions of the east and desert regions in the west. In between we find semi-arid, savanna, shrub, bush, highveld and forest areas. The rainfall in the breeding region is strongly seasonal and varies from 150mm to 1100mm. Temperatures of 38 to 39°C in summer are fairly common and during winter months temperatures below freezing point occur in the inland, especially in the Highveld area. Altitudes of Simmental breeding farms vary from sea level to 1600/1700 metres found on farms of a large

number of breeders in the highveld plato. Due to rainfall and other climatic conditions, 72% of the total agricultural area of the region can only be used for grazing under extensive conditions (Hamburger, 1984). The grazing area per mature livestock unit varies from 2 hectare to 22 hectare in some of the Western parts. Although grain rations are used in feedlots, in most parts cattle are entirely dependent on natural vegetation, crop residues and natural pastures. Grain is expensive and more effectively used by the pork and poultry industry. What we strive for are cattle capable of grazing extensively both summer and winter to convert grass to marketable beef.

Our Simmentals are subjected to these great environmental extremes of solar radiation, temperature, humidity, nutrition, altitude and tropical disease.

### THE BREED SOCIETY

Namibia was the first country outside Europe where the Simmental was successfully established after first imports in 1893. Today it is the most important Bos Taurus breed in Namibia.

Although the first Simmentals arrived in the RSA during 1905, the breed played an insignificant role until the early sixties when large numbers were imported from Namibia, Germany and Austria.

The first Simmentaler Breed Society was formed in 1950 by breeders' in Namibia. However, this breed society was not affiliated to the S.A. Stud Book Association and the existing Society was formed by the RSA and Namibian breeders in 1964. Since 1964 both Simmentaler breeders and cattle increased to such an extent that the Breed Society membership currently ranks 3rd (after the Brahman and Bonsmara) among the twenty beef and dual purpose cattle breeds in Southern Africa. Our 550 members have 38000 full-blood animals (94%/100% Simmental) rating it the most significant non-dairy Bos Taurus Breed Society in Southern Africa.

Although only  $\pm$  5% of the Simmental cows are milked, the breed is classified as dual purpose. Milk production of the Simmental cow is mainly utilised by her ability to produce a heavy weaner calf. In a recent survey conducted amongst commercial beef producers the question "Why do you use Simmentals in your cross-breeding programme?" was answered as follows: 1. Sufficient milk to wean a heavy calf (229 points); 2. Fertility (187 points) and 3. Growth rate/weight for age/heavy carcase (148 points). It is therefore our policy to pay continued attention to optimum milk by selecting for high weaning weight and a good post-weaning growth rate.

A.1. plays a minor role in stud breeding (12%) and much less in the commercial beef industry (3%).

Our breeding policy, applied by imposing compulsory inspection or visual appraisal as one of the prerequisites for registration, is a dual purpose animal, not too coarsely boned, not flatly rumped with correct legs and feet to walk long distances and a smooth haircoat. We do not tolerate extremes (small compact or giants) and the world wide preference to large heavy bulls causes concern since there is enough evidence that bigger and heavier result in calving problems, higher maintenance and poor constitution.

### **BREEDING FOR ADAPTABILITY**

"The interaction between the animal's total genetic potential and the total environment determines how efficiently the animal will transform its feed into animal end products" (Bonsma, 1981 — ii).

The Simmental, well adapted to temperate and cold climates, has been transferred to hot climates — dry or humid. The productivity of the breed in many "new Simmental countries" where extensive farming

conditions prevail depends on its adaptability to a completely different environment than that of its country of origin. (Maree, 1983) states that high temperature and tropical enviornment, stress cattle performance far more severely than cold. Rectal temperature in European and British breeds increases when temperature exceeds 25 to 28°C while in Bos Indicus or Zebu types, a corresponding rise does not occur until the temperature is about 35°C (Worstell & Brody, 1953).

