



# \$IMMENTALNZ THE MONEY MAKER

TARGETED NEWS FROM THE INDUSTRY HEAVYWEIGHTS

## Greetings from the President

Hello Fellow Breeders

I hope this newsletter finds you, your families and your farms all in good health and calving going extremely well for all. As I write, most of us are in Level 2, with some unfortunate breeders trapped in the Auckland Level 4. Our best wishes and kind thoughts are with all those who are having difficulty at this time, Covid 19 related or otherwise. Please reach out to someone if you are in need.

Unfortunately the First Gentleman had a health issue a couple of weeks ago which has meant he has had to take a back seat for a while, and yours truly has had to shake some cobwebs out of the raingear. He is progressing well but will definitely be a musterer only this lamb docking so that will be another challenge for us all. The extra responsibilities for me have meant some of the Simmental jobs I had planned to finish by now are still in the pipeline but are underway.

Just another reminder to sit back occasionally and take stock of what are the biggest priorities and don't sweat the small stuff!

Take care out there.

Tracey Neal

## Talk to a Councillor

Your Council are fellow breeders elected by yourselves to run the Society's affairs and administer the rules and regulations. If you have any queries, issues or complaints they should be directed in the **FIRST** instance to one of the Council, who will be able to either advise you, or point you to where better help might be found.

PBBnz staff are employed to record, register and administer the records of our breed, along with many others. There are staff who, through years of experience, can identify problems and direct you to assistance. It is not their job to sort out problems, although often they do. The genomics requirements have created some teething issues, which 30 odd years ago was probably much the same as the introduction of EBV's – just bring your issues to a Councillor near you first **PLEASE**.

## Sires, Semen and Genomics

As in previous newsletters we have tried to express the importance of following correct procedure regarding the DNA testing of sire bulls. With mating decisions looming, now is a good time to look again at your procedures.

Whether using a natural sire or AI with homebred or imported semen, the regulation regarding sire parentage verification remains the same: **no calf will be registered without a sire parentage profile on record.**

Regarding the transfer of sire bulls: **no bull will be transferred without a sire parentage profile on record.**

Semen, from whatever source, must have a sire parentage profile on record before any progeny can be registered. **NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the breeder to make certain that profile has been supplied to PBB Genomics, either by them or the company supplying the semen – **before using the semen would be best practise.**

Not all companies doing DNA testing supply the same results, so it is preferable to either use Neogen through PBBnz. Check with **Megan or one of the PBB DNA Team members at E: dna@pbbnz.com** that the company you intend to use will be compatible to avoid any issues further down the track.

Council do realise there are still breeders struggling with some of the processes involved although nearly all are now fully compliant. However, because of changes due to improving technology some historic problems have appeared. Council will deal with those on a case-by-case basis but as before – we need to know what the problem is as soon as possible... preferably in writing but a phone call to any council member will do for starters.

Due to high volumes genetic test results have been very slow in coming - so plan ahead **PLEASE**.



## Calf Entries / Registrations YEAR LETTER FOR 2021 IS K

Although many of us are still calving, this is a timely reminder as there continues to be some breeders who leave calf entries until the last minute – and then some. There are still some misconceptions around the calf entries which need to be cleared up.

- 1. NO CHARGE – YET** At present there is no separate charge to the breeder for registering calves. The Society pays the fee for the recording of the registrations. It is cheaper for the Society for registrations to be done on-line however.
- 2. MORE RECORDS – MORE ACCURACY** The more calves recorded with birth information (including birth weights) the better for your overall performance record and the accuracy of EBV's for your herd. Don't wait for the weaning cull.
- 3. DO IT EARLY – AVOID THE RUSH** Simmental NZ regulations ask that registration be made by 31st December in the calendar year of birth – please do your paperwork early.
- 4. OLD STUFF – WILL COST** Historical registrations will be invoiced to the individual breeder as it will result in additional charges due to extra work involved.

## Herd Tour & 50-Year Celebration Dinner

PARTY TIME

Despite very little feedback regarding this, we are still committed to holding a Herd Tour in the Far North area in March 2022 and combining this with the Society AGM and hopefully an Anniversary/Reunion Dinner on a separate evening. We are just waiting for confirmation of the Weaner Fair dates to best plan the itinerary – watch this space. Try to make the trip, these are a great way to connect with other breeders and benchmark your operation with others – and you may just find that elusive perfect bull we all look for!

## Heifer and Genetics Sale

INTERESTS

Is there any interest in an on-line sale as part of this tour, possibly as part of the Anniversary Dinner? We have been offered a generous sponsorship package by Bidr to assist with this, so we need to know if there is any uptake of breeders willing to put up a female or semen packages for sale. Animals DON'T need to leave the property, they will be videoed on farm and the sale would be run by Bidr, allowing breeders to participate from anywhere, including overseas if we publicise well enough. Contact a Councillor if you're keen...

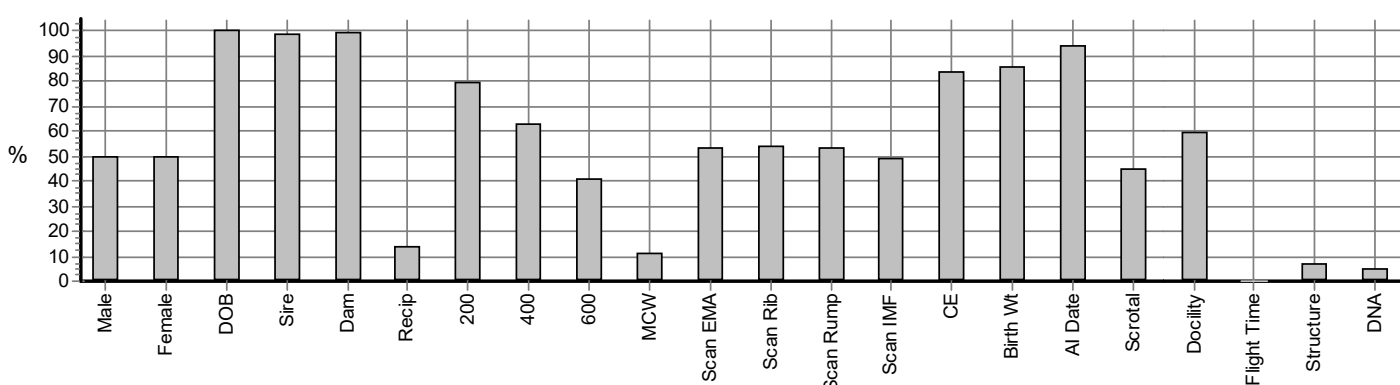


## Completeness of Recording

A couple of months ago, breeders would have received an email from BreedPlan talking about Completeness of Performance Reports for your own herd. The Society also receives a report summary for the whole membership.

This graph shows two areas where Simmental NZ need to see an increase in recording and reporting – Scanning and Docility. These are areas of real value to the breed as a whole. If you have any questions – ring or email a Councillor.

ALL HERDS COMPLETENESS OF RECORDING 2015-2019 DROP CALVES – ALL SEXES





## Alastair Miln Life Membership Award

On 4th July 2021 a small but enthusiastic group of breeders gathered to celebrate this award with Alastair and Kay Miln at Feilding. It was a lovely evening, capped off with Alastair's trademark humour and the company of good friends including Peter and Sue McWilliam and Lindy Lawrence.

### Life Membership Award Simmental Cattle Breeders of New Zealand Inc.

It is with pleasure that we present Alastair Miln with Honorary Life Membership of the NZ Simmental Society, in recognition of his services to the breed, **in the 50th year of Simmental Cattle Breeders Society of NZ Inc. on the 4th of July 2021.**

Alastair began working with the Simmental breed in the 1980's. His name became synonymous with Ailsa GR Simmentals, working alongside stud owner Michael Coombs at Ohingaiti. Alastair showed his knowledge of cattle when judging at A & P shows around the Manawatu. He was very instrumental in getting an inter breed cattle section up and going at the Central District Fielddays in Feilding.

From the first, Alastair has been one of the personalities of Simmental NZ. His infectious enthusiasm and friendly manner meant he made friends and contacts everywhere he went. At the same time his astute eye for cattle meant that Ailsa GR had a reputation in the commercial world as a serious bull breeder,

drawing buyers from all around the North Island, with stud bulls being sold in both islands. Alongside has been his wife Kay, a hospitable and friendly hostess and as with many partnerships of this type, quietly supporting and enabling Alastair to connect with people and cattle.

Elected to NZ Simmental Council in 2001, this was just another point of Alastair's on-going contribution to the breed. His most memorable and unique position from 2008 was as the Schoolmaster for the 'Simmental Boarding School for Boys' or the convenor of the Bull Test Station around Kimbolton. Anyone who was a breeder at the time will remember the in depth, often hilarious and clever 'progress report cards' delivered with such subtlety and clever wit, often you didn't realise you may be getting told off! Again, with his trademark enthusiasm and organisational skills, the Test Station went from strength to strength and became a blueprint for other breeds to copy.

In 2005 Ailsa GR Simmental Stud held a dispersal. The well-respected herd had buyers from all over the country, but the majority buyer was the young Kerrah Stud, who negotiated to purchase all the yearling heifers as a line. This purchase and yet another case of Alastair's talents with the Simmental breed being recognised led to a role with Kerrah, that of growing out the weaner bulls and taking them through to sale on the Miln property. This relationship continued until 2016 when the sale transferred to Wairoa.

Alastair was also Simmental NZ Projects Manager from 2009 -2011, a position created after Simmental NZ decided a Breed Officer was a luxury we couldn't afford with the dwindling membership. During this time he was always looking for sponsorship and projects to promote Simmental. Some of his sponsorship partnerships were with Ancare (now Boehringer Ingleheim), ZeeTags, Tru Test and TePari. A lot of this sponsorship was used at the Bull Test Station. Alastair negotiated a TePari weighing system to use at the Bull Test Station as Stuart Morton didn't have those facilities, when the test station ceased the weigh system was sold at its depreciated value. Ancare also provided drench to sell to members for Simmental general funds. Alastair was also very instrumental in the Beef Expo working group and used his skills to obtain people to set up and dismantle the Stadium for the event. Alastair spent a lot of this time in the PBBnz office and was a very respected and popular staff member.

He is also a very technical person and enjoyed getting his "teeth into projects" with particularly good outcomes. As an aside, Alastair remains the only respondent to two recent 'breed wide' questions, how to repurpose trophies and thoughts for promotion/publicity, all very well thought out and welcome resources.

**To Alastair, and Kay, congratulations and well done.**

## Welcome and Farewell

Welcome to **Hill Valley Stud in Roxburgh** and farewell to one of our older studs, **Lone Pine Simmentals**.



Dave and Kath Keown began in 1984 and having recently downsized their farming operation have sold their herd in its entirety to a local farming friend, Jimmy Hill. There will still be a Lone Pine R2 Bull Sale in 2022 we are told.



## Do the Mahi – Get the Treats

### Animal Disposal Lists

Thank you to all breeders who returned their ADL's to the PBBnz office on time. As in previous years, you will be rewarded with a discount of \$3 + GST per animal, applicable at invoicing later this month.

PRESIDENT	PHONE	EMAIL
Tracey Neal	07 877 8009	potawa488@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	PHONE	EMAIL
Garry McCorkindale	03 485 9727	glenside@rivernet.co.nz
TREASURER	PHONE	EMAIL
Garry McCorkindale	03 485 9727	glenside@rivernet.co.nz
COUNCILLORS	PHONE	EMAIL
Daniel Absolom	06 839 5834	daniel@rissington.com
Jon Knauf	06 838 6793	jsknauf@gisborne.net.nz
David Timperley	03 685 5785	opawadowns@gmail.com
Tom Sanson	06 863 1444	goldcreek@gisborne.net.nz
BREED ADMIN	PHONE	EMAIL
Lindy Lawrence	06 323 0742	lindy@pbbnz.com

PBB	DDI	EMAIL
PBB Main Line	06 323 4484	pbb@pbbnz.com
GENERAL MANAGER	DDI	EMAIL
Harry Faas	06 323 0862	harry@pbbnz.com
ACCOUNTS	DDI	EMAIL
Andrea Bullivant	06 323 0749	andrea@pbbnz.com
Kaylene Bradley	06 323 0748	kaylene@pbbnz.com
REGISTRY	DDI	EMAIL
Linda Rule	06 323 0746	lindar@pbbnz.com
Sam Brosnahan	06 323 0865	sam@pbbnz.com
DNA TEAM	DDI	EMAIL
Megan Ellett	06 323 0747	megan@pbbnz.com
Sonya Knowles	06 323 0869	sonya@pbbnz.com
Charlotte Hughes-Long	06 323 0867	charlotte@pbbnz.com
ADMINISTRATION	DDI	EMAIL
Lindy Lawrence	06 323 0742	lindy@pbbnz.com
PBB TAGS	DDI	EMAIL
Sonya Knowles	06 323 0869	sonya@pbbnz.com
PIVOT DESIGN	DDI	EMAIL
Pivot Main Line	06 323 0740	info@pivotdesign.co.nz
Adele Gray	06 323 0864	adele@pivotdesign.co.nz
Glenn Morton	06 323 0863	glenn@pivotdesign.co.nz
Katie Bagley	06 323 0866	katie@pivotdesign.co.nz
Bianca Alburo	06 323 0740	bianca@pivotdesign.co.nz
Rick Hambrook	06 323 0868	web@pivotdesign.co.nz