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Brahman News
MARCH 2008

Editorial

The Brahman Commercial Breeding Female Show & Sale on April 15 and the accompanying beef industry forum “Managing Meat Quality” is a new opportunity for promotion, which deserves member’s support.

We all know that large numbers of Brahman females are sold at store sales and privately throughout the north however a showcase outlet has not previously been available.

The show classes will cater for weaner heifers, yearling heifers, PTIC heifers, PTIC cows, and cows & calves with $2000 prize money per class plus $1000 for champion pen and $500 for reserve champion pen.

It gives us an opportunity to focus on the proven efficiency of production of Brahman females, which has been shown by research to have increased producer’s incomes by $10.2 billion in the 30 years from 1970 – 2000, more then 90% of the return from investment in all forms of genetic technologies over the period.

With grain prices and property prices at all time highs the value of every mouthful of feed to a producers bottom line return comes into sharp focus.

The forum “Managing Meat Quality” will provide an insight into the future impact of meat quality on producer’s returns and provide practical advice on management decisions to maximise meat quality with Brahman cattle.

It will confirm the fact that with correct management through the production and processing chain that Brahman cattle are capable of supplying all but the high marbling premium market segments, and more profitably than most other breeds.

Editor

Inside this Issue...

Closing date for next issue ... Friday 2nd JUNE 2008

Artwork & photos required by Friday 9th June 2008
My first paragraph allows me to congratulate retiring president Rodger Jefferis, for his time and effort over the past three years and welcome Shane Bishop as junior vice to the executive. I am looking forward to working with our General Manager, John Croaker and Council over the next three years.

Our thoughts must go out to those breeders affected by the devastating floods in the Belyando area and recently along the Coast. It will be months before the full extent of loss is known.

The big wet has not helped our first of year bull sales, especially the Summer Brahman Sale. Monday morning saw the stadium quite sparse of buyers then only a small build up as the sale progressed. This was no doubt most disappointing for the vendors after all the time and costs involved in the preparation of their drafts. Hopefully with rain over most of the state we will experience better bull sales towards the end of the year.

The Brahman Commercial Female Show & Sale scheduled for March had to be postponed until 15th April. The Association had very good support for the event but vendors were experiencing difficulty in getting their cattle sorted because of the rain.

It is hoped that we will get sufficient fine weather to allow breeders to get their drafts together in time for closing date for entries on March 14th.

To finish on a happier note, we have a group of approximately 45 members registered for the Associations delegation to the World Brahman Congress in Fort Worth, Texas departing Sunday 18th May 2008. This should be an interesting and exciting trip.

John Atkinson

Flooding rain across many parts of Queensland bring back memories of the monsoonal weather pattern that used to be a regular feature of the state’s summer during my childhood, many moons ago.

While inconvenient in the short term, with many sales being postponed or experiencing reduced yardings, the flow on effects from this deluge will be tremendous.

There has been plenty of good news for the Australian beef industry of late. Domestic beef consumption is projected to rise by one percent to 785,000 tonnes (carcase weight) in 2008 and increase by eight percent (850,000t) by 2012. Consumer expenditure on beef has risen by a staggering 65 percent since 1999, to $6.7 billion, due in part to improvements in beef quality, marketing and an enhanced image of the product’s health benefits. I believe that the CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet book, which has sold more than 700,000 copies, and its sequel (Book 2), which sold 600,000 copies in one year, would surely have played a major part in promoting the safe and healthy aspects of eating red meat to the general public.

On the live cattle front, MLA predicts an eight percent expansion in exports this year due to a buoyant Indonesian market and increased availability of young cattle in northern Australia. Export estimates for 2008 are 760,000 head, with further growth expected over the medium term. The easing of drought conditions is also tipped to see a significant recovery in feedlot activity this year.

A roundup of saleyard prices follows. It would be interesting to receive some prime and store rates from interstate sales. If you have anything to report please email it to me at wagtailmedia@bigpond.com or fax to (07) 5476 4032.

NORTH QLD

CHARTERS TOWERS

Jim Geaney, Geaney’s Livestock, told me that only two sales had been held in the first two months of the year, with wet weather reducing the total number offered to just 1027 head.

He said the country from Charters Towers to Julia Creek was looking “unbelievable” due to the monsoonal rains, although areas further out had missed out.

Jim said the February 27 sale of 289 head included some quality 250kg Brahman steers from Darryl Torkington, Fern Springs, Charters Towers. They sold for 170.2c/kg to realize $427. He said a magnificent pen of grey Brahman trade heifers, 388kg, had been offered by Pallamarra Partnership, Essex Downs, Richmond. They sold to BT Meats for 149.2c or $578.

At the February 6 sale Allan and Donna Roeser, Charters Towers, sold a pen of No.7 heifers weighing 149kg. They went for $224 or 150.2c/kg.

CENTRAL QLD

GRACEMERE

Values for steers and heifers were up by 10c/kg in a rain reduced yarding of 1682 stores on February 8. Codrilla Pastoral Co trucked in 129 EU No.6 steers from Codrilla, Nebo. The Brahman portion of their offering made 177c/kg, weighing in at 442kg to return $785/hd.
the prime objective

At the February 22 store sale Barry Smith, Barraine, Dululu sold a pen of prime 635kg Brahman steers for 165.2c/kg or $1050.

A top quality pen of 265kg No.7 Brahman steers from Gloria McHugh, Riverside, St Lawrence made 222.2c/kg to return $589. Heavy grey Brahman cows, 532kg, from Robbie and Una Oates made $757 or 142.2c/kg.

BLACKALL

Fleetwood Grazing Co, Aramac, sold 43 Brahman steers, 385kg, in a rain affected yarding in mid-February. They went for a top of 174c/kg to average $653. Agents managed to yard 2200 head on February 20 with prices up 5-10c/kg for all descriptions. Max and Julie Gower, Mundaroo, Barcaldine sold 213kg Brahman steers for 202c/kg or $430.

LONGREACH

There was strong competition in late February for two pens of “extremely good Brahman heifers” said Ray White Rural manager Wayne Green. The 235kg heifers from Luke Lindley, Valley Downs, Barcaldine made up to 205c/kg, going to local restockers.

Mr Green said heavy rain had reduced regular sale numbers by around 30 percent, with some parts of the region receiving 500mm since November.

“East and north of here are fantastic but other places to the west and south of Longreach have only received two inches and could be described as marginal,” he said.

SOUTH QLD

BIGGENDEN

The market was firmer for the 1199 head of stores and fats yarded on February 11. The Turner family, Lowmead received $1017 (172c) for their “well finished” Brahman bullocks. Brahman cows from K. Wheeler, Biggenden returned $695 (135c) and 12-month-old heifers from the Ruge family, Biggenden were knocked down for 179c or $418.

The February 25 sale yarded 950 head including heavy Brahman bullocks from Tandarra Grazing, Lowmead which made $1027 (169c).

EIDSVOLD

The Burnett district centre held a commercial show and store sale in late February, attracting 960 head of cattle. Harold Dwyer received strong demand for his 90 high quality Brahman steers weighing 290kg. They were snapped up for 204c/kg or $596/hd.

TOOWOOMBA

Heavy heifers and trade cattle were dearer at the February 19 sale. Nunbank Pastoral Co, Taroom sold heavy feeder heifers for a top of 195c/kg to average 193c.

A week later 605kg Brahman cows realized $938 or 155c/kg.

AUCTIONS PLUS

A Duaringa vendor received 185c/kg or $607/hd for 60 Brahman EU steers on February 1. The 10-14-month-old draft averaged 328kg. The same vendor offered 84 EU steers, 349kg and 15-20 months, which made 180c or $629.

Two weeks later 90 Brahman steers, 303kg and 12-15 months, returned 192.5c/kg or $585 for Lansdowne Partnership, Tambo.
Desirable and Undesirable Udders

by Alex ASHWOOD

The udder of a beef cow is an extremely important physical asset which impacts on the economic, production and labour efficiency of the breeding unit.

Udder soundness affects milk production, milk composition and calf weaning weights, the incidence of calf mortalities and the duration the cow stays in the herd. All these factors affect the overall profitability and productivity of the beef enterprise.

The udder of a highly productive female must have the capacity to produce and deliver sufficient milk for high weaning weights and retain physical characteristics that allow repeated calvings. Without these functions the cow loses most of her breeding value.

Weak udder suspension results in a pendulous udder that is difficult to suck by the new born calf. Balloon or funnel-shaped teats make it difficult for the post natal calf to suck increasing the incidence of illthrift and calf mortalities.

Udder and teat unsoundness are a concern for a number of reasons:

- Extra inconvenience and additional costs
- Reduced longevity due to poor suckling, injury and disease
- Reduced milk flow and lower colostrum intake
- Heritability of udder and teat defects
- Ongoing issues associated with retaining daughters of problem bulls and cows

POORLY SHAPED TEATS AND BADLY SHAPED UDDERS ARE A RECIPE FOR REDUCED PROFITS

It is subsequently important that stud breeders observe and identify the physical characteristics of sound functional udders to make more informed breeding and herd management decisions that improve udder durability and cow longevity.