The maintenance of normal body temperature is most important. Even a slight rise in body temperature affects feed intake, grazing behaviour, serving ability, milk production and growth rate. Another important aspect seldomly realised by our friends in Europe, is that many sub-tropical and tropical regions are characterised by a high incidence of parasites, particularly ticks, which are a problem in a large part of our country.

Is genetics more important that environment? Take fertility or reproduction, the most important trait in the cattle industry, for an example. How sure can we be that the fertile Simmentals from Europe will also calve regularly under a different environment. The heredity of intercalving period is 10 to 20% which implies that environment has a much greater (80 to 90%) influence on calving intervals than genetics (10 to 20%). This you will find in all reproductive traits.

### REGISTRATION ON THE BASIS OF **APPEARANCE**

"In attempting to produce adapted cattle we have two choices — we can breed cattle which are suited to the environment or we can adjust the environment by management to suit the cattle' (Berg, 1976).

Although management improved tremendously since the breed was introduced we could not provide air-conditioned barns, clip wooly coated animals, cut hooves and provide sunglasses to the large number of Simmentals kept under exclusive conditions. In order to adapt better to large parts of the region described and be more acceptable to the commercial producer, we realised that much more emphasis must

be placed on aspects such as haircoat, pigmentation, hide thickness, walking ability or in general functional efficiency than in the countries of origin of the Simmental.

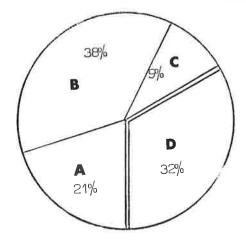
To accomplish this, already in 1950 we introduced a system where visual appraisal or inspection by qualified inspectors is one of the prerequisites for registration. This selective registration on the basis of appearance is not general practice in most countries. Last year our inspectors travelled 40,000 km to inspect 6900 Simmentals. Although an expensive operation this system plays a very prominent role in the selection of Simmentals adaptable to our environment and in meeting the requirements of the commercial producer who uses Simmental bulls in his cross-breeding programme. Furthermore, all these visual classification scores are recorded for progeny analysis.

Visual appraisal of cattle, particularly in the show ring, has been documented in the history of some breeds as a great disadvantage. This is true if the emphasis is placed in the order of "form before function". Appearance, when based on "the form that function determines" and evaluated on a national basis, can be related to functional merit and is an indispensable aid in performance testing. Computer records cannot completely eliminate the eye of the breeder or inspector. After all, we still like to breed cattle not numbers.

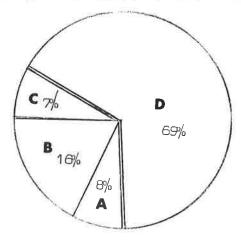
Animals eligible for registration are inspected between the ages of 1 to 3 years (bulls up to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years). Approved animals are registered and rejected animals are cancelled in the Herd Book irrespective of whether their parents were show or performance test champions. During the past five years we inspected and classified close on 30,000 Simmentals. An enforced inspection system has both a direct and indirect bearing on the selection intensity of a stud breed. The direct effect is the rejection of animals presented which do not meet the requirements and the indirect effect is the fact that inferior or doubtful animals are, not even presented for inspection and are therefore not registered. Our selection intensity is reflected in figure

Fig. 2: Selection intensity of stud Simmentals.

### BULLS REPORTED OUT OF STUD PARENTS



### FEMALES REPORTED OUT OF STUD PARENTS



- REPORTED AS "NOT FOR REGISTRATION"
- BC DIED, SOLD AS COMMERCIAL OR CULLED BY BREEDER BEFORE INSPECTION
- CULLED BY INSPECTOR FOR STUD BREEDING
- APPROVED BY INSPECTOR AND REGISTERED

Grounds on which 16,282 animals inspected over the past 2½ years were rejected for registration are as follows:

