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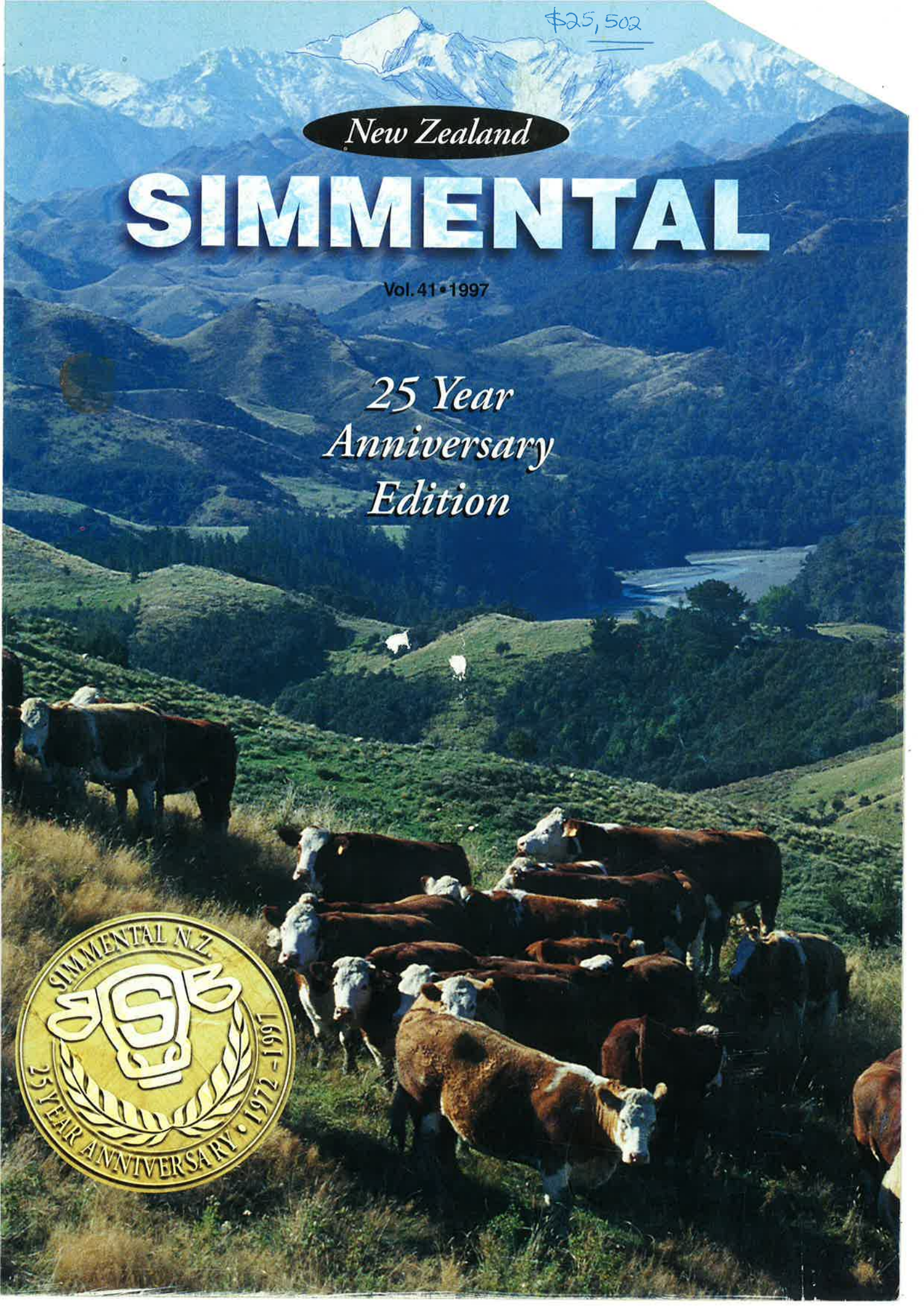
New Zealand

SIMMENTAL

Vol. 41 • 1997

25 Year Anniversary Edition



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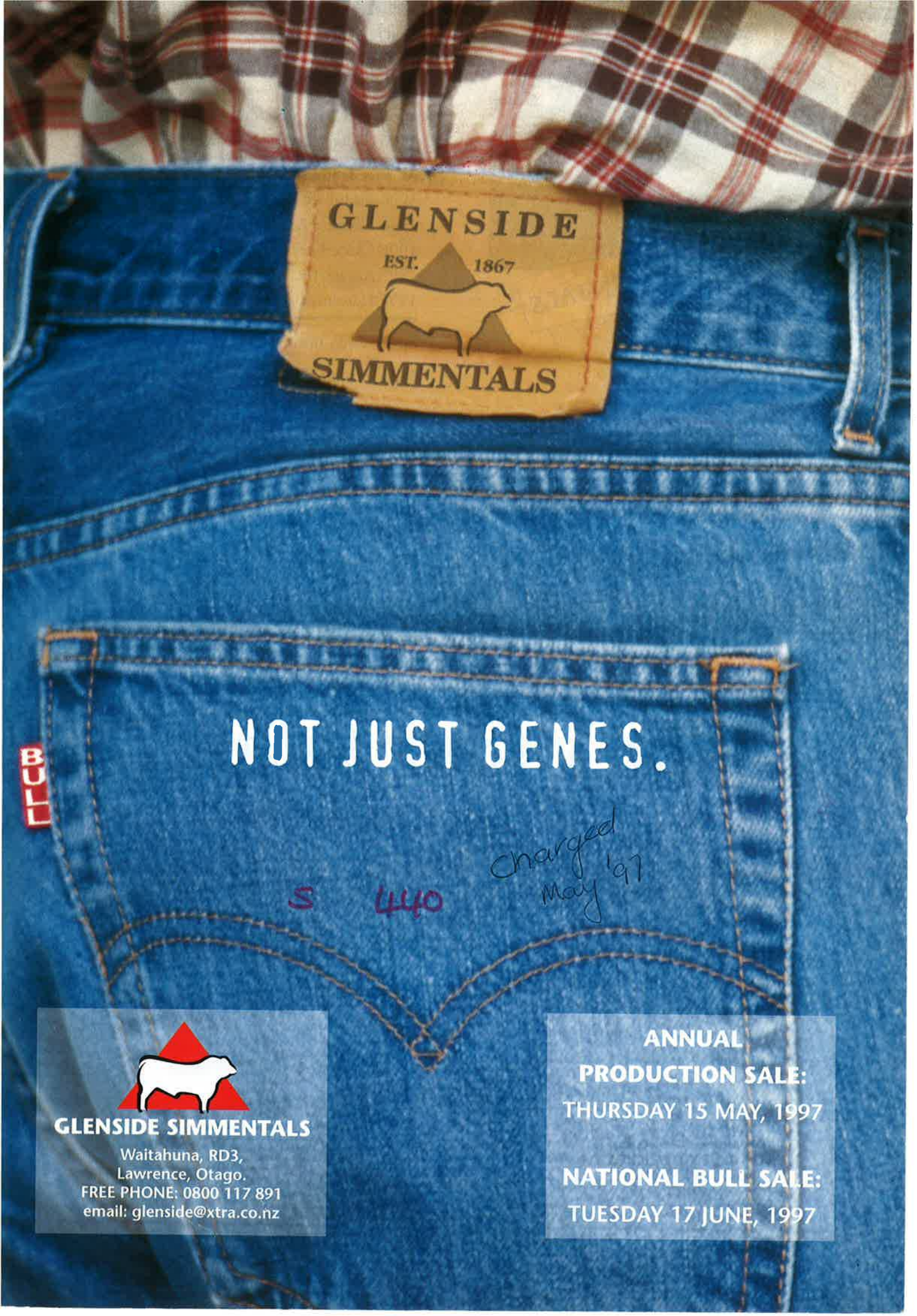

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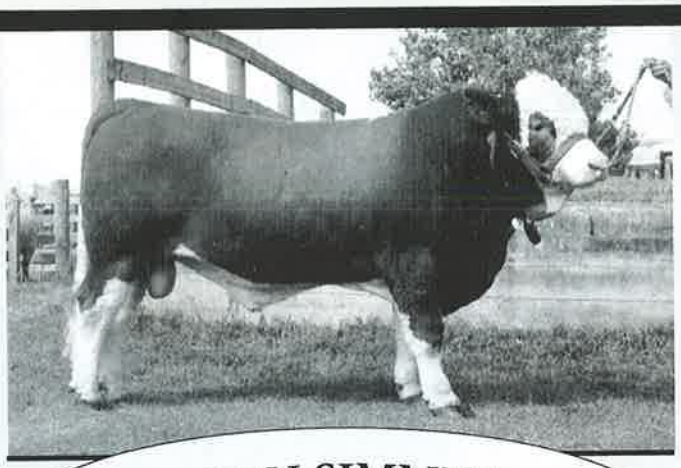

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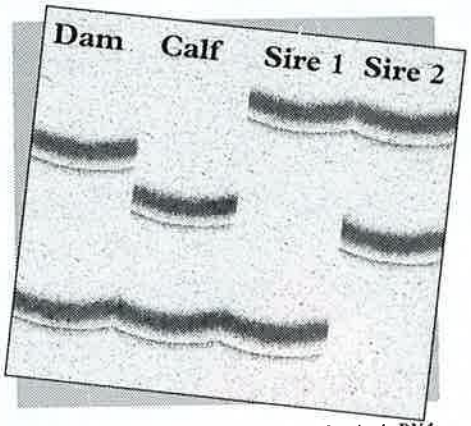

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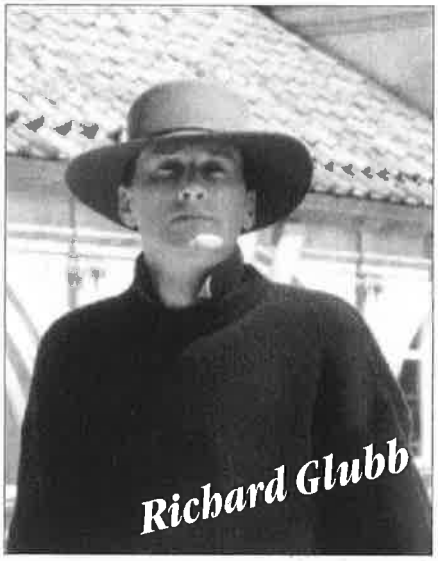
Editorial



As the Society this year celebrates its 25th anniversary, this magazine is a testament to the achievements of the Simmental Society and its members over the last twenty-five years, a period from when the Simmental breed was initially imported from Europe to now being, the third largest beef breed in New Zealand

During the last twenty-five years the Simmental has truly established its role in the New Zealand Beef Industry and its enduring influence in the crossbreeding programmes of thousands of commercial cattlemen who even in these depressed times are still experiencing a financial advantage with the Simmental. Even as we go to print the Simmental is topping weaner sales around the country. So obviously, some people are convinced that Simmentals are making money for them.

This truly 'World Breed' is found on all five continents from bush clad range conditions in Australia or Africa to the frozen plains of northern Canada serving as either a top terminal sire or profitable high milking dam. This versatile breed is found in all corners of New Zealand from the dry East Coast of the North Island to the steep bush-clad slopes of Fiordland.

During cyclical downturns in the rural economy, it is imperative that commercial cattleman have the access to technology in order to optimise their efficiency and operational productivity. The Simmental Cattle Breeders Society has always been at the cutting edge of innovation and has endeavoured to anticipate the future requirements of the commercial cattleman. The Society's wide genetic base, performance records on fourteen heritable traits, ranging from growth, reproductive, maternal and carcase 'estimated breeding values' (EBV's), with the sole intention of providing the commercial cattlemen with the selection tools that best meets his farming objectives.

The NZ Beef Industry probably represents the last bastion of the Agricultural sector that is yet to fully remunerate the commercial cattleman on production of a quality product. A recent initiative of the Society has been the emphasis on putting in place the framework required in order to identify these good lines of cattle that are capable of generating financial premiums from our niche export markets. The 'Certified Simmental' eartag scheme is such a system that creates an information loop between the seedstock producer and the beef finisher. This information system, has the ability to identify 'quality' carcases and shift the marketing of our beef from a commodity to a luxury. In order to achieve this, all cattle need to be eartagged and 'breed identified' correctly so as 'quality' can be measured and recorded. Furthermore, all processors need to adopt this available identification software technology, in order to objectively measure each individual carcase as our premium markets are demanding and provide the feedback to the beef finisher, so as he is able to keep improving his efficiency and productivity.

At a recent beef field day on 'Carcase Quality', the message given to the audience was that 'there is more variation within a breed than between breeds' in respect of carcase quality (meat colour, fat colour, pH and marbling etc), and that depending on the individuals breeding objective, commercial producers and finishers should focus on the quantity characteristics such as reproductive and growth rates.

Therefore, with a market that demands young lean beef, this versatile breed when used in the crossbreeding programme, is not only capable of producing a 'quality' carcase with an ability for faster growth rates under pasture fed conditions but includes several additional advantages in its armoury. This indeed is a true 'world breed'.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Society's office staff, Yvonne Kingsland and Jeanette Smith for their assistance in the smooth running of this Society.

Finally, I would like to thank all the people that have contributed to this year's magazine and for the advertising support we have received. Without either we would not have a magazine to publish.

General Manager

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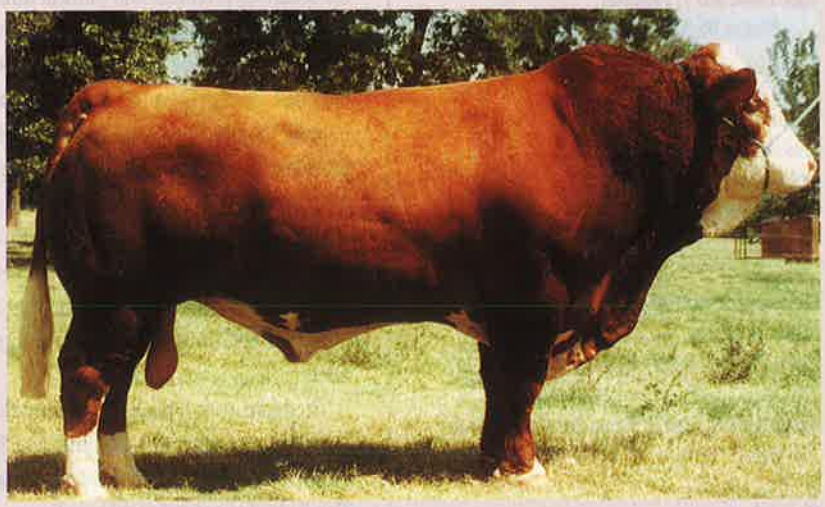

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Cattle Breeders Society,
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FROM THE President

As a breeder of Simmental cattle for the last twenty five years, that is, since the establishment of this society, it gives me a particular satisfaction to be its President in this, its 25th Jubilee year.

At the beginning of 1971 there were no Simmental cattle in NZ, and the beef scene was dominated by Hereford and Angus, supported by Beef Shorthorn. In a mere quarter of a century our breed has increased by such speed that it is now indisputably one of the big three. This has been confirmed recently by the issuing of postage stamps depicting Simmental as one of the three major beef breeds of the country. I might add that the other two breeds have been almost 100 years in the country.

This happy position was not achieved by mere chance. That Simmental is the world's most numerous temperate climate beef breed indicates that its multi-trait advantages were bound to succeed in New Zealand. The 54 million Simmentals worldwide also ensure that the breed maintains the genetic diversity that can be dangerously absent in the lesser breeds.

The collective wisdom of our earlier Councils, well documented elsewhere, has also played a significant part in the development of the breed in New Zealand. The strong and secure financial base which was built up in those early days has been a boon which has enabled the succeeding Councils to be rather more daring and innovative than may otherwise have been the case. The staff in our office in Christchurch have also played their important supportive task in carrying out the policy of those councils.

The strong pioneering sense, so near to the surface in New Zealanders, which brought our breed through those early times, continued down through the years and developed into the co-operative and mutually helpful society that has been our hallmark.

Now the challenge of the next quarter century is upon us, and at this time it is my duty to guide the Society into that period.

As we can learn from our past successes we can learn also from our mistakes, and I believe that we must use both to the advantage of the Society, which of course means the members.

For the last two years the whole beef industry has been in a particularly severe cyclical downturn. There are just now some signs, both local and international, that the upswing has begun. It is certainly to be hoped that that is the case.

However, your Society has, in the last few months, been preparing a strategy to ensure that Simmental increases its share of the market. We have, after much research and discussion, gained a lot of support in both the beef industry and the research organizations for our belief that there are no significant differences in meat quality between the accepted beef breeds of the country, in spite of claims to the contrary in certain, self interested sections of the industry. The differences are as great, if not greater, within a breed as across breeds, and are largely due to environmental factors. These matters are dealt with in much more detail in other sections of this publication, and other sources of information.

With that bogey firmly disposed of, we will concentrate on detailing and promoting the many advantages of using Simmental for the production of faster growing, higher yielding carcasses, together with the often available advantages of heterosis.

In the wider scheme of things, however, we must avoid being too parochial about our breed, and should remember that the beef industry as a whole must work together towards recovery from these disheartening times. It is important that all beef breeding societies promote a united approach to the orderly marketing of New Zealand beef as a quality product. That would help to place our product above the commodity market, which is extremely price sensitive, and into the luxury market, which is less so. This approach includes, of course, the possibility of exploiting so called 'niche' markets as opportunity allows.

And so you can see that your present elected councillors and office staff have been busy planning and implementing policy for the good of the breed, just as those successive councils and staff have throughout the 25 years of this Society's existence. I hope that we and subsequent councils and staff are as successful as those over past years have most certainly been.

I ask all members to forget any insularity and petty self interests that may exist within our membership, and set an example to the whole beef industry, as a united breed society, to work together for a beef industry renaissance.

John Scott - President

A High Performance Lifestyle

by - Kathryn Godsiff

The country at Port Albert is known as some of the wettest and most difficult winter country in the north, so the Sheriffs' winter management is crucial to the overall success of the operation.

To most people in the farming community some one with 40 acres cannot legitimately be called a farmer and must forever bear the title 'life -styler'. At Port Albert, 10 kilometres west of Wellsford, Allan and Vicky Sheriff's Alvic Farm shows that this is not always the case as they very definitely farm their 40 acre block and with a degree of expertise and return that would put many "real" farmers to shame.

Their system is as impressive for its simplicity as it is for its profitability. They run 40 mixed age cows, mated to a Simmental bull with all progeny sold at the Wellsford weaner fair. No big deal you might say but for "life-style farmers" to command one of the prime positions in the selling order and to consistently be one of the top selling lines is no mean feat.

Allan is a full time Operations manager for a local contracting company, so much of the farm work falls to Vicky and their two children, Christopher aged 11 and Helen aged 6. The cows are on daily shifts for all of the year and respond very positively to the routine of things. Proof of this is that Allan and Vicky have never had a dry cow in the 14 years they have run cattle.

The Sheriff's system is as impressive for its simplicity as it is for its profitability, they command one of the prime positions in the selling order in the local weaner fairs - and to consistently be one of the top selling lines is no mean feat.

Temperament is of prime importance and they are very happy with the Simmentals in this regard. They also like the growth rates of the Simmental calves and find they sell well at the weaner fairs. Each year 4 - 6 heifer calves are hand raised to be replacements into the herd. Friesian x Simmental are favoured although Friesian x Hereford are also used. The hand rearing ensure their replacements are always quiet and used to people. The heifers are mated to calve as 2 year olds.

The country at Port Albert is known as some of the wettest and most difficult winter country in the north so the Sheriffs' winter management is crucial to the overall success of the operation. As soon as it starts to get wet, which can be as early as late April the cows start their winter feeding routine which involves short, controlled breaks on pasture with the balance of the time spent on a limestone feeding pad where they get hay with molasses and causmag added. The feeding pad started of as a limestone quarry that was on the property when the Sheriffs bought it. Some further excavation work and the addition of feeding racks make it easily managed and means pasture damage through pugging is greatly reduced. Allan and Vicky's attention to detail is evident by their approach to calving management where once again routine is the order of the day. The cows closest to calving spend their nights on a sawdust calving pad where they can be checked regularly. After calving they are kept nearby for 24 hours to make sure the calf is feeding properly ensuring that all important good start to life. As Allan says "calving is crucial to our years success and we can't afford to lose a calf."

600 conventional bales of hay are made each year with 2 years supply on hand to cover the possibility of a really tough winter. Compared to winter the other seasons are a breeze. Fertiliser is applied annually with one third of the year's income spent on it.

This year will see 10 tonne of super and 40 tonne of lime spread over the whole farm with an additional 2 tonne of Muriate of potash on the hay paddocks.

One has to be impressed by the whole set up at Alvic Farm and can only wonder what this couple could do with a thousand acres.

25 Years in the Making

By Ian S. Johnstone

Secretary/Manager,
1974-1989

When one looks back twenty-five years you realise that it is quite a 'time span'. Some who established the Society and had early herds have sadly passed on - many have retired and those vigorous and fiery young men who tended to drive the system are now 'greying at the temples' and in maturity. Many people have joined the Society, bred cattle for a decade or so and moved on to other things - farming is and always has been a changing world and with change there is always progress and innovation - the Simmental world is no different.

In the early seventies when I joined the Simmental Society as the first full time Secretary (such then was the title) it was a 'heady world'. The Simmental breed had just appeared in the country and the amount of 'interest was mind boggling'! A very few purebred females were imported and the new technology of artificial insemination became internationally accepted about the same time. For those who could afford imported purebreds (and there were not many) they were in a strong position of herd establishment. The majority though, had the long haul of 'grading-up' using purebred imported semen over other breeds of females including dairy cows - producing half-breds, three-quarters, seven-eighths and at long last the much sort after purebred. In this system only the female calves could be registered and used for on breeding - the male calves were raised for beef or for crossbreeding in the commercial herds - many half-bred bulls in the early days were given away or lent to commercial breeders to illustrate the great attribute of hybrid vigour in crossbreeding for which the Simmental is renowned - little was at that stage known about this trait. The grading-up system was surely a long haul - ten years if you were lucky, to purebred status! Great was the excitement in the 'grading-up' herds as the first pures arrived. There were also disappointments. One breeder I know purchased an in-calf seven-eighth heifer who dropped a bull calf - great was the pride in this new purebred treasure. As was the system at time of sale with these cattle. The in-calf heifer was heavily insured at 'fall of the auctioneers hammer'; as was the cover heavy, so was the account which covered heifer and progeny for a specified period. Our breeder received the insurance account, 'blew a fuse ' at the amount asked and phoned the Stock Firm and cancelled the cover. At the time he had a good farm hand of tidy nature who found a length of wire in the calf paddock coiled it up and neatly hung it over a fence post. A week later the prize bull calf hung itself in the neat coil of wire!! All was not lost however. The stock firm who insured the cattle had not followed up the cancellation with the Insurance Company and the policy was still valid and they paid out!!

Thousands of cows of all breeds were A.I'd and there were some 'funny coloured' cattle about for some year. Half-breds were very variable and swung either way to sire or dam - three-quarters almost without fail were Simmental colours or at least easily identified as of Simmental blood.

As the intensive grading-up system progressed an increasing number of purebred females were imported (and a few purebred bulls) and the emerging veterinary skill of embryo (or fertilised egg) transfer (E.T.) entered the scene. To cater for this new concept of breed expansion Veterinarians and Technicians from overseas came into New Zealand to carry out the work and numbers of our own vets travelled overseas to extend their skills. As is known an average cow produces one calf a year - by embryo transfer she can produce a 'swarm' (if you were lucky!) In the early days it was a complicated business and 'centres' popped up all over the country. To carry out the E.T. work one had to have sufficient 'lost' cows (recipients) on hand to cater for the number of fertilised embryo taken from the purebred donor. Basically what took place was that the purebred cow was sent to the 'E.T. Centre' where the host cows (of any breed) were pre-assembled. The purebred was injected with a hormone that encouraged a multi-egg shed (normally one egg per cycle). When she 'cycled' - came in season - she was artificially inseminated and five or six days later anaesthetised, tipped upside down and surgically operated on to remove the fertilised embryo by liquid flushing of the ovaries. 'Eggs' were collected in a glass vessel and quickly transferred to a temperature and humidity controlled container for tempo-

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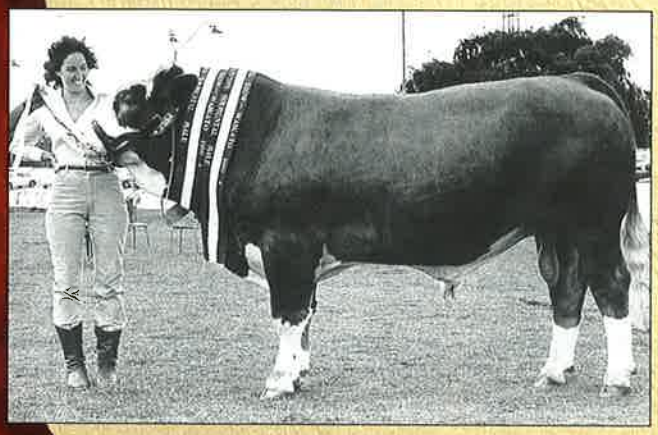

Rissington Admiral (Polled)

1996 GROUP BREEDPLAN EBVS

Gest	BW	200D	400D	600D	Milk	SS	EMA
-4.6*	-0.9*	+23	+46*	+55*	+1	+0.9	+3.9

* = *Trait Leader*

L.J.B. Jade (Horned)

1996 GROUP BREEDPLAN EBVS

Gest	BW	200D	400D	600D	Milk	SS	EMA
-3.1*	-0.3	+11	+14	+14	+5	-0.4	-0.6

* = *Trait Leader*

A 25th Anniversary of the Simmental breed in New Zealand is a good time to reflect on what we at Rissington have achieved over the last two decades. The two bulls above are probably the best way to illustrate our progress. We have lowered birth weight ensuring better calving ease, we have increased growth, scrotal size, and eye muscle area, while maintaining milk, and cow size. On top of all this, more than three quarters of our Simmental calves this year were polled. This year's bulls will have the best set of balanced EBVSs and bull weights we've ever had, so make sure you take a look at our bulls when considering your 1997 sire options for both natural service and A.I.

...two different decades!

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JEREMY ABSOLOM

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The number of pregnancies resulting from an E.T. could be variable and calves on the ground averaged to a high of 80%.

rary storage. The host cow had to be in the same heat cycle sequence which complicated the situation even further - host cows were numerous and on one large E.T. Centre there was a herd of some 500 cows and during one year 2,200 were purchased for this purpose!!! The host cows were checked daily for heat detection (normally sorted out by 'teaser' vasectomised bulls) - in itself a large undertaking.

The fertilised egg collection could be variable - from nil to up in the twenties. All 'eggs' were examined under a microscope and the viable ones were easily identified, having a visible 'pulse'. Invalid eggs were discarded. The host cows according to the number of 'eggs' available were assembled and surgically operated on to expose the ovaries into which the purebred egg would be implanted.

The number of pregnancies resulting from an E.T. could be variable and calves on the ground averaged to a high of 80%. Live embryos were a valuable commodity and I well remember visiting an E.T. Centre late one day as they were just finishing a transfer. Earlier they had done another transfer but one of the host cows who had been implanted with an egg had failed to fully come round from her anaesthetic and would obviously die - two vets remained at the Centre - they stood at the ready. I shot the unfortunate animal and they did a lightning caesarean to remove the still live embryo which was quickly placed in another host cow. She produced a live calf in due course - how about three mothers!! On another occasion at another Centre a purebred cow was anaesthetised for E.T., went 'down' and was placed on a trolley to be taken into the surgery. On arrival she suddenly leapt to her feet and fled through the office block causing the quickest evacuation of staff and scattering of furniture ever seen!

Surgical operations were very tough on animals and sadly in the early days quite a number of excellent imported purebred cows of all breeds were ruined - most were put through the process every 5/6 months - a large percentage produced few natural calves when they had finished their E.T. sessions. New technologies took over and now E.T. work is done non surgically with minimal risk as is the implantation of host cows. Most of the work is now done on the home farm.