FUNCTION AND FORM

The productive capacity of an udder is determined by its shape, size and its capacity to handle numerous calvings. The most desirable udder is one that provides sufficient levels of milk from the smallest amount of mammary tissue.

It is incorrect to assume that a large udder is highly productive and that small udders are unproductive. Furthermore, there is a negative correlation between large size and udder durability. Large udders tend to contain a higher percentage of supporting tissue than medium sized pliable udders.

Large udders and excessive edema at calving endanger the suspensory attachments and are prone to injury and disease (mastitis) reducing the long term durability of the udder.

COWS WITH GOOD UDDERS OUT PERFORM COWS WITH POOR UDDERS

UDDER CHARACTERISTICS

An ideal udder is snugly attached, symmetrical and of moderate length. The quarters should be evenly balanced with medium sized teats placed squarely under each quarter. A side view of the udder should show a level udder floor without quartering.

The median suspensory ligaments support the udder to the cows body thus a strong suspensory attachment is essential for a satisfactory mammary system.

A cow with weak suspensory attachment is subject to several problems:

The udder floor may drop further weakening the suspensory attachment
Once the floor has dropped the teats will stick outwards making them more prone to injury.

The mammary system may deepen to a point where the calf can’t suck.

GOOD UDDER ATTACHMENT AND SOUND TEATS IMPROVE COW LONGEVITY

The foreudder should be of moderate length and strongly attached. Extra long foreudders are ‘meaty’ and frequently break away from the body wall.

The rear udder should be attached high to the body with moderate width and show a strong median suspensory attachment. The udder texture should be soft and pliable free from congestion and hardness.

Studies show that cows with medium sized well attached udders weaned faster growing and heavier calves than cows with bottle teats and/or pendulous udders. Cows with desirable udders also reared more cows due to longer lifetime production and less mortalities.

GENETIC PARAMETERS

Studies suggest that the moderate heritabilities of udder depth (0.16), udder attachment (0.17), teat placement (0.24), teat size (0.18) and udder shape (0.24) permit gradual change through selection. Furthermore, the genetic correlations between udder traits imply that the selection for improvement of one trait results in the improvement in other traits.

SHAPE & VISUAL ASSESSMENT

It is beneficial when forming a concept on the form and appearance of desirable udders to examine as many udders as possible.

Figures 1 and 2 provide excellent examples of good udders. It is noted that the udder is strongly attached to the front and back to the body, that the teats have medium size and shape and hang plumb and the udder has moderate length without too much depth.
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Desirable and Undesirable Udders

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3 shows the udder of an 18 year old cow which has endured the hazards of numerous lactations and retains its full functional capacity and highly desirable form.

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6 is a further example of a desirable non-lactating udder. The udder of this 19 year old cow is even, has well placed teats with excellent shape and size.

Figure 7

Figure 8

Undesirable udders can be divided into two main groups. Those that are the result of:-

- Poor teat shape and placement
- Poor udder shape and attachment

The implications of udder defects on the efficiency and productiveness of the cow differ with the various degrees of udder abnormalities. Certain shape defects may influence eye appeal more than functionality whilst teat defects often make the cow unacceptable as a viable breeder.

Abnormalities increase labour costs and since most producers are becoming ‘time poor’ due to increased size and scale of operation the inconvenience caused by udder defects is becoming less tolerated.

Teat Problems: it is probable that these defects have the greatest detrimental impact on functional capacity and durability. Deviations from highly acceptable forms are varied, however, bottle and excessively long thick teats cause the greatest problems to new born calves. Cows with these defects should receive serious consideration regarding the retention of their progeny in the herd.

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 7

Figure 8

Figure 6

The highly desirable udder aspects of a 2 year old heifer are well demonstrated in Figure 7. The udder provides an excellent example of symmetry, desirable length, shape and softness without excess skin.

Figure 5

Figure 8 provides the example of a heifer with good capacity and shape and medium teats that are well attached. The rear attachment is high and wide and the folds of skin indicate capacity without ‘looseness’ and ‘meatiness’. The tendency of the teats to hang straight downward from the centre of each quarter indicates strong median support.
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Desirable and Undesirable Udders

**Udder Problems:** most of these abnormalities arise from attachment failure in conjunction with size and shape. Figures 9 and 10 show udders with poor shape, teat placement, texture and the body attachment is narrow, weak and short.

Severe edema can reduce udder durability since ligaments and attachments can be stretched and seriously challenged. Because edema exists in the outer tissue severe cases can cause the skin to be leathery, cracked and tough limiting calf sucking.

Figure 9 and 10 show udders with poor shape, teat placement, texture and the body attachment is narrow, weak and short.

**Udder Edema:** Congestion, or accumulation of fluid in the intercellular spaces in the udder, is physiologically normal for cows and heifers at calving but severe cases should be less than 2-3 per cent of the herd. Severe edema can interfere with calf suckling and may predispose the premature breakdown of the udder.

Udder edema occurs primarily as a result of the restriction in blood and lymph flow from the lower abdomen due to fetal pressure in the pelvic cavity.

Edema is most common at calving particularly with well conditioned heifers. The problem is compounded if there are udder and teat defects.

Severe edema can reduce udder durability since ligaments and attachments can be stretched and seriously challenged. Because edema exists in the outer tissue severe cases can cause the skin to be leathery, cracked and tough limiting calf sucking. Chronic cases of edema can permanently reduce the softness and pliable nature of the udder and cause problems in subsequent calvings.

Edema is most common at calving particularly with well conditioned heifers. The problem is compounded if there are udder and teat defects.

FIGURE 9

FIGURE 10

**BOTTOM LINE**

Udder unsoundness shortens the lifetime and productiveness of cows. Whilst there has been an increased emphasis on the underline of bulls it is equally important to consider the underline of cows, ie consider the functionality of the key productive unit of the cow – the udder.

Undesirable udders seriously impact on cow productivity through poor udder health, dry quarters, increased labour costs, reduced profits, increased calf mortalities and reduced weaner weights.

Additionally, cows with undesirable udders and teats can pass these defects to their progeny magnifying the problem.

The two key types of ‘bad’ udders include funnel shaped teats and weak attachments.

Observing, reporting, culling and selecting to avoid these defects on both sides of the pedigree will eventually improve the form, function and durability of udders and ultimately the quality of the herd.

**WHEN SELECTING REPLACEMENTS EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED ON DESIRABLE UDDERS**

Increased emphasis on udder and teat improvement will increase profits through:

- More beef produced per cow
- Improved herd and breeding management
- Increased productivity through less wastage
- Better udder health and less injuries
- Reduced labour and variable costs
- Emphasis on selection rather than forced culling

Identification and removal of cows with unsound udders and using genetics (ie bulls and females) with a history of well shaped udders lead to cumulative gains in udder structure and soundness.

Most udder traits are moderately heritable offering opportunities for gradual improvement of udders through visual selection of females and the dams of bulls. Since only half of the heritable traits are passed on by the bull female assessment in combination with sire selection most likely to give greatest benefits in udder and teat shape and size.

Since there is a high correlation between functionality of well formed udders and eye assessment, udder scoring can be a valuable breeding and marketing tool for stud breeders.

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APPENDIX – UDDER SCORING

Udder and teat quality are the key functional characteristics of the cow and deserve the same attention given to other selection and production criteria used by studs.

Udder scoring is basically the continuous assessment and reporting of udder soundness based on teat size and shape and udder shape and attachments. These characteristics (traits) are the most significant aspects of udder functionality.

Like most management tools, udder scoring is subjective and requires standardization but assessment leads to improved knowledge on which to make more informed breeding and selection decisions.

The improved knowledge of the herds and individual cow status also provides important feedback to potential purchases of stud stock (bulls and heifers).

Udder scoring is a powerful management and marketing tool.

PROCESS

Since udders change with subsequent lactations, udder scoring is a continuous process and requires good reporting.

- Assessment needs to be standardized and practised to acquire the necessary skills to achieve repeatable and consistent results.
- Stock should be assessed each year at calving and the results recorded with other important calving details.
- The best time to udder score is 24-48 hrs after calving.
- Records should be monitored on an ongoing basis to assess change and make the appropriate herd and breeding management decisions.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

Assessing, reporting and acting on udder scores can lead to the following benefits:

- Improved profitability through better breeding and herd management decisions
- Identification of genetics that leads to durable udders and cows longevity.
- Decreased labour costs associated nursing calves and poor udder health.
- Introduction of standards and guidelines regarding the retention and sourcing of breeding stock (bulls and heifers).
- Ongoing improvement in udder quality and functionality improving profits and the value of the herd.
- Identification of cows that have minimal udder problems at calving.
- Benchmarks to set clear objectives and targets regarding phenotypic standards for udders and teats.
- Increased credibility with clients and potential purchasers of stud stock (bulls and females).