NY 1	Bulls	Females
Number inspected	5981	10301
Rejections — number	1310	1017
— percentage	21,9%	9,9%
Rejections expressed as percentage of total rejections (refer to comment):	21,570	25270
General Log postern and house and ho	45%	39%
Leg, pastern and noove problems	18%	22%
Coat, pigment and colour	9%	12%
Gentar organs	12%	6%
Kump	5%	9%
Defects	4%	4%
Shoulder	4%	3%
Temperament	3%	5%

**REJECTION REASONS** 

**GENERAL** (45% bulls and 39% females)

This includes a large variety of reasons for example size for age; off type (purity); too fine or too coarse; under-developed; excessive or lack of muscling; too compact or too rangy; back problems; lacks spring of rib; weak loin, and so forth. These aspects are applicable to most stud breeds and will not be addressed here. All I wish to add is that we attempt to avoid extremeties in size, both small and large. Most of our breeders stick to the middle of the road policy. As far as the large cow/small cow controversy is concerned we find that the environment determines the size of an animal that will perform well. An ideal type in one area will most likely not be the ideal type in another area and our inspectors take this into account.

We are very aware of the fact that by over emphasizing growth rate and size we increase birth weight and thus calving problems as well as maintenance requirements — two aspects that are not at all tolerated under extensive ranching conditions. Remember a dead calf has a very poor growth rate.

## DEFECTS, SHOULDER AND TEMPERAMENT

**Defects** (4% bulls and 4% females): The only mentionable defects are under- and to a lesser extent overshot jaws. Animals with the slightest indication of these defects are ruthlessly culled.

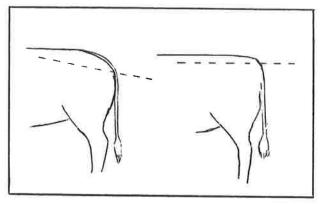
**Shoulder** (4% bulls and 3% females): The main point here is a straight shoulder which affects walking ability and is usually associated with a straight pastern and hoove (cause of tip-toe).

**Temperament** (3% bulls and 5% females): The elimination of bad temperament under any extensive ranching operation is self-evident.

### RUMP (5% bulls and 9% females)

Although the percentage rejected for rump include droopy, roofy, short and flat rump structures, the main culprit is the flat, level or square rump. If we look at Zebu types and antelopes, all known for their calving ease, we find a sloping rump where the pinbones are lower than the hipbones. Many of our practical breeders agree with (McFarlane, 1976) who came to the conclusion that as you raise the pinbones you narrow the vertical opening that the cow has for calving — you lessen the distance between the pelvic floor and the base of the tail. He as well as (Maree 1977 — i) suspect that the calving process is best facilitated by a sloping rump. Until specific research proves the opposite we will keep square or flat rumps high on our list of discriminations.

Some believe that squarely rumped cattle are better muscled than those with a sloping rump. (Harmse, 1976) and (Butterfield, 1974) proved that this is not the case.



Normal

Flat or Square

### **GENITAL ORGANS** (12% bulls and 6% females)

Since the Simmentaler industry in our country is very dependant on natural service and since most bulls are inspected before they are used, the various components of bull fertility are of great importance. Reasons for rejection under this heading are scrotal circumference, scrotal shape abnormalities and sex character.

The incidence of scrotum abnormalities, which are well recorded world-wide, is very low. We culled a number of bulls on sex character since we maintain, without any scientific proof, that a bull should look like a bull and not like a heifer or an ox. The main reason for culling was scrotal circumference (SC). Several researchers quoted by (Gosey) found that SC in growing bulls is correlated with semen quality and quantity, and that SC is also a highly heritable trait with most estimates around 0.60. SC also seems to be related to subsequent fertility of female progeny (Hunlun & Gerhard, 1984) and is a more accurate predictor of puberty, regardless of breed or cross, than either age or weight (Lunstra et al., 1978).