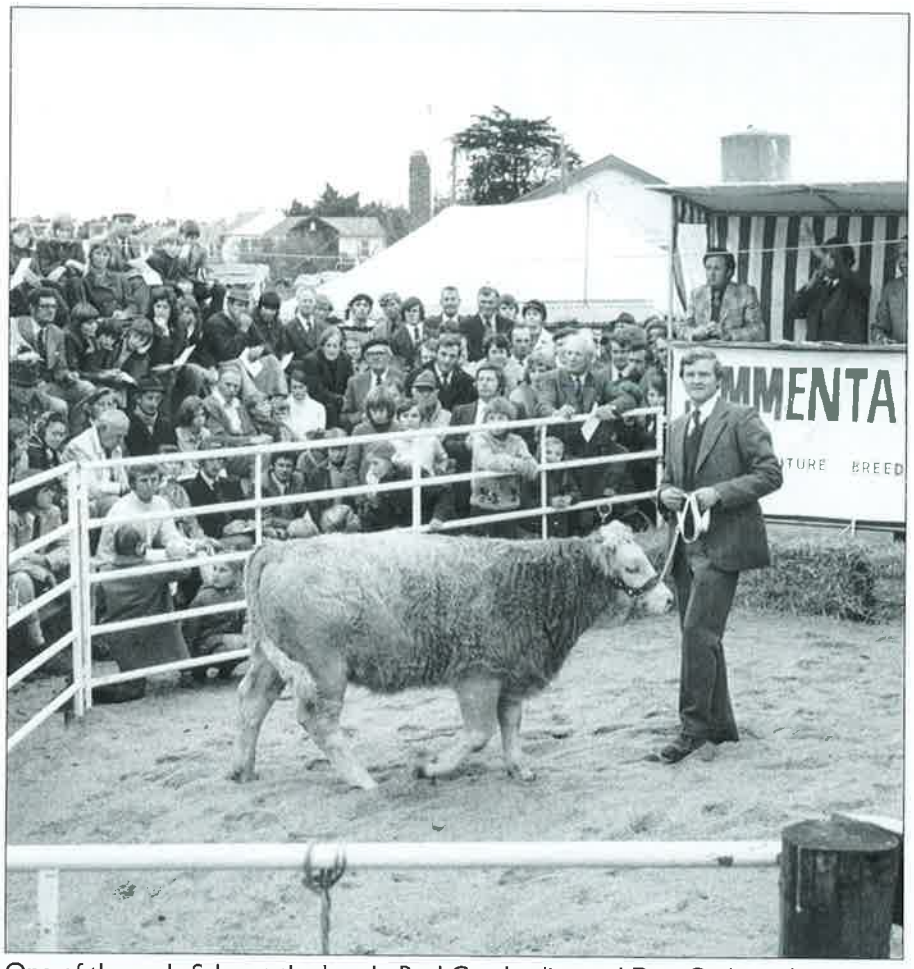
E.T. Centres were widespread throughout the country in the early race for purebred stock - some were extremely rough and primitive - any shed with adjacent yards was sufficient with little or no hygiene and minimal success rate! Others were clinical, purpose built and highly organised with top facilities, full office facilities, laboratories and staff. These latter Centres worked for some years producing some thousands of embryo calves to satisfy an insatiable demand from Australia and our own breeders. Both A.I. and E.T. gave the boost to our New Zealand herds (and Australia) to put the Societies where they are today in 1997.

Allied with the expansion of numbers by A.I. and E.T. purebred animals continued to be imported from overseas. Initially all imports had to come through U.K. In 1973 a small shipment of purebred females were direct imported from France. In 1974 a buying mission went to Germany and 36 purebred females were direct imported and shared equally between the Simmental Society and the New Zealand Government. (Lands & Survey). The competition for these 18 cattle was intense and applica

tions far exceeded supply. I well remember they day of 'ballot draw' for these cattle with breeders, lawyers, accountant and a uniformed policeman on hand. These females were purchased at 9 months of age and eventually emerged from quarantine in Wellington at 15 months at a unit cost of some $10,000 - from memory there on farm cost was around $NZ1,200 - 1,800 in Germany, an expensive exercise.

The progeny and bloodline from both the French and German imports is widely dispersed through our herds. Since then there have been a few 'bulk' imports of frozen fertilised embryo from overseas - one from Germany and one from Canada. Most of the progeny that grew from these imports were on sold to New Zealand buyers and Australians. For the Society office the activity was intense and at one stage we had a full time staff of five with one person doing nothing other than document exports to Australia. All systems were 'manual' (no computers) and I well recall having to hand sign over 4,000 halfbred registration certificates in the first year of registrations! They were all individually typed! Eventually we went onto a Government based computer which was going to 'solve our problems' - it didn't and the whole system collapsed causing chaos and a return to manual recording.

Today basically everything is done by computer and the Society has a modern and very well equipped office run by three people. Twenty-five years down the track the Simmental Society can be proud of its well established position in the beef cattle industry in New Zealand.



One of the early Sales at the Levels, Rod Cox leading and Don Graham the auctioneer.

Tokaweka Stud celebrates 25 years of breeding Simmentals, with the recognition that the establishment phase of the breed is complete numerical growth is no longer relevant in the stud sector, as only top quality stock are in demand.

Our theory is 'A herd's genetic strength can be assessed by the performance of its poorest cow.' Accordingly we retain only high EBV females free of conformation faults.

Progeny numbers are boosted by embryo transfer.

THE OUTLOOK IS ROSY AT TOKAWEKA

Cattle breeding enthusiasts are welcome

Contact
Jim and Gwen Houlbrooke
Waipu, Northland
Ph/Fax 09 432 0105

440
120
560

In 1996, eleven Tokaweka cattle were awarded trait leader status in a total of thirty traits. Several stud sires were produced, with the highlight being the sale of Tokaweka Dramatic to Springbrook stud for the years highest price of $20,500.

Waikato & Districts
Simmental Club

17th ANNUAL BULL SALE

Thursday 3rd July 1997, at 12 noon

FRANKTON SALEYARDS, HAMILTON

Approximately 45 Bulls will be offered for Sale

All bulls will have been selected and approved by the official selectors of the Waikato and Districts Simmental Club

With entries selected from a large number of bulls this long established, multi-vendor sale has become recognised as one of the leading Simmental sales in the country, both for commercial and stud buyers.

Stud bulls have been sold to leading herds in many parts of the country, and commercial buyers consider this to be the benchmark sale of the northern half of the North Island.

245
40
285

For further information and catalogues contact:

Darryl Turton
PO Box 508, Te Awamutu
Phone 07 871 8016 day
07 856 4713 evening
Fax 07 871 8089

or

Marj Strathern
88 Bellevue Road
RD4, Hamilton
Phone 07 827 5756
Fax 07 827 5756

Carcase Quality
Is there a Difference?

It is important to accept that quality will mean different things for different markets. However, in this instance we are only going to focus on the 'carcase quality' characteristics that our Japanese trading partners have stipulated i.e. pH of 5.8 or less, Meat colour of 6 or less and fat colour as white as possible.

Individual carcase tracking software is now available and is being successfully utilised in approximately six processing plants around the country. Accepting that correct breed identification pre-slaughter is still a concern, the availability of this technology represents a significant change in an industry that has experienced little change in recent years.

Although there is a genetic influence, environment also plays a large part in predetermining the strike rate for seafreight quality that cattle will achieve. Therefore, with correct breed identification, knowledge of the individual farm management techniques employed and this tracking software, the industry will be well on the way to identifying what influences 'carcase quality'. Information is the key to determining the formula responsible for consistently producing a quality product.

As the NZ Beef Industry moves away from the averaging system of remunerating farmers to a system that rewards commercial cattleman based on objectively measured carcase quality characteristics, the age old debate prevails of which breed or breed cross meets these quality characteristics as our premium markets require.

Below is a paraphrased account of a 'Review' of the 1994/95 Prime Steers /Heifers processed at AFFCO's Manawatu Beef Packers Plant'.

Please refer to the data in the attached tables.

N.B. (i) The average weight of all prime steers processed through Manawatu Beef Packers during the season ended 30/09/95 was 317.98kg.

(ii) The statistics on breeds and cross-breeds have been based on more than 250 Simmental steers processed.

(iii) The live weight of each animal is recorded immediately after it has been stunned and before any further processing takes place.

(iv) Most prime steers are processed on the morning shift which commences at 6 a.m. Incoming prime steers typically arrive, during the previous evening.

(v) Dressed weight to live weight ratios vary widely between individual animals of the same mob, depending a lot on the extent to which the animal has emptied out the contents of the digestive system since they were taken off pasture on the farm.

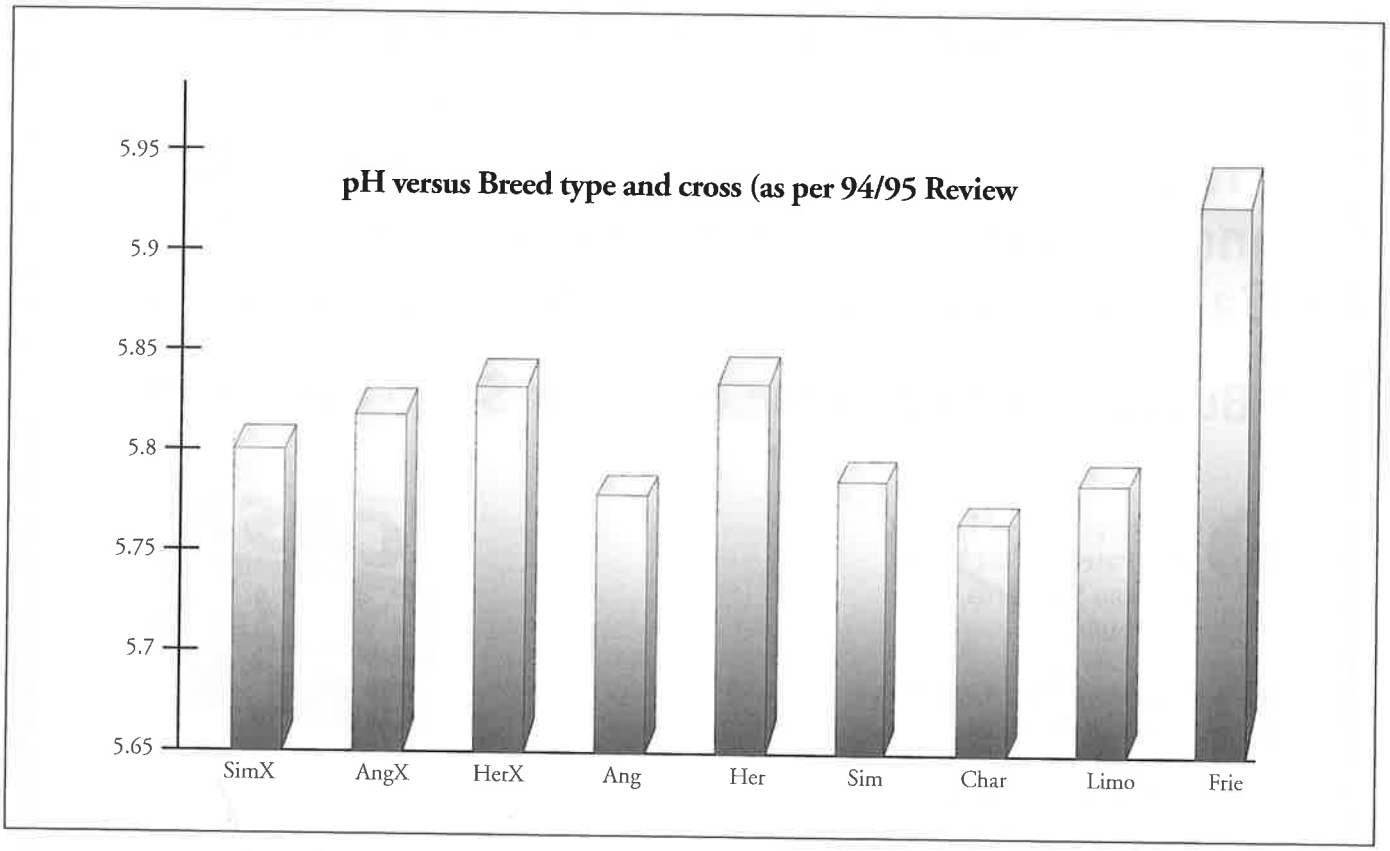
From the review it has been established that

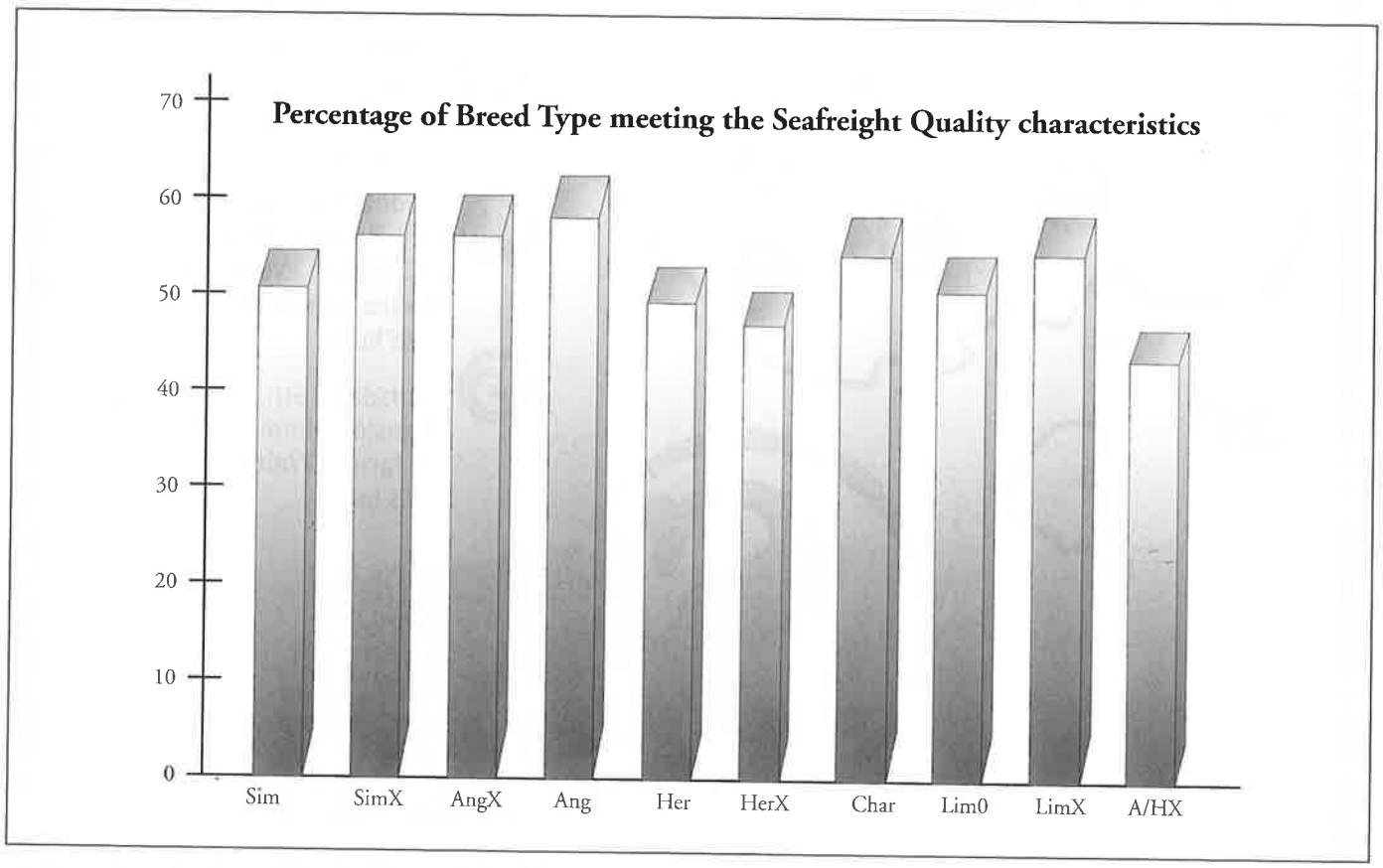
(a) Dressed Weight to Live Weight. From the attached

schedules the leaders were Charolais (57.43% average), Limousin (57.20%), Limousin Cross (57.09%), Simmentals (56.93%), Murray Greys (56.64%), and Simmental Cross (56.56%).

(b) Fat Depth: (Average depth of subcutaneous fat as measured over the twelfth rib.)
As expected the European beef breeds and their respective crosses ranged in 'fat depth' from an average of 4.6mm (Charolais) to 5.6mm (Simmental).
Other British beef breeds and their crosses ranged from 7.2mm to 8.4mm (average).

(c) Fat Scores: The lower the score the whiter the fat colour. The scores were correlated for grassfed prime steers.The export chiller trade prefers a score of less than 5.0.
Fat colour is very much dependent on type of feed and climate, i.e. the following scores are a reflection of the relatively dry weather patterns experienced over the spring/summer months in much of the plants catchment.





FOR SALE

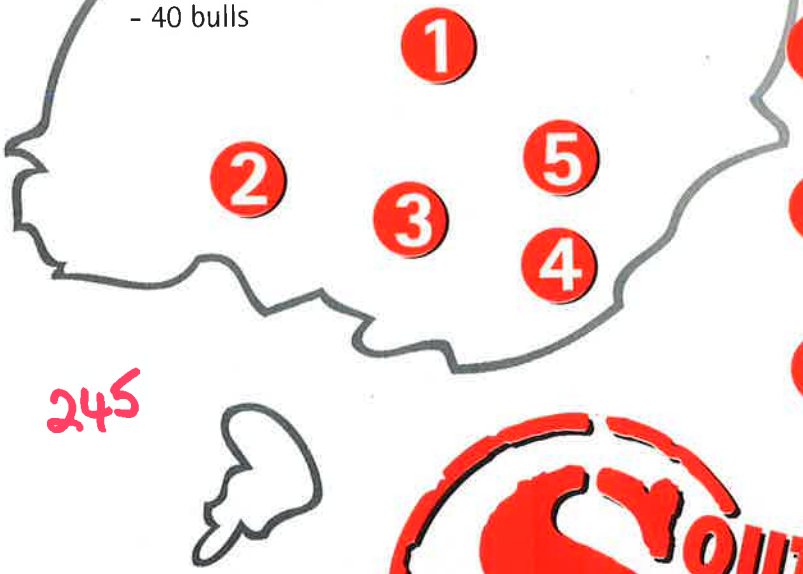
135 R2 registered Simmental bulls – stud and commercial. Pre-sale inspection invited Call your agent or the vendors listed below.

- **Buy one and be in the draw for $500 cash back!**

CASH $500 BACK

1. Monday 12th - 11.00am,
H.D. Paterson 'Ida Valley'
Omakau Saleyards
- 15 bulls

2. Tuesday 13th - 1.30pm
'Triple 'S' Bull Sale
R. Cockburn 'Prospect'
W. Rouse 'East Dome'
D. Dickie 'Windy Ridge'
Castlerock Saleyards
- 40 bulls



3. Wednesday 14th - 10.00am
Southern Simmental Sale,
Charlton Saleyards
- 30 bulls

4. Wednesday 14th - 2.00pm
W.T. Burgess 'Beresford'
L.K. McLay 'Westview'
Owaka Saleyards
- 26 bulls

5. Thursday 15th - 1.30pm
Glenside Simmentals
on farm - Waitahuna
- 25 bulls

245

SOUTHERN SIMMENTAL SALES WEEK
12TH - 15TH MAY

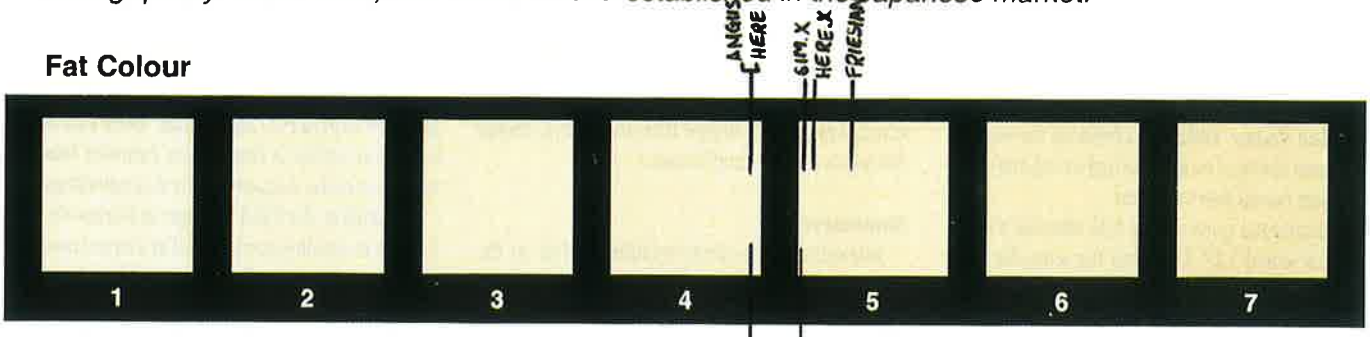
Carcase Quality - *Is there a Difference?*

CHILLER ASSESSMENTS

Fat Colour, Meat colour, pH Level & Marbling

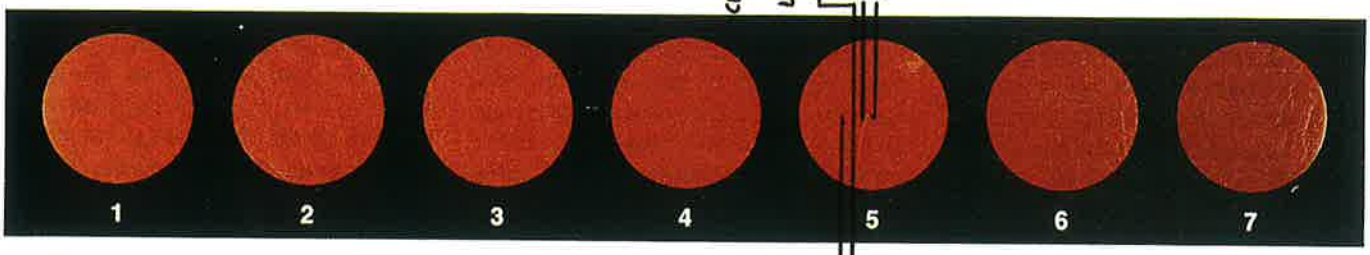
These new measurements have been introduced at Manawatu Beef Packers for the benefit of all sectors of the industry. They cover characteristics of prime beef that affect the appearance and eating quality of the meat, and follow criteria established in the Japanese market.

Fat Colour



The measurement is done by way of a visual comparison to standards ranging from 1 (pure white) through to 7 (creamy yellow). In the Japanese market, pure white coloured fat is rated as the most desirable colour.

Meat Colour

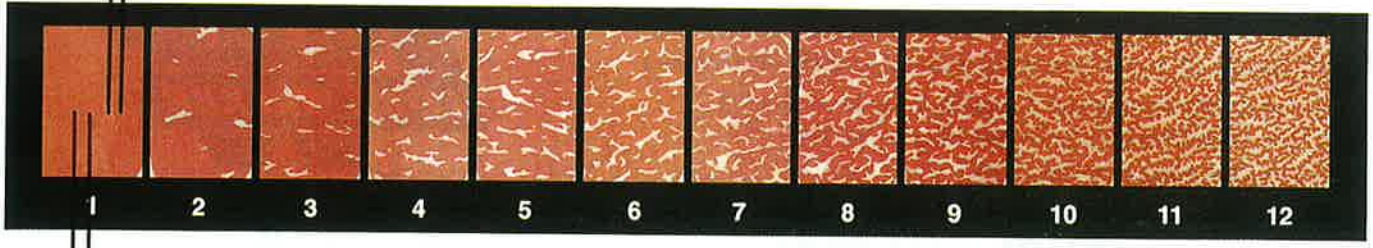


Visual comparison to standards ranging from 1 (pink) to 7 (dark maroon) with lighter coloured meat being sought by the Japanese. In general, the level should not exceed 6 to meet recognised end consumer requirements.

pH Level

Electronic reading of the acidic balance of the muscle. A pH of below 5.8 indicates meat which has developed sufficient acidity within the muscle after rigor mortis to prevent the subsequent growth of spoilage bacteria on vacuum packaged cuts taken from that muscle.

Degree of Marbling



Visual comparison on the deposition of fat within the muscle to standards ranging from 1 (devoid of marbling) to 12 (extensive marbling typical of the highest quality Japanese domestic Wagyu cattle).

Carcase Quality
Is there a Difference?

The Angus and Angus crosses, in absolute terms achieved lower scores, i.e. 4.88 and 4.93 respectively, whereas the Simmental breed and Simmental crosses scored 5.07 and 5.03
However, with reference to the colour chart you will note that there is very little difference in actual colour.

(d) Meat Colour: Differences between the average meat colour of most of the higher volume prime steer breeds were minimal.
Simmental cross scored 5.26 whereas the Angus scored 5.27. The lower the score the more acceptable the meat is to the Japanese market. In general, the level should not exceed 6 to meet recognised end consumer requirements.

(e) Average pH: (recorded the next day after slaughter)
pH is very much dependent on farm management practices, such as handling cattle quietly, not disturbing their social groupings in the weeks leading up to processing , paying careful detail to their nutrition and watering and generally avoiding all potential sources of stress.

The review established that there was wider variation in average pH for individual suppliers than there was for individual breed groups.

Overall, in accordance for the export chiller trade the pH specification should be below 5.8

Seafreight Quality Strike rate:

The review established in terms of the overall strike rate for quality, a percentage of the kill for each breed class based on meat colour, fat colour and pH, that the Simmental cross achieved a standard similar to the Angus cross, that was only 4% less than the Angus.

The Limousin cross achieved a strike rate of 63.8% which was actually higher than the Angus, despite the Angus promotional claims.

Summary:

Interestingly, the survey established that on the 'meat quality' aspects that there was very little difference between the Simmental cross, the Angus and all the other beef breeds.

Furthermore, according to this review, all the beef breeds are capable of meeting the carcase quality characteristics.

Note that no indication was given as to the other breed involved in the Angus cross. Is this an identification problem? Here lies the advantage of the Certified Simmental eartag scheme which will help to correctly identify the major advantages of the Simmental in the cross breeding programme coupled with demonstrating the important influence of the Simmental in producing carcases that achieve a significant 'seafreight quality strike rate', in order to meet the requirements of our premium export markets.

The obvious advantage according to the survey, is the additional saleable meat generated from the Simmental crosses in comparison to the British beef breeds, coupled with the faster on farm growth rates, the muscling ability and the fact that EBV's are now being generated for these carcase traits.

Furthermore, Doug Lineham, the Client Services Manager with AFFCO agreed that *"there was more variation within a breed than between breeds"* in respect of the carcase quality characteristics.

In addition, the Plant Manager at Manawatu Beef Packers in Fielding commented at a recent meeting with some Simmental Society representatives that *"the breed was unimportant. If the carcase fulfilled the carcase quality specifications as required by our Japanese export markets, it could be exported to Japan".*

Here lies the challenge for the future. Eartagging is to measure and to record. Only when the entire beef industry accepts that there is more variation in a breed than between breeds coupled with all processors adopting the available carcase tracking software technology in their plants, will we be able to become less reliant on the commodity markets and objectively identify and measure each individual carcase and channel it into these higher premium niche markets.

NO Freeloaders On Beresford Farm In South Otago

Running a sheep, beef and stud cattle operation alone on 1000ha does not allow Warren and Stephanie Burgess any room for non-producers. All livestock is expected to perform with those failing to reach set bench marks, culled.

Owaka farmer Warren Burgess, practices the policy that "all production at Beresford is based on the target of having a calf ready at calf sale time."

Warren and Stephanie, in partnership with Warren's mother Heather, farm the 1000ha (870ha effective) Beresford property near Owaka in South Otago.

They carry 4000 Romney and Romney-Border Leicester cross ewes, 1000 hoggets, 100 stud Simmental cows, 240 Hereford and Hereford-Simmental cross cows, 60 replacement heifers and 20 stud bulls.

Beresford is a rolling to steep hill country property ranging from 45m above to sea level to 500m.

Most of the property was carved and developed out of the Catlins bush since the 1950's.

Prime and store stock are produced from the farm in a mix designed for management. Warren said about 2000 lambs (about half the flock) are sold store and the other half prime, at weights averaging between 15.5kg and 16kg.

The cattle operation is geared up to supply autumn calf sales and to breed bulls. Each March between 230 and 250 steer and non-replacement heifer calves are sold at the Owaka sale. " The Owaka calf sale is one of the strong-holds of exotic calf sales in the South Island with calves renowned for their shifting ability" he said. Prices in the last three years reflect that and also mirror the fortunes of the beef industry.

In 1994 Warren averaged $510 for his steers and heifers, in 1995 $345 and 1996 $245.

"This country lends itself to cattle" he said.

Summer rains are reliable, providing a flush of grass and cattle are needed to control surplus pasture growth. The March calf sales are also an important benchmark for the stud operation. All cattle on the property have to be in a saleable condition come calf sale time.

"Any stud cow not producing a calf up to calf sale quality will be culled. They are bred to be good not fed to be good" he says. All commercial cows are mated to Simmental bulls and yearling heifers to Murray Grey bulls. Warren favours the Simmental-Hereford cross cow for its hybrid vigour and ability to handle the wet Catlins winters. A Herd of 130 Hereford cows are kept to produce the half-bred cows for his system. "The results speak for themselves, you get the boost in size," he said.

In the last 10 to 12 years crossbreeding in hand with slicker management and other improvements have increased calf weaned per cow mated by 30 to 40% and reduced the number of calves at the bottom end. His top steers are being weaned at about 340kg, stud bulls at 400kg, top crossbred heifers at up to 300kg and stud heifers at up to 340kg.

"The way the beef industry is there is no point in carrying poor performers" he said.

Crossbreeding has a strong hold in the Catlins area, says Warren. "The Catlins is noted as being a strong area for Simmental cross cattle that will shift with a large proportion hung up prior to the second winter," he said.