Desirable and Undesirable Udders

The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) has benefited to the tune of $18,646 donated by a generous Central Queensland Brahman breeder.

Eric Nobbs, Lyndhurst Brahman stud, Biloela decided to disperse his semen stocks, collected for many years from leading imported and Australian sires, with all proceeds going to the RFDS.

The 90-year-old head of Yandaburra Pastoral Co, which runs 20,000 cattle on 57,000 hectares in Central Queensland, said he had used the Royal Flying Doctor Service in the past and appreciated the vital support it offered to rural communities.

General manager of the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association John Croaker said the ABBA handled the sale of the semen which was offered by tender late last year. The handover of the cheque took place at the February All Breeds Sale at Gracemere on February 11.

Semen sale benefits RFDS

by Lindel GREGGERY

Eric Nobbs, Lyndhurst Brahman stud, Biloela hands over a cheque for $18,646 to Royal Flying Doctors Service board member Ian Lovegrove, watched over by Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association general manager John Croaker. The presentation took place at last week’s February All Breeds Sale at Gracemere.
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Desirable and Undesirable Udders

EXAMPLE OF AN UDDER SCORING CHART

Each producer can simply compile a chart to meet their individual goals and targets for udder conformation.

The standards can then be used to make in herd comparisons and more informed breeding and herd management decisions.

1. An excellent vessel and teats with good symmetry, attachment and texture allows the placement and spacing of ideally sized and shaped teats.

2. A very good udder with level floor, strong attachments and soft pliable texture. Good shape and spacing of teats.

3. A very functional udder with good symmetry and excellent texture. Good front and rear attachment and teat shape and size.

4. A functional udder with excellent teats and texture but lacks balance and strength of front and rear attachments.

5. A functional udder with good teats but weak front attachment may pose a problem in subsequent lactations.

6. Potentially a problem udder due to size and poor body attachment is compounded by poor teat shape and spacing.

7. An uneven udder with tendencies to break down with age. Poor teat spacing and potentially large front teats reduces sucking and milk intake by the new born calf.

8. An udder with weak attachments and suspension. The unevenness of quarters and teats will cause calf sucking problems and mortalities. Poor shape and texture leads to injury causing scar tissue and reduced milk flow.

9. A pendulous udder with poorly spaced teats that are thick and prone to ballooning. These udders result in poor suckling and possibly increased calf mortalities.
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email: tlolive@bigpond.com
The two day Big Country Brahman Sale held at Charters Towers on February 4th & 5th provided the Northern beef cattle industry with a much more cautious approach from bull buyers than that which has been evident in the last two years.

In its 15th staging, the sale grossed $1,613,500 for 344 lots of bulls, heifers, embryos and semen packages. Average values dropped substantially across the board compared with 12 months ago allowing studmasters and commercial cattle producers alike to shop at real “value for money” prices. However, sale averages and the clearance rate were well ahead of the last major multi-vendor Brahman sale held in Charters Towers in the spring. Although buyer registrations were very satisfactory, according to sale agents Geaney’s of Charters Towers and McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing of Rockhampton, it was the tightness of bidding and cautious approach to buying through both red and grey bull sections that restricted prices paid.

“Certainly the closure of the Clermont road to truck traffic affected attendances from that area,” Ken McCaffrey of McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing said, “however, the tentativeness of buyers, reflective of other current industry and economic conditions, has more to do with the feeling of the market at the moment.”

It is thought that the combination of interest rate rises, a recent change in the Federal Government, uncertainty in financial and share markets and a commercial cattle market which is yet to settle, has overridden the positives provided by better seasonal outlooks in most Northern areas. “We think until the year settles down a bit, there won’t be too many people on the land spending freely, on bulls or otherwise,” Ken McCaffrey said.

Although average prices are down on 12 months ago, selling agents were heartened by buyer response to the sale notwithstanding their reluctance to bid as freely as in previous years. The top price red bull sold to a New South Wales stud, Mogul, while the top price grey bull sold to a Northern Territory stud, Bunda. Six volume buyers (10 bulls or more) supported the sale, a 95% clearance was achieved and a $4,690 average was recorded for all lots.

27 lots made $10,000 or more.

A large percentage of repeat buyers attended the event, however without the bull buying budgets of 12 months ago. “You could see buyers who were paying five and six thousand dollars last year even in the spring, were shaking their heads at $3,500 and $4,000,” Jim Geaney said. “Perhaps the market got ahead of itself in the last two years and vendors have been enjoying the benefits. With a bigger supply of bulls in the industry, I’d expect values will remain in buyers’ favour for awhile.”
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A strong muscled poll bull of excellent red colour offered by David & Julie McCamley, Lancefield Brahmans, Palmalmal, Dingo topped the red section on the first day of the Big Country Brahman sale. Lancefield Warner also featured a clean underline and impressive carcase style and was snapped up by the Mogul Brahman stud of Maclean, New South Wales.

Selling agents challenged the red market by cataloguing 40 more bulls in the section compared to 2007 however demand did not reach sufficient strength to clear the total offering, with 13 bulls failing to attract a bid. “A 90% clearance of reds was recorded,” Jim Geaney of Geaney’s Charters Towers said, “and the sale well and truly catered to both ends of the market.” Reinforcing Mr Geaney’s remarks sale results show that 1 in 10 (13 red bulls) sold at prices of $10,000 and above while a high percentage of bulls (51%) was accounted for by commercial cattle producers at prices under $4,000.

Vendors were pleased to see a strong representation of high profile red studs among the buyers. Tartrus, Gipsy Plains, Samari, Mt Callan, Yenda, Rathlyn, Reldarah, Kangarin, NCC all took home red sires from the sale.

Second top selling red at $23,000 was Koon Kool Robins, a beautiful bodied Lancefield D Robinson son purchased by Brett Nobbs, NCC, Inverrio, Duaringa from the draft of Tony & Beth Kendall.

Ed & Debbie Streeter, Fairy Springs stud, Monto recorded a solid sale result. Their lead bull, Fairy Springs Index, a high quality 2yo poll by Huonfels Jacob Rio, made $20,000 selling to repeat buyer G.D. Graham & Son, Biloela. The Grahams also selected another young Jacob Rio son from the Fairy Springs draft for $6,000.

The Wilsons of Samari stud, Roma travelled a long way to the sale, however, their efforts were rewarded when they secured the poll bull Fairy Springs Omah, a big, masculine sire prospect for $10,000. Georgetown breeder Geoff Brown bid to $7,000 for another quiet and beefy Fairy Springs bull.

The rising 2yo poll sire Lancefield Impressive, a high EBV performance bull by Lancefield Impression was an $18,000 purchase for the Parkinson Family Trust, The Loch, Sarina while David & Julie McCamley also sold Lancefield Velocity, a growthy polled sire by HK Visa Brasil for $12,000 to Rathlyn stud. The four Lancefield polled red bulls in the sale recorded a hefty average of $14,875.

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2yo polled sire prospect of tremendous temperament. Bogandilla also invested $10,000 in polled sire Royston Park Double Cross, a Tartrus Redmount big bodied bull offered by Patrick Curley & Family of Charters Towers and $6,500 for the potential packed Huonfels Townley Rio, an 18 month old Winchester Magnum 999 poll offered by John Bethel’s Huonfels stud, Georgetown.

Robert, Jacqueline and Clayton Curley of Gipsy Plains were also in the buying mood at the sale. They paid $8,000 for the 796kg, scurred Mr MK Vernon 439 sire, Rathlyn Strike Through, a bull of outstanding carcase qualities.

Thirteen thousand five hundred dollars topped prices for Brian & Glenda Kirkwood’s large draft of Somerview Red bulls. The Kirkwoods were pleased to see their 2yo draft topper Somerview Claret heading to Noel Sorley & Family’s Mt Callan stud at Dalby. A poll of brilliant red colour, Claret will get a great chance at sire success in the Mt Callan herd.

Henry Townsend, Townsend Cattle Company, Katherine, N.T. selected 10 red bulls at the Sale. His purchases were topped at $7,000 by Somerview Samson, a big, masculine son of Tartrus Matrix with heaps of length. Ralph & Lorna Bethel, Mt Turner, Georgetown bid to $6,500 for the polled Somerview 2yo sire Destiny while southern visitors Daryl Schubel & Family, Reldarah stud, Coleyville also purchased a quality young poll red from Somerview for $6,000.