These advantages plus the fact that the level of nutrition had little effect on SC (Venter et al., 1984) and is easily measured, motivated us to impose a minimum SC for registration. Actual measurements of 800 local Simmental bulls were used to determine the following:

 Weight (kg)
 under 400
 400-500

 Minimum SC (cm)
 32
 33

 Weight (kg)
 500-600
 600-650
 over 650

 Minimum SC (cm)
 34
 35
 36

 Females

Calving records are the best proof of a fertile and therefore adapted cow. However, we inspect mainly heifers and there are certain early conformational signs of reduced fertility which we try to avoid. The ovarian hormones have a direct bearing on the udder formation of the heifer and shrunken teats, that are recessed in the surrounding tissues at the base of the teats, indicate

### **BROCADE SIMMENTALS**

(Herd No. 228)

Will offer at the North Island Simmental Sale, Tuesday 16th June at Palmerston North, an excellent young bull sired by LEVELS MONARCH, the 1982 Royal Show Junior Champion.

Other Rising 2 Year Bulls Available on Farm

ENQUIRIES AND INSPECTION WELCOME HUGH AND JANE McINTYRE, APITI, R.D.1, FIELDING, Phone: Apiti 845



Australian visitors at Rissington. Ailsa and Graham Dean (Queensland) and Kerry Lowe of Sydney.



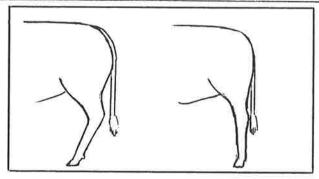
Part of the very large gallery at Rissington.

### **WOODSTOCK SIMMENTALS**

Herd No. 133

Will offer an 18 month Transplant Bull by the Leading Canadian Sire: WFG INHERITOR, Dam: WOODSTOCK LEAF (AL1) This bull will provide an excellent opportunity for a complete outcross by the son of an outstanding Canadian Bull.

Enquiries and Inspection Invited.
M.B. & V.J. HARDING, WOODSTOCK, R.D.3,
WAIPUKURAU.



Sickle hocked

Post-legged straight hocks

Post-leggedness or straight hocked hind legs interfere with the bull's ability to serve. This defect is our most important reason for rejecting animals for registration and is mostly associated with a narrow hock joint, puffy hock, underdeveloped hamstring, straight pastern and tipped toes. In short, the hind leg and feet are abnormal. The hock is the joint which plays an important role as a shock absorbing mechanism in the hind quarter. (Walker, 1979) comments that during the mounting process, the bull carries most of its weight on the rear legs and in an effort to follow the cow, he places considerable stress on the hocks.

In a study on the pathogenic relationship between straight hocks and a genetic defect called spastic paresis, (Rieck & Leipold, 1964) measured the hock angle of over 200 Simmentals. The average angle was 143° and animals affected with spastic paresis showed an angle in excess of 158°. He concludes that, for breeding purposes, animals with straight hocks should be suspected of originating from families in which the genes for spastic paresis are present and should therefore, without exception, be eliminated.

Here again, if we refer to nature, we find all antelopes and indigenous Zebu cattle breeds have a clean, wide and well-angled hock with a well defined nearly prominent hamstring. This is what we are striving for in our Simmentals.

To conclude this section, they say the old Arabs, when selecting a horse, led him into a tent. The potential buyer stands outside and has the tent rolled up from the bottom so he first sees the horses hooves, then pastern, legs and so he works his way up.

COAT, HIDE, COLOUR AND PIGMENT (9%

bulls and 12% females)

Although according to percentage rejected not as important as leg and feet problems, I kept this for last since these matters are often discussed amongst our breeders and I assume are also raised in certain parts of Australia and the Southern U.S.A.