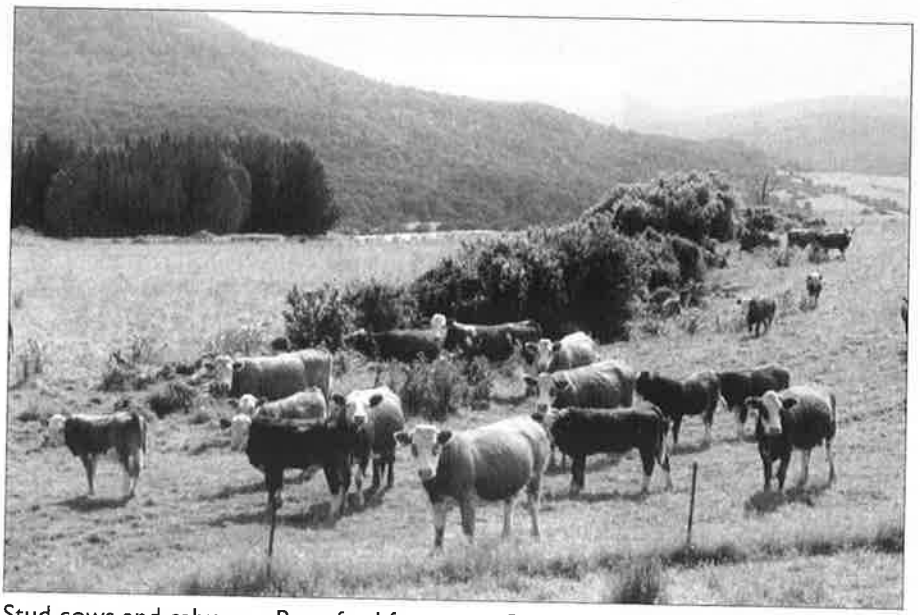
Murray Grey bulls are run with heifers for six weeks from November 1 and Simmental bulls with mixed aged cows from the same date until mid January. Warren said he does not weigh his yearling heifers but they are managed to be on a rising plane of condition when the bulls go out. Cows and heifers are scanned after weaning in March and dries are culled.

"There are no carry over cows, I'd sooner breed 10 extra heifers into the system than carry free-loaders," he said.

The system appears to be working with Warren having a 95% conception rate among his heifers.

The cows start putting on condition for the winter in the months prior to March weaning. After weaning the cows are used to clean up paddocks until the paddocks become too wet, usually in early May. Several sacrificed burnt bush blocks have been kept for the cows where they will spend the next three months until just before calving. The only hay they will see is when the weather is at its worst.

"Basically they are carrying their hay on their back so the cows can afford to lose 30 or 40 kgs over the winter" he said. At the start of August the cows go into saved blocks and start calving from the middle of August. Yearling heifers are wintered off the



Stud cows and calves on Beresford farm near Owaka in South Otago.

Camel Wheal Dundee
1996 National Bull Sale
Purchased by
Dunshaughlin
Simmental Stud

Camel Wheal
Mel Meninga
1996 National Bull Sale
Purchased by Levels
Simmental Stud

Camel Wheal Simmentals

440

BRIAN & JANET HOLLAND

149 HAMURANA ROAD ▪ RD2 ▪ ROTORUA
PHONE 07 357 4802 ▪ MOBILE 025 355 656

"Visitors always welcome"

property on grass in July and August, a system Warren said is the most cost effective he has found.

"I've tried a lot of wintering systems and it is just as cost effective to graze heifers off for two months as it is to make silage or feed baleage," he said. For the rest of the year the heifers are rotated as feed permits. Stud bulls are grazed on swedes for two months over winter then back on grass. Warren aims to have the bulls reach a May sale day average weight of 750kgs. The growing season at Beresford runs from November to mid April and Warren said winter numbers have to be reached by mid April. To guarantee that he sells 2000(about half) of his lambs as store and also grows about 30ha of swedes and kale to winter the bulls, hoggets and some of his ewes. As well he makes between 400 and 500 bales of baleage and hay. Winters are wet with an average annual rainfall of between 1.4m and 1.5m and Warren said grass growth can be slow up to Christmas which can affect stock.

The Beresford stud was established in 1983 to breed bulls for the property but it soon blossomed and now they sell about 15 bulls a year privately and at the annual Owaka Combined Bull Sale. He is aiming to produce high performing easy care cattle which he describes as middle of the road type animals. He avoids any extreme bloodlines.

The Stud is based on cattle bred on the property and females bought from various studs, particularly the Freewalk herd of Peter Bradley from South Canterbury and Lachie McLachlan's Helensbrook stud which was based at Milton. He intends keeping his stud herd at about 100 cows, but concentrating on improving their performance.

All Simmental cross cattle on the property are identified with certified Simmental ear tags. Richard Glubb, the general manager of the Simmental Cattle Breeders Society said, "the certified Simmental identification system will potentially allow breeders to receive feedback from meat works on the carcass confirmation of their bloodlines."

"All production at Beresford is based on the target of having a calf ready at calf sale time," he said.

All Simmental cross cattle on the property are identified with certified Simmental eartags.

Richard Glubb, the general manager of the Simmental Cattle Breeders Society said the certified Simmental identification system will potentially allow breeders to receive feedback from meat works on the carcass confirmation of their bloodlines. This information will complement the 13 traits already traced in the society's Genetic Group Breed Plan. As the beef industry moves towards paying on carcass quality and yield, identifying sires that leave superior carcasses will be more important and beneficial to breeders, he said. Mr Glubb said a recent survey by AFFCO's Manawatu Beef packers of steers and heifers killed in the 1994-95 season dispelled the myth that one breed was better than another. It showed Simmental and Simmental cross cattle were capable of producing quality carcases that meet export specifications and that there was more variation within a breed than between breeds.

For meat quality the survey found there was little difference between Simmental cross, Angus and other beef breeds. Mr Glubb said the certified Simmental system was also important to allow breeders to identify cattle that have authentic Simmental breeding and therefore the advantages of producing more saleable meat, fast growth rates and muscling ability.

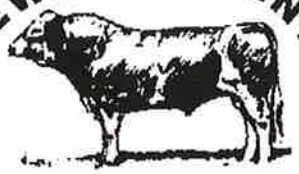
Waikato & Districts Simmental Cattle Breeders

Camel Wheal Simmentals

BRIAN & JANET HOLLAND

Hamurana Road, R.D.2, Rotorua
Phone 07-357-4802

Karewa Simmentals



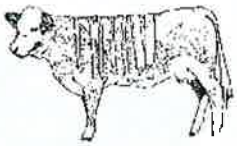
Enquiries & Inspections Always Welcome

John & Lorraine McNaughten

RD1, Pokeno
Phone (09) 232-5642

Singing Hills Simmentals

Dot & Barry Anderson



Te Kawa R.D. 3
Te Awamutu
Phone 07-871 1824

Ivan & Marj Strathern,

Strathair Simmentals,

Bellevue Park
Bellevue Road, RD 4
Hamilton, New Zealand
Ph 64-7-829 5756
Fax 64-7-829 5759

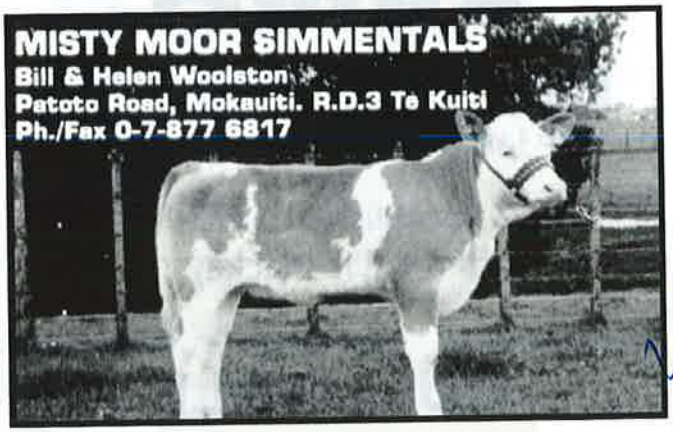
DOUBLE AA SIMMENTALS

Abe & Sally Aukaha

Pukehina Beach
PO Box 530
Te Puke
New Zealand
Phone: (07) 533-3073
Fax: (07) 533-3073
Mobile: (025) 993-516

MISTY MOOR SIMMENTALS

Bill & Helen Wooleston
Petoto Road, Mokauiti. R.D.3 Te Kuiti
Ph./Fax 0-7-877 6817



Victoria Park Simmentals

Darryl Turton
607 Cambridge Road
RD3 Hamilton
Phone (07) 856 4713
Bus Phone (07) 871 8016

215
80
295

Hampton Downs Simmental

Registered Herd Nr 1496

Hampton Downs Road
RD 2
Te Kauwhata
New Zealand
Phone/Fax 64-7-826 3195

BARRY POPE
Stud Master

World Simmental Congress 1996

The Congress held in Pretoria, South Africa was attended by a small contingent from New Zealand.

by Jim Houlbrooke

Nearly 24 hours after departing Auckland we arrived in Jo-burgh and met with delegates from Australia, Canada and America. This group, under the capable leadership of Peter and Robyn Speers travelled together for the duration of the Congress and a great camaraderie soon built up with new friendships formed and some old ones renewed.

An early morning flight on an ancient DC3 converted cargo plane to Windhoek in Namibia provided our first daylight impressions of a strange and exciting continent.

Several years of drought conditions created a very parched appearance to most areas we visited in South Africa, and even more extreme in Namibia with its vast area of desert and arid farmland.

We were surprised by the good condition of the cattle generally as well as the great variety of game, both in the wild and also under a semi managed regime on the farms. Giraffes seem able to survive by nibbling a few leaves off the numerous thorn bushes while Zebras are always sleek and fat even in the worst areas. The first Simmental cattle were imported over 100 years ago, and have been used very successfully to upgrade the native cattle, being the only *Bos Taurus* breed to handle the harsh conditions.

The cattle breeders we met in Namibia gained our respect for their ability to survive and prosper under such adverse conditions. One property we visited in Northern Namibia particularly impressed me. To remain viable after years of drought, low product prices, coping with serious diseases and sporadic cattle poaching, the owner has developed a system of management to suit his own circumstances. The theme is to farm in harmony with nature, using no chemicals or fertilisers and making as little impact as possible on the ecology. Costs are kept to a minimum, by producing nearly all requirements on farm. Even stock drenches are home brews which they claim to be very cheap and effective. A variety of animals such as Camels, donkeys, Egyptian sheep, Arab horses etc are farmed profitably and as on most properties, wild game is managed to advantage.

After a visit to a game park, where we simply had to park by a water hole to see all the animals come in to drink, we left Namibia aboard our trusty DC3 (nearly as old as me, I discovered!) and flew to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe. A sunset cruise on the Zambese river was another chance to see the ever present wild life notably elephants, hippos and crocs along the banks and small herds of impala everywhere including the road verges and even raiding private gardens.

A long coach trip South to Pretoria saw us settled for several days of Convention formalities and the Pretoria Show. Billed as the largest Simmental Show in the World ever! We saw seventy breeders parade over eight hundred Simmentals before a panel of four judges over three days. What a spectacle!

The cattle were more uniform in conformation than I have seen elsewhere, probably as a result of a stringent inspection regime which is compulsory prior to registration. The favoured colour is solid

World Simmental Congress 1996 cont.

red with well covered eyes and fine coat hair. Although of pure German descent, a definite South African type had evolved with well muscled medium frame bodies on remarkable sound feet and legs. Straight hocks were a rarity, though a few tended to be slightly sickled.

In general I thought they were a little lighter in the bone than the German type, but more mobile with better neck and head setting, providing improved outlook.

All breeding cows wore a Simdex tag containing a fertility index pertaining to their breeding record. This was always referred to by the judges. The bull sale with an entry of 180 animals provided a great opportunity to select a top herd sire. Except for a few star lots prices were fairly depressed, probably a reflection on the local economy.

One trip of note was a visit to the Rene Research Station where an interesting study is being made on the conversion ratio of feed to carcase weight in individual animals of various breeds. Biggest doesn't always eat most!

After the Congress and Show seven coach loads of delegates were transported to Kruger Park for a couple of days of game drives. A day spent in the township of Saweto by two New Zealand couples completed a wonderful tour. Our fellow passengers on the plane home were mostly rugby supporters after the Test series and strangely they appeared even more fatigued than we were.

The World Simmental Congress held in Pretoria, South Africa was attended by a small contingent from New Zealand.

WAI-ITI SIMMENTAL STUD

The first 10 years

Stud Sire Purchasers Roll of Honour

Congratulations to the following leading studs and thank you for your confidence in our breeding programmes

Ailsa Farm Alistair Milne Kimbolton
Beresford Warren Burgess Owaka
Avon Park David Carter Lyttleton
Rockvale Peter Cowley New Plymouth
Glenside McCorkindale Family Lawerence
Herrington Jamie Proude Ohakune
Pouriwai Gerald Kemp Gisborne
Levels Simon Cox Albury
Cawder Bill McBeth Maruia
Brocade Hugh McIntyre Fielding
Moneymore Martin Trust Nelson
Nga Tawa Russel Priest Fielding
Thurston Andrew Ritchie Blenhiem
East Dome Woody Rouse Lumsden
Te Raumauka Peter Scoott Otorohanga
Suffock Fields Mike Coupe Masterton
Te Kouka Tony Plummer Dannevirke
Raetihi Ken Rob Raetihi
Rotomara John Hammond Cambridge
Makerikeri Penny Wright Rangiora
Helensbook Lachie McLachlan
Horoeka A.A.t. Hall Dannevirke
Ohariu David Patterson Johnstoneville
Springbrook Colin Patterson Leeston

Glen Anthony Sgt. Pepper *sired 11 bull calves when used as a yearling they ALL come up for sale this year including 3 to be entered in the 1997 National bull sale*

BREEDPLAN figures
Bwt +3.8(86%) 200Dwt +23(78%) 400Dwt +40(71%)
600Dwt +44(72%) Milk +5(36%) MV +8(53%)

PROGNEY Success

Royal Show	Grand Champion Simmental Bull
	Grand Champion Simmental Female
	Supreme Simmental Exibit
Masterton Show	Junior Champion Simmental
	Supreme Simmental Exibit
	Champion Interbreed Yearling Heifer
	Champion Inter breed Bull calf

The next 10 years

NEW A.I. SIRE
Great Guns Moses
Calves Due
August 1997
Low Birth
High
Performance
Pure Fleckvieh

Wai-iti
South
Pole

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Annual Bull Sale 13th June 1997

20 Simmental Bulls
15 Gelbvieh Bulls
Private Sale ... A Selection of quality in-calf females
Plus...Embryos from our best donor cows

Maungaraki Cattle Company

Peter & Sue McWilliam
Gladstone, Masterton
Phone (06) 372 7724
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Pouriwai Simmentals

TB ACCREDITED

POURIWAI EMPEROR AE21

Is for Sale at the Combined Gisborne Exotic Sale, Matawhero on May 29th

Sire: Ris Barnaby 49/AB639
Dam: Pouriwai AY948

Interim EBV's

	BW	200 Milk	200 Day	400 Day	600 Day
	+2.9	+10	+27	+47	+55
ACC	77%	42%	71%	66%	66%

POURIWAI EMPIRE AE4

Is for Sale at the Combined Gisborne Exotic Sale, Matawhero on May 29th

Sire: Ris Barnaby 49/AB639
Dam: Pouriwai AB274

Interim EBV's

	BW	200 Milk	200 Day	400 Day	600 Day
	+1.7	+8	+14	+25	+29
ACC	47%	23%	46%	43%	42%

POURIWAI EMBASSY AE16

Is for Sale at the Combined Gisborne Exotic Sale, Matawhero on May 29th

Sire: Ris Barnaby 49 AB639
Dam: Pouriwai AA 182

Interim EBV's

	BW	200 Milk	200 Day	400 Day	600 Day
	+2.5	+8	+24	+38	+49
ACC	76%	40%	70%	65%	65%

POURIWAI AE 26
(POLLED)

IS FOR SALE AT THE COMBINED GISBORNE EXOTIC SALE, MATAWHERO ON MAY 29TH

Sire: Glenside Bart 1312 AB 17
Dam: Pouriwai AB 230

Interim EBV's

	BW	200 Milk	200 Day	400 Day	600 Day
	+3.5	+2	+23	+37	+43
ACC	75%	41%	70%	64%	64%

970
280
1250

POURIWAI AE66

IS FOR SALE AT THE COMBINED GISBORNE EXOTIC SALE, MATAWHERO ON MAY 29TH

Sire: Ris Barnaby 49 AB639
Dam: Pouriwai AB 271

Interim EBV's

	BW	200 Milk	200 Day	400 Day	600 Day
	+3.1	+6	+28	+44	+51
ACC	76%	40%	70%	65%	65%

POURIWAI
SIMMENTALS
Gerald Kemp
Ph (06) 867 0867
Fax (06) 867 7443
Neville Higgins
Ph (06) 867 0821

TRIPLE S SIMMENTALS

4th Annual Bull Sale
40 Selected Bulls

13th May, 1997
1.30pm
Castlerock, Lumsden

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SOUTHERN SIMMENTAL SALES WEEK

MONEYMORE AFTER SHOCK
purchased at National Sale
June 1996

GROUP OF THIS YEARS' SALE BULLS
Top selection of progeny by Moneymore Earthquake

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R.D.2
Te Anau
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East Dome
Woody & Eppi Rouse
Five Rivers, 3 R.D.
Lumsden
Tel/Fax. (03) 248 7621

Windy Ridge
David & Lynne Dickie
Five Rivers, 3 R.D.
Lumsden
Tel/Fax. (03) 248 7559

MARAEKOWHAI STATION

Carrying both European and British Bred Cattle with Success under difficult situations

by Anne Bell

Razor backed, slip scarred papa country, along with steep hill country is the home to Maraekowhai Station in the heart of the King Country.

The 5696 hectares (14,000 acres) Tokirima based station, 30 minutes west of Taumaranui, in two blocks is in the 80 inches of rainfall area, so all stock must be able to take the wet conditions.

And under these harsh conditions Simmentals and the traditional Angus are both proving their value one as a terminal sire, the other as the base unit.

Maraekowhai is a now a company owned by three shareholders, (two absentee) and general manager Kevin Harper and his wife Jennie, who is company secretary.

The company bought the 2428ha (6000 acre) homestead base, Maraekowhai in 1989 and the Harpers started work there in March 1990 and for them it was the start of a huge and exciting project. In 1993 another block, Otuiti, was purchased, and last year they bought Koiro, and these two farms are run as one unit with the home block Maraekowhai run separately. Also Kevin has a block of gentler land of 303ha (750 acres) and although it adjoins Otuiti it is used as finishing country for the Maraekowhai cattle.

Approximately 800 cows are run on each farm, with all Angus on Maraekowhai. On the other block "you name the colour it's there," and with the exception of the heifers (Angus from Maraekowhai which are put to an Angus bull), the cows there go to Simmental bulls.

Kevin says the policy is to calve at three years, " because we are stocked up and pushing we can't grow on our heifers to calve as two's."

They don't breed from any Simmental cross heifers, just using the Simmentals as purely a terminal cross. "I don't see then as a maternal breed, I see them just as a terminal breed on hill country," Kevin says.

And this philosophy is working as they don't sell any store cattle, every thing is finished.

This year 2,000 cows including about 350 heifers will go to the bull.

Along with the cattle, 21,000 ewes are put to the ram, the flock is basically Romney but a Perendale ram is being put over these. All lambs are finished "but if the season is a bit dry and store lamb prices are pretty good we will sell some, but the aim is to finish everything with some of the tail enders taken through to the spring."

As well there is 1100 ha (2500 acres) fenced for deer, carrying 1500 red hinds. Wapiti bulls are used on the bigger hinds as terminal sires. The whole deer herd is run on steep hill country and the progeny are finished as spikers. Kevin admits too not being so keen on the deer, but the return from them has been good.

Although the country slips the scars regrass and they over sow at times when top dressing. The two properties get 1,500 tonne of straight super with a five percent mix of sulphur and selenium each year.

He says Maraekowhai being steep papa suits the Angus cattle, Otuiti/Koiro is easier with Mairoa ash soil but it also runs into papa hill country as well. The winters are long wet and muddy particularly on the home station.

The main growth season is Christmas until May, if they have a warm late autumn there can be still growth in June. Although the country is steep, they are only 300 feet above sea level as the two properties border the Wanganui and Ohura Rivers for about 15 kilometres, (the one draw back with the river boundaries is the fog.)

A staff of 13 works the two places, Wayne Hill manages the Otuiti/Koiro block with Kevin as overseer. The station is one of the few still to run a cookhouse for single staff. Whilst staffed separately the two properties do work between each other if necessary.

And although in a TB endemic zone (the whole of the Ruapehu District is) the herd is TB accredited.

Calving and lambing dates pivot on September 10. On both farms it is necessary to save autumn feed, The cows are worked on the Maraekowhai hills as close to calving as possible, and then spread and set stocked . On the top block they are calved behind an electric fence and fed baleage, (this year 800 big squares were made on the property). Once calved they are shedded out to saved pasture.

They don't do a lambing beat, the ewes are set stocked, "because of the hills we spend more time with the cows".

The country is strictly horse terrain and they breed their own.

Three years ago an Angus stud, run under commercial conditions, was established on Maraekowhai based on Lairdvale blood lines and small herd from the Maneroo stud," then we have added bits and pieces to it. "They are using a son of Atahua Legacy and as well have AI'd GT Maximum and Waimata 689. Kevin is delighted with his Legacy bull and has weaned the first crop of calves by him now.

The stud was started because of the need for 10 to 15 bulls a year- "we want quality bulls and it's been pretty hard going to get the quality and the numbers." They have purchased mainly Lairdvale and Springdale and last year they went to Te Mania.

Kevin says the stud was something he was keen on doing and got the opportunity. They are registering all the progeny, "we are doing the job properly, we will sell the odd bull once the numbers are there, to make sure we are on the right track and getting some feed back. We don't want to get tied up in what we are doing and get tunnel vision."

MARAEKOWHAI STATION cont...

Then came the Simmental stud, with cows purchased from various studs in both the North and South Islands. They are using Wai-iti Loch Lomond and Levels Hans as AI and Kevin would like to buy the first bull, "I'm waiting for Craig (Martin) to ring me up."

They have just weaned the first crop of calves, the 25 heifers averaged 292kg and the 12 bulls 303kg.

While sold on the milking ability of the purebred Simmental cow he still believes there is a place for the traditional Angus cow, "they are totally different to handle," and he likes working with both, but the Simmental cows they have bought "are extra quiet."

He savours the advice given to him from a senior Simmental breeder " boy, one thing you have to learn about these cattle is you have got to learn to hate them. Every time you look at them and you find something you don't like they go out, if you fall in love with them you are wasting your time."

So as the stud numbers build up this advice will be followed and a rigorous culling will begin.

Most of the commercial Simmental bulls have been bought from the Temuka Simmental Sale for the last six years. They have found they can buy better quality bulls for less money from this sale

Over the whole property they buy between 15 to 20 bulls a year.

"We have probably got the worst country in New Zealand for bulls and rams to shift into with it's long wet winters and big paddocks. I'll quite often buy a bull that jumps out of the sale ring or is a bit toey , they are the ones that get around the hills.

Good feet are a pre requisite, "no feet, no bull around here."

The tops of the Simmental cross steers are taken out at 20 months before the winter and the rest go at two and a half. The cross bred heifers are sold at two and a half at 250kg plus. This year they are looking to take the tops of the 20 months heifers at around 220kg. And the 20 months steers have to do 300kgs and two and a half cross bred steers 340/350kg.

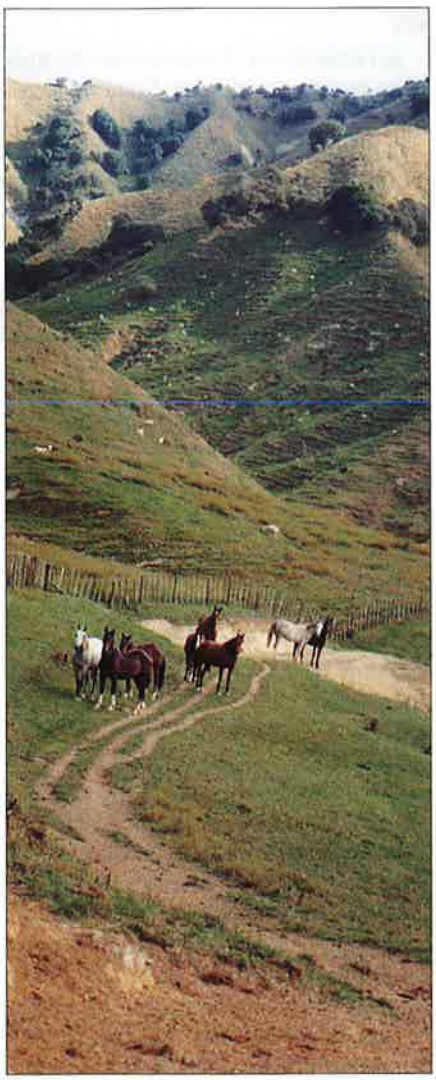
Then the older three year old Angus steers tail enders go any where from 350 plus. "They do a job on the steep country which the cows can't go on. They are put up there and stay there for the winter, keep it clean and are a maintenance tool."

The animal health bill is large- "we are deficient in everything." The cattle have to be supplemented with copper, bullets being used on the older cattle and the calves injected.

They also use a lick for the commercial herd mainly magnesium for staggers. Last year he used a magnesium bullet for ease of mind, "it's cheap insurance for the stud cows."

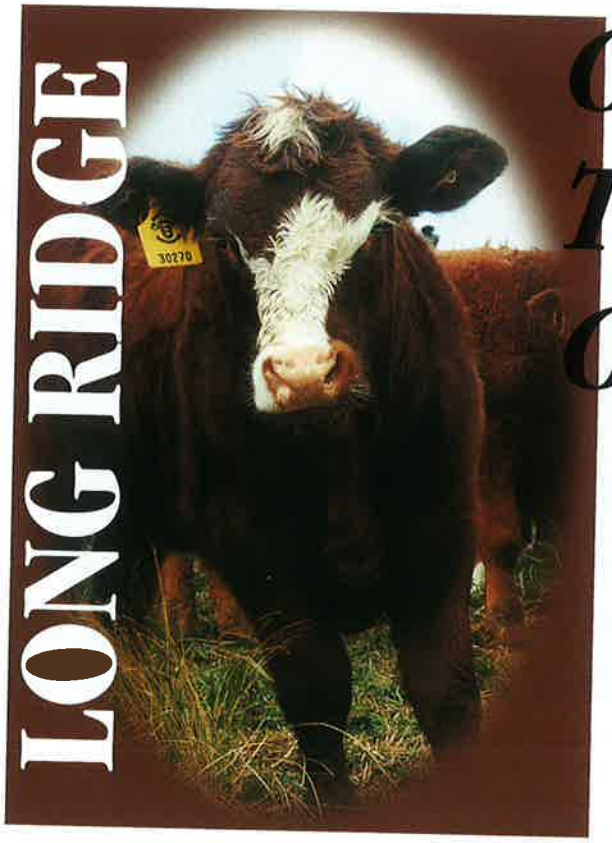
Jennie records all the stock and agrees with Kevin when he says "EBV's, while a tool go hand in hand with the visual assessment of the animal."

Maraekowhai, Otuiti and Koiro is big country, well managed, and in the future will make a name for itself as producing good growthy shiftable cattle from both studs.



The country is strictly horse terrain and they breed their own.

Above: Heifer calves at Maraekowhai Station.
Below: The newly formed Maraekowhai stud Simmental cows.



Challenging Tussock Country

North Otago cattleman Graeme Kingan farms challenging tussock country high above the rolling downs of Five Forks. His commercial beef operation is significant for its low labour inputs and big Simmental weaner calves.

Graeme's calves achieved the highest price at last year's North Otago calf sales and this year's calves look set to do the same.

'Long Ridge' at Fuchsia Creek comprises 1000 hectares of rolling to steep tussock country, between 610m and 765m above sea level.

It was once part of a larger property that's been in the Kingan family for three generations. Graeme and his brother Andrew split the farm five years ago and Andrew and Susan Kingan run the balance of the property.

At Long Ridge Graeme and Judy Kingan run deer, sheep and cattle and find the combination well-suited to their property.

The Simmental calves are performing very well on the high country, they say.

There are 290 Angus-Hereford cross cows and all their calves are sold as weaners. First and second calvers go to an Angus bull for ease of calving. Third calvers and older are put to the Simmental bulls and it's their progeny that have raised eyebrows at the North Otago sales.

The Long Ridge calves topped last year's calf sale at Waiareka, with a pen of 336kg steers selling at $320. The steers averaged 286kg, with an average price of $261. Heifer calves averaged 255kgs and an average price of $160 but Graeme had kept the best 30 heifers to finish and estimated their weight at around 310kgs.

This year Graeme is tagging his calves with the unique Certified Simmental eartags. Use of the tags promotes the breed and makes Simmentals easy for buyers to recognise.

At Long Ridge, the older cattle are rotated around four blocks at an altitude of around 765 metres, and are brought down to the yards just three times a year. "They look after themselves, we don't feed out to them in the winter. We do get snow occasionally but it's not too bad," Graeme said.

"A lot of farmers use cows at lower altitude for pasture management, but here the cows run on their own. They're getting the best of what's going."

"There are a lot of underground streams coming out up there, so there's plenty of fresh running water for them."

The 60 first and second calvers run with two Angus bulls at 610m, and the Romdale sheep are down lower at 457m.

The Simmental cross calves arrive in late August. "I haven't had any calving problems. The cows are pretty fit at the end of the winter, they're doing a few kilometres a day to get feed."

Graeme introduced the Simmental bulls four years ago at the suggestion of fellow deer and cattle farmers.