Bernie Kent & Family, Granite Springs, Gin Gin outlaid $12,000 for Warraka Elite, a polled Tartrus Gallant son offered by Bill & Sue Blakeney, Warraka stud Coondoo while prominent Central Queensland red studmaster Nick Dudarko, Kangarin stud, Biloela purchased two red sires. He bid to $11,000 to secure Narranda Banjo, a young, heavy boned son of Valuce Red Emperor sold by Peter Staal’s Narranda stud of Banana and $6,000 for the strong beef type sire, Jarvarnie Cobber offered by first time vendors Rhys & Shae Collins of Charters Towers. Nine thousand five hundred dollars was needed by the Jack Family, Fernlea Farming Company, Brandon to secure Char Walla Activator, a 2½ yo, high carcase quality, well bred sire offered by Lee Wallace of Char Walla stud. This impressive bull will go into the excellent Santa herd developed by the Jacks over many decades.

Ouchy Alva Pastoral Company of Julia Creek got a bargain when they landed Topline Braveheart Red Manso, a 747kg, 25 month old red sire for $5,500 while Gadwell Grazing Company of Alpha paid $5,500 each for the two impressive young polled red bulls offered by Ge-Jay Brahman stud of Geoff Johnson & Family.

Biggest volume buyer in the red section was Atkinson Developments, Lucky Downs, Greenvale. Their excellent line of 12 bulls averaged them $3,665.
Our growing team of Agribusiness Specialists all share one thing — they combine agribusiness finance expertise with a real understanding of the land and its challenges. Take Richard Brosnan. He grew up on a mixed stock and grain operation between Inglewood and Goondiwindi and is now an Agribusiness Specialist based out of Rockhampton.

With 25 years agribusiness experience, a Graduate Diploma of Management and real expertise in financial solutions for the grazier, he’s a great example of what our Agribusiness Specialists can offer you. And he’s just one of our growing team. **Call your local Agribusiness Specialist today:**

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North Queensland beef producer, John Nelson, is profitably fattening Jap Ox bullocks on native pasture in flood-prone Gulf country that most cattlemen would normally consider only fit for breeding.

John and his wife, Jan, live in Charters Towers but run 4,500 Brahman breeders on the 40,000 hectare “Beamesbrook”, near Burketown, and fatten bullocks and cull females on the 71,000 ha “Cowan Downs”, on the Cloncurry River near the Burke and Wills Roadhouse midway between Julia Creek and Burketown.

“We can honestly say we produce the best bullocks that come out of the Gulf because we’re the only ones who fatten bullocks up there!” John quipped.

“I guess we’re different because all the big pastoral companies breed in the Gulf, take them south to grow them out to 350 or 450 kg, depending on what market they’re targeting, and send them to a feedlot.

“But the most money you can make out of a bullock is when you breed him, put him in a paddock, leave him alone and hit him with an implant 12 months before he goes. You can’t lose because he doesn’t cost you anything!”

Born and raised in Charters Towers, John worked on remote cattle stations and managed a property for seven years before returning home and buying a local building supplies store. He was also the town’s sole undertaker for 28 years (he retired in 2007), and served in Vietnam as a National Serviceman.

He bought “Beamesbrook” in 1988 and “Cowan Downs” in 1999. “We bought ‘Cowan’ for a good price when there was no confidence in the industry,” he said. “It was one of those very fortunate things.”

He has invested heavily in improvements, building “squares” around water sources and an extensive system of laneways. Helicopters are used for mustering.

He also places a high priority on good genetics, buying in stud sires each year and using them to breed herd bulls. In the early 1990s, he purchased 20 decks of females from Bob Clark’s Mutation Brahman stud at Clermont. Replacement bulls last year came from the Gold City and Elrose Brahman sales.

Both properties consist of black soil country clothed in Mitchell and Flinders grass and Downs and Gulf sorghum. “We could fatten at ‘Beamesbrook’ but it’s slower and you don’t get as much weight into them,” John said.

“It’s lacking in phosphate and nutrition and we get so much rain during the wet! We might get 1,000 to 1,200 mm over three months, which grows a lot of feed but by October-November the protein has gone out of it and you’d have to supplementary feed a fair bit for the last few months of the year.”

For the same reason, controlled mating is out of the question. Instead, herd bulls are put in with the breeders in December and stay with them for the full 12 months.

“The seasons govern everything,” John said. “We can put the bulls with the cows in December but they might not do any work until May because the wet is so heavy and they’re in black soil so they can’t get around.

“Straight after the wet the cattle will get fat in a month and the bulls will start to work then. That’s the time we’d normally be taking them out if we were implementing a controlled mating program so we could end up with no calves at all if we did that.”

Calves are mustered at the end of the wet season – usually in April or May – and then again in September or October. They are branded and weaned at between six and 10 months of age, trucked 300 kilometres to “Cowan Downs” and fed as much grain and hay as they can eat for the first week to 10 days.

“The weaners are stressed,” John said. “They’ve just been taken off their mothers – they’ve got to cook for themselves and they don’t like it very much. During their first year at ‘Cowan’ we feed them a high protein lick which contains Rumensin and this has reduced the incidence of coccidiosis to just about nil. They’re right after that.”

Rumensin is a registered feed additive which alters the composition of the microbial population in the rumen to help cattle to digest their food more efficiently. Besides improving feed efficiency, Rumensin is scientifically-proven to improve growth rates and reproductive performance in grassfed cattle. It is also registered for the prevention of coccidiosis.
Palmvale Dominates
2008 Rockhampton February Summer Brahman Sale

Top Priced Red Bull

$13,000 3 bulls averaged $7,333

Special thanks to repeat buyers the Bishop family, Garglen Stud, on the purchase of Palmvale Baron Sting (AI) (ET)

Top Priced Red Heifer

$10,000 6 heifers averaged $5,500

Special thanks to repeat buyers Willie & Rachel Kaschula, Kaschula Stud, on the purchase of Palmvale Miss WM Pablo (AI) (ET)

Congratulations to David & Julie McCamley, Lancefield D Stud, on achieving top priced bull from the sale of son of Palmvale William.

Also congratulations to Brian & Cindy Hughes on achieving top priced red heifer from the ‘Super’ Palmvale Kirstie damline.

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Renouncing the Gulf’s “lean” title

Steers are implanted with Compudose 400, a long-acting implant that has a pay-out period of at least 400 days, 12 months before they are turned off. This enables them to make their target weight of more than 300 kg dressed (630 kg live) as six-tooth bullocks at about 42 months of age.

Between 1,300 and 1,500 finished bullocks are turned off in May, trucked to Julia Creek and then railed to Teys Brothers meatworks at Rockhampton. Those that don’t make the grade in May are implanted with Compudose-G, a short-acting implant, and turned off in September.

“We were among the very first producers to order Compudose-G and we use it every year on the tail-enders,” John said.

In late 2007 he turned off 580 bullocks that had been on agistment near Julia Creek. They averaged 317 kg dressed, with six permanent teeth, though one animal dressed out at 334 kg with milk teeth!

John said he had been using implants for many years. “I’ve never done any trials with it because you’ve only got to look at the cattle to see that those that have been treated are so much heavier and more solid,” he said.

“Compudose gives us the ability to finish our cattle every year at the target weight and age. I couldn’t run my system without it. If I sold 1500 bullocks and each one was 20 to 30 kg lighter, I’d be losing big money.”

The list of Top 20 vendors for the 2007 Rockhampton Brahman Week Sale should have included Reldarah Brahman stud at number 19.

The southern Queensland stud, operated by the Schubel family at Coleyville, averaged $9000 for three polled red sons of Roseborough L Red Monte. Their top seller, $14,000 Reldarah Diamond, featured eight stars for net feed efficiency, three stars for tenderness and two for marbling. He was purchased by Koon Kool Pastoral Co. The stud’s other entries were $9000 Reldarah Presley, purchased by the Zeisemer family, and $4000 Reldarah Morgan, bought by K. and G. Hobson.

The result moves Carinya M stud ($8773 for 11 head) from 19th to 20th place in the list of Top 20 vendors and pushes Mooramin stud ($8625 for eight bulls) just outside the Top 20 listing.

Apologies to Reldarah stud for the oversight.

The Victorian Brahman and polo communities are still coming to grips with the sudden death of Bryce Dicks in January this year.

Mr Dicks, who was elected as chairman of the ABBA’s Southern Australian Branch in 2007, died unexpectedly on January 3, just five days short of his 46th birthday.

Mr Dicks was born at Gilgandra in NSW and moved south with his family to Cobden and then to Lara in Victoria where his father managed a greyhound track. After serving in the Royal Australian Air Force he forged a career as a respected horse educator, working in the racing and polo industries. He was Operations Manager of the Victorian Polo Academy at the Werribee Park National Equestrian Centre and was an active member of the Victorian Polo Association, contributing as a player, handicapper, selector and umpire. He also provided valuable service as horse superintendent at the Royal Melbourne Show.

At the time of his death he was managing David Calvert-Jones’ property, Mingela, Drummond, where he was busy developing a world class polo facility. It was here that Mr Dicks operated Bysibotom Brahman stud with his wife Michelle, whom he met while breaking in racehorses at Cornwall Park Thoroughbred stud, Toolern Vale. Bysibotom Brahman stud was founded with females from Lynton and Loma studs and Mr Dicks was an enthusiastic supporter of the breed and foresaw a big future for Brahmans in Victoria. As well as competing successfully in the stud cattle section at the past two Melbourne Royal Shows, the couple also entered F1s in the National Beef Expo steer and carcase competition at Bendigo.

Mr Dicks will be remembered as a local legend with a great personality.

Leading Australian polo player Greg Keyte, who played alongside him in the Lexus team said: “He was a talented horseman and rider and anything he did he did to perfection.”

Mr Dicks is survived by his wife Michelle and son Todd, who will continue to operate Bysibotom stud and manage Mingela.

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Victorian branch chairman will be sadly missed

by Lindel GREGGERY

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Most cattle breeders would agree that fertility is an extremely important trait due to its huge economic impact on an enterprise.

That is in commercial terms the higher the percentage of calves born each year the more available for sale. Maximising fertility thus makes a lot of sense but it is often something that can be hard to identify, unless we actually do the calculations.

Figures 1 & 2 show the distribution of female’s age at first calf and also the distribution of females calving interval for a herd based in southern QLD that I recently analysed. The interesting point is the amount of variation within this herd for the two key fertility indicators.

Calving interval is simply the average number of days between calves for a particular female. We would all like to think that our females have a calf every 360 days, but this is not always the case especially in more harsh environments. In regards to improving fertility it is not about achieving a particular interval but more about identifying animals that perform better then the rest no matter the environment.

Age at first calf as a fertility indicator raises a few interesting questions in regards to first calving at two or three years of age. If you are selling bulls at two years of age and are expecting them to be ready to work then you should also expect the same of your females. This means providing the opportunity for them to go in calf prior to two years of age. Regardless of your preferred heifer age of calving, you can still use age at first calf as a measurement to identify more fertile animals.

When I asked the owner of the herd described in figures 1 and 2 to estimate their average age at first calf and calving interval the reply was “the heifers calve at 24 months and all females calve once a year”. When we actually did the calculations the average age at first calf was in fact 27.6 months and the average calving interval was 567 days.

What the calculations told us was that there was significant room for improvement in order to achieve the breeder’s objectives. The calculations also clearly identified those animals that were performing well below expectations. In this example if we culled the females with an age at first calf above 30 months then the herd average becomes 24.4 months. Similarly if we culled the females with a calving interval above 500 days then the herd average becomes 363 days.

The important point is that, if we have the objective measurements we can manage the herd more precisely. People may say that simply culling dry cows once a year would remove the extremely long calving interval females in this example, but what about the females in the in the 400 – 500 days range? Also how do we identify those animals that are genetically superior for these traits so that we can focus our selection on them thus to maximise improvement?

Every population or herd will display a distribution for any particular trait. The majority of animals will be close to the average but it is the identification of those animals at the high and low end that enable us to improve the herd average and thus the herds’ profitability. In order to most effectively make improvement we need to use accurate objective measurements and not estimations.

Calving interval and age at first calf can easily be calculated from your pedigree recording with the Australian Brahman Breeders Association and are both readily available to BREEDPLAN members as part of their annual GROUP report.

For more information please contact TBTS on 07 4927 6066 or email craig@tbts.une.edu.au
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JDH LADY CHAR MANSO

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FBC LADY DORIS MANSO (ET)
JDH MISS JES MANSO 108/9 (IMP US)

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Dam: FBC F DORHIE’S GIRL MANSO 194FF (AI) (ET)
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MLA chairman to open commercial Brahman female sale and beef forum

by Lindel GREGGERY

Entries are invited for the first Brahman Commercial Breeding Female Show and Sale, to be opened by Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) chairman Don Heatley on Tuesday, April 15.

The Gracemere Saleyards event, which was postponed from March 10 due to wet weather, will be followed by a cutting edge beef industry forum on Managing Meat Quality.

Brahman cattle are a multi-billion dollar industry in northern Australia, with the investment in Brahman genetics between 1970 and 2000 producing a farm gate benefit of $10.2 billion.

Sale organizing committee chairman Rodger Jefferis, Eloise, Cloncurry said the inaugural event would give commercial producers the opportunity to purchase “the most valuable commodity in any beef enterprise”.

“Commercial Brahman females have been scientifically proven to have the best feed efficiency of any breed and are a versatile addition to any beef herd,” said Mr Jefferis.

Although Brahman females are sold regularly at store sales and in the paddock throughout the north, a showcase outlet for top quality lines of females has not previously been available.

“This sale will give people the opportunity to buy good quality purebred commercial Brahman females and the forum will provide practical advice on improving meat quality, which will be of interest to all cattle producers.”

The show and sale will feature classes for Brahman weaner heifers, yearling heifers, pregnancy tested in calf (PTIC) heifers, PTIC cows, and cows and calves, with generous prize money of $2000 per class. An additional $1000 will be awarded to the champion pen, with $500 on offer for the reserve champion pen. After judging and presentations all pens will be sold through the ring.

Entries close on Friday, March 15 and entry forms are available through all Gracemere Saleyards agents.

Guest speaker at the sale will be MLA chairman Don Heatley and he will be joined by MLA managing director David Palmer who will kick off proceedings at the Managing Meat Quality Forum at 1pm. Mr Palmer will address the topic of meat quality and its affect on future profitability. He will be followed by Cameron Dart, manager of Meat Standards Australia (MSA), who will tell how to maximize MSA grading percentages through management factors and HGP treatments.

“Studies have shown that 80 percent of the factors affecting meat quality are due to pre- and post-slaughter practices, rather than genetic influences, so Mr Dart’s talk is sure to be of interest,” said Mr Jefferis.

Jason Strong, Catapult Genetics, will update the audience on the latest developments in gene marker technology and the final speaker will be outgoing ABBA president Rodger Jefferis who will elaborate on the value and profit drivers for grassfed beef.

“I don’t think too many people have thought about what it really costs to meet each market or have taken into account the value of grain, the day to day feedlot costs and each mouthful of grass,” said Mr Jefferis.

He foresees a return to strong demand for grassfed beef from both domestic and overseas buyers.

“I believe that our grassfed brand will come back into its own in time because that is what Australia does best.”

For further information about the show, sale or forum, contact ABBA on 07 4927 7799.
Thank you to all buyers, bidders and underbidders at BIG COUNTRY SALE 2008

PIONEER PARK
HENDRA MANSO 340
Sold to Tim & Lynette Olive, Apis Creek Brahmins for $3,500

PIONEER PARK
REDCLIFFE MANSO 341
Sold to Andrew & Roxanne Olive, Raglan Brahmins for $6,500

PIONEER PARK
MISSY MANSO 511
Sold to Ge Jay Brahmins for $2,500

Special thanks to Barry & Tammy Hughes, Tambar Brahmins for the purchase of Australian Record for Calf at Auction for $24,000

PIONEER PARK
CASUARINA MANSO
Sold to Brett Nobbs, Nobbs Cattle Company for $6,000

PIONEER PARK
DEAGON 345
Sold to Tom Sheahan & Company for $8,000

PIONEER PARK CRITICAL
MANSO 361
Sold to Welcome Downs Cattle Company for $5,000

PIONEER PARK SPINNER
MANSO 360
Sold to David & Julie McCamley, Lancefield Brahmins for $6,500

PIONEER PARK BARMOUNT
MANSO 358
Sold to Tim & Lynette Olive, Apis Creek Brahmins for $3,500

PIONEER PARK ASCOT
MANSO 339 sold for $4,000

Pioneer Park
Tony Brown 0429 349 438
Regular Big Country sale visitor Reg Underwood, Bunda Station, N.T. made his presence felt by claiming the $17,000 top price grey sire of the sale. FBC M Nav Manso a sirey, strong muscled type by JDH Nieto De Manso offered in the draft from Manuel & Tracey Mifsud’s division of FBC, impressed studmasters with his combination of pedigree, beef and breed credentials, however, it was Bunda that won the bidding duel.

The first grey bull in the ring, Eureka Creek Mayro Max, a mature age, blue grey of direct import bloodlines, awakened the market realising $16,000 selling to Trevor Shelley of Nebo. Underbidder on this bull was Reg Underwood of Bunda.

Third top priced grey sire at $14,000 was Cambil Maverick, a big, long and strong 2½ yo by JDH Jordan Manso. Bill & Lawson Camm sold the bull to the Nobbs Family’s Yandaburra Pastoral Company of Springsure. Steve & Theresa Taylor, Clukan stud, Jambin took a quality young team of grey bulls to Big Country and were rewarded with a $12,000 sale of Clukan Jack, a Full Hudgins, quality sire prospect which sold to John Stevens & Family, Cremona, Julia Creek. The Stevens’ also bought well with their second purchase, a JDH Datapack Manso sire from FBC’s Manuel Mifsud costing them only $7,500.