Haircoat

Studies concerning haircoat have proven that long woolly coated cattle never do well compared to their more smooth or sleek coated counterparts under subtropical and tropical conditions. The short, glossy hair of heat adapted breeds facilitates evaporation and heat reflection better - long hair attracts heat (Maree, 1977 — ii). More evidence is:

within the same breed (Africander) woolly coated animals were shown to have a higher respiratory rate and body temperature than smooth coated ones

(Maree, 1977 - ii);

clipping of woolly coated animals facilitated evaporation and improved efficiency (Yeates quoted

by Maree, 1977 — ii);

(Turner and Schleger, 1960; Turner, 1964 and Hayman, 1968) found a lower weight gain in Bos Taurus cattle with woolly coat type.

Bonsmas walking test of 60 kilometres on a hot day under tropical conditions provides a classic example. The woolly coated British x British cross was unable to proceed after 8 kilometres and suffered heat stress, the Zebu x British smooth coated cross showed heat stress after 22 kilometres while the local adapted smooth coated Zebu (Africander) completed the full distance without apparent discomfort (Bonsma, 1949).

With our visual appraisal of thousands of Simmentals we found that animals which shed their hair early after winter cycle regularly, are highly fertile and thrive

best in our extensive areas.

As far as tick-borne disease is concerned exotic cattle are more susceptible than smooth coated adapted cattle. Mara Research Station (South Africa) experiments carried out in a sub-tropical tick infested area with 2000 animals over a 12 year period revealed the following tick-borne heartwater mortality: Africander (Zebu) = 2.5%; Bonsmara (developed from Zebu) = 2,5%; Simmental = 6% and Hereford = 6% (Maree,

(Francis and Little quoted by Maree, 1977 - ii) in Australia, (Howell, 1975) in Namibia and (Bonsma, 1949) in South Africa, all reported that indigneous smooth coated breeds carried approximately 10 times fewer ticks than the more woolly coated exotic breeds

tested.

One of our pioneer Simmental breeders told me that ticks need protection against solar radiation and smooth coats provide no protection and therefore tick

numbers are reduced.

Smooth coatedness definitely has an adaptive significance in many parts of our country. Heritability of coat score is estimated at 0,63 (Turner and Schleger, 1960). There is a large variation in the type of coat of Simmentals and we strongly discriminate against a woolly coat in summer or curly coat during any time of the year and this type of Simmental is not approved for registration. I may just add that every animal presented for registration is scored for haircoat which is of great value in progeny testing of A.I. and even privately owned bulls.

### Thickness of hide

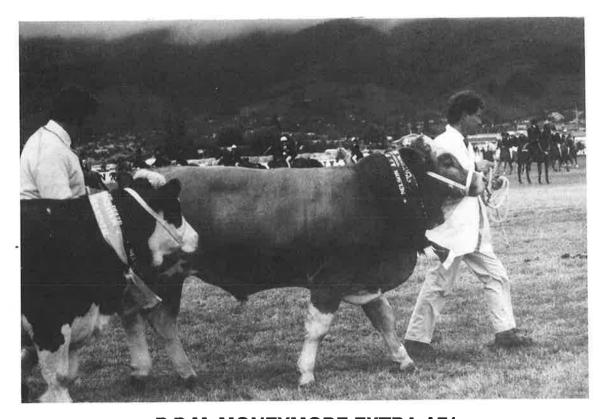
Although this is too difficult to measure in the thousands of animals inspected by us, a thick and loose hide plays a far more important role than is generally realised. According to (Maree, 1977 — ii), a thick, vascular and sensitive hide with a well developed subcutaneous muscle for twitching of the skin promotes coolling and serves as a tick and insect repellant. Doing careful studies on the sensitivity of the hide's reflexes in cattle when tickled with a thin blade of grass and observing the intensity with which the subcutaneous muscles twitch, and by observing that cattle with many downward skin folds have moveable thick hides, it was possible to select and breed tick repellant cattle (Bonsma, 1981 — i).

(Borstlap, 1985) in his now reknown Omatjenne Interbreed Test stressed the value of a thick hide to enable an animal to adapt body temperature and breathing to hotter climates. He measured hide thickness and respiratory rate of 10 breeds at 31°C after 3 kilometres walking and found a highly positive correlation between hide thickness and respiratory

rate.

The hide thickness of  $\pm$  14 month pedigree bulls measured at one of our Central Growth Test Stations over a period of 8 years was as follows (double fold measurement in mm and number of bulls measured in brackets): Brahman (Zebu) = 16,8 (247); Bonsmara (developed from Zebu) = 16,8 (727); Santa Gertrudis (developed from Zebu) = 16,6 (204); Simmentaler = 16,0 (292); Hereford = 15,5 (354) and Shorthorn = 12,1 (28).

## **MONEYMORE SIMMENTALS**



R.R.M. MONEYMORE EXTRA A71 Height: 55½" Weight: 655 Kgs at 19 months

## ALL BREEDS CHAMPION YEARLING — NELSON SHOW

We are pleased to present for sale our first crop of PERFORMANCE RECORDED RISING 2 YR SIMMENTAL BULLS to sell alongside
25 PERFORMANCE RECORDED RISING 2 YR ANGUS BULLS at our inaugural

## 'NELSON ANGUS ENTERPRISE' BULL SALE THURSDAY, JULY 30th

P. Craig Martin Redwood Valley R.D.1 Richmond Phone: (054) 20-788 Richard D. Martin Main Road South Wakefield Phone: (054) 28-559

In addition to a smooth haircoat we advocate a thick, loose hide. To measure thickness of hide take the hide, directly behind the shoulder, between your thumb and forefinger and you will immediately realise whether the skin is thick and pliable or thin and papery.

Coat Colour

The effect of coat colour on body temperature, absorptivity of solar radiation and/or reflection of sunlight has been examined in a few studies. The colour of an object determines the amount of sunlight which it absorbs or reflects and this in turn determines the temperature of the object — a rise in skin temperature of an animal is accompanied by an excelleration of certain physiological reactions and unless the unnecessary energy generated in its body as a result of the absorption of solar radiation is eliminated, the animals body temperature will also rise. The percentage light reflected by a range of creamy white to dark red Africanders varies from 15,0% in the creamy white animals to 10,5% in the dark red ones (Bonsma & Pretorius, 1943). (Riemerschmidt and Elder, 1945) investigated the absorptivity of solar radiation by hides of different colours, as well as long and short coats. He found that colour of hair is the most important characteristic in absorption of radiation ranging from 49% in white pigmented Sanga cattle to 89% in the black Aberdeen Angus.

On the other hand (Peters et al, 1982) classified 3097 Africanders and Africander crosses in a 31/2 year study in 8 different coat coloured groups from light to dark, to evaluate the effect of coat colour on productive ability. He found that coat colour of cows did not affect either their own body weight or the weaning weight of their offspring and came to the conclusion that coat colour seemed to be of no value in the productive adaptability under a subtropical

environment.

An interesting observation made by (Angus, 1983) is that the white haired areas of cream or yellow Simmentals is generally well pigmented. In the red and dark red cattle this is not the case. He noted that in hot summer months in smooth haired cattle with white patches especially on the back, the hair on these white patches was long. On parting this hair, he found that the skin lacked pigmentation. Nature therefore was providing "shade" for these white areas by letting the hair grow long.

The colour and pattern of our Simmental population, based on 15,350 observations is as follows

(underline and legs excluded):
Body colour: 7% cream/light yellow, 37% dark yellow/light red and 56% red/dark red.
Colour pattern: 2% predominantly white; 29%

spotted and 69% covered.

Although there is a significant preference for dark red animals with a minimum of white patches and these animals normally fetch higher prices at sales, we register animals ranging from light cream to dark red with white spots or patches in any pattern. However, animals with a lot of white are not registered.

As the case with haircoat, colour and colour pattern of every animal that is registered is classified by our inspector for progeny test and other evaluation.

**Eyelid Pigmentation** 

Simmental breeders in Southern Africa, and I believe also in some other "new Simmental countries" stress the importance of eyelid pigmentation. The reason for this is because many breeders associate nonpigmented eyelids with eye cancer and/or opthalmia/ sore eyes. I understand opthalmia and the expression 'pink eye", used in North America is the same.

According to (Perry, 1977), pink eye is perhaps one of the most serious problems affecting cattle producers in the United States. (Doss, 1980) states that eye cancer is a world-wide problem and estimates an annual loss to the US cattle industry of at least \$20 million (1977).

Are non-pigmented eyelids associated with opthalmia and/or eye cancer and if so, is this additional

selection criteria worthwhile?

(Eloff et al, 1978) investigated the correlation between eyelid pigmentation, eye cancer and opthalmia in 165 Simmental cows over a period of 8 years under sub-tropical conditions in South Africa. He concludes that the incidence of eye cancer in the herd tested was so low that there is very little or no advantage in selecting for eyelid pigmentation. However, eyes with pigmented eyelids were less prone to opthalmia;

(Hofmeyr, 1981) recommends selection for animals with pigmented eyelids, as well as a pigmented third eyelid in the corner of the eye, because he does not know of a case where eye cancer occurred in

a pigmented cell;

(Anderson et al, 1957) working with Herefords, found that eye cancer occurred more frequently on the eyeball than on the lids and concluded that breeding for an increased amount of pigmentation on the eyelids should reduce the incidence of cancer on the lid, but would have little effect in reducing the incidence of cancer on the eyeball. He suggests direct selection against eye cancer could seem more effective than breeding for increased eyelid pigmentation;

According to (Doss, 1980) eye cancer can be reduced by selecting animals which have pigment on the skin around the eye, pigment in the white portion of the eye and by elimination of animals and their offspring which have cancer eyes, since

heredity is a factor;

(Richardson, 1983) a dermatologist and Hereford breeder, found that pigmentation is desirable to prevent eye cancer and that cancer can begin in any tissue of any cow, but it usually begins in the

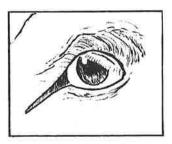
non-pigmented lower eyelid.

From these and a few other studies it appears as if pigmented eyelids are less subject to opthalmia and there is a difference of opinion as far as eye cancer is concerned. From our own observation it seems that a greater incidence of eye-cancer occurs at high elevation where ultra violet rays are more intense. Here we talk about 1500-1600 metres above sea-level.

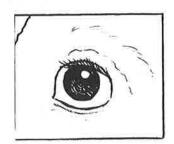
We don't reject animals without eyelid pigmentation for registration, but feel it is an advantage from a selling point of view. A survey conducted by our Breed Society among commercial breeders, the buyers of our product, rated "lack of eye pigmentation" second on the list of disadvantages of the Simmental. Since the inception in 1984 of eyelid pigmentation classification, 31,000 eyes have been classified on inspection of animals, and we found that one-third either had no or less than 50% eyelid pigmentation compared with two-thirds with more than 50% eyelid pigmentation including eye rings (spectacles). Nearly 45% of the eyes classified had eye rings. Figures for the last decade are not available, however there seems to be an increase in the percentage of eyelid pigmentation.

In the absence of scientific evidence our own observation tends to indicate that the position of the eye or eye setting plays a more important role than eyelid pigmentation. We prefer a strongly developed orbital ridge or eyebrow (hooded eye) protecting the eye against ultra violet rays. Especially in bulls pop eyes without any protection against ultra violet rays, seeds, insects, etc. are not tolerated. Related to this is a thick and sensitive eyelid with a good reflex or blinking reaction against insects or grass seeds which cause the eye to water — an ideal condition for further infection. Take for example Bos Indicus cattle with their very low incidence of eye cancer and opthalmia.

Their eyes are situated deep in the eye socket and they have very sensitive thick eyelids. Try and move your finger towards the eye and you will note that when your finger is still centimetres away the eyelid starts blinking. With certain Bos Taurus cattle with pop eyes and thin eyelids it is just the opposite. Your finger is nearly in the eye before any reaction takes place.



Strong developed orbital ridge or eye-brow (hooded eye)



Open or pop eye

Is colour related to eyelid pigmentation

As shown, our breeders prefer dark animals with pigmented eyelids. But are these two related? We assessed 15,350 animals (30,700 eyes) and found the following:

The figures reveal that the incidence of pigmented eyelids is significantly lower in dark animals (58%) in comparison to the lighter coloured areas (89%). Animals with a covered colour pattern showed more eyelid pigmentation (71%) than predominantly white animals (44%). No correlation was found between colour and colour pattern. The appearance of eyelid pigmentation in a herd of Simmentals will increase if preference is given to cream or yellow (colour) covered (pattern) animals.

On this colourful note, I wish to conclude by quoting Dr Roy Berg from Canada: "Man should recognise nature as an ally and attempt to work within natures limitations in attempting to produce cattle adapted to and productive under the natural conditions of the region. If man with his cattle can be in harmony with nature, positive results should come more easily and be more satisfying."

		Eyelid pigmentation				
Colour and colour pattern excluding underline and		None or less than	More than 50%			
legs	Number	50% of eyelid	of eyelid			
Cream to light yellow coloured	1014	11%	89%			
Dark yellow to light red coloured	5750	23%	77%			
Red to dark coloured	8586	42%	58%			
Predominantly white	279	56%	44%			
Spotted (±50/50)	4377	41%	59%			
Predominantly coloured (covered)	10694	29%	71%			

### **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Claus Peter Massmann was born in Namibia. Following his schooling in Namibia he attended an Agricultural School in the Republic of South Africa (RSA).

His post-school education includes a four-year diploma course, majoring in Animal Husbandry, two years of specialised services at the Department of Animal Husbandry, Pretoria, R.S.A, followed by a study tour in Western Germany at various Fleckvieh Cattle Breeders' Associations as well as the Bavarian Institute for Animal Husbandry. During the late sixties he accepted the position of Public Relations Officer to the Federation of German Fleckvieh Breed Societies and the Fleckvieh Division of IMEX, serving countries such as the Americas, Australasia, Great Britain and Ireland and Southern Africa. He held this position until 1976

when he was appointed to the position of first Breed Director of the Simmentaler Cattle Breeders' Society of Southern Africa. He has played a major role in the breed and the Society affairs since then, initiating many "firsts" in the stud cattle breeding history of Southern Africa. Additionally he is at the head of the Simbra development programme embarked on by the Simmentaler Society.

He was also associated with the formation of the World Simmental Federation in 1972, assisted with the formulation of their Constitution and was closely involved in the presentation of the first Simmental World Congress in the R.S.A. during 1976. He is currently a Council Member of the said Federation representing the R.S.A. and Namibia and also serves on their Breed Development and Promotion Subcommittee.

## RISSINGTON SIMMENTAL BULL SALE

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(Selected from 136)



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## THE LEVELS



HERD No. 3



WE WILL HAVE FOR SALE AT THE SOUTH ISLAND
SIMMENTAL SALE, CHRISTCHURCH, 4th JUNE
TWO STUD SIRES BY BBA GALANT 12L.

LOT 5: 'LEVELS TUTONIC'. 3/AT36. BORN 26.8.85. 738kgs.

LOT 24: 'LEVELS TITANIC'. 3/AT47. BORN 28.8.85. 720 kgs.

BOTH BULLS ARE DARK RED AND WE CONSIDER

THE BEST WE HAVE HAD FOR SALE IN CHRISTCHURCH

These animals, we recommend, for soundness and performance.

ALL ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT R.N.S. COX, Phone: Timaru 82418