"We used to use Murray Greys, but they don't mature out to a big weight. With the Simmentals we're trying to produce what the market wants."

The working life of Graeme's bulls is important and structural soundness of bulls purchased for this type of country is important - as they have a lot of land to cover to do their work. The main mob of 230 cows is serviced by six bulls, at a ratio of 1:40.

Last year he ended up buying extra Simmental bulls, attracted by the season's low prices as well as the quality.

"I buy bulls from the South Island Simmental sale at Temuka, where the standard of bulls offered is consistently high because of the pressure of selection for vendors to get into the sale.

Last year I bought three good Simmental bulls when I only needed one or two.

"They have a very quiet temperament, which is passed on to the calves - you notice going around the stock that they're not spooked by you, even though they might not have seen a person in a while."

At Long Ridge Graeme and Judy Kingan run deer, sheep and cattle and find the combination well-suited to their property.

Graeme says when selecting bulls he always puts emphasis on high EBVs (Estimated Breeding Values) for growth traits and manageable birth EBVs. Constitution is naturally important - "the bulls have to have a quiet disposition and walk freely on good feet and legs. And they've got to be well-muscled, with a good calving shoulder."

"I also place strong emphasis on polled bulls - I don't like horns on anything."

Graeme's best returns in the last couple years have been from the red deer on the 20ha home block at 300m. There are 120 red deer with a Wapiti hybrid stag over them. Last year they returned just over half that from the cattle which roam over 620ha on the run block.

The Kingans run 800 head of Romdale sheep, although Graeme's heading more towards the Perendale breeding due to ease of management. "Hopefully they look after themselves at lambing time. I finish all my lambs, although I have sold forward."

Graeme reckons the decline in beef fortunes does have a little silver lining - farmers like himself can purchase excellent Simmental bulls at pretty reasonable prices.

"We've had a couple of great growing seasons. I'm certainly happy with what I'm getting here."

There are 290 Angus-Hereford cross cows and all their calves are sold as weaners. First and second calvers go to an Angus bull for ease of calving. Third calvers and older are put to the Simmental bulls and it's their progeny that have raised eyebrows at the North Otago sales.

Unique Eartags Promote Simmental

Farmers with Simmental calves ready for the autumn sales are being encouraged to use the unique Certified Simmental eartags on their stock.

The Simmental Cattle Breeders' Society of New Zealand introduced the eartags in 1995, in an effort to promote the breed and help purchasers clearly identify Simmental calves.

Simmental Cattle Breeders Society general manager Richard Glubb explained that in many cases Simmental and Simmental cross animals are topping the sales. "Unfortunately they can be difficult to identify because of their unusual markings and colours - often the Simmental is not credited as being the breed that gave strength to the cross-breeding programme."

The eartag scheme slots into some beef processors' move away from the averaging system of payment to beef farmers. Those processing plants with the technology (and there are just six throughout the country at present) can track stock that carry the unique Certified Simmental eartag through the system and, potentially, pay for quality, as well as providing their suppliers with information about how their stock kill out.

"Every tag has a unique number so carcass statistics will be able to be correlated back to the bull and who produced it, so the farmer and the breeder are able to get feedback," Mr Glubb said.

The outcome depended on how fast the processing industry adopted the carcass-tracking technology, he said.

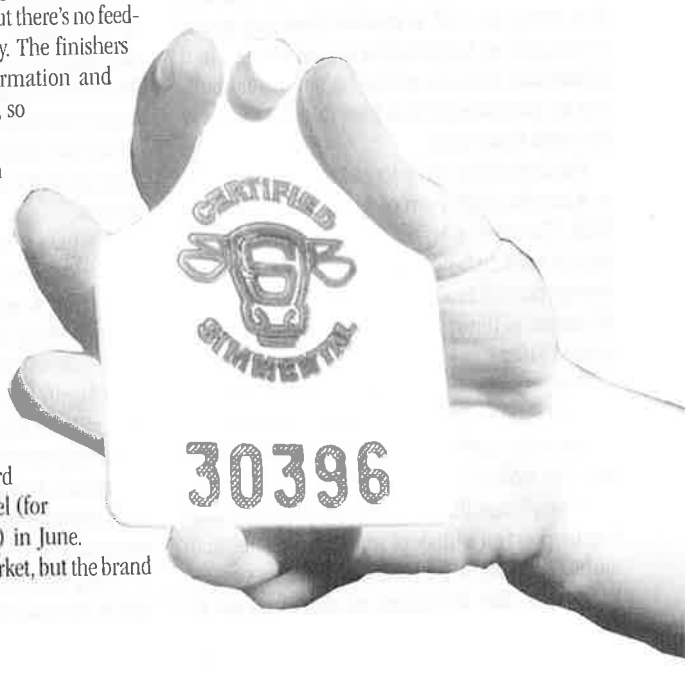
"Stud breeders have very good performance recording and genetic information but there's no feedback to farmers on carcass quality. The finishers need to have access to that information and source it back to a particular bull, so they know where to get more."

At the same time, our Asian markets want accurate information about the product they're buying , such as pH, meat colour, and fat content. Tagging the animal with the Certified Simmental tag allows processors to measure and record what's being supplied to the market.

Interestingly, the New Zealand Beef and Lamb Marketing Board are planning to launch the Q label (for quality assurance to consumers) in June. It's thought to be for the local market, but the brand has been registered in 50 countries, Mr Glubb said.

He described the beef processors as the 'last bastion' of industry that doesn't remunerate suppliers on quality.

"Within the breed societies there's a certain amount of competition but I believe we should all be combining our energies to lobby the processors to implement this technology, because we have to be paid on a quality basis.'"



SPRINGBROOK SIMMENTAL STUD

(EST 1979)

UNDER TOP MANAGEMENT

680 | 240 ww

CHAIRMAN

GLEN ANTHONY THOMO

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

TOKAWEKA DRAMATIC

Tokaweka Dramatic was purchased from Jim and Gwen Houlbrook for $20 500.00 His Rascallian Dam Exebec is a Trans Tasman 3 way trait leader as is his sire Lopez.

Springbrook Stud congratulates the Simmental Breed on the progress achieved in the 1st 25 years. With these 3 sires Springbrook is positioned to contribute strongly to it's future.

8th ANNUAL ON FARM BULL SALE THURS. 12th JUNE 1997

THE FRENCH CONNECTION

SPRINGBROOK AX129
DAM OF TRANSALPINE

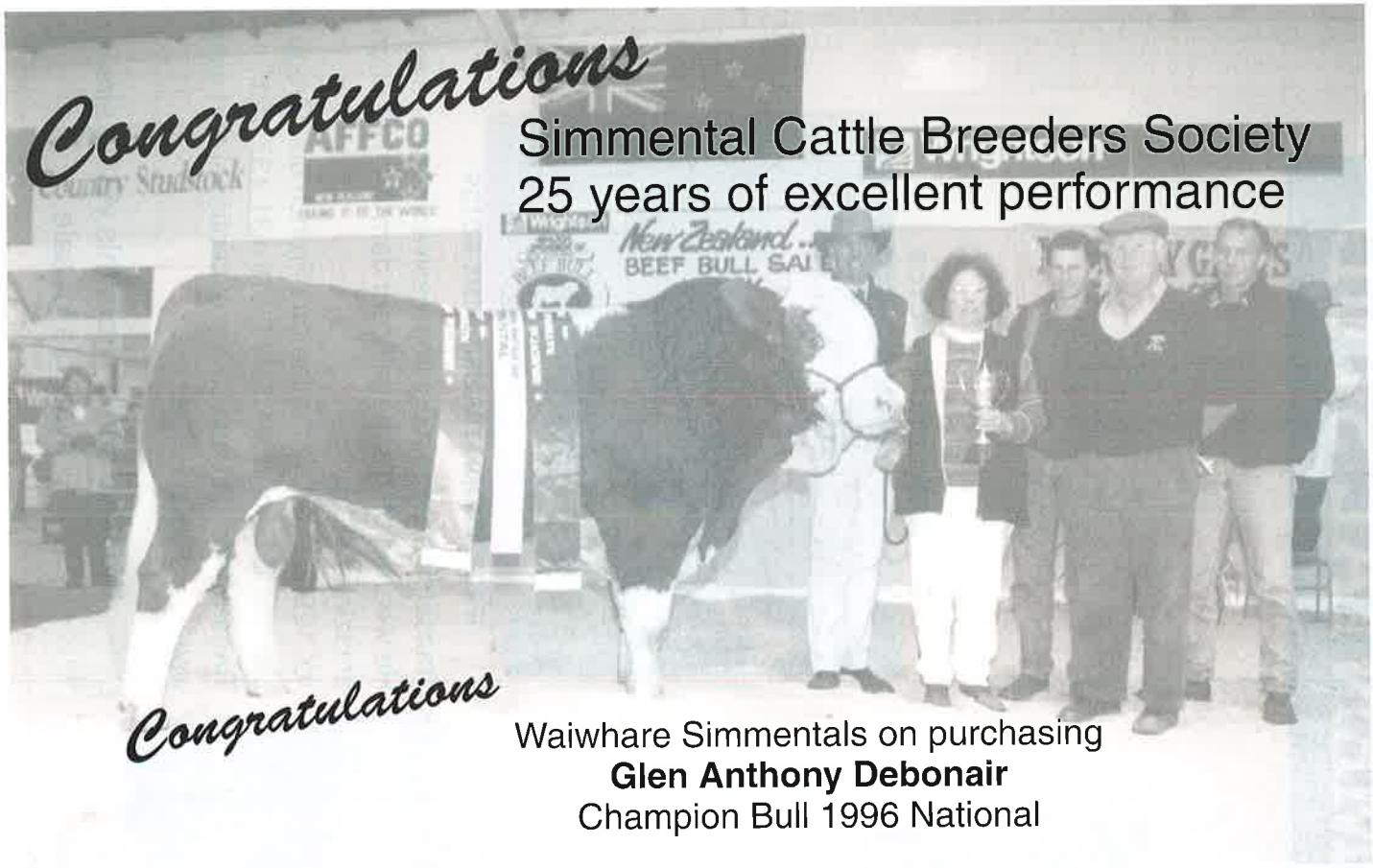
MANAGING DIRECTOR

SPRINGBROOK TRANSALPINE AD129

Transalpine is the most impressive sire we have bred. He weaned off his magnificent dam AX 129 at an amazing 546kg.
AX 129 is sired by the famous French bull Orage and she has E.B.Vs of +1.5 +11 +19 +31 +37 +21
Transalpines first calves are exceptional and weigh well over 400kg in Feb.

We have semen from this young sire available for sale.

Colin, Valmai & Mark Patterson welcome all enquiries and inspections at Springbrook, Lakeside, Canterbury. Phone (03) 324 3706



1997 PROGRAMME

Open Day	Wed 7th May - All welcome
Annual Bull Sale	11th July - 25 Bulls
National Bull Sale	17th June - 4 Entries

Watch out for "Ensign" by Sargent Pepper

Private Sale — 20 top females

215
40
255

GlenAnthony Simmental Stud

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What Makes A Cattle Breed? What Makes A Success Of Any Organisation?

People People People

by Rodney Cox

Past President, Rodney Cox

I feel honoured to be asked to write about some of the many memories about the Simmental Breed in New Zealand.

First of all we must be proud of how far we have come as a Breed in such a short time! This would not have happened if we had not had the dedicated peoples' help in establishing the Breed. I do not intend mentioning too many names, as this can become embarrassing when you miss someone out.

In the late 1960's I went to a lecture where a Dr. Carter was speaking, and he mentioned during his presentation that the Breed, which he felt had a great future in New Zealand, was the Simmental Breed. Lots of meat, wonderful cow with lots of rich milk and lovely temperaments. I pricked up my ears, because at that time the Beef Breeds in New Zealand lacked size and especially lacked milk. I felt that the Charolais had already made their move into New Zealand and though this Breed holds my greatest respect, I felt at that time, they still did not show the milking ability and general femininity of the Simmental. We needed a 'truly dual purpose' maternal cattle breed.

The next chapter was to form a syndicate which included David Baker, the late Dick Kerr, the late Derek Orbell and myself, (incidentally this syndicate was also looking at the importation of East Friesian and Finish Landrace sheep at that time). We knew that Dick was sending a stock agent called Don Graham to select South Devons in the U.K. so we suggested that Don went on to Germany to inspect and report back. German heifers were about to be sent into Scotland and England for the first time. Don's reports were just what we wanted, so he was sent back to purchase the progeny of the imported German animals that entered the U.K. He negotiated and obtained them mainly from Scotland. The first female to come to New Zealand was purchased from Jimmy Jeffrey of the Kersknowe Stud at Kelso.

Kersknowe Alice was a great animal, but unfortunately died of bloat 6 months after giving birth to her first calf. The calf was sold at the first New Zealand auction held at 'The Levels' for $47,500. The first cross heifers sold that day, 4th May 1974, averaging $5,000 with most of them being exported to Australia. These were 'great days' with many animals selling over $20,000 mainly to Australia. Many excellent animals that should have stayed in New Zealand ended up establishing the Simmental Breed in Australia. You still see some of these strong cow families coming through in Australia today.

The Society was formed by a group of enthusiastic people all keen to see the Breed established for the long term. A steering committee was set up at the Wool Exchange in Christchurch, where over 80 people attended. John Austin chaired that first meeting and remained on the committee until Dick Kerr took over as the first Chairman of the formed Council.

Dick Kerr must be remembered for his ability as President to keep the lid on spending and created the assets the Society has today. All work in those days was done voluntary as we had no funds. Some meetings our financial statements looked very grim. $100 -200 in the bank was about it. Look now at what the assets are, somewhere in the $600,000 mark. He was a fantastic Chairman keeping everyone to the point. We all had great fun and it was he, and others like Ran McDonald that really kept the fun in our meetings, but achieving good results. A great person for the time, always wanting to look after people and especially the 'go ahead' younger generation.

The great part about being involved with this Breed is that we all tried to help each other and therefore we had a great atmosphere which reflected through to all our Breeders. There were no petty jealousies and divided camps causing an unhappy atmosphere. I hope this tradition of helping each other (which helps the Breed) is guarded jealously by the members. Most Breed Societies have awful problems holding their members together. Do not let it happen to us. Look after our assets, as a wealthy Society will alway be a happy Society.

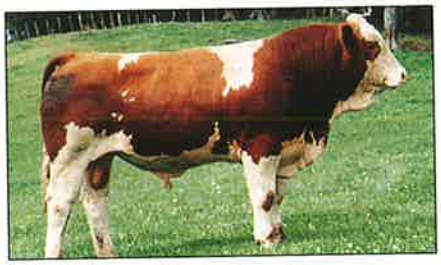
Mention must be made of the late Max Studholme our first Secretary. A great person with a huge sense of humour and a tremendous way with words (ex agricultural Press Reporter). Max helped draw up our constitution which I think you will agree, is hard to fault.

Ian Johnstone (Mr Simmental), what a great asset he was to the Society. A real peoples person with humour, ability to listen and a huge ability to tell great stories. Stories that were always easy to listen to because they related to farming. During my term as President, Ian was a great help to me, always beside me when we visited areas. He had a great memory with names, so often I would nudge him and immediately he would come up with the name I was looking for. A wonderful person to travel with and his ability to be friendly and help people created a very happy Society.

People make a Breed. If you have good people with the correct attitude a Breed will last forever. I hope in the next 25 years we will see good people make Simmental cattle the dominant Breed. What a Challenge!

Good luck for the future, I am proud to have been part of the team that made the Breed such a success over the last 25 years.

TOP PERFORMANCE BULLS FROM A TOP PERFORMANCE HERD



AE149 (polled) **D.O.B 09/09/95**

Sire AC105 **Dam** AA011

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+3.8	+7	+31	+50	+59	+0.2	+0.3	+2.9	+0.4	1.4
76%	41%	69%	64%	64%	21%	22%	35%	31%	48%

CE107 **D.O.B 30/07/95**

Sire AT063 **Dam** AC037

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+0.9	+7	+10	+17	+15	-0.1	-0.1	+0.8	-0.1	0.5
76%	55%	73%	68%	68%	30%	32%	47%	41%	63%

AE119 **D.O.B 17/08/95**

Sire AC67062 **Dam** AA021

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+3.4	+5	+19	+32	+42	-0.5	+0.3	+0.9	+1.4	1.5
75%	37%	68%	62%	62%	19%	21%	34%	27%	44%

AE125 **D.O.B 21/07/95**

Sire AB133 **Dam** AZ007

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+2.3	+8	+24	+42	+52	-0.0	+0.3	+1.4	+1.0	0.4
75%	42%	69%	63%	64%	19%	21%	35%	28%	43%

AE131 **D.O.B 27/07/95**

Sire AC128 **Dam** AA023

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+4.0	+8	+22	+33	+52	+0.1	+0.2	+1.5	+1.4	0.8
75%	43%	68%	63%	63%	23%	25%	38%	31%	48%

AE134 **D.O.B 28/07/95**

Sire AC105 **Dam** AC025

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+2.9	+7	+27	+49	+56	-0.4	+0.3	+4.4	+0.3	1.0
75%	39%	69%	64%	64%	23%	24%	36%	32%	48%

AE136 **D.O.B 01/09/95**

Sire AC105 **Dam** AB036

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+2.6	+8	+21	+35	+41	+0.6	+0.3	+2.7	+0.5	1.3
75%	38%	67%	62%	62%	20%	22%	34%	30%	47%

AE137 (polled) **D.O.B 01/09/95**

Sire AC105 **Dam** AB047

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+4.6	+7	+31	+50	+58	0.0	+0.3	+3.6	-0.6	0.6
76%	38%	68%	63%	63%	22%	23%	36%	32%	48%

AE143 **D.O.B 15/09/95**

Sire AC128 **Dam** AX026

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+4.8	+6	+24	+35	+55	-0.3	+0.2	+1.7	+1.0	2.3
75%	44%	69%	64%	65%	22%	24%	38%	31%	47%

AE104 **D.O.B 18/07/95**

Sire AB133 **Dam** BU101

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+1.7	+4	+12	+23	+29	-0.1	0.0	+0.2	+1.3	1.6
75%	46%	69%	64%	64%	25%	26%	39%	32%	46%

AE152 **D.O.B 17/09/95**

Sire AC128 **Dam** AY024

Birth Wght	200D Milk	200D Growth	400D Wght	600D Wght	Rump Fat	Rib Fat	E.Msc Area	Scrotal Circ.	Gest. Length
+3.4	+8	+20	+33	+46	+0.1	+0.2	+1.6	+0.9	1.2
75%	43%	69%	64%	64%	22%	24%	37%	30%	46%

Puketawa Simmentals has in the past, sold at the National Sale, the Waikato and Districts Simmental Club Sale and Privately on farm.

This year, in the interests of more orderly selling, and market related pricing, it has been decided that all bulls will be sold by auction, at an on farm sale to be held on June 10th.

See opposite for details

PUKETAWA SIMMENTALS

440
250
450
1140

Bull Sale

June 10th 1997.
on property 2.00 pm approximately
- to be advised in catalogue.
Lunch available prior to sale.

The sale works in well with the National Field Days which are on the following four days.

- 35 (approximately) big, strong, sound, performance bulls bred and reared in the hills at 300 - 400 metres above sea level.
- 180 cow herd - allowing for strict culling.
- Growth, milk and carcass EBVs.
- Trait leader sires.
- A number of bulls available are in the top 1% of the breed for the growth EBVs.
- Bulls are also available in the low birthweight category. (i.e. negative birthweight EBV values.)
- Commercial and stud bulls.
- Polled and horned bulls.
- Hundreds of breeding bulls sold since establishment of stud in 1972.
- All bulls guaranteed.
- Available for inspection prior to sale, or at any other suitable time.

For catalogues and information contact

John Scott,
Puketawa Simmentals
Roberts Road, Hora Hora
R.D. 2, Cambridge.
Tel. 07 827 2864, Fax 07 827 2977

or

Wrightson,
Bruce Orr, Tel 07 855 2560
Waikato Farmers,
Rod Harper, Tel 07 856 0022

or

your local agent

Where Will The Breed Be In 2022?

by David Carter

Past President, David Carter

I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this magazine printed as a celebration of 25 years of Simmentals in New Zealand. Within the New Zealand beef industry we have established a very proud history in a relatively short period of time. So whilst we are allowed to take time to reminisce, do not forget that the greatest challenges lie ahead of us. Where will the breed be in 2022?

I was fortunate to be involved when the first Simmentals arrived in New Zealand. These animals were of huge value, up to $50,000 (in 1970 dollars) and because of the huge demand created by the quarantine laws of Australia, (Australia would not accept animals bred anywhere but New Zealand), embryo transfer was a logical way of obtaining an economic return on such a substantial capital investment.

I established an embryo transfer facility at West Melton, near Christchurch, and employed veterinarians firstly from Australia and subsequently from Canada. Over a period of five years we performed thousands of transfer operations. I use the word "operations" because in those days the whole of the embryo transfer process was done by invasive surgery, under a general anaesthetic.

Running this embryo transfer facility gave me a unique opportunity to see all the "exotic" breeds and as the transfer business declined, I was determined to maintain my involvement and establish a cattle stud. Three breeds impressed me, and demonstrating that they had potential to survive in the longer term. These were the Simmental, the Charolais, and the Romagnola.

I chose Simmental because I saw it as the breed that would be the most acceptable to New Zealand beef farmers. At that time I was particularly impressed with the Simmental-Hereford cross cows that I had seen around New Zealand, and believed their ability to milk as opposed to pure Hereford, was outstanding. I had an ambition to farm, in time, a substantial Simmental-Hereford cross herd, to which I could later introduce another breed in order to obtain two doses of hybrid vigour.

The rest is recent history. Simmental did become well established among commercial breeders. We saw a number of years during which Simmental cross calves invariably topped the weaner sales from the top of the North Island to the bottom of the South Island.

So why has the outlook for the breed become less exciting over the last five or six years? Your Simmental Society was always at the forefront of beef promotion. Society sponsored farm field days were common, and we advertised strategically so that whenever a farmer was considering the choice of a breed suitable to his farming operation, there was a good chance that the name Simmental would spring to mind. But then the breed went into a period of consolidation or a period of complacency, call it what you will.

The Simmental breed has the potential within New Zealand to be a leading player. Our Society has the financial resources to be a leading player. The members of the Society are an impressive group of people who certainly have the determination to make sure the Simmental breed is a leader. Combine the breed, the resources of the society and the membership, and I see no reason why the Simmental success story will not continue into the next 25 years.

But what other challenges will face our breed and the beef industry over the next 25 years? We have recently seen legislation introduced to Parliament that will initiate a change to producer boards that in my opinion is long overdue. We will see the processing industry and the producers working in partnership, not opposition. One of the changes that may well flow from this legislation is a complete overhaul of carcase classification. Consequently the payment system utilised by the companies must change. Any move towards yield grading will greatly benefit the Simmental breed. Our breed clearly has a higher yield of marketable red meat than do the traditional breeds. As yield grading is initiated, there will be considerable pressure for farmers to be paid on a more exacting basis for the carcases that they produce rather than the "great averaging" system that we have operated under in the past. This has meant the good farmer has subsidised the poor farmer; the good carcase has been discounted at the expense of the poorer carcase.

One of the recent initiatives of the Simmental Society has been the extension of Certified Simmental beef, with the identification of animals, and this information then being available when the carcase is processed. In this regard, we are at the forefront of the industry's development. Using carcase identification, and with the help of Breed Plan, we will be able to identify superior bloodlines and select accordingly.

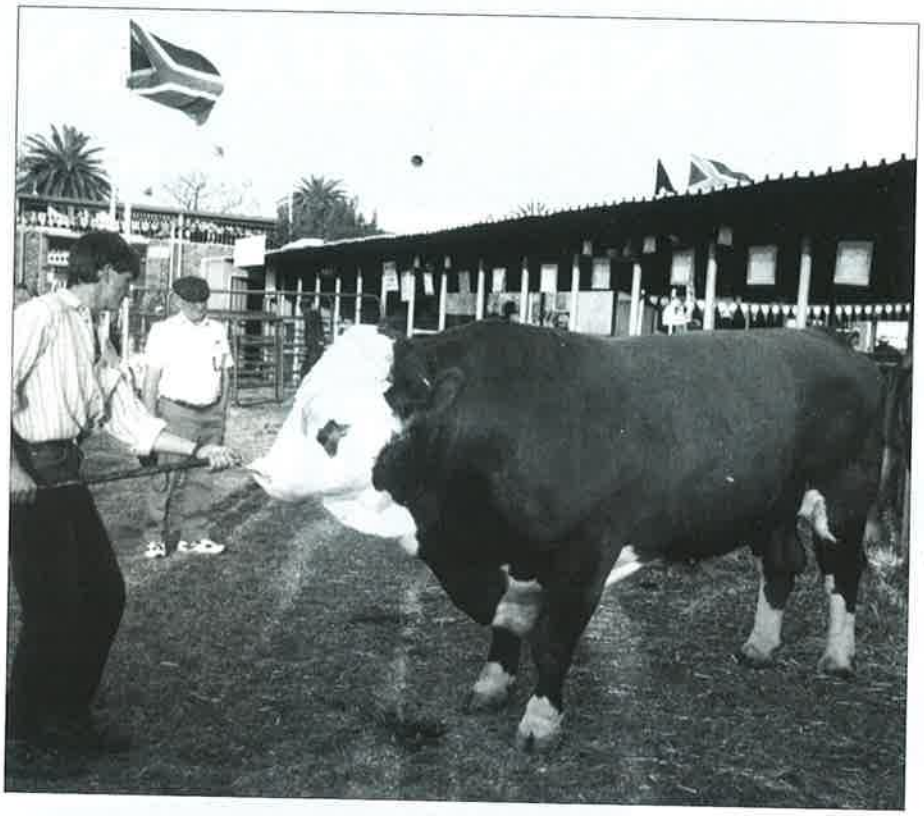
This leads me to my final point, which some may think is an exciting development, but which I think is a development which society must watch with care. I am referring to genetic engineering. The advancement in reproductive technology over the last 25 years has been staggering. We are on the verge of the next stage of this development, with the ability to clone embryos, and therefore design more exactly the animal that we want. The ramifications of this for animal production are huge. As a Breed Society we must be ready for this development. We must be able to accurately identify the superior genetic traits within our large Simmental family, so that if we do want to develop a particular productive trait, then the potential of the genetics we use must be accurately known to us.

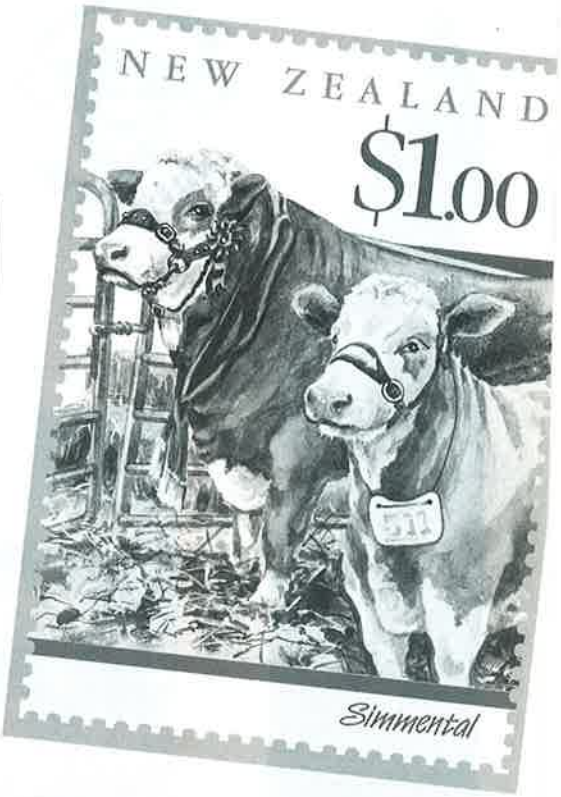
The concern that society raises, and correctly so, is the ability to transfer such technology to the breeding of the human race. Worldwide, restrictions will have to be devised.

In the future we may be able to use "designer genes" to breed what we want, this will never surpass the necessity of a farmer feeding the animals to obtain the ultimate result. In this regard the New Zealand farmer is lucky. We are able to produce good quality pasture efficiently and more cheaply than any of our world competitors. We therefore must continue to develop a Simmental that is uniquely New Zealand, a Simmental that will thrive in the New Zealand low-cost grass-fed environment. I believe that the next 25 years will show an increasing demand for good quality food, produced for an increasingly demanding world population who will require food from an environmentally clean country. New Zealand can excel at this. The potential for New Zealand Simmentals over the next 25 years is well situated within this window of opportunity.

Even State President's recognise quality

At the 1996 World Simmental Conference in South Africa, the German Simmental Federation presented Mr Nelson Mandela, South African President with this fine Simmental speciman.





The Simmental featured as one of the New Zealand Beef breeds in the first day cover release in January this year. This is further acknowledgement of the influence and prevalence of the breed in the New Zealand Beef Industry.

Avon Park

NEW ZEALAND

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Avon Park Simmentals are p
Society's 25 years in New Ze
Simmental breed meeting th

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d to celebrate the Simmental
d and look forward to the
nands of the next 25 years.

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N, CHRISTCHURCH. PHONE (03) 329 9731. FAX (03) 329 9001.

SIMMENTALS A Licence To Print Money

by Don Graham

An experience I shall never forget, was in 1970 when I was the first New Zealander to be given a conducted tour through Bavaria, inspecting the Fleckvieh (Simmental) cattle breed.

As an Auctioneer I was totally impressed and could see nothing but 'dollar' signs flashing in front of my eyes.

On behalf of clients, namely Dick Kerr, David Baker, Derrick Orbell and Rod Cox, wheels were put into action and we purchased the first Simmentals for New Zealand. Purchased before they were conceived, off James Jeffery from Kelso in Scotland for 1250 guineas. Eventually in 1972, two arrived, Kersknowe "Atom" and "Alice".

In 1971 I was again sent back to the U.K. to arrange the purchase of more purebred cattle. At the same time negotiating the purchase of the first 10,000 straws of semen for the New Zealand market.

By this time the race was on for Simmental cattle and while (for quarantine reasons) New Zealand could only purchase progeny born and semen produced from the U.K., likewise Australia could only purchase from New Zealand, thus resulting in plane loads of Aussies rushing to be the first to import Simmental Blood. As very few purebreds were available the demand was for first cross bulls and heifers.

The semen we had imported was sold at a decent profit to:

1. New Zealanders wishing to establish their herds
2. New Zealanders wishing to breed and then sell the progeny to Australians
3. Australians arranging contracts with New Zealand cattle farmers

and so the money was flowing as were the cattle, being shipped - literary - in their hundreds to be either kept by individuals or either sold privately or auctioned for somebody else to try and make a profit. Many of these people were city investors, some succeeded some didn't and even Americans were investing after the quick dollar.

From the minute the first crossbreds hit the ground the future of the Simmental breed was assured. In the next few years New Zealand experienced the fastest growth rate of any beef breed in history. The New Zealand Simmental Cattle Breeders Society was formed and under the Chairmanship of Dick Kerr made the radical decision to accept into a grading up system all F1 progeny from any bovine breed, without any inspections, a subject still hotly debated today. However, as a commission earner for my employer, the National Mortgage Agency who later merged with Wright Stephenson, the results were amazing. The Stud commissions earned in the small Timaru branch out stripped any other branches in New Zealand, purely bought about by the trading, importing and exporting of Exotic cattle, of which 80% would have been Simmental - and so the money flowed. Today South Canterbury can still boast the highest % of Simmental weaners offered in New Zealand in relationship to other breeds.

The New Zealand Breed Society in discussion with the newly formed Australian Society agreed that for an animal from New Zealand to be registrable with the Australian Society, it had to be first registered in New Zealand. The Society in its wisdom insisted that breeders wishing to register cattle for export had to become fully paid up members. The result 'an explosion' - nearly 1200 members within 3 years, many of them dairy farmers taking advantage of the spot market. They paid membership fees, annual subscription, individual animal registration, transfer fees, export inspection fees and 1% on all sales made and to resign, (as many did as the export market fell away) had to be financial members. The result, the New Zealand Simmental Cattle Breed, overnight became probably the wealthiest Breed Society in New Zealand, a position envied by many Societies today.

Past President 1994-96, Don Graham.

Whilst all the mentioned happenings were taking place, the "Kersknowe" importations were playing their part in the "Alpha" Stud at the 'Levels' property in South Canterbury. "Atom" being extensively used on 1st cross females and selected Hereford cows. "Alice" giving birth to a magnificent heifer calf. And so it was decided to have the first Simmental Sale in Australasia, to be held on the 'Levels' property. In front of a huge international crowd history was made:- Simmental mated Hereford cows $1400 (originally purchased for $350), mated F1 heifers to $5000 (world record) and Alice's pure calf "Alpha 1" $47,500 also a world record. "Atom" was sold privately for $25,000 to Nelson Transport and the stud replaced him with "Skerrington Baron" imported by Jossie Hall for $30,000. The stage was set, and even greater prices were achieved for pure cattle, peaking at $50,000 for a heifer bred by Stan Crosson.

The unchallenged achievement of the breed since those early heady days is now history. I left the auctioneering world nearly 20 years ago to take up farming in North Canterbury where we run a Simmental stud. Since my first sighting of the Simmental in 1970 my thoughts have never changed. This marvellous breed with its ability to milk, achieve high growth rates and produce top quality carcasses, does and will in the future give those involved, *"a licence to print money"*.

1997 Simmental Sales Calendar

NORTH ISLAND

May

Thursday 29th	Combined Gisborne Exotic Sale	Matawhero

June

Thursday 5th	H D & J S McIntyre "Brocade" 10th Simmental Annual Bull Sale	Apiti
Friday 6th	A H Plummer "Te Kouka" Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Dannevirke
Friday 6th	P Cowley "Rockvale" Simmental Bull Sale	New Plymouth
Monday 9th	D Murphy "Dunshaughlin" Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Waipukurau
Monday 9th	Taranaki Simmental Breeders Bull Sale	Inglewood
Tuesday ~~10th~~ 9th	"Puketawa" Simmentals ~~Invitational~~ 2nd Sale	Cambridge
Wednesday 11th	G & A Thompson "Glen Anthony" Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Waipukurau
Thursday 12th	Ailsa Farms 13th Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Ohingaiti
Friday 13th	P & S McWilliam "Wai-iti" Simmental Bull Sale	Gladstone
Tuesday 17th	National Simmental Sale	Palmerston North
Monday 23rd	"Rissington" Cattle Company 154th Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Rissington
Friday 27th	"Nuweland" Simmentals - Annual Bull Sale	Kerikeri
Monday 30th	J R Houlbrooke "Tokaweka" Mrs L. Sloane "Terrilynne" and W J Mackey "Cariboo" 5th Annual Combined Simmental Bull Sale	Whangarei

July

Tuesday 1st	Central Simmental Brreders - 2nd Annual Sale	Feilding
Thursday 3rd	Waikato & Districts Simmental Breeders' 17th Annual Bull Sale	Frankton
~~Friday 4th~~ 3rd July	~~Izard Pastoral~~ "Springhill" 5th Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Wellsford
Friday 4th	D Wills "Motiti" 5th Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Rangiuru
Friday 11th	P J Ellis "Puriri" 5th Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Taipa

SOUTH ISLAND

May

Monday 12th	H D Paterson "Ida Valley" Simmental Bull Sale	
Tuesday 13th	"Triple S" Simmental Bull Sale	Castlerock
Wednesday 14th	Southern Simmental Breeders' Annual Bull Sale	Charlton
Wednesday 14th	W Burgess "Beresford" and L McLay "Westview" Owaka Simmental Bull Sale	Owaka
Thursday 15th	"Glenside" Simmental Bull Sale	Waitahuna

June

Monday 9th	Nelson Combined Breeders Sale	Nelson
Monday 9th	D S Crosson "Risingholme" 5th Annual Simmental Bull and Female Sale	Ashburton
Wednesday 11th	Central South Island Simmental Bull Sale	Temuka
Thursday 12th	C J Patterson "Lakeside", A A T Partridge "Ladbrook" 8th Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Lakeside
Friday 13th	"Levels" Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Levels

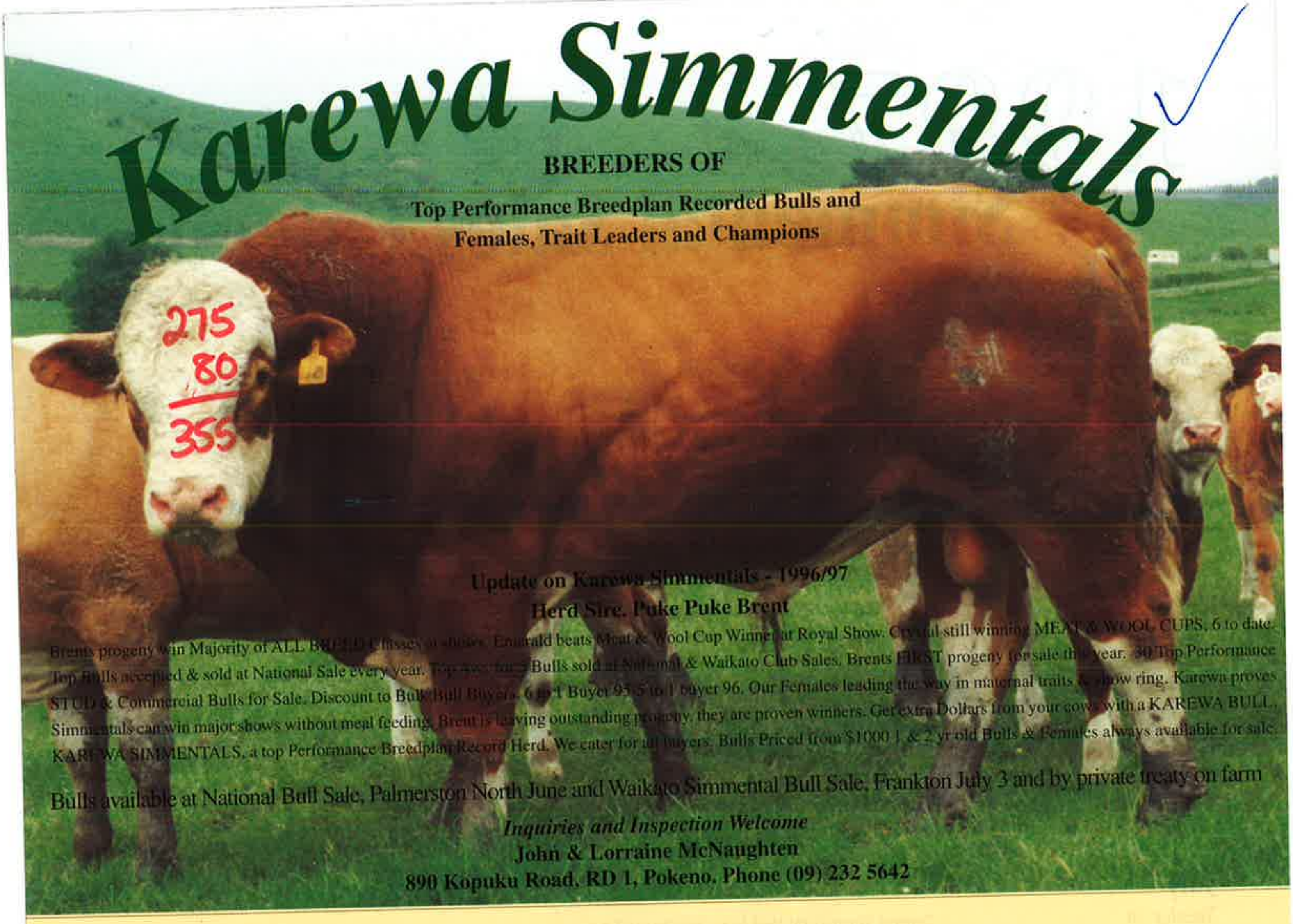
July

Friday 11th	Enterprise Cattle Company 11th Annual Simmental Bull Sale	Wakefield

Karewa Simmentals

BREEDERS OF

Top Performance Breedplan Recorded Bulls and Females, Trait Leaders and Champions



Update on Karewa Simmentals - 1996/97

Herd Sire. Puke Puke Brent

Brents progeny win Majority of ALL BREED Classes at shows. Emerald beats Meat & Wool Cup Winner at Royal Show. Crystal still winning MEAT & WOOL CUPS, 6 to date. Top Bulls accepted & sold at National Sale every year. Top two for 5 Bulls sold at National & Waikato Club Sales. Brents FIRST progeny for sale this year. 30 Top Performance STUD & Commercial Bulls for Sale. Discount to Bulk Bull Buyers. 6 to 1 Buyer 95.5 to 1 buyer 96. Our Females leading the way in maternal traits & show ring. Karewa proves Simmentals can win major shows without meal feeding. Brent is leaving outstanding progeny, they are proven winners. Get extra Dollars from your cows with a KAREWA BULL. KAREWA SIMMENTALS, a top Performance Breedplan Record Herd. We cater for all buyers. Bulls Priced from $1000 1 & 2 yr old Bulls & Females always available for sale.

Bulls available at National Bull Sale, Palmerston North June and Waikato Simmental Bull Sale, Frankton July 3 and by private treaty on farm

Inquiries and Inspection Welcome

John & Lorraine McNaughten

890 Kopuku Road, RD 1, Pokeno. Phone (09) 232 5642

Pinelee Simmentals

Fleckvieh Breeders

Pinelee Falcon AF22 (ET)

(Full Fleckvieh)

Birth Wt 54kg 160 Day Wt 316Kg

Daily Wt gain 1.64kg

Sire
Great Guns Rex

Dam
K2 Megan 7Z

Jointly owned with Greg & Carol Bain Riverbend Ranch Alberta Canada

For more information Contact

Graeme and Lorraine Bain

No 2 RD Outram, Otago, Phone (03) 489 1845

Fleckvieh Semen For Sale

Klondike "HASALZ" 49E Fullblood Full Fleckvieh

MARCH 2, 1997
Don't miss Indepedent Breeders' Open House and your chance to view 49E.

• B.D.: Oct. 20/95 • B.W.: 105 lbs. • 200 Day Adj. Wt.: 744 lbs. • 365 Day Adj. Wt.: 1416 lbs.

Pictured at 11 months of age, this long bodied, thick muscled bull has exceptional spring of rib and is structurally faultless. His dam is one of the truly great mother cows, ***"Sim-Roc Gwen"*** *who has proven herself again and again. She is the dam of "Klondike Arnie", "Klondike Goldrush", and many more great bulls. His sire is the complete German outcross "Hasalz", a truly great beef bull from the tip of his nose to his tail.*

Sire: Hasalz

"HASALZ" 49E is arguably her best son to date

Dam: Sim-Roc Gwen

Semen $50.00 Straw • (Minimum 10 Straws) 15 Straws $700.00

Semen inquiries to: Greg Bain "Riverbend Ranch Simmentals"

"Hasalz" 49E is jointly owned by:

Riverbend Ranch Simmentals
Greg & Carol Bain
R.R. 1 , Peers, AB T0E 1W0
Ph.: (403)693-2289 • Fax: (403)693-3986
Quality Fleckvieh Genetics

Riverbend Ranch Simmentals
thank all buyers from Fleckvieh Fest '96 and all Private Treaty buyers.
We wish you all a prosperous 1997.

Tattooing Rules, Requirements & Rights

by Allan Godsiff

The Simmental Cattle Breeders Society of New Zealand rules and regulations in regard to tattooing, are that every animal eligible for registration be permanently marked by tattoo.

The tattoo sequence to be :

Top line - Herd number
Bottom line - Purity ie. A = purebred, B = 7/8th bred, C = 3/4 bred, D = 1/2 bred
- Year letter (1995 = E, 1996 = F etc) and station (or drop) number

For example: calf number 12 born in 1995, from herd 511 and a pure bred, the tattoo will be:
511
AE12

Requirements for successful tattooing:

- suitable headbale to restrain the animal
- tattoo equipment in good repair
- tattoo paste

There is some debate as to the best time to tattoo and that is really up to the individual to work out the best system for themselves. My opinion is that as long as the animal has been suitably identified at birth by tagging then it is quite acceptable to not tattoo until weaning.

If the calf is tattooed too young this can result in an unclear tattoo as a result of distortion due to ear growth. So I believe it should be left until the calf can be securely held in the headbale at which point it should be large enough with enough ear thickness to allow a good tattoo (4-7 months of age).

Procedure:

Once the animal has been suitably restrained the ear must be thoroughly cleaned with a wet cloth or meths. At this point some tattoo ink or paste can be applied to the ear. This is a point open to debate. Personally I feel you do get a better tattoo by doing this, but also accept that it is not essential for an acceptable one.

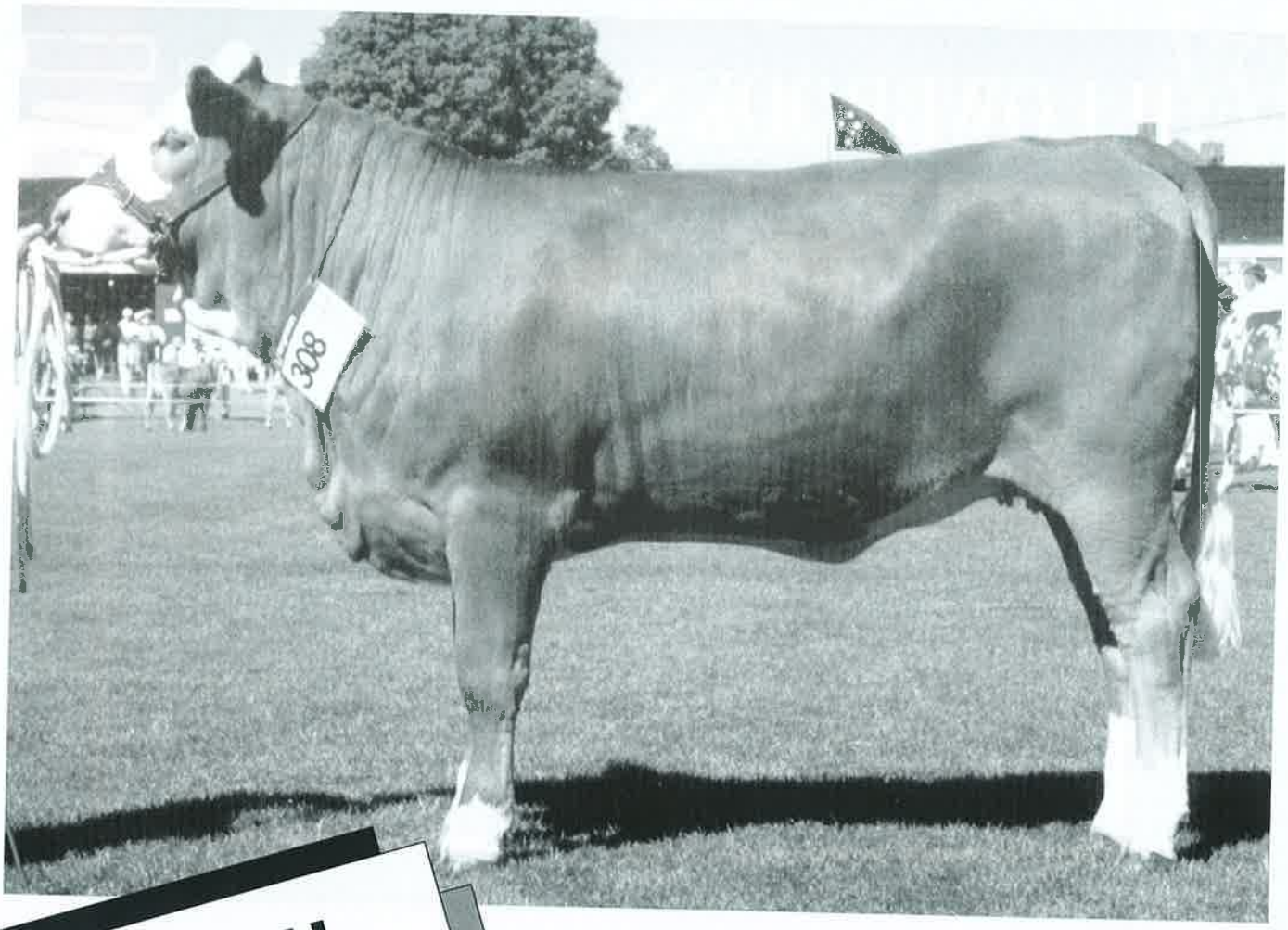
Once the animal number has been assembled in the tattoo pliers it is a good practice to check it by closing on a piece of cardboard. It is a far better feeling to see a backwards F or an upside down number on a piece of card than in an animals ear!

When carrying out the tattooing procedure it is important to take care to miss the raised ear cartilage and to get the number in between for obvious reasons.

After making, the tattoo paste can then be applied, if not done beforehand and rubbed into the puncture holes. I use an old toothbrush for this, although a thumb works well as long as the owner of the thumb isn't going out on an important date for the next night or two.

The tattoos should be checked at the first available opportunity to make sure they are clear and legible.

Remember it could cost you a sale
- if is isn't done or isn't done right.



ANNUAL BULL SALE
9 JUNE 1997

Risingholme Elvina

All Breeds Champion Yearling Heifer Canterbury 1996 (20 entries)

With Risingholme Elvis - All Breeds Champion Pairs Canterbury 1996 (15 entries)

Elvis All Breeds Res. Champion Yearling Bull (27 entries)

Hawarden 1997 - Elvina was Simmental Female Champion and All Breeds Champion Yearling Heifer (16 entries)

Heifers
Some quality in calf heifers for private sale

215
40
255

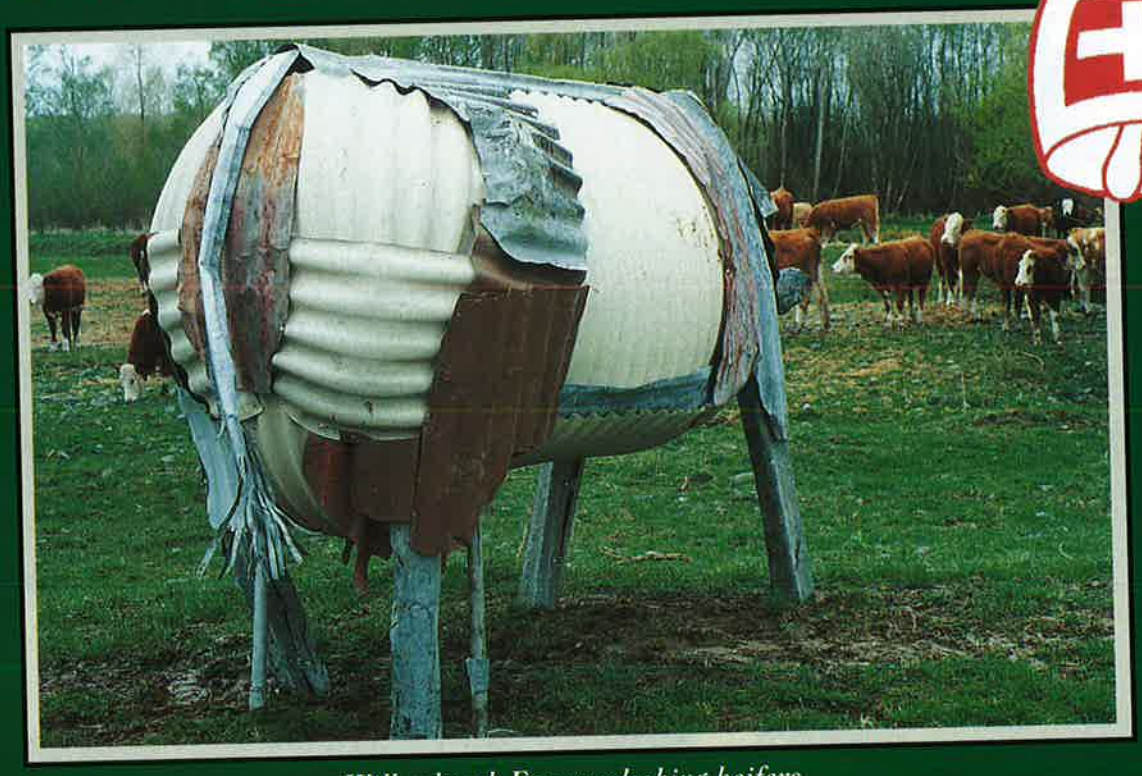
Open Field Day
1st May

Enquiries & Inspection Welcome — Stan Crosson, No.8 RD, Ashburton. Phone (03) 302 5898

RISINGHOLME

Where soundness & quality are paramount

WILLOWBROOK SIMMENTALS



Willowbrook Eve overlooking heifers

Our selective breeding programme ensures:-

- Calving Ease
- Excellent Weight Gain
- Quiet Temperament
- Emphasis on Polled Cattle

440
180
620

Willowbrook Edmond, Eros & Elliot

BULLS AVAILABLE

At the Central South Island Simmental Sale on Wednesday, 11th June 1997, Temuka Sale Yards, we will be offering an excellent selection of our top bulls many of which are polled.

Call now regarding enquiries and herd inspection:

Alastair & Jessica Midgley. Willowbrook Simmentals, RD2, Timaru South Canterbury, New Zealand. Tel (03) 612 6671, Fax (03) 612 6651

Glenbrae Station

Producing Weaners That Finishers Sort After

Leading commercial Wairarapa sheep and beef farmers John and Helen McFadzean are moving back to Simmental cattle to strengthen their base herd's maternal value.

by Peter Bartlett

John, a former regional Hill Country Farmer of the Year, has frequently topped the Masterton weaner and yearling sales. The condition and performance of the "Glenbrae Station" calves are the stuff of legend, but John is not resting on his laurels and aims to stay at the top.

John, his wife Helen, and their four children, live just south of Masterton on the Mangatiriri Valley Road on 1080ha of medium to steep hill country under the Tararua Ranges.

It's a "summer safe" holding which has a cold winter. Average annual rainfall is around 1500mm (60 inches) but it can vary between 1250mm and 2000mm, John said.

This winter Glenbrae will carry 500 mostly Simmental-Angus-Hereford cross cows including the two-year-old heifers.

"The mixed age cows for the past four years have been in calf to Charolais bulls and the two-year-old heifers, mated as yearlings, in calf to Angus. This year half the mixed age cows are in calf to Simmental bulls and the rising two-year-old heifers are in calf to Salers."

"The Salers reputedly have low birth weights, high growth rates and good conformation."

"Over the next two years the whole lot will be mated back to Simmentals. The reason behind the move back to Simmental has been driven by the necessity to retain Simmental cows in the base herd."

"Charolais, even though we were very pleased with them on the growth and meat side, maternally they've not been as successful."

"Even crossed with a Simmental most have lacked in milk production so a lot of the calves out of the Charolais-cross three and four-year-olds have only been on the medium level."

John is not interested in breeding medium performers.

"The difficult thing for me is to secure Simmental bulls that will produce calves that grow as well as the Charolais and yet still get the advantage of the Simmental on the maternal side."

About 15 years ago John began with a small base herd of Angus-Hereford cross cows. "The increase in numbers has been through breeding and purchasing of cows, and putting them in calf to Simmental bulls."

At the 1994 Masterton weaner sale Glenbrae's offering sold for an average of $640, with the top priced lot being $765. In 1996 the average was $330 with a top price of $365.

"When the herd was predominantly Simmental-cross, rather than go to a three-quarter Simmental, I chose to use Charolais to get more hybrid vigour. That worked very well but the cost was on the maternal side."

"The plan is to go back to Simmentals for a few years and decide then where we will go."

John said he bought the best possible Charolais bulls from Rusty McIntyre (Apiti) and Donna Moletta (Takapau), but now gets his Simmentals from Rissington and he has purchased from the nearby Maungaraki Cattle Company.

Fertiliser

John purchased his father Jack's original 160ha farm, a post-W.W.II soldier settlement, in 1978 and since then has continued to add neighboring blocks to Glenbrae.

"The additional land was is various states of development. And because some of the pasture was very poor we have always cropped 30 acres of undulating country every year, then re-grassed it."

The pasture rejuvenation is an important part of Glenbrae's management philosophy, as is the fertiliser regime.

Granular super phosphate is applied annually at 250kg/ha and the flats and paddocks that have been cropped receive 500-750kg/ha. Lime is also applied to a third of the original property each year.

The newer high country was limed for the first time this year at 1.25t/ha. "We intend to keep liming the steep hill country over the next three to four years and then see what the soil tests tell us.

"The land has inherently low phosphate levels and low pH. Un-topdressed and un-limed the pH is 4.8."

Finishing

John said only his "tail-ender" cattle were finished on the property with about 20 steers and 60 heifers sold as rising two-year-olds in July.

"Last year the steers killed out at an average of 305kg, while the heifers sold in three lots averaging 270-280kg."

"They are finished on kale and grass for two months before they are killed. Prior to that they are on steep hill country."

The steer calves from the two-year-olds are taken

through to yearlings and sold in September. "It gives them that extra time to develop," he said.

At the 1994 Masterton weaner sale Glenbrae's offering sold for an average of $640, with the top priced lot being $765. In 1996 the average was $330 with a top price of $365. 1997 has seen cattle returns increasing again, with an average return of $430 and a top price of $482 for 55 weaners.

A number of times over the past 15 years the Colyton Young Farmers Club have used John's weaners in their finishing competition. In a particularly good year the subsequent 22 month cattle killed out at an average of 398kg. At this year's March 26 weaner sale Glenbrae will sell 210 steers in four lots, plus 100 heifers.

"I've got high debt servicing with the expansion over the years so we have got to sell animals that are performing well for the finishers. I always hope the finishers buying from us are getting the best they've ever had."

Sheep

Although Glenbrae is a large holding, only John, Helen and young shepherd Daniel Gayton work the farm.

It is also home to 4300 Romney ewes and 1840 hoggets, the latter are mated as two-tooths.

"We have had 120 to 130 per cent lambing for quite some time now. Last season we did 132 per cent."

Glenbrae's Romney rams come from either Holmes Warren and Bill Hume (Turanganui -South Wairarapa) or Chris Bendall (North Wairarapa).

Lambs are finished to 16kg (hook weight) before going to Richmond (Oringi).

The ewes are grazed on rotation in the winter and the cows are incorporated in or around that system.

"The cows are used in the late spring and summer to maintain the pasture quality for the lambs. That's their prime purpose."

The farm's overall stocking rate is 10.5/ha.

John believes New Zealand should have a blanket ban on promotants which would give our beef a stronger clean, green marketing angle.

Diversification

A separate herd of cattle is farmed among trees on three forestry partnership blocks east of Masterton.

"The wet-dry cows from Glenbrae and cows I don't like make up a small herd on these blocks. They never come home - their next home is the works."

On Bull Selection

John has paid up to $8000 bulls.

"I look for a bull with good growth rates, EBV's, and performance on his own merits, good conformation, shoulders and length and very good back end. They have to be strong on the maternal side."

"Our Simmental-cross cows have a medium frame score, but are generally very meaty. They suit this sort of country."

"The tall herring-gutted cows have been culled out. They don't stand the winters."

Any cows who don't conceive as yearlings are fattened and sold.

John said he would like to see all bulls sold with EBV's and weights at the various stages of their lives - at birth, one year et cetera.

"I think they should all be scanned and have the rib-eye measurement and fat depth available to the purchaser."

"It's an indication of the meat on the cattle. With a big eye muscle you get lots of meat."

While Glenbrae's earnings from beef have halved since 1992/93, John believes a base of $3/kg for any red meat is required for sustainable production. Any less than $3/kg and farmers have to cut back on fertiliser and maintenance. And if debts can't be serviced: "Where is the gain," he asks.

On Growth Promotants

None of the Glenbrae cattle are raised on growth promotants, simply because John is dead against them.

"I don't think any should be used and it's debatable what effect they have." With the issue of non-trade barriers increasingly in the news, the use of growth stimulants is under scrutiny as different countries have various laws regarding their application. Few consumer groups are convinced of their safety either.

John believes New Zealand should have a blanket ban on promotants which would give our beef a stronger clean, green marketing angle.

"The use of promotants is extremely short-sighted," John said.

"And you don't want beef to be pushed into the same category as hormone treated chooks.

"It's not a matter of trying to explain to a housewife that your promotant was synthetic or natural."

"Our Simmental-cross cows have a medium frame score, but are generally very meaty. They suit this sort of country."

Cross Breeding in Beef Cattle Herds

by Stephen Morris,

Associate Professor of Animal Science
Department of Animal Science, Massey University.
Courtesy of "A Central Districts / Wairarapa Regional Beef Council Publication"

Introduction

Crossbreeding is an established breeding method used in sheep and beef cattle breeding to increase overall productivity. It has been used throughout the world and there is ample evidence to support the production gains possible from crossbreeding. However, not all crossbreeding systems maximise these theoretical gains, some are too complicated, difficult to implement under commercial hill country conditions and especially in small herds. The challenge is to identify appropriate crossbreeding systems that are simple and easy to operate in commercial beef breeding cow herds. Note that crossbreeding is not a cure for inferior management and cannot replace the needs for continued selection policies in our purebred herds.

Use of Crossbreeding

Crossbreeding by commercial beef farmers may be practised for the following reasons:

1. to introduce a new breed
2. to take advantage of hybrid vigour
3. to make maximum progress in the low heritability traits
4. to take advantages of the good qualities of two or more breeds
5. to combine these qualities to improve market suitability

Beef Introduction

Almost all of the beef cattle breeds represented in New Zealand resulted from cross breeding. The first cattle imported into New Zealand (Shorthorn) were changed to Angus by crossing with Angus bulls. "Grading up" to pure-bred status starts with cross-breeding - and is the bases of obtaining registration for the new breeds.

Hybrid Vigour

In many cases crossbred progeny outperform the average of their parent breeds. This phenomenon is known as hybrid vigour, or heterosis (this term will be used throughout the paper), and occurs when unrelated breeds or lines are crossed. The extra performance observed through hybrid vigour is simply the recovery of production losses that occurred through inbreeding in the parental breeds. Hybrid vigour is reduced when crossbred cattle are mated together (eg. Simmental x Angus (S x A) bull mated to a S x A heifer) or backcrossed to parental breeds (eg. (A x S) x A). However, some matings plan do maintain high levels of hybrid vigour or heterosis (see later).

Improvement from a crossbreeding program is dependent on the average genetic merit of the foundation breeds used in the cross. Figure 1 shows the relationship between selection and crossbreeding.

An example is a herd that sells weaners at $1.00/kg liveweight that may have an average 200 day weight Estimated Breeding Value (EBV) of +10kg. By using a sire of the same breed of +20 kg 200 day weight EBV, then the herd can potentially improve to +15 kg 200 day weight, an increase of 15 kg or about $15/head. Alternatively a sire from a different breed could be used to achieve an extra 5% ($10/head) in 200 day weight resulting from heterosis, in additional to the gain already achieved by selection, giving a total gain of $25.00. Selection gains and hybrid vigour gains are in the main additive. Note that as yet it is not possible to compare EBVs across breeds and the only valid comparisons are EBVs across herds within a breed (e.g. Angus).

Low Heritability Traits

Traits associated with fitness and reproduction usually have a low heritability however they exhibit the highest levels of heterosis. Traits with high heritability such as final carcass weight tend to have low levels of heterosis.

Combining Breeds

In addition to exploiting hybrid vigour, crossbreeding in beef cattle has the advantage of allowing breeds to be chosen for complementary characteristics. For example, crosses between dairy and beef breeds can be used to produce cows that, when fed suitably, have superior milking and reproductive ability. Mating these animals to terminal sires with large mature size and growth rates allows slaughter offspring to be produced with the benefits of growth rate and leanness to attain heavy carcass weights while maintaining smaller, highly productive breeding cows. In this way, the breeds can be chosen to complement each other in a manner not achievable with purebred animals.

Breeds in Relation to Beef Production Systems

The major determinant of efficiency of beef pro-

Figure 1: Production response combining selection and crossbreeding.

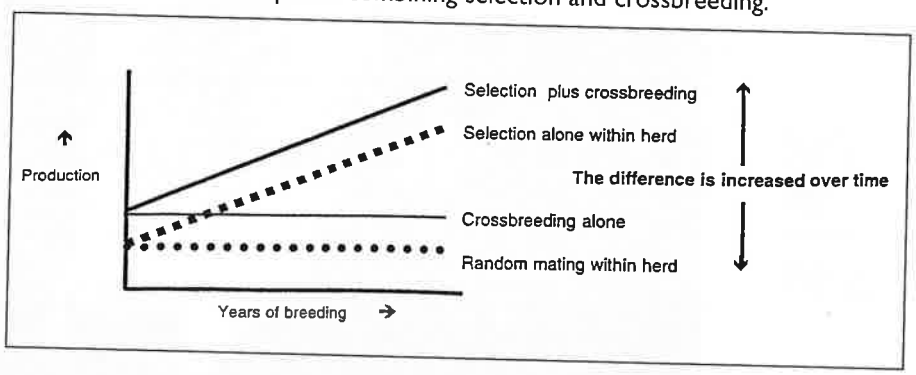


Table 1 Performance of crossbred cows (Morris et al. 1993)

Sire of crossbred dam	Puberty (days)	Cows Pregnant (%)	Calves born alive(%)	Calves weaned	Productivity (kg)	Efficiency (kg)
Angus	395	84	93	73	110	29
Jersey	339	87	96	78	141	38
Hereford	382	85	91	90	118	29
Friesian	347	88	95	79	150	36
Limousin	423	75	95	68	107	27
Blond Aquitaine	417	78	94	68	110	26
South Devon	398	80	96	73	130	31
Maine Anjou	394	83	93	74	128	30
Simmental	393	79	93	69	123	29
Charolais	418	77	93	67	116	27
Chianina	432	73	95	63	102	24

1. Productivity = weight of calf wean/cow joined
2. Efficiency = weight if calf weaned 100 kg of cow liveweight mated.

duction is the dollar value of sale product, relative to the quantity of pasture consumed throughout various times of the year. Over half of the pasture consumed in a beef breeding and finishing system is required to maintain the breeding cows and generate replacement heifers. Accordingly, reproductive rate of breeding cows, expressed as calves born or weaned per 100 cows mated is one of the most important production statistics. Reproductive success involves a number of factors including age at puberty, conception rate, gestation length, calving difficulty, post-partum anoestrus interval and mothering ability. A concentrated calving, along with good lactational performance, are key factors in converting a high reproductive rate into a heavy weight of calf weaned per cow.

In recent years, mature weight of cattle has tended to increase in many breeds. This is clearly evident from the published genetic trends available from Breed Societies recording on Group Breedplan (e.g. Angus, Hereford, Simmental). A consequence of increased mature weight is to increase liveweight at weaning. However, there is evidence that increasing weaning weight by 1 kg will not increase profitability unless it is associated with a less than 1 kg increase in mature weight of the breeding cows. The terms productivity (weight of calf weaned/cow joined) and efficiency (weight of calf weaned per 100 kg cow liveweight mated) have been used to take account of the maintenance feed cost of breeding cows.

Table 2 Effects of breed of sire on carcass traits at 31 months of age (Baker et al. 1990; Morris et al., 1990)

Breed of Sire	Weaning Weight (kg)	Pre slaughter weight(kg)	Hot carcass weight (kg)	Dressing %	Fat depth (mm)	M longissinus area (cm2)
Maine Anjou	173	562	294	52.4	5.4	104
Simmental	174	540	278	51.5	4.5	96
Friesian	167	561	287	51.4	7.1	93
Charolais	171	550	290	52.9	5.4	106
South Devon	168	550	284	51.9	7.4	97
Chianina	166	523	278	53.3	6.2	99
Blonde Aquitaine	167	544	289	53.2	5.4	103
Limousin	160	515	273	53.3	5.4	103
Hereford	159	504	264	52.5	9.8	91
Jersey	147	505	252	50.3	8.1	88
Angus	151	489	248	50.9	7.6	91

Earlier trials involving at least 12 sires per breed had compared the weaning and carcass weights of crossbred progeny from Angus or Hereford dams. These results are shown in Table 2 and demonstrate the effect of breed of sire of the calf. That is, calves sired by breeds with larger mature size tended to have higher weaning weights and the highest carcass weights. Furthermore, these larger sized sire breeds tended to have leaner offspring when harvested at a similar age.

The representatives of these breeds available in New Zealand in the 1990's may differ in performance from those used in the MAF trials. The important message from Tables 1 and 2 are that the breeds and their crosses can differ considerably in various performance attributes and no one breed excels for both maternal and growth characteristics.

Furthermore the relative ranking of breeds and their crossbred progeny may change from one environment to the next (Table 3). The performance of some highly productive cows could drop as fed conditions deteriorate. It is therefore important to

... continued of page 57

Beresford Simmentals

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Meat, Muscle & Mobility

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440
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Morello

This is a commercial herd run for the last 25 years under Mt Taranaki, 500m above sea level, 3000-3300mm a year rainfall.

All heifers calve at 2 years to Simmental Bulls. Part of the herd is milked, the other part multiple suckled. All surplus calves are finished to evaluate the beef potential.

The idea for the last 25 years was to breed for beef, and at the same time not loose the milk. Breedplan only identifies the best milking dam within a herd. Our cows are herd tested with L.I.C. AB sires are all progeny tested for beef, milk and calving ease, in Styria, Austria and are the top performers.

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220
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Table 3 Efficiency of beef breeding cows in two environments (Morris et al. 1993)

	Waikato flat	Rotorua Hill
Hereford x Angus	29	29
Friesian x Angus	36	35
Simmental x Angus	33	27
Limousin x Angus	28	25

Efficiency = weight of calf weaned/100 kg cow liveweight mated)

ensure that potentially productive cows are fed accordingly otherwise production may fall dramatically.

How to Crossbreed

The benefits resulting from crossbreeding are best achieved through increased fertility of crossbred cows and growth rate of calves. In figure 2, it can be seen that if straight bred cows reared crossbred calves rather than straight bred calves, on average, there would be an extra 8.5% increase in weight of calf weaned per cow mated (e.g. for a 200 kg weaner this would equate to 17 kg of extra calf weaning weight) If crossbred dams were than used to rear the crossbred calves, a further 14.8% increase could be expected as a result of the better maternal environment due to primarily to fertility and milk production) provided by the crossbred dams. Using crossbred dams to rear crossbred calves, the expected extra calf weight weaned/cow would be 23.3% compared to straight bred cows rearing straight bred calves.

Alternative Systems

As stated earlier the maximum benefits from crossbreeding are obtained when using a crossbred cow mated to a terminal sire. Five systems are suggested as suitable for New Zealand beef cattle producers.

1. Purchase crossbred heifer replacements

By adopting a policy of buying-in all heifers, 100 percent of the cows in the herd can be mated to a terminal sire. This results in maximum heterosis of 23 percent. A common system used by farmers is the purchase of Beef x Dairy cross heifers (Hereford x Friesian or Angus x Friesian) as weaned calves, mating these are 15 months to an easy calving sire breed (e.g. Angus, Hereford, Murray Grey, Salers) and from then on to a larger terminal sire breed (e.g. Simmental, Charolais, Limousin or South Devon). The main disadvantage of this system is the need to organise a reliable source of replacement heifers. If buying-in heifers is not an option, then breeding them is the only option. Three systems are suggested.

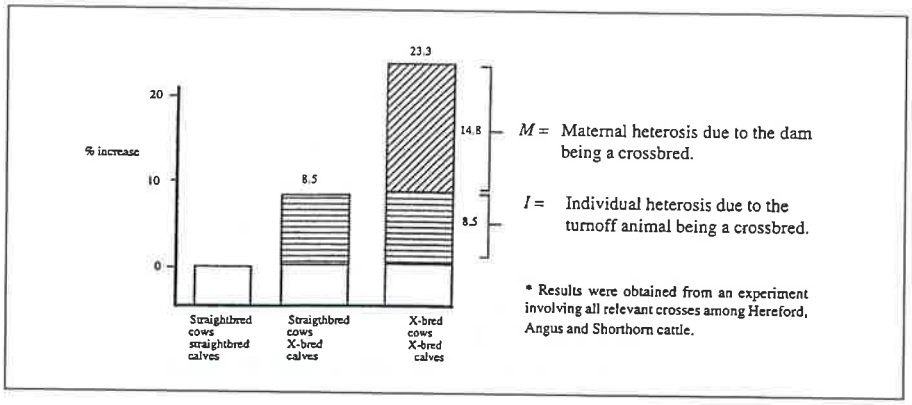

Figure 2. A comparison of % increase in calf weight weaned/cow exposed to breeding, as a result of mating either straight bred cows to bulls of a different breed (centre), or mating first cross cows to bulls of a third breed (right).

...continued on page 58

Table 4: Cow and calf weaning weights (Lowe 1994)

Cow Breed	Calf weaning weight (kg)	Cow weaning weight (kg)
Angus/Hereford	229	445
Friesian/A &H	250	410

2. Three-breed specific cross

This system requires the input of three breeds which should all complement each other. For example the first two breeds (the breeding cow) can be chosen to achieve maternal heterosis and adaptation to an environment (eg. Hereford x Angus) whilst the last breed (the terminal sire breed) used (Charolais or Simmental) can produce the most acceptable sale animals using growth and carcass characteristics.

Therefore in a 300 cow herd

105 (35%) Angus heifers and 3 yr. cows are bred to Angus bulls to generate sufficient replacement Angus heifers.

75 (25%) Angus 3 & 4 yr. cows are bred to Hereford bulls to generate Hereford x Angus heifers.

120 (40%) Hereford x Angus heifers and cows are bred to terminal sire (Simmental) and all progeny are slaughtered. Heifers may go to easy calving sire (Shorthorn, Salers).

This system utilised purebred and crossbred heifers on the same farm. It is rather complex and requires a large herd with at least 3 mating and calving groups.

3. Rotational Crossing
(sometimes referred to as crisis-crossing).

In this system two, three or more breeds of bulls are utilised in a rotational system. In a two breed rotation if Breed A is mated to Breed B then all heifers born to this cross are always mated to Breed A. The Hereford and Angus have traditionally been utilised in this method and can stabilise at around 67% of maximum heterosis attained from always using an F1 crossbred cow. A three breed rotational cross has been used at Limestone Downs, Port Waikato for over 13 years utilising crossbreed cows comprising the Angus, Hereford and Friesian breeds. Heifers born from the mating of one of these sires, are mated to next bull breed in the rotation for the rest of their productive lives. A fourth breed can be introduced to a quarter of the herd (usually adult cows) as a terminal sire breed. Some results from the Limestone Down system are given in Table 4 and demonstrate the lift in a calf weaning weight achieved with no increase in cow live weight.

It is worth noting that the Friesian has produced a high calf weaning weight, but in an intensively farmed system the feed required to restore cow live weight lost during lactation has to be diverted from some other enterprise. The opportunity cost of this can not be ignored.

4. Composite Breeds

The use of composite breeds where 3, 4, 5 up to 8 breeds have been interbred to form a new breed may be a possibility. In New Zealand the use of composite breeds is in its infancy but some are available eg. Shaver Beef Blend. Research from USA indicates that a composite or synthetic breeds may maintain as much heterosis as cross breeding systems. Operators of large, extensively managed operations may also find composite breeding useful because it allows more flexibility at mating, with fewer mating mobs. Although many breeds may be involved most composite breeds contain a breed ratio of 50% British and 50% Continental breeds.

5. Alternating Breeds over time.

With small herds using only one or two bulls, the choice of crossbreeding systems is restricted. A normal rotational system cannot be used although buying in replacements heifers (system one) is an option. By changing one breed of bull every two or three years the two and three breed rotations may be closely approximated.

Benefits of Crossbreeding

The relationship between the various mating systems, percent maximum heterosis retained and percentage increase in weight of calf weaned per cow exposed is shown in Table 5.

The prices noted in Table 5 have not included a premium for the growth potential of crossbred cattle which in the past. These have apparently been minimised over the past autumn, due to market uncertainty and an increased demand for feedlot cattle (black in colour). Never the less the main determinant of price at weaner sales is size and liveweight and with some exceptions carcass weight remains the main determinant of farm profit for beef cattle.

A comprehensive analysis covering both physical and financial performance of three different breeding cow system was undertaken by Webby and Thomas (1994). Using the same standard land area, the gross margins (returns net of the direct costs for the enterprise eg. purchases and animal health) were analysed for the following cattle policies.

Policy 1: Traditional breed of beef cows mated to same traditional breed of bull (i.e. Angus) in a self replacing herd.

Policy 2: Younger traditional breed of beef cow (eg. Angus) mated to traditional breed of bull (60% of herd) and terminal sire (eg. Simmental) mated to older cows (40%), in a self replacing herd.

Policy 3: Dairy beef cross cows (e.g. Hereford x Friesian) mated to a large terminal sire breed (e.g. Charolais), with heifers mated to a bull, from a easy calving sire breed (e.g. Angus, Shorthorn).

Each of the above systems were compared using the same pasture supply and selling policies.

Compared to a traditional self replacing beef breed herd, a dairy beef crossbreed herd where all replacements are sourced from the dairy industry may return up to 43% more revenue per hectare.

Disadvantages of Crossbreeding

1. Extra management, crossbreeding systems within a single farm can become complicated because of the need to maintain crossbred and purebred cows in separate mating groups.
2. More precise recording of breeds and breed groups required.
3. Incorrect mating policies such as mating a large terminal sire to heifers may result in dystocia problems.

Summary

To maximise the benefits from crossbreeding producers need to:

- identify the relevant performance characteristics of beef breeding cows and their offspring that best suit their farming system.
- recognise breeds differ in their performance attributes for maternal and growth and carcass traits.
- choose a breeding system which in practice, involves a compromise between breeding and growth characteristics
- recognise their management skill levels and their ability to plan, implement and monitor a crossbreeding programme.

Table 5: Percentage of maximum heterosis expected in progeny

Mating system	Heterosis retained		Superiority over parent breeds		
	Individual (%)	Maternal (%)	Weight of calf Weaned (%)	Cow mated (kg)	Value at $1.00/kg LW
Straightbred A x A	0	0	0	200	0
2 breed cross (A x B)	100	0	8.5	217	17.00
3 breed cross (A x B) C	100	100	23.5	246	46.00
Rotational crosses					
2 breed	33	67	12.7	226	26.00
3 breed	86	86	20.0	240	40.00
4 breed	93	93	21.7	243	43.00
Composite					
3 breed	67	67	15.6	230	30.00
8 breed	87	87	20.4	241	42.00

The 1996 National Simmental Bull Sale

by Russell Priest

In spite of the national beef scene being considerably depressed, Simmental bulls at the National Beef Bull Week Sale sold with steady demand. Twenty-five bulls were entered in the Sale, there were no passings and the average price was $4,750. This represented a slight decline from the previous year's average. Top price of $11,000 was paid by Ross Cockburn for an entry from the Enterprise Cattle Company, 'Moneymore After Shock'. This bull was of very similar breeding to the bull 'Moneymore Earthquake', which was judged the Champion of Champions during 1994 Bull Week. Other sales of note were 'Glen Anthony Debonair' to John Gould for $10,000, 'Herrington Loch Doon' to Warren Burgess for $8,200, 'Glen Anthony Domingo' to Roger Caird for $8,000 and 'Baru-iti Mercedes' to Ailsa Farm for $7,000.

For the pre-sale judging all bulls were extremely well presented and handled, and provided the judge with an immensely challenging task. The animals, compared with those of five years ago, were more moderate framed, higher yielding cattle, showing greater muscling and sounder structure. This was very pleasing to see and suggested the days of breeding for frame score alone are behind us. As a breeder of both sheep and cattle, I am of the firm belief that it is inadvisable to pursue any one particular trait to its extreme, and that a balanced approach to trait selection is more prudent.

Fortunately the bulls were split into three age classes for judging, (it would have been an almost impossible task otherwise, with the severe constraints imposed by the show ring). The three classes were gratefully sponsored by Maungaraki Cattle Company, Rissington Cattle Company and World Wide Sires. The results were:

Sponsored by Maungaraki Cattle Company

Class 1	1st	Lot 8	Glen Anthony Debonair
	2nd	Lot 24	Moneymore Card Shark
	3rd	Lot 13	Double AA Denver
	4th	Lot 25	Double AA Dallas

Entries: Lots 2, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 19, 24, 25.

Sponsored by Rissington Cattle Company

Class II	1st	Lot 22	Camel Wheal Dundee
	2nd	Lot 21	Karewa Digger
	3rd	Lot 23	Glen Anthony Domingo

Entries: Lots 4, 5, 7, 10, 20, 21, 22, 23.

Sponsored by World Wide Sires

Class III	1st	Lot 3	Baru-iti Mercedes
	2nd	Lot 17	Herrington Loch Doon
	3rd	Lot 12	Tapuata The Don

Entries: Lots 1, 3, 9, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18.

In judging the Supreme Champion Simmental Award, the top two bulls from each class entered the ring and were assessed and placed from 1st to 6th in each of the following categories:

1. Fertility
2. Structural Soundness
3. Conformation and Performance

Points were awarded from 1 to 6 according to the bulls placing within each category, and then totalled to give the final result. The Supreme Champion Simmental award went to a bull owned by Glennis and Tony Thompson, Glen Anthony Debonair, and the Reserve Champion was Sue and Peter McWilliam Baru-iti Mercedes. Debonair scored particularly well in the fertility and structural soundness traits, had a very high yielding carcass with particularly strong muscle expression, and showed balanced performance data. I have since viewed this bull after a demanding mating season and was impressed with his soundness and constitution. Like Debonair, Baru-iti Mercedes was a moderate framed bull, not as heavily muscled as the former, but he scored highly in the fertility and structural soundness categories.

In judging the 1996 National Sale bulls, my objective was to be both entertaining and informative. Unfortunately time did not permit me to fully complete my proposed assignment, part of which was to 'go over' a live animal briefly pointing out the characteristics I was looking for. In the judging process I methodically scan the animal, considering the most economically important traits first and giving them greater weighting in my final decision, than those more cosmetic features. As listed earlier in this report, the traits I address in order of importance are fertility, structural soundness, conformation and performance data.

Fertility

A cow without a calf is not a great generator of income, hence this trait must be the most important in the judging arena. Just as a cow can be regarded as a factory for producing and nurturing a calf, so too can a bull be likened to one which produces and delivers semen. More fertile bulls have large firm testicles, enabling them to produce large numbers of viable sperm. In addition, they must possess an efficient mechanism to regulate the temperature of that sperm, and be equipped with a sheath which is at the correct angle to enable that sperm to be delivered successfully to the vagina of the cow.

The structure of the bull's hindleg also plays a vital role in successful semen delivery. If there is too great an angle to the hock (post-legged - the animal tends to be short in its stride), when the bull delivers his final mating thrust, the ligaments associated with this joint will become over stretched. The animal will remember this excruciatingly painful experience, and will be most reluctant to expose himself to this again. The lesser fault associated with hindleg structure is that where there is too small an angle to the hock (sickle hocked), the animal tended to overstep when walking, and when dismounting a cow following mating, may fall over backwards and suddenly wonder whether the otherwise pleasurable experience is worth the effort! Both conditioned emanate from an incorrect angle to the shoulder blade (scapula).

Structural Soundness

The frame of the cattle beast is a finely balanced piece of engineering. If the angles of the bones within this structure exceed certain degrees of engineering tolerance, the animal will become structurally unsound. Soundness can very quickly be assessed by focusing on the angles of the fore and hind pasterns, which mirror the angles of the bones of the fore and hind legs. If an animal is low in its pasterns (and generally all four will be affected), the angle of both the hock and shoulder blade will be too small and the animal will tend to "overstep". Alternatively, if the angle to the pasterns is too great, the animal will tend to be post-legged and be short in its gait, leading to cartilage disintegration in the hind legs.

Front and hind limbs, when viewed from in front of, and behind the beast, should meet the ground at right angles, otherwise uneven claw wear will occur, resulting in overgrown claws. Large feet, of good shape and depth of heel, are of critical importance for longevity.

Because the shoulder blade is tenuously attached to the rest of the carcase by tendons, it is of vital importance that the distance between the top of the blades where they meet the topline is kept to a minimum.

A strong muzzle (width of jaw) coupled with teeth that meet the upper pad well forward, will enable the animal to harvest its daily requirement for grass in as short a time as possible. Well hooded eyelids with the added bonus of dark pigmentation of the lower lids, will protect the eyes from the damaging rays of the sun.

Conformation

High yielding carcasses are characterised by an animal with: a good spring of ribs; width between the front legs; a brisket with sits above the knee joint; as little of the beast below the elbows as possible; good width across the loin; maximum width within the carcase between the muscles associated with the stifle joints. A large muscular forearm and stifle muscle, coupled with a wide bulging (convex) loin, are the best indicators of the degree of muscling within the carcass.

Performance Information

While a strong advocate of using this information in the judging arena, I also firmly believe that before considering it, the aspects of fertility, structural soundness and conformation should be addressed first. Performance information is just another of the many criteria I use in my overall assessment of an animal, however in using it I am very conscious of the accuracy of the figures. These can change quite markedly as the accuracies improve - as a rule of thumb the possible change in EBV figures is halved as the accuracies move from 50% to 90%.

Tony Thompson of the GlenAnthony Stud won the Supreme Champion Simmental Award with this entry 'Glen Anthony Debonaire' described by the judge as the "Jonah Lomi of the Simmental breed."

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Exhibitor took out the All Breeds Yearling Bull Championship for us at this years Auckland Easter Show from a very large field.

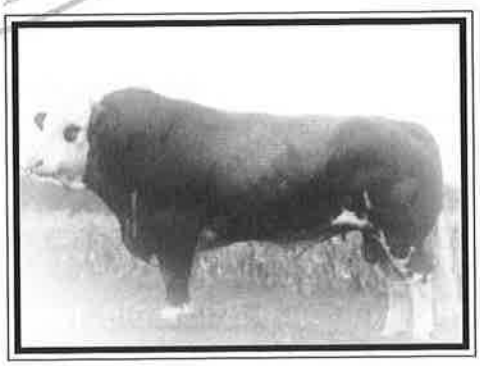
Select the traits you need and we will provide the genetics that will help you reach your goals. Videos and data sheets of bulls offered for sale this year at Nationals, Waikato and District and by private treaty are available on request.

Enquiries and inspection welcome at any tme by contacting our Stud Master, Mr Barry Pope, Hampton Downs Road, Te Kauwhata. Phone/Fax (07) 826 3195.

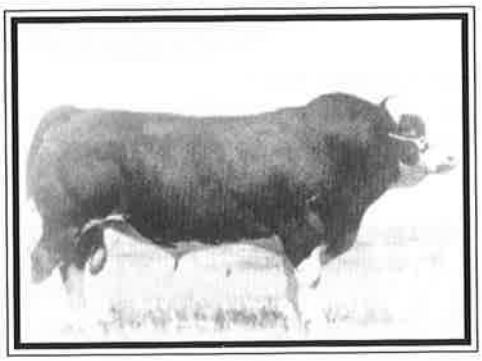
Sires from the Archives

Many members will have heard of many of the bulls from yesteryear — but never seen photographs of them. Their inclusion here is for this purpose. They may feature in some of your pedigrees. The majority of them are dead - a few have semen still available. Would you use these bulls now - or has the breed moved on? - or indeed is if difficult to tell a 'good' bull merely from a photograph. We hope they give you much food for thought.

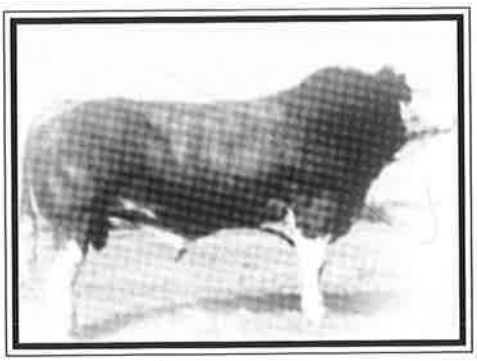
Great Guns Ferdinand 13Z



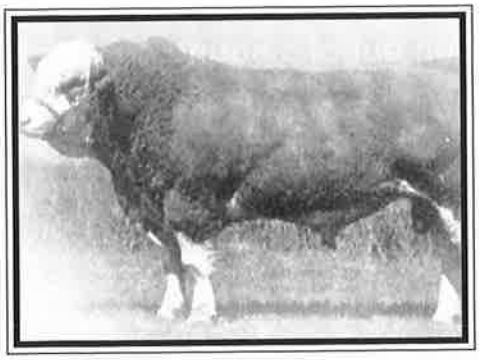
C & B Western



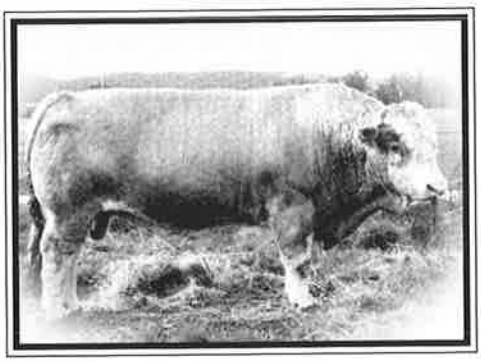
ZT Zazou 50F



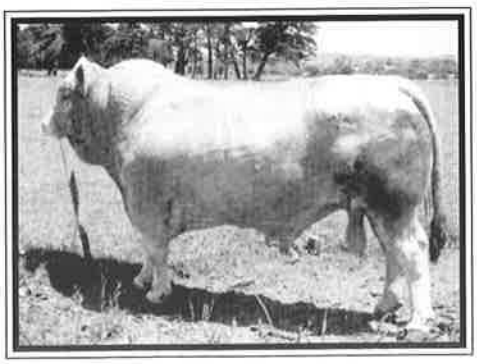
Bar 5 Dignified



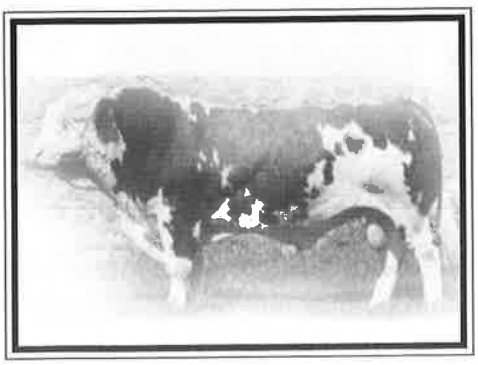
Galant



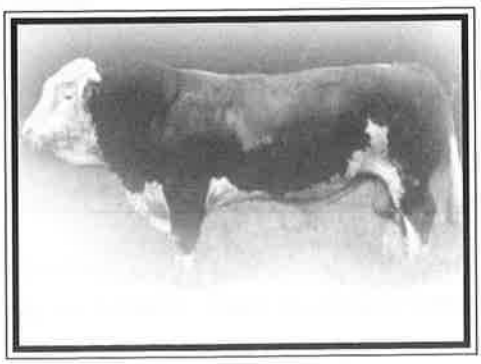
Maraetotara Prince



Tokaweka Rascallion



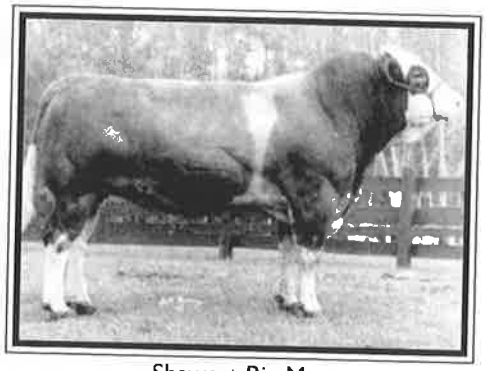
Salz (AS 10)



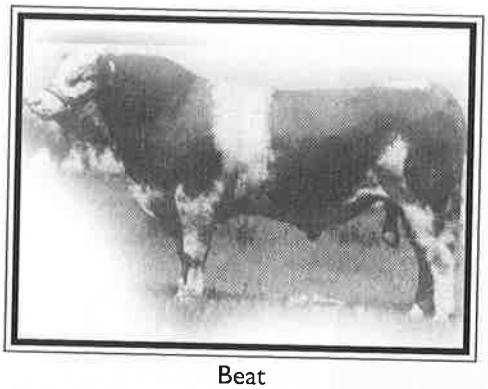
Seigried (AS 26)

Hamlet (AS 2)

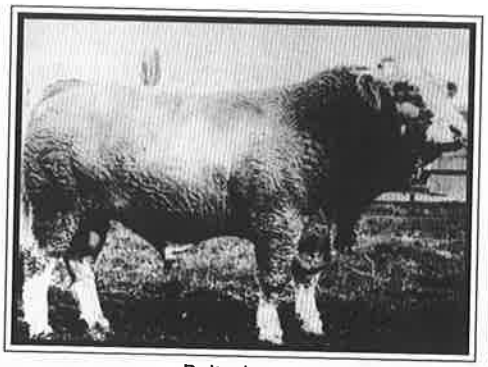
Cambridge Ruhma



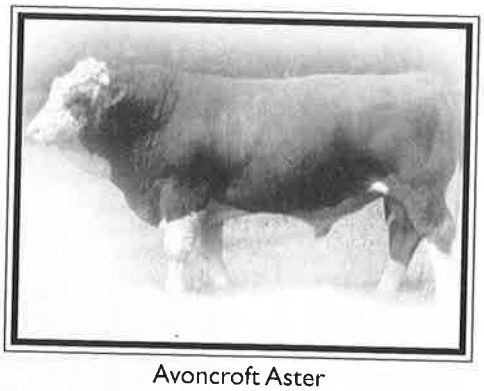
Shawest Big Mac



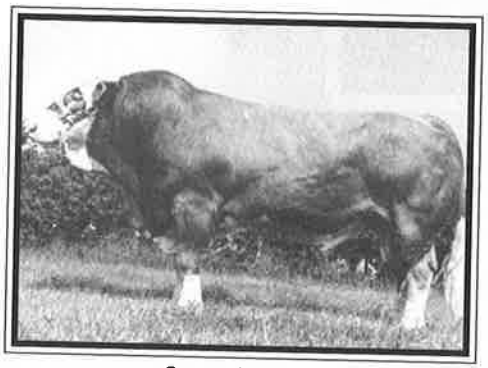
Beat



Balig Agent

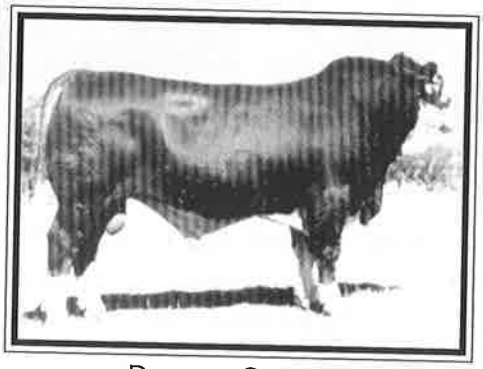


Avoncroft Aster

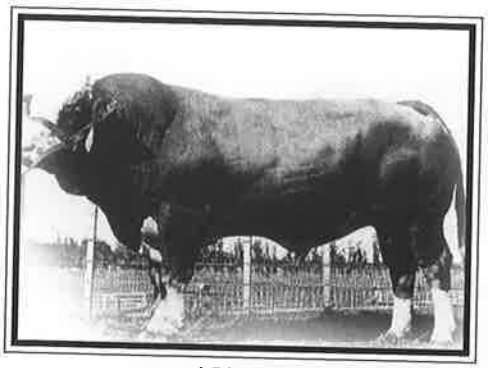


Scottish Pride

Coopental Terrific

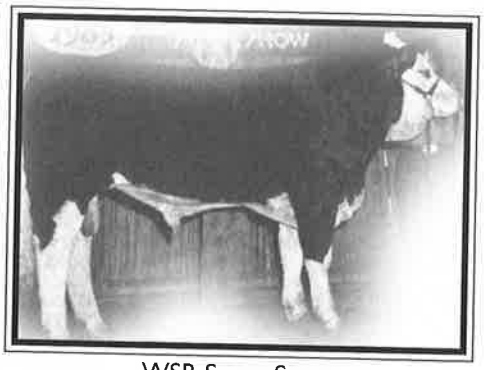


Dunmore Cossack II

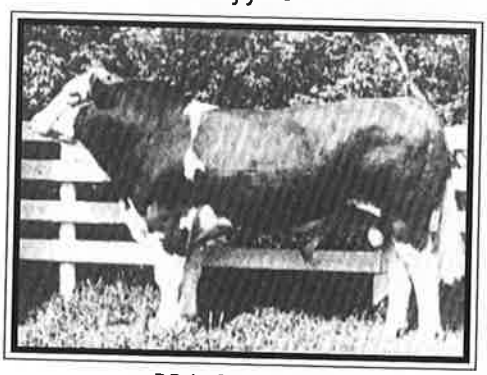


LBJ Jade

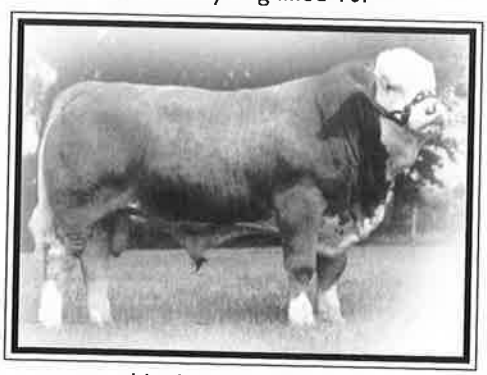
Mr Dusty Dignified 10P



WSR Super Sport



BBA Galant 12L



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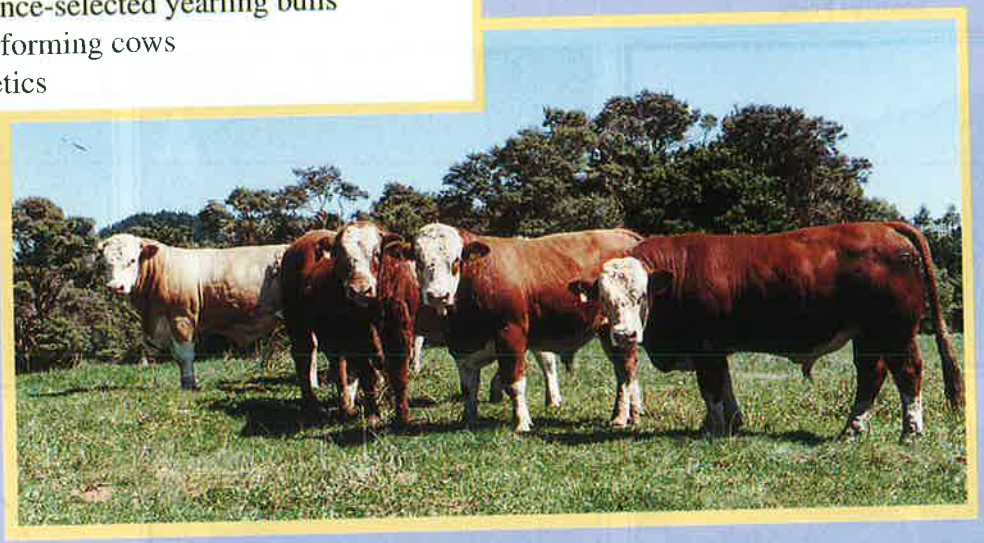

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Obituary

Professor W. (Bill) A.A.G. Macbeth

Medical Practitioner, Professor of Surgery and University Lecturer is an unusual background for a hands on farmer and stud cattle breeder. Bill Macbeth was all these things and equally successful in them all.

An Irishman whose parents moved from Ireland to Australia. Bill came to New Zealand as a young man and established himself in the medical world settling in Christchurch. A latent interest in farming was obviously there and in 1986 it emerged when he bought a group of graded up Simmental from O.J. Osborne of Leeston and established the Cawdor stud. The herd was agisted on various properties until Dunsinane Hill was purchased at Maruia in the Murchison area.

A large attractive property in some disrepair enabled Bill to quickly demonstrate his ability to apply himself in a farming role. Within a few years the property was transformed into a very tidy and functional enterprise producing Drysdale sheep and top stud and commercial Simmental cattle.

A person of great academic ability Bill researched, studied, looked and listened to quickly accumulate a great deal of knowledge on livestock, farming and the Simmental breed. He set up his own computer recording system, trained as an A.I. Technician and did all his own A.I. work as well as basic veterinarian requirements. In scruffy overalls, gumboots and an old woolly hat in muddy yards he was far removed from the operating theatre. His hands on approach involved all aspects of farming.

Bill became well known in the Simmental scene throughout New Zealand as a stud marketeer and attender of sales, shows and field days. In the past few years several highly successful field days had been held at Dunsinane Hill. Bill was a thinker, a planner and a man of action with a joyous sense of humour, patent only to the Irish.

He sadly died suddenly at Maruia on the 22nd March. In recent times he was spending more and more time at Dunsinane Hill as he shed his medical responsibilities in retirement - it was a lifestyle he loved.

A person of great academic ability Bill researched, studied, looked and listened to quickly accumulate a great deal of knowledge on livestock, farming and the Simmental breed.

To Jean, his wife and to his family, Fraser, Gill, Rob, Andy and Paddy go our condolences in their untimely loss.

130
40
170

1996 Royal Show - *Palmerston North*

Persistent squally wind and rain made conditions for the exhibitors particularly difficult, not to mention the cattle and the judge, John Absolom and his associate, Ross Cockburn.

Though the entries were not as large as some years eight exhibitors should be commended for the quality of their cattle and the way they paraded them.

The Glen Anthony stud started the day off well by winning the Senior Champion Female with their 2 year old entry, Glen Anthony Della with the Reserve going to Glen Anthony Aroha, their 5 year old cow.

The Champion Heifer went to the junior entry of the McWilliams', Wai-iti Unique, who made a big impression on the judges. Her style, correctness, coupled with very well balanced EBV's made her a logical winner in what first appeared to be a very even line up of yearling heifers. Waiwhare AE262, another junior yearling took out The Reserve.

Wai-iti Unique took out The Grand Champion Female with The Reserve going to Glen Anthony Della.

In the bull section The Senior Champion was the huge 1,500 kg entry of Drew Stein's. Though the only entry he certainly created lots of interest from the onlookers. He later went on to take out The Reserve Grand Champion bull.

In the Junior Champion bull, Glen Anthony AE61 the winner of the Junior Class, the judges singled him out as the clear winner. His overall style and correctness gave him a head start which was reinforced when his EBV's were studied. His birth weight was only 1.3 kg above breed average and in every other trait he was in the top 25% or better. Wai-iti Eightball beat off a very even line up of well muscled bulls to gain The Reserve Junior Champion ribbon.

It came as no surprise to onlookers when the Supreme award was given to Glen Anthony AE61 which in the judges opinion was surely a very worthy winner of the prestigious silver salver for his owners, Glennis and Tony Thompson.

Above: Drew Stein of the Trossachs Stud with his Senior Champion in the bull section.
Below: Glennis and Tony Thompson of the Glen Anthony Stud with their Supreme Simmental Champion Glen Anthony AE61.

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2. The calf, identified and weighed at birth, and weighed at regular intervals thereafter, must meet growth targets throughout its life.
3. Mature cows must stay within moderate frame maintenance parameters while still delivering a minimum weaning weight in their calves.
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Breedplan Carcase Traits

The Meat Yield EBV's Explained

By Brian Sundstrom - Technical Breedplan Specialist

In 1991 Breedplan introduced its first two carcase EBV's
- fat depth and
- eye muscle area.

These EBV's are calculated from scanning information on live cattle. Two fat scans are taken (rump and rib), together with an eye muscle and liveweight. One important use of these EBV's is to select for increased Meat Yield. To further assist this selection, two new Yield EBV's have been released:

Estimated Total Meat Yield (kg) - ETMY
and
Estimated Meat Yield % - EMY

Total Yield (kg) is the weight of meat produced by an animal. Yield % is the weight of meat expressed as a percentage of carcase weight. Since it is not practical to bone-out live animals, both these yield traits are estimated using scanning liveweight, fat depth and eye muscle scans.

Using The Fat Depth EBV's

The fat EBV's are based on scans taken at the rib and rump sites. In some breeds, EBV's are only given for rump fat. The rib scans and other correlated information are however also used in this calculation. Some breeds release both rib and rump fat EBV's to allow assessment of differences in fat distribution.

Fat depth EBV's are in mm. Positive EBV's indicate animals which will breed progeny fatter (or earlier finishing) than base animals, and the converse for negative EBV's.

The actual fat depth carried by progeny will vary with the environment, age and sex. Fat EBV's are therefore best used for comparing sires. Breeders can develop a marker for their country and management. For example, if current breeding, with sires of +1mm, is producing slightly overfinished stock, try sires with say -1mm EBV's.

Eye Muscle Area EBV

For sires, this predicts the size of the eye muscles in their progeny at 450 days. This EBV can be used, for example to respond to feedlot requests to improve this trait. This EBV is also positively associated with weight. Because of this association, the EMA EBV is seen more as a Total Yield predictor than an indicator of muscling. Where Total Yield EBV's are available these are of course a more direct way of predicting yield.

Total Meat Yield EBV

For sires, this is a prediction of the total yield of meat which will be produced from their progeny at 450 days. The equation used to calculate this, mainly includes weight and eye muscle scan. The biggest influence on total yield is weight, (you can't cut a large amount of meat from a small animal). i.e. Total Yield is largely a weight trait with some refinement due to 'muscling'. The correlation with the 400 day weight EBV is about 90%. EBV's will be +ve or -ve, indicating progeny yielding under or over the base set in 1993.

At present, this EBV is probably best used to ' fine tune' selection decisions. For example, breeders may select mainly on weight, fertility etc. - then check Total Yield if available. Within animals of the desired growth and fertility, select the best Total Yield EBV.

As this EBV becomes more widely available and understood, it may become as important as the 400 day wt EBV as a primary selection trait, particularly when yield pricing is introduced into abattoirs.

Meat Yield % EBV

This EBV is a guide to the % Meat Yield from the carcases of progeny. It gives a guide to carcase composition (particularly muscle : bone ratio) as distinct from total yield. The equation used in the calculation of this EBV includes weight and age, but is mostly influenced by EMA (75%) and fat (25%).

Cattle which have big eye muscles for their weight and are leaner, will have positive Yield % EBV's. This will indicate higher yield percentages, in the carcases of their progeny. Early indications are that this EBV will relate fairly closely to visual muscling.

It is Important to Note:

- Yield % is a difficult trait to predict from existing measurements and current equations are only moderately successful. Even though there are other factors involved, Breedplan address the most important ones in the Yield % EBV.
- This EBV will show the normal Breedplan Accuracies (Acc) but this is more an indication of the number of progeny scanned than the final % yield prediction ability. Higher accuracy bulls will still be the best predictors, but of a 'difficult target'.
- The yield % EBV has a small but negative genetic correlation with weight, -20%. Heavy selection for yield %, while ignoring growth, would therefore lead to smaller cattle and lower total yield. There is however still ample scope for selecting cattle with both high growth and +ve yield %.
- There is only a small range in these yield % EBV's. Even small changes in yield % (in the order of 1%) are however very valuable to abattoir boning rooms and retail butchers.

The following diagram explains some of the concepts relating to the yield EBV's. Individual animals of course vary and do not all comply with a stylised pattern such as this.

In Summary

Breedplan has for some time had a range of accurate weight predictions. To describe the meat component of this weight, some Breedplan herd are now adding a range of carcase EBV's. Fat depth and Eye Muscle area EBV's have been retained and two yield EBV's added during a period of industry evaluation.

Fat - To indicate early or late finishing cattle.

Eye Muscle Area - To indicate eye muscle size at constant age.

Total Meat Yield - This is closely linked to weight, but a refinement. Some breeders will seek maximum yield from the highest growth cattle. This is particularly suited to Terminal Sires. In pure breeding situations such high growth cattle need to be carefully monitored for fertility, calving ease and other aspects of carcase acceptability.

Example Carcase EBV Report

	400 day wt	Fat Rump	Fat Rib	EMA	Estimated Total Yield	Estimated Yield %
Sire X						
EBV	+35kg	+1.5mm	+1mm	+5cm^2	+10kg	+.4%
Acc	85%	80%	75%	76%	80%	75%

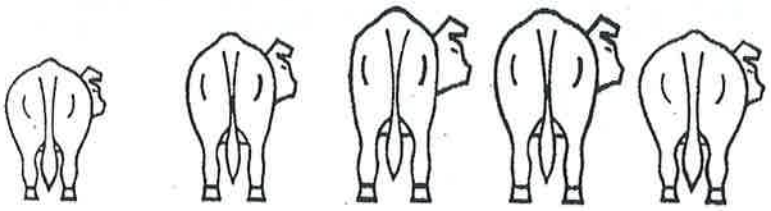
Note:
The 400d wt EBV is reprinted from the main Breedplan report. It is calculated from all the submitted weights. The yield EBV's currently make use of only the weight taken at scanning (and the fat and EMA scans). This may account for some of the differences in ranking's between the 400d wt and Total Yield EBV's.

Other pure breeders may have decided on an optimum cow size and wish to select for increased yield without changing size. Within cattle of this size (as indicated by 600wt EBV), they may wish to select for yield %.

Meat Yield % - This is an indicator of carcase composition, particularly 'muscling' or muscle to bone ratio. As it is slightly negatively associated with weight it should be used with caution. There is however scope to select cattle of the required growth rate/size, with improving yield %. This EBV is likely to be the most predictive over the lighter market weight ranges.

With further research, the yield EBV's will be improved and moderate changes to EBV's can be expected as enhancements are implemented. With the release of the two new Yield EBV's the EMA EBV will initially be retained. This will allow a period of industry evaluation of all these EBV's. During this period, extra data will be collected from the breeding and slaughter programs associated with the Breedplan Validation Project and the Co-operative Research Centre (CRC). Breeders and Breed Societies are assisting in this work. Further enhancements will then be possible and decisions taken on the final mix of EBV's required.

As technology becomes available, Meat quality EBV's such a marbling and tenderness may also be incorporated.



A B C D E

Raw Measurements	A	B	C	D	E
Scanning WT	350kg	400	450	460	445
E.M.A.	78cm²	79	81	87	88
EBV's					
400 d.WT	0	+15	+30	+33	+28
E.M.A.	-.3	0	+.5	+2	+2
Total Yield	-7	0	+7	+10	+8
Yield	+.2	0	-.2	0	+.1

(assumes common ages and fat scans)

Bull A is low growth and hence low Total Yield, despite his heavy muscling. The heavy muscling is indicated by a positive Yield % EBV. The EMA EBV is negative, indicating a relatively small eye muscle for his age (due to low growth)

Bull E has both high growth and heavy muscling, resulting in a slightly higher Yield % EBV than Bull D, but a slightly lower Total Yield EBV. D's high growth rate with moderate muscling gives him the best Total Yield EBV.

The higher growth bulls C D E all have positive EMA EBV's despite their varying visual muscle scores.

Bull B is Breed average for carcase traits (1991 base zero EBVs) and Bull A at base level for 400 day WT (e.g. base 1975 zero EBV)

Crystal Keeps Simmentals Out In Front

Karewa Crystal a 3 year old cow owned by John and Lorraine McNaughten is the most successful Simmental Show Cow in New Zealand. To date she has won over 70 championship classes and 6 Meat and Wool Cups.

Her progeny, to date two heifer calves are following in her footsteps in the show ring. Emerald, as a yearling heifer competed and upstaged previous Meat and Wool Cup winners at the Royal Show in Palmerston North in the Champion of Champions. Favourite, this years heifer calf has many first and Championship ribbons to her credit. At this years Morrinsville Show, on 1st March the Karewa Simmental Stud presented 5 animals. It was a day for the record books, all five animals took the first placings in the All Breeds classes.

Yearling heifer Karewa Emerald 1st - 19 in class.
Yearling bull Karewa Empire 1st - 15 in class.
Cow with calf Karewa Crystal and Favourite 1st - 6 in class.
Heifer calf Karewa Favourite 1st - 17 in class.
Bull calf Karewa Forman 1st - 13 in class.

Bruce Orr, the announcer during the show spoke after the judging and congratulated John and Lorraine, he also noted that their achievement was probably a New Zealand record, as he has never heard of it happening before. At the Auckland Royal Show of Champions, Crystal, Emerald and Favourite will be shown as a team of three.

To date Cyrstal has won over 70 championship classes and 6 Meat and Wool Cups.

Past Presidents

R H Kerr	1972 - 1979
R N S Cox	1979 - 1984
H R Lowry	1984 - 1986
A B Perry	1986 - 1989
D C Carter	1989 - 1993
J D Graham	1993 - 1996
J B Scott	1996 -

Past Office Managers

H M Studholme	1972 - 1974
I S Johnstone	1974 - 1989
J Mangnall	1989 -1992
P A Forde	1992 - 1996
R J Glubb	1996 -

Australian Premier Young Herdsperson Event 1996

by David Bradley

David Bradley winner of the 1995 Junior Herdsperson competition held at Hamilton.

On July 10th I was sent to Adelaide, South Australia to compete in this competition which is designed to school Australia's most promising young cattle people for tomorrows Beef Industry.

After missing one flight from Melbourne to Adelaide, Mark Stevens and myself met up with Michael and Rosalind Kynst of Ebony Park Simmentals who were hosting me for the three weeks I was to be in Australia. Mark was off to Bokara Simmental Stud, south of Adelaide.

From the airport it was a 45 min drive to Cudlee Creek in the Adelaide Hills where Michael and Rosalind owned an engineering business and lived, from there it was another 30 min towards the foot of the Barossa Valley to Ebony Park where I was to be working.

The next morning I was met by their daughter Shannon who worked on Ebony Park. When we arrived we gathered the show team, of which two were for the Heifer Show and another eleven were going to the Royal Adelaide show five weeks later.

For the first week I prepared my heifer for the show. Her name was Ebony Park Quatro, a moderate framed, lovely polled heifer with a lot of depth and thickness that impressed. She needed clipping and more leading for the both of us to get to know each other.

The rest of the week was spent working on the Adelaide team. I was amazed at the amount of rain we had at Ebony Park and how it flowed across the pasture rather than soaking in.

Monday, 15th July saw us off to the heifer show with Quatro and a balloted heifer. We arrived at Wayville Showgrounds bout 3pm and got settled in. At 5pm we got allocated our balloted heifers which had to be broken in, clipped and presented in the ring. I received an average Gelbvieh with no hair, so I was restricted as to what I could do.

Then we were welcomed by the President, David Copping and the official opening was enjoyed by all 155 entrants aged from eight to twenty-five years, from nineteen beef breeds.

Tuesday 16th saw mainly an education day with lectures including pasture management, animal structure, steer assessment, marketing, herd health and a boning out demonstration. I found the steer assessment very interesting where they pointed out the requirements for the Supermarket feedlotted steers. Also, a Mr Brian Bull, an agronomist from Hi Fert South Australia, was very interesting talking on the soil types of South Australia.

After lunch we had time to work on our balloted heifers, clipping and breaking. This was also time to meet friends, sharing chutes and clippers etc.

Wednesday 17th the seniors had a practice in the ring with our ballot heifers, which at times looked like a Rodeo. Fortunately my Gelbvieh behaved very well.

Then it was on to our Junior Judging Competition which involved judging a group of four interbreed heifers, placing them and speaking on them. I enjoyed the event which was over very quickly, with a three minute restriction on each competitor.

Then it was on to our Junior Judging Competition which I involved judging a group of four interbreed heifers, placing them and speaking on them. I enjoyed the event which was over very quickly, with a three minute restriction on each competitor.

After everyone had finished our Overjudge, Mr Keith Bennett, a Polled Hereford breeder from South Australia, judged the class and then spoke to them we were then allocated points on our public speaking and how close to the Overjudge we placed the heifers.

Then after lunch more time for our Ballot Heifers and an interview with the committee where they were looking for personal appearance, attitude and general knowledge.

Wednesday evening was a general knowledge quiz on the Australian Beef Industry, worth an important 20 marks of our possible 160.

Thursday July 10th was the last and most important day of the Heifers show, with our heifers being judged by Mr Alastair Bassingthwaighte, Walumbilla, Queensland, and the competitors being judged as handlers, to find our respective Champion and Reserve heifers and handlers.

Underway at 8.30 am were the 18 senior exhibitors in two heats parading in front of Judge, Mr Robert Hutchison, Glenrowen, Victoria. I was placed third in my heat so wasn't available for Senior Champion Handler.

Next it was up to my heifer who unfortunately came up against a judge who went for size, so coming second in her class was the best we could manage.

The rest of the afternoon saw the presentation of Champion age-group Handlers and announcement of the Wesfarmers Dalgety Heifer Show Scholarship to North America, which went to Natalie Labaj of South Australia, four points behind was Ben Glatz. I came ninth out of eighteen senior entrants, which I was very happy about.

I learned a lot at the Heifer Show, I think it was a great way of developing Australia's young Beef Breeders of tomorrow.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Michael, Rosalind and Shannon Kunst for the wonderful hospitality and friendship I received, also Paula Forde, Darryl Turton and the Hayward family of Cambridge for making my memorable trip possible.

A special thanks to the New Zealand Simmental Society for the full sponsorship of my trip.

1995 Herdsman Runnerup (2nd) NZ Royal Show Simmental Award

by Mark E Stevens

Being my first trip overseas (to Australia) in July 1996, I was both excited and very nervous. I guess that is why I turned up at Auckland Airport four hours early.

Thanks to our very own Ruapehu's eruptions, the plane was delayed two hours before departure.

When we landed in Adelaide, David Bradley and I were met by Mr & Mrs Kunst, who informed me that I would be hosted on Mrs Shirley Barker's property (Bokara Simmentals & Caithness Charolais) near Mount Barker, an hours drive from Adelaide. Mrs Barker duly arrived and took me home to her property.

The next morning I awoke to the sound of magpies and Kookaburras. After breakfast I was shown over the 1000 acre property. It was typically Australian; from the big verandah house to the gum tress and the kookaburras. That afternoon I met Simon, who was in charge of the Show preparation, I learnt heaps from him and we became great mates.

Five days later we were at the South Australian Heifer show (now called the South Australian Expo because of the diversity; judging, teaching, handling, showing, technique, marketing etc.

I was surprised how many heifers were there (about 200) just the sheer size of it all. Some studs came from Dubbo N.S.W. and Victoria. This made it very interesting when we had a Seminar on "Soil Fertility and Supplementary Feeding, because of the diverse soil areas that they all came from. Other seminars included Animal Structure - Steer Assessment, Marketing.

Inspite of the diverse environment we all came from I was impressed by the Competitors friendliness, We all got along so well and I made heaps of friends.

During the Show we had a heifer of our own and a balloted heifer, which had only been halter broken! I had the experience of drawing a Belted Galloway (my ballot heifer) out of the hat, which I found a real challenge.

On the Wednesday of the Junior Judging we were judged on Ringcraft, Communication with the Sewards, Time, Reasoning in Placings, and Crowd Communication.

At that afternoon Heifer judging my heifer got 2nd in her class (Photo proof). After dinner that night? we had our interview with the Judges, They asked us questions on the Cattle Industry. We were never in bed before midnight and up at 5am.

On the final day we had the Handler Classes and Championships. There were a total of 144 entrants, and I was a senior entrant. I got fifth in my Handlers' class of about thirty entrants; but only first and second got through to the Championship - drawn from both groups of senior handlers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Simmental Association for the award winning trip. And to all the people in the South Australian Society who made me so welcome, especially Mrs Barker, Simon Jason and Mrs Foote.

I wish all the 1996 Winners success at the 1997 South Australian Heifer Expo.

Waikato & District Club Anniversary

These precious photographs, literature and Club trophies dated back to day one of our Club's existence and was the drawcard of the day. There was a constant gathering of visitors viewing the displays and so the memories were recalled and the stories began to flow. Like the narrators, the stories have mellowed over the years and were warmly received by the attentive audience.

Club NEWS

Waikato Club

This year was a milestone that had to be marked and what better way to celebrate than gathering together with as many of the original Club members of twenty years ago. That small group of people had the foresight to form the first Waikato Club committee and in so doing lay the foundation of what is now a strong and close knit Club of more than sixty members.

The McLaren Falls Park in the Kaimai Range, Tauranga proved to be the ideal venue. Its towering mature trees as a backdrop for our marquee was a welcoming sight for our visitors. The beauty of the park continues into the night as the "ground crew" committee members who had arrived the previous evening to prepare for the next day found out on their after-dinner excursion. Our torches revealed a fantasy world of glowworms. The adults gazed in awe and the children with us will remember the discovery for a long time to come.

The day we had been feverishly working towards dawned..... More committee members arrived, their wives laden with home baked goodies. The last items of memorabilia were added to the display stands. These precious photographs, literature and Club trophies dated back to day one of our Club's existence and was the drawcard of the day. There was a constant gathering of visitors viewing the displays and so the memories were recalled and the stories began to flow. Like the narrators, the stories have mellowed over the years and were warmly received by the attentive audience. The day slipped by as we listened and looked back at the progress Simmental have made over twenty years.

The anniversary cake, displayed in the centre of the activities was ceremoniously cut by the first Club President, Jeff Mathis in close attendance by the Guest Speaker, Ian Johnstone.

The anniversary cake, displayed in the centre of the activities was ceremoniously cut by the first Club President, Jeff Mathis in close attendance by the Guest Speaker, Ian Johnstone and recorded by Club member and photographer Kindar Ward. Many photographs were taken of the gathering of the past and present members brought together to share this day. All eight past Presidents were in attendance and it unfortunate they were not photographed together, much to the disappointment of the present President who would have enjoyed being photographed surrounded by her male predecessors.

Many friendship were renewed and contact has been restored with past members who had, over the years, drifted out of the circle.

As the evening shadows lengthened, our day drew to a close. The prolonged farewells of our departing guests was proof enough that the milestone of our twentieth anniversary had indeed been a day of celebration.

Central Club

An open day at Waiwhare Stud, let members view some great cattle and the hospitality shown to all from John Gould, Nigel Watson, Tony and Helen Ward was superb.

The Central Simmental group had a busy year planning their inaugural annual bull sale, at the Feilding saleyards on 2nd July. The Sale was not very successful, however, we have all learned a lot and are carrying on forward, to have our second annual bull sale this year on 1st July 1997 at Feilding saleyards. We hope to have greater success this year.

Our AGM has also been changed to be held after our annual bull sale.

On 1st March our Club got together for an open day at "Waiwhare Stud". Even though the "sunny Hawkes Bay" didn't live up to it's name we viewed some great cattle and the hospitality shown to us all from John Gould, Nigel Watson and Tony and Helen Ward was superb.

Pat Cooper spoke to the group on marketing the Simmental breed, which gave us some ideas for our annual bull sale this year.

Rob Fargher from Pfizer Laboratories spoke on the animal health area of drenches, worm burdens, resistance etc. Many thanks must go to both speakers for giving their time to help make the day a success.

South Canterbury / North Otago Club

The South Canterbury-North Otago Simmental Club held their farm walk in North Otago this year.

After assembling at the Totara Estate's Museum (birthplace of New Zealand Frozen Meat Industry),

the Club then proceeded to Murray Elliott's 'Island Stream' property, 21 kms south of Oamaru. On display there were three studs - 'The Island Stream', Barry Lee's 'Windsorlea' and Eddie Conlan's 'Tara Hill' Simmental Studs.

Lunch was held next door at Kuriheka Station, owned by the Nichols' since early 1880's. Thereafter the club viewed Graeme and Judy Kingan's 1000 hectare property running 290 Angus X Hereford cows (to Simmental bulls) mainly at 2,000 to 2,500 feet above sea level. Members were most impressed with the high quality of calves, which hopefully will top the Oamaru Calf Sales this year.

Next door we looked in on brother Andrew and Susan Kingan's Black Cap Gelbvieh Stud, well known to fellow Show exhibitors.

The day concluded with the traditional barbeque, drinks and Council matters led by Councillor Alistair Midgley.

The Club assembled at the Totara Estate's Museum - birthplace of New Zealand Frozen Meat Industry.

Show RESULTS

Wellsford A & P Show
16th November 1996
All Breeds Bull Calf
1st Rivendell Faramond
3rd Rivendell Firepower
Reserve Champion Junior Male
Rivendell Faramond

Warkworth A & P Show
18th Jan 1997
All Breeds Bull Calf
4th Rivendell Firepower
All Breeds Junior Heifer Calf
4th Rivendell Fallacy

Kumeu A & H Show
8th March 1997
Simmental section
Bull calf
2nd Rivendell Firepower
3rd Rivendell Faramond
Reserve Champion Junior Male
Rivendell Firepower
Heifer Calf
2nd Rivendell Fallacy
Group of 3
2nd Rivendell Farm Simmentals

Morrinsville Show
1 Mar 1997
Simmental Section
Cow and Heifer - 2 yrs and over with calf at foot
1st Karewa Crystal and calf - J & L McNaughten
Heifer 2 yrs old
Hampton Downs Decaf - M & N Entwisle
Champion Cow
Karewa Crystal and Calf - J & L McNaughten
Reserve Champion Cow
Hampton Downs Decaf - M & N Entwisle
Heifer 1 year old
1st Karewa Emerald - J & L McNaughten
2nd Misty Moor Emma - W & H Woolston
Heifer Calf
1st Karewa Favourite - J & L McNaughten
2nd Hampton Downs Fleur - M & N Entwisle
3rd Hampton Downs Fantasy - M & N Entwisle
Champion Junior Heifer
Karewa Emerald - J & L McNaughten
Res. Champion Junior Heifer
Misty Moor Emma - W & H Woolston
Bull 1 year
1st Hampton Downs Exhibitor - M & N Entwisle
2nd Karewa Empire - J & L McNaughten
3rd Hampton Downs EL Toro - M & N Entwisle

Bull Calf
1st Karewa Forman - J & L McNaughten
2nd Charisma Park Blue Print - Kindar Ward
3rd Hampton Downs Fantom - M & N Entwisle
Champion Junior Bull
Hampton Downs Exhibitor - M & N Entwisle
Res. Champion Junior Bull
Karewa Forman - J & L McNaughten
Champion Male
Hampton Downs Exhibitor - M & N Entwisle
Champion Female
Karewa Emerald
- J & L McNaughten
Supreme Champion of the Breed
Karewa Emerald - J & L McNaughten
All Breeds Special Event
Heifer 1 year Old - 19 entries
1st Karewa Emerald - J & L McNaughten
Bull 1 year old - 15 in class
1st Karewa Empire - J & L McNaughten
2nd Hampton Down Exhibitor - M & N Entwisle
Cow or Heifer - 2yrs or over with calf - 6 in class
1st Karewa Crystal and calf
Heifer calf - 17 in class
1st Karewa Favourite - J & L McNaughten
4th Hampton Downs Fleur - M & N Entwisle
Bull calf - 13 in class
1st Karewa Forman - J & L McNaughten
4th Charisma Park Blueprint - Kindar Ward
Heifer 2 yr old - 6 in class
4th Hampton Downs Decaf - M & N Entwisle
Supreme Champion Female
Karewa Crystal and calf - J & L McNaughten

Franklin A & P Show
Simmental Classes
Heifer Calf
1st Karewa Favourite - J & L McNaughten
2nd Hampton Downs Fleur - M & N Entwisle
3rd Hampton Downs Fantasy - M & N Entwisle
Yearling Heifer
1st Karewa Emerald - J & L McNaughten
2nd Misty Moor Emma - W & H Woolston
Junior Female Championship Champion
- Karewa Emerald - J & L McNaughten
Reserve Champion
- Karewa Favourite - J & L McNaughten
Heifer 2 years
1st Hampton Downs Decaf - M & N Entwisle
Cow 3 years and over
1st Karewa Crystal - J & L McNaughten
Senior Female Championship Champion
- Karewa Crystal
Reserve Champion
- Hampton Downs Decaf
Grand Champion Female
- Karewa Crystal
Reserve Champion
- Karewa Emerald
Bull Calf
1st Karewa Forman - J & L McNaughten
2nd Misty Moor Fox - W & H Woolston
3rd Hampton Downs Pot Black - M & N Entwisle
Yearling Bull, Junior Male Champion & Grand Champion
1st Hampton Downs El Toro (Black) - M & N Entwisle
2nd Karewa Empire - J & L McNaughten
Supreme Champion Simmental
Karewa Crystal

All Breeds Beef Cattle
Heifer Calf - 16 in class
1st Karewa Favourite - J & L McNaughten
4th Hampton Downs Fleur - M & N Entwisle
Bull Calf - 12 in class
1st Karewa Forman - J & L McNaughten
Yearling Heifer - 10 in class
1st Karewa Emerald - J & L McNaughten
Yearling Bull - 14 in class
1st Hampton Downs El Toro(Black) - M & N Entwisle
Cow 3 years and over - 6 in class
1st Karewa Crystal - J & L McNaughten
Meat And Wool Cup
1st Karewa Crystal - J & L McNaughten
Meat and Wool Cup successfully defended by Karewa Crystal after winning this
trophy last year a 2yr old heifer.

Auckland Easter Show
Royal Inter Breed Yearling Heifer (22 in class)
2nd Karewa Emerald J & L McNaughten
Royal Inter Breed Yearling Bull (22 in class)
1st Hampton Downs Exhibitor M & N Entwisle
2nd Glen Anthony Ensign A & G Thompson
4th Karewa Empire J & L McNaughten
Inter Breed Heifer Calf (22 in class)
1st Glen Anthony AF22E A & G Thompson
2nd Karewa Favourite J & L McNaughten
Inter Breed Bull Calf (17 in class)
1st Glen Anthony AF47 A & G Thompson
4th Glen Anthony AF37E A & G Thompson
Royal Inter Breed Cow or Heifer - 2years and over Progeny Class (15 in class)
1st Glen Anthony Della A & G Thompson
3rd Karewa Crystal J & L McNaughten
Inter Breed Top Team (9 breed teams in class)
1st Simmental
Labramor Female Challenge - Female over 1 yr calf at foot - paraded but not judged.
1st Karewa Crystal J & L McNaughten

SOUTHERN ROBOT

Herd 1

Herd 585

Pedigree is one thing — Performance is everything

Comformation - Structure - Mobility - EBV's

Proud to have been producing Quality Simmentals for 25yrs

440
70
510

Introducing:

GLENSIDE DJ AD31 Rascallion ex Munga Park Hannah

Birth	200Wt	400Wt	600Wt	Milk
+2.5	+25	+43	+45	+3
76%	74%	72%	72%	52%

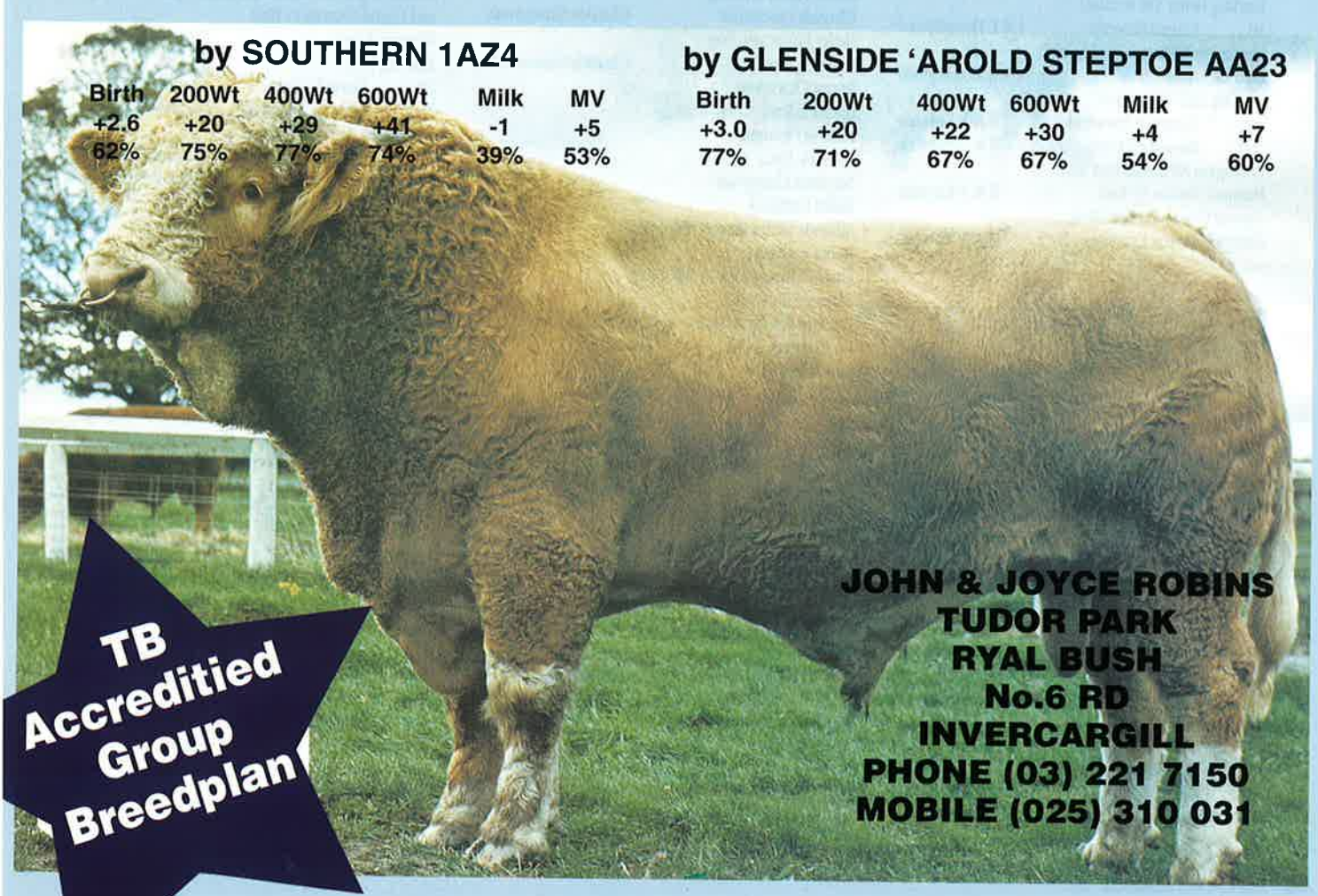
Bulls by the below sires available at the Southern Bull Sale Charlton 10.30am Wednesday 14th May

by SOUTHERN 1AZ4

Birth	200Wt	400Wt	600Wt	Milk	MV
+2.6	+20	+29	+41	-1	+5
62%	75%	77%	74%	39%	53%

by GLENSIDE 'AROLD STEPTOE AA23

Birth	200Wt	400Wt	600Wt	Milk	MV
+3.0	+20	+22	+30	+4	+7
77%	71%	67%	67%	54%	60%



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NZ Farmer Meat and Wool Cup
Karewa Crystal. J & L McNaughten

Rotorua Show
Saturday 25/01/97
Senior Heifer Class (4 in class)
2nd Karewa Fashion J & L McNaughten
Junior Bull Class (3 in class)
1st Hampton Downs Field Marshall M & N Entwisle
2nd Misty Moor Fox W & H Woolston

Cow 3 years and over (3 in class)
1st Kidd Yackandandah J & L McNaughten
3rd Emerald Dale Mandy M & N Entwisle
Yearling Heifer (10 in class)
1st Karewa Emerald J & L McNaughten
Champion All Breeds Beef Female
Kidd Yackandandah J & L McNaughten
Yearling Bull (8 in class)
1st Hampton Downs El Toro M & N Entwisle
2nd Hampton Downs Exhibitor M & N Entwisle
Champion All Breeds Beef Male
Hampton Downs El Toro M & N Entwisle
Reserve Champion Beef Male
Hampton Downs Exhibitor M & N Entwisle

Southland A & P Show
10th/11th December, 1997
Judge J.D Graham, Parnassus
Bull Senior Yearling
1st Glenside Enterprise Glenside Simmentals
Bull Junior Yearling
1st Glenside Elmo Glenside Simmentals
Junior Champion Grand Champion Male and Wairaki Trophy
Glenside Enterprise
Reserve Champion
Glenside Elmo
Cow 3 years
1st Robot Cathleen JA & MJ Robins
2nd Robot Cheri JA & MJ Robins
Heifer 2 years
1st Glenside Dixie Glenside Simmentals
Senior Champion Grand Champion Female and East Dome Trophy
Robot Cathleen
Reserve Champion
Glenside Dixie
Heifer Senior Yearling
Glenside Eyecatcher Glenside Simmentals
Heifer Junior yearling
Glenside Erica Glenside Simmentals
Junior Champion
Glenside Eyecatcher
Reserve Champion
Glenside Erica
Supreme Champion
Robot Cathleen
Alliance Senior Meat & Wool Cup
Robot Cathleen
Alliance Junior Meat & Wool Cup
Glenside Enterprise
Braxton Trophy & Sunnyvale Trophy - Junior Herdsperson
Jane Harrington
Alliance Team Trophy
Simmentals
2 Yearling Heifers
1st Glenside
Yearling Bull and Heifer
1st Glenside
Group - 1st Glenside
Progeny Class -
1st Glenside
2nd JA & MJ Robins
Performance Plus Class
Cow 2 yrs and over
1st Glenside Dixie Glenside Simmentals
2nd Robot Cathleen JA & MJ Robins
3rd Robot Cheri JA & MJ Robins
Yearling Heifer
1st Glenside Eyecatcher
2nd Glenside Erica
Yearling Bull
1st Glenside Enterprise
2nd Glenside Elmo
All Breeds
- Judges Don Goodall, Mossburn and Mark McKenzie, Masterton
Yearling Bull
2nd Glenside Enterprise
Yearling Heifer
3rd Glenside Eyecatcher
Heifer 2 years
1st Glenside Dixie
Cow 3yrs and over
1st Robot Cheri
3rd Robot Cathleen

Gore A & P Show
Judge - Gary McCorkindale, Waitahuna
Southern District Simmental Club Supreme Champion and Troy Hill Grand Champion Female
Robot Cathleen JA & MJ Robins
Cow 3 yrs
1st Robot Cathleen JA & MJ Robins
2nd Robot Cheri JA & MJ Robins
Alliance Meat & Wool Cup
Robot Cathleen

Winton A & P Show
Judge Cheryl Donald. Mossburn
Southern District Simmental Club Supreme Champion
Robot Cathleen JA MJ Robins
Cow 3 years
1st Robot Cathleen JA & MJ Robins
Heifer 2 years
1st Robot Dale JA & MJ Robins
Alliance Meat & Wool Cup
Robot Cathleen

South Otago A & P Show
Judge- JA Robins
Southern District Simmental Club Supreme Champion and Grand Champion Male
Glenside Elmo Glenside Simmentals
Yearling Bull
1st Glenside Elmo Glenside Simmentals
2nd Glenside Enterprise Glenside Simmentals
Yearling Heifer
1st Glenside Eyecatcher Glenside Simmentals
2nd Glenside Erica Glenside Simmentals
Heifer 2 years
1st Glenside Dixie
Grand Champion Female
Glenside Dixie

Manawatu Royal Agricultural & Pastoral Show Results
Simmental Cattle Judging
Class 0721
Cow with her own calf at foot, born prior to 1st June 1993
1st AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony Aroha
Dam: G A Wahine
Sire: Rissington Big Red

Class 0722
Cow with her own calf at foot, born since 31st May 1993
1st AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony Della
Dam: Russley Nelda
Sire: G A Aristocrat
2nd J & L McNaughten - Karewa Crystal AC249
Dam: Karewa Tamis
Sire: Single Nick Doubletime
Senior Champion Female AND Reserve
AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony Della/Glen Anthony Aroha
Dam: Russley Nelda

Dam: GA Wahine
Sire: G A Aristocrat
Sire: Rissington Big Red
Class 0726
Heifer born between 1st June & 31st July 1995 (Senior Yearling)
1st AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony AE22
Dam: GA AE22
Sire: Great Guns Ferdinand
2nd J & L McNaughten - Karewa Emerald AE322
Dam: Karewa Crystal
Sire: Pukepuke Brent
3rd AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony Electra
Dam: GA Araha
Sire: Great Guns Ferdinand
Class 0727
Heifer born since 31st July 1995 (Junior Yearling)
1st P & S McWilliam - Wai-iti Unique 6
Dam: Rotomara Xaminee
Sire: GA Sgt Pepper
2nd JM Gould - Waiwhare AE262
Dam: Rissington AU854
Sire: Waiwhare AC124
3rd JM Gould - Waiwhare AE256
Dam: Waiwhare AA45
Sire: Pouriwai AA3
Junior Champion
P & S McWilliam - Wai-iti Unique 6
Junior Reserve
JM Gould - Waiwhare AE262
Grand Champion
P & S McWilliam - Wai-iti Unique 6
Reserve Grand AH & GM Thompson
- Glen Anthony Della
Class 0730
Yearling heifer, born since 1st June 1995
1st AH & GM Thompson -
2nd JM Gould
3rd HD & JS McIntyre
Class 0732
Bull born prior to 1st June 1993 (over 3 years)
1st RD & LM Stein - Palini Mad AB159
Dam: Lynhome Tara
Sire: LFE Ultra Fox
Senior Champion Bull
RD & LM Stein - Palini Mad AB159
Class 0737
Bull born between 1st June & 31st July 1995 (Senior Yearling)
1st AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony AE
2nd B & MR Mansell - Kapiti Emperor AE4
3rd AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony Ernie
Class 0738
Bull born since 31st July 1995 (Junior Yearling)
1st AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony AE61
Dam: GA Yuletide
Sire: GA Sgt Pepper
2nd P & S McWilliam - Wai-iti Eight Ball
Dam: Wai-iti Miss Colleen
Sire: GA Sgt Pepper
3rd P & S McWilliam - Wai-iti Eureka
Dam: Wai-iti Eureka
Sire: GA Sgt Pepper
Junior Champion Bull
AM & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony AE61
Reserve Junior Champion P & S McWilliam
- Wai-iti Eight Ball
Grand Champion Bull
AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony AE61
Reserve Grand Champion RD & LM Stein
- Palini Mad AB159
Supreme Champion
AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony AE61

Reserve Champion
P & S McWilliam - Wai-iti Unique 6
Class 0740
Two Yearling Bulls
1st AH & GM Thompson
2nd P & S McWilliam
Class 741
Group bull and 3 females any age
1st AH & GM Thompson
2nd J & L McNaughten
Class 0742
Progeny Class
1st P & S McWilliam
- Sire: GS Sargent Pepper
2nd AH & GM Thompson
- Sire: GA Aristocrat
Class 0734
Bull born since 1st June 1994, (2 years)
1st AH & GM Thompson - Glen Anthony Democrat
Interbreed Cattle Judging
Class 0880
Wrightson cow or heifer with her own calf at foot
1st D Holmes - Shorthorn
2nd JM Gould - Gelbvieh
3rd J & L McNaughten - Simmental
4th AH & GM Thompson - Simmental

Class 0881
Don Urquhart Memorial Yearling Heifer
1st J & L McNaughten - Simmental
2nd JG McDrury - Charolais
3rd JG McDrury - Charolais
4th MK Hain - Shorthorn
Class 0882
Allflex New Zealand Yearling Bull
1st Koanui - Hereford
2nd AH Thompson - Simmental
3rd HM Gudsell - South Devon
4th Robbie Family - Hereford
5th Motere - Angus
Class 0884
Richmond Ltd Interbreed Champion of Champions
1st Koanui - Hereford
2nd JL McNaughten - Simmental
3rd DG Holmes - Shorthorn

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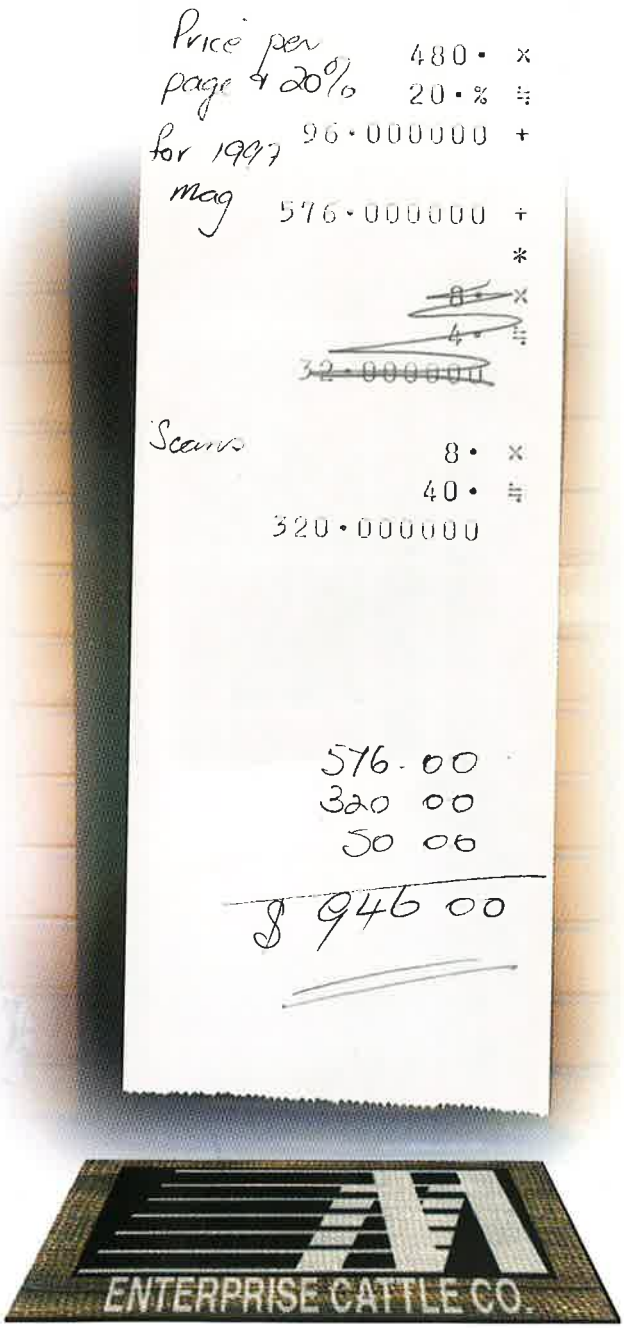

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