The youngest bull in the ring, Lancefield Judd by JDH Jordan Manso, secured for David & Julie McCamley $9,500. He was purchased by Les & Helen Donald, El Jy Theodore. Stewart Nobbs selected two eye catching, beef sire types at $8,500 each. Warraka stud’s Ben by FBC Hoss Grande De Manso went to Yoman stud while FBC W Jacko De Manso, a son of JDH Gardner Manso offered by the Walz Division of FBC went to Yandaburra Pastoral Company. The Pioneer Park stud draft of Tony & Trish Brown, Mackay topped at $8,000 with Tom Sheahan & Company, Valley of Lagoons, Ingham claiming Pioneer Park Deagon, a son of Mr V8 Superstroke for that price.

Pat Lucey, Karthina Pty Ltd, Marionvale Station, Mt Garnet purchased four grey bulls at the sale and paid to a top of $7,500 for a young Mutation bull by Tartrus Mascot. Reg Valmadre, Cedar Bend Pastoral Company, Proserpine paid $7,000 for Lanes Creek Frontier Manso, a 2yo JDH Floyd Manso son with a great combination of beef and breed style. $7,000 was also outlaid by Norm Tuxworth, Earlville for GI Diplomat, a poll which topped the draft of Ron, Grace & Kelv Hoofman of Gl stud, and by Nebo graziers Lake Elphinstone Partnership which took home the strong bodied JDH Mr Abel Manso son, El Jy Casanova Manso.

Geoff Carrick, Maitland, Einasleigh spent an average of $5,165 on six grey poll bulls during the day. His draft topped at $6,500 twice for two well muscled bulls from the Kelvin & Margaret Maloney Kenilworth stud team.

Pioneer Park stud sold two bulls also at $6,500 to leading stud operators. David & Julie McCamley of Lancefield purchased Pioneer Park Spinner Manso while Andrew & Roxanne Olive of Raglan Station took home the Mr V8 Superstroke son Pioneer Park Redcliffe Manso.

A pair of $6,500 sales was also evident in the Clukan results. Gipsy Plains, Cloncurry selected the Savannah Mr Manso 007 son Clukan Jock, while Rod McKay, Elders, Clermont added Clukan Prince, a Full Hudgins bred, young sire type to his purchases for Dennis Pastoral Investments, Maryvale Station, Charters Towers. Mr McKay put together a very impressive, high quality line of 11 bulls for his clients at an average of $4,180.

El Jy stud purchased Cambil Murdock, a very long and strong boned son of JDH Jordan Manso for $6,500, the same price also paid by John Bethel of Georgetown for the powerful, long bodied, high quality bull FBC V Rodrick Manso.
HEIFERS FOR TOOWOOMBBA
Selling 15 Reds & Greys

Boost tenderness and feed efficiency with these SEMEN PACKAGES

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LANCEFIELD KALBAR

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Doug & Helen Keough, Welcome Downs, Mt Garnet were also active bidders on good quality grey bulls paying up to $6,000 for Akama Titan offered by the Happy Valley & Akama studs of Calen.

Among the volume buyers of grey bulls were David & Judy Camm, Natal Downs, Charters Towers (10 bulls); Rob Flute through Shane Stafford Stock & Property, Richmond (10 bulls), G & M Zandonadi, Home Hill (7 bulls), J & A De Tounouer, Yungaburra (7 bulls).

Russell Byrne, Signature Brahman, Ingham; Brian Hughes, Lanes Creek stud, Georgetown and Craig McLennan MCL Brahman stud, Goovigen discuss potential purchases at the Big Country Sale.

Kay Becker, CEO, CQ Helicopter Rescue Service is pictured receiving the cheque for $10,667 as the CQ Helicopter Rescue Services share of the Brahman Week Semen Auction from ABBA President John Atkinson.

The other beneficiary of the Brahman Week Semen Auction, the National Heart Foundation, was represented by $10,667. He is pictured receiving the cheque from ABBA president John Atkinson.

Catching up before the Christmas break were from left: Les Donald, El Ja, Theodore, Carolyn Briggs, Springsure and Lee Collins, Wandilla.

DPI&F veterinary officer Dr Cesar Castaneda; Dick Holroyd, DPI, Rockhampton and Ken Cole, Kenrol Brahman.

Left to Right: Tony Fenech, Fenech Brahman Cattle Co, Wowan; Scott and Geoff Angel, Glengarry Brahman, Rockhampton; Greg Fawcett, Beef Breeding Services and Russell Miller, former Beef Breeding Services chief enjoying a couple of Christmas drinks.

David & Julie McCamley, Lancefield Brahman (left) celebrating a few Christmas drinks with Brian Fanning, Stud Stock.
NBS MISS KAY MANSO 025
JDH Mr Manso 506 x Kemol Kayla Manso 0194

NBS FLOSS MANSO 023
FBC D Hoss Grande De Manso x Lancefield D Fantasy 2063

NBS MULBERRY MANSO 005
JDH Mr Manso 506 x Lancefield D Fantasy 2063

NBS FRANCENE MANSO 008
JDH Mr David Manso 251/1 x Clukan Freda 108

Offering at
Gympie Brahman Female Sale
JUNE 2008

NBS STUD
BRAHMANS

TIM & SALLY NORTH
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Widespread buyer demand for quality heifers

The quality and potential evident in the Big Country Brahman sale stud heifer section was backed to the hilt as both reds and greys found strong demand from a large panel of buyers. 23 lots out of the 73 offered sold at prices $6,000 and above with 10 of them breaking the five figure barrier and selling from $10,000 to a top of $24,000.

Forsayth breed enthusiasts Barry & Tammy Hughes, Tambar Brahmans claimed the $24,000 top selling grey heifer and also the $19,000 top selling red heifer of the sale.

The grey topper is a 5 month old daughter of JDH Atlas Manso offered by Pioneer Park Brahmans of Mackay. Pioneer Park studmaster Tony Brown bred the heifer from his ultra successful Lancefield Marybelle Manso donor cow. She is believed to be the first Atlas heifer sold in Australia. The Hughes added to their Brahman investments on the night with the $19,000 purchase of the quality Mr Winchester Magnum 999 daughter Lanes Creek Wanda. This 19 month old stylish type is considered the best red heifer the vendors Brian & Cindy Hughes of Lanes Creek stud, Georgetown have ever bred. Her sister in blood, Lanes Creek Winifred, sold one lot later to the Rathlyn stud and made $13,000, the third highest price in the heifer section while another 14 month old Lanes Creek red heifer from the same family realised $12,000 selling to the Mundibah stud of Innisfail. Lanes Creek were rewarded for offering outstanding quality heifers at the sale with a $13,250 average for four lots.

New South Wales Vendor Roma Moss, Ngamba stud secured $12,000 for the 14 month old red heifer Ngamba Turquoise, a daughter of Mr JH 2000.Com. Keen young Charters Towers studmaster Nicholas Brownson was the buyer. Brian & Glenda Kirkwood, Somerview Red Brahmans, Charters Towers bid to $8,000 for The Rivers Reflection, a 14 month old red heifer by Winchester 999 from the draft of Peter & Sue Gray, The Rivers stud, Marlborough. Charles Lund of Rathlyn Brahman stud invested in six beautiful red females. As well as his purchases from Lanes Creek, he also secured four quality heifers from Lancefield to a top price of $7,000 twice, for daughters of Lancefield Revolver and Lancefield Wrangler.

Steve & Sharon Turner, Wilarandy S stud, Woolooga sold a quality red heifer by JCC Radical for $7,000 to the Curley Family of Gipsy Plains stud, Cloncurry while another young Winchester 999 heifer from the Halgenaes stud, Ingham realised $6,500 selling to the Mundibah stud of Innisfail.

The renowned breed quality and genetic strength of Les & Helen Donald’s El Ja Grey Brahmans was appreciated by buyers who paid up to $12,500 for their heifers. Lornevale Pastoral Company, Georgetown paid that price for El Ja Chriscilla Manso, a 17 month old poll by El Ja Romeo Manso with a positive pregnancy to a Hudgins sire. A partnership of Charles McKinlay and Carl Morawitz, Stewart Park, Comet bid to $10,500 to secure El Ja Bree Manso, a 15 month old full Hudgins bloodline daughter of JDH Mr Abel Manso 517, while a stylish El Ja heifer went to Lochinvar Grazing Company, Brandon for $6,000.

FBC stud sold two classy grey heifers at $10,000 each. Early in the sale their Benson Division secured that price for FBC Aleisha Manso. This eye catching, well bred individual was purchased by Matthew Neilsen of Wulguru. Young Brahman breeders James and Isaac Kent, Wilden, Goovigen took home FBC Nova Manso from the Manuel Mifsud Division at the
K Bar C

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Widespread buyer demand for quality heifers

same price. This young heifer by JDH Nieto De Manso looks to have great potential for a top stud future. Manuel Mifsud also recorded a $9,500 sale for FBC Nyla Manso, another stylish Nieto daughter, this time purchased by the Bunda stud, N.T.

Les & Helen Donald of El Ja stud, Theodore reinvested some of their sale proceeds in the heifer section. Their top purchase at $10,000 was Warraka O’Hara, a superbly bred 2yo Full Hudgins heifer by JDH Rigaud Manso offered by Bill & Sue Blakeney’s Warraka stud.

John & Dianne Brownson, Forest Home, Charters Towers selected Lancefield Fantasy, a grey by JDH Mr David Manso for $8,500 while Reg Underwood of Bunda stud, NT, paid $6,000 for a heifer by JDH Angelo Manso from the Lancefield draft.

Brett Nobbs, Nobbs Cattle Company, Duaringa invested in two well bred grey heifers. He paid $8,000 for Hamdenvale Lady Rivas Manso, a 17 month old JDH Karu Manso heifer sold by David Deguara & Family and $6,000 for Pioneer Park Casuarina Manso, a strong pigment daughter of Tartrus Aristotle Manso.

The Eureka Creek Brahman draft of grey heifers topped at $7,500 for Eureka Creek Mia, a young daughter of the high profile sire JDH Martin Manso. Mia was sold to a partnership of the Blue Dog Brahman stud and Windy Hills Brahman stud.

Julie & Steve Austin, Mooloo stud, Jandowae catch up with Mt Molloy studmaster Phil Smith, Upton Park at the Big Country Sale

Georgetown Brahman breeders Darren Pedracini and Geoff Brown took a keen interest in the Big Country Sale with Todd Donaldson of Ridley Agriproducts, Townsville

Queensland Country Life Feature Columnist Stan Wallace catches up on the latest Central Highlands news from Rod McKay, Elders, Clermont and Geoff Johnson, Ge-Jay stud, Alpha

The expert cattle eyes of John Howard, Mountain View, Biloela and Stewart Nobbs, Yoman, Moura were taken by a grey sire in the Warraka draft. Malcolm Cann (left) gives them all the details of the bull
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Glen Innes NSW 2370
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E glyndaioym@hotmail.com

EHG GTM TMN
Prices for semen packages climbed to $1,000/straw on five occasions at the Big Country Sale.

High sellers at that price were FBC Mandrake Manso (2 packages) purchased by Eureka Creek Brahman Stud and Bogandilla Brahmans, Lancefield Moreton (2 packages) purchased by WD & K Geddes and a partnership of Lanes Creek, Windy Hill and Lornevale Studs and Lancefield Burton Manso purchased by Scott & Lizette McCamley, Lancefield Brahmans.

Semen from Mr V8 51/6 made $850/straw (2 packages) selling to Darren & Sue Kent and Bogandilla Brahmans while $800/straw was achieved for JS Mr 480-5 Hotshot selling to Bunda Stud. Packages for other sires sold between $200 to $500 per straw.

**SALE RESULTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Gross</th>
<th>Average</th>
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<tr>
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<td>120</td>
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<td>17,000</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Red Brahman Herd Bulls</td>
<td>29,500</td>
<td>2,460</td>
<td>3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Grey Brahman Herd Bulls</td>
<td>41,000</td>
<td>3,415</td>
<td>6,500</td>
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<td>251</td>
<td>TOTAL BULLS</td>
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<td>$4,635</td>
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<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>Heifers &amp; Embryos</td>
<td>393,000</td>
<td>5,460</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Semen Packages</td>
<td>57,000</td>
<td>2,715</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>344</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$1,613,500</td>
<td>$4,690</td>
<td>95% Clearance</td>
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**TOP 21 PRICE BULLS**

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<th>Red</th>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Purchaser</th>
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<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>26,000</td>
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<td>Lancefield Brahmans</td>
<td>Mogul stud</td>
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<tr>
<td>115</td>
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<td>19,000</td>
<td>Koon Kool stud</td>
<td>Nobbs Cattle Co</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>Fairy Springs</td>
<td>GD Graham &amp; Son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>Lanes Creek stud</td>
<td>Yenda stud</td>
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<tr>
<td>85</td>
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<td>14,000</td>
<td>FBC Mifsud M Div</td>
<td>Lanes Creek Brahmans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>279</td>
<td>13,500</td>
<td>13,500</td>
<td>Eureka Creek Brahmans</td>
<td>Trevor Shelly</td>
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<tr>
<td>236</td>
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<td>Gipsy Plains</td>
<td>Tartrus Brahmans</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>Lanes Creek stud</td>
<td>JA &amp; KL Jenkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>Cambil stud</td>
<td>Yandaburra Pastoral Co</td>
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<tr>
<td>255</td>
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<td>9,500</td>
<td>Clukan stud</td>
<td>JC &amp; ML Stevens</td>
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<tr>
<td>121</td>
<td>8,500</td>
<td>8,500</td>
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<td>Kangarin stud</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
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<td>8,500</td>
<td>Fairy Springs</td>
<td>Samari Grazing Co</td>
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<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>Royston Park stud</td>
<td>Bogandilla Brahmans</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>Char Walla stud</td>
<td>Fernlea Farming</td>
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<tr>
<td>308</td>
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<td>Lancefield Brahmans</td>
<td>El Ja stud</td>
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<tr>
<td>275</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>FBC Walz Div</td>
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<tr>
<td>344</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>Warraka stud</td>
<td>Yoman stud</td>
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**TOP 10 STUD HEIFERS & EMBRYOS**

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<tr>
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<th>Grey</th>
<th>Red</th>
<th>Vendor</th>
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<tr>
<td>217</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
<td>Pioneer Park Brahmans</td>
<td>Tambiar Brahmans</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Tambiar Brahmans</td>
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<td>173</td>
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<td>Lanes Creek Stud</td>
<td>Rathyln stud</td>
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<tr>
<td>156</td>
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<td>Lornevale Pastoral Co</td>
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<tr>
<td>175</td>
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<td>Lornevale Pastoral Co</td>
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<tr>
<td>190</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>Roma Moss</td>
<td>Mundibah stud</td>
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<tr>
<td>199</td>
<td>10,500</td>
<td>10,500</td>
<td>El Ja stud</td>
<td>N Brownson</td>
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<tr>
<td>148</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>FBC Benson Div</td>
<td>McKinlay &amp; Morawitz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>FBC Mifsud M Div</td>
<td>N Brownson</td>
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<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>Warraka stud</td>
<td>M Neilson</td>
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**LEADING VENDOR AVERAGES**

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<tr>
<td>Lancefield Brahmans</td>
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<tr>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6,145</td>
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<td>Warraka stud</td>
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<td>Somerview Red Brahmans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huonfels stud</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4,085</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grey Bulls – 3 Bulls or More</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clukan stud</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$6,700</td>
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<td>Kenilworth Brahmans</td>
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<td>Eureka Creek Brahman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pioneer Park Brahman</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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**STUD HEIFERS – 3 BULLS OR MORE**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Lanes Creek stud</td>
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<tr>
<td>FBC stud</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Ja stud</td>
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<td>Hamdenvale stud</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eureka Creek Brahman</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilarandy S</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
JACANA BRAHMANS

OFFERING 3 HEIFERS AT
TOOWOOMBA PREMIER
BRAHMAN FEMALE
SALE

JACANA BRANDON
1 month old
Full Hudgins by
JDH Brandon out of
Clukan Hope sired by
FBC D Webke

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BRAHMAN FEMALE SALE
26 APRIL, 2008

Tango Miss Fancy
Girl 106/6

Tango
Miss Riddell 104/6

GLEN & TANYA OPPERMANN
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P 07 4161 3201 E tango@bordernet.com.au
A polled red daughter of US show champion BB Mr Sting Ray 10/0 (imp) attracted the highest bid of $8000 at the Laidley and District Brahman Female Sale held at Silverdale Saleyards in January.

The September-2006 drop heifer, Stockman Felicity, was out of the Tartrus Redmount cow Stockman Miss Fifi and was offered by first time vendor Chris McCarthy, Stockman stud, Boonah. She was one of two Stockman heifers purchased by North Queensland studmaster Darren Wood, Woodstock, Mt Jukes. He also paid $4500 for the polled red Edenglassie Magnum heifer Stockman Bailey. Stockman recorded the best sale average of $4658 for four heifers.

The annual event averaged $1612 for 81 females with a healthy 90 percent clearance rate.

The highest priced grey heifer at $6000 was marketed by Dean Rasmussen, Droonoodoo stud, Kingaroy. The polled 13-month-old daughter of FBC D Boston Manso will join Ken and Wendy Cole’s Kenrol stud, Gracemere. Droonoodoo averaged $2550 for its five heifers.

A Darling Downs buyer paid $4000 for Stockman Fifi Winchester, a Mr Winchester Magnum 999 (imp) daughter out of a Tartrus Redmount cow.

M. Walther, Roseborough stud, Lowood, received $3000 for the polled two-year-old red heifer Roseborough Mia 1244. The daughter of Muan 1287, who was out of a Palmvale Night Rider cow, went to Mike Peters, Bremervale stud, Rosewood.

Jim and Viv Flanagan, L Vee stud, Minden sold the top priced cow, $2750 L Vee Miss Super Alaska Girl, who is a full import daughter of Mr V8 2875/5 (imp). The rising four-year-old in-calf cow was purchased by Mary Wilkes, Birrabella stud, Boonah.

John and Catherine Byrne, Byrne stud, Cooran paid $2750 for Roseborough L Rosella, a polled red Muan 1287 daughter from Lynn Walther and Wendy Green’s Roseborough L stud, Lowood.

The Fitzgerald family, Blenheim Ridge stud, Blenheim sold the top priced cow and calf for $2500. The daughter of Milldale Fleur, offered with a calf at foot and one on the way, went to G. and K. Lally, Greens Creek, Gympie, who invested in five head.

Major buyer at the sale was the Hayes family who invested in a dozen new heifers for their Figland stud, Kyogle NSW. S. and F. MacFarlane, Flinders stud, Harrisville took home nine head including six heifers from Chudley stud, and four head were knocked down to Justin Titmarsh, JNH stud, Chinchilla.
Republican has consistently produced outstanding progeny with tremendous thickness, bone and temperament.

Over the years his calves at Brahman Week have excelled all expectations with an average of $13,750 topping at $45,000

**KANDOONA REPUBLICAN**
S: Lancefield D Robinson 416
D: Kandoona Lady 1963
DS: Wandilla Fanning

**ALL YOU NEED IS GOOD**

**REPUBLICANS FIRST SEMEN RELEASE**
$110/straw incl rego and GST
Minimum 10 straws

**GENES**

**PROOFS IN THE PROGENY**

**CASSIE (Retained)**

**ELTON $45,000**

**GRANDSTAND $18,000**

**HARRIGAN $17,000**

**FOXTEL $8,000**

**HARMONY (P) (Retained)**

**COMET $11,000**

Kariboee Valley
RED BRAHMANS

Mark & Tarsh Allen  Kariboee Valley Thangool Qld 4715
ph 4995 1208 kariboeevalley@activ8.net.au
New light on tenderness and the calpain system

by Bob Gaden CRC Science for quality beef Oct 2007

While much has been learned about the practical factors affecting tenderness of meat, investigations continue into what happens inside the cells. Scientists in CRC III are aiming for a deeper understanding of body chemistry and its genetic controls in the hope this knowledge will lead to new ways to produce more tender beef.

This article explains some of the body chemistry and the current theory on why factors such as Bos indicus content and hormonal growth promotants (HGPs) affect tenderness.

PROTEIN TURNOVER

In the live animal, muscle is being synthesized and broken down in a continuous cycle referred to as protein turnover. When the animal is growing, synthesis is faster than breakdown, resulting in increasing muscle weight.

The calpains (calpain-1 and calpain-2) are the principal enzymes responsible for protein breakdown. Calpastatin is a specific natural inhibitor of calpains and the balance between calpain and calpastatin helps determine the animal’s rate of muscle growth.

HGPs are thought to act by boosting the proportion of calpastatin. A relatively high proportion of calpastatin means lower rates of protein breakdown and faster growth. Bos indicus cattle also have naturally higher levels of calpastatin.

MUSCLES AGE DIFFERENTLY

Meat from the loin muscles (cube roll and striploin, including cuts such as scotch fillet, T-bone and porterhouse) will improve significantly with ageing. These cuts have low levels of connective tissue and are known to have low levels of calpastatin, allowing the calpains to quickly break down and tenderize the meat.

Other cuts such as the oyster blade for example hardly improve at all with ageing. This is probably because their lower level of tenderness is due to more natural connective tissue, and connective tissue is not affected by the action of calpains.

At this stage there has been limited study of calpain/ calpastatin levels in other cuts and muscles.

EFFECT OF HORMONAL GROWTH PROMOTANTS (HGPs)

A CRC experiment in Western Australia examined both steers and heifers to study the effects of an appropriate growth implant. There were positive growth rate responses, as expected, but the study also looked closely at meat quality effects in a number of different muscles.

When the striploin was aged for 5 days and cooked, MSA taste panels reported a very significant 10-point reduction in MSA tenderness score in the HGP-treated steers and heifers. The treated animals also had a significantly lower ratio of calpain to calpastatin in the striploin at slaughter.

Samples of oyster blade from the same animals showed almost no HGP effect on tenderness, and had no difference in their calpain to calpastatin ratio.

This suggests that HGPs cause a change in the calpain to calpastatin ratio in some muscles, causing the live cattle to grow faster, but reducing the ability of the meat to tenderize after slaughter. This effect is likely to be different for different types of HGPs.

When the striploin samples were aged for 21 days, the differences were much smaller. The extra 16 days of ageing improved the striploin from HGP-treated cattle by 13 tenderness points while the more tender controls improved by only 3 points. This effectively eliminated the large HGP-induced eating quality difference present at 5 days.

It is thought that calpastatin activity stops during postmortem ageing and the calpains are allowed to get on with the job of improving the tenderness.

Commercially, this means that extra ageing can be used to offset the toughening of prime cuts caused by the use of some types of HGPs in live cattle production.

These effects have recently been incorporated into the MSA grading model which now adjusts the estimated eating quality of each cut according to whether the animal has been treated with HGP.

BOS INDICUS EFFECT AND TEMPERAMENT

Research in CRC I showed that cattle with high Bos indicus content often produce beef that is less tender, with the toughening affecting some cuts more than others, particularly the high priced cuts along the back. The striploin and cube roll (scotch fillet) are high-value cuts and are the most affected.

The MSA grading model has for some time incorporated essential information about the animal's Bos indicus content.

It follows that muscles with higher levels of calpastatin will initially be less tender, but with ageing will improve substantially.
Elrose Philistine $55,000.
We are delighted that this magnificent Sire prospect is now “King of the Paddock” in the highly regarded Cambil Stud herd.
Thank you to Bill and Lawson Camm & Family.

Lancefield Billionaire. Our new Team Leader.
After successful semen collection Billionaire has “let down” into an even more tremendous type and is enjoying the company of his girlfriends at Elrose.

Rodger & Lorena Jefferis and Grant & Brooke of Elrose Brahman Stud sincerely appreciate the bidding and buying support of all cattle producers at the Elrose Invitation Sale.

Buyers came from Western Australia, Northern Territory and all over Queensland and we Thank You for your interest in our cattle.

Sale Records @ Record Sale

“The strength of a painting is in the subject!”

Elrose, Lorena, Grant & Brooke Jefferis
‘Elrose’ Cloncurry, Qld 4824

Tel: 07 4746 8467
Fax: 07 4746 8794
E-mail: elrose1@bigpond.com
Hot bidding cements Elrose sale records

The heat of sale bidding from a sale ring complex full of Queensland and interstate buyers matched the 40 plus degree heat of the weather at the 3rd Elrose Invitation Brahman sale at Elrose Station, Cloncurry in early December.

Rodger & Lorena Jefferis of Elrose Brahmans and their invited vendor Bevan & Elizabeth Radel & Family of Kandoona Red Brahmans, achieved a total sale clearance of 195 lots for a gross of $1,361,000. That the sale could record a 14% lift in average prices compared to 2006, in industry conditions which are clearly much tighter than they were last year, is a huge compliment to the tremendous quality and market suitability of the offering of grey and red Brahmans and Charbrays the two studs presented to bring the curtain down on Australia’s Brahman stud stock sales for 2007. The sale gross and average for the total number of Brahman bulls sold, $7,385, were both sale records.

Eighty percent of the bull offering was milk tooth and the sale’s supplementary sheet showed a total of 76 bulls with eye muscle scans of 125 sqcm and above, up to a massive 148 sqcm. It was evident also that some sale buying interest for Brahmans came from producers looking to overcome lack of fat cover problems being experienced on their crossbred bullock turnoff to works.

“Bull buyers generally, both stud and commercial, are putting more work and research into the suitability of seedstock for their management, production and market requirements,” Rodger Jefferis of Elrose said. “After going through the long process of breeding, growing and finishing, producers nowadays can’t afford to be penalised through things like lack of fat cover.”

Studmasters came from as far away as Northampton in Western Australia, Northern Territory, the Brisbane Valley, South and North Burnett, Central Queensland and coastal areas of Queensland’s North to support the sale, however they faced stiff bidding competition from progressive Northern commercial cattle producers not frightened to bid up into five figure values to secure the bulls they wanted.

A grey from Elrose and a red from Kandoona shared the $55,000 sale top price honours. The first of them came at Lot 7, Elrose Hot bidding cements Elrose sale records

Jim Geaney, Geaney’s, Charters Towers handled the bidding for Bill & Lawson Camm, Cambil Brahmans, Proserpine to secure Elrose Philistine for $55,000.

Jill Radel, Kandoona Brahmans, Injune attends the $55,000 bull Kandoona Mentor with purchaser Roger Landsberg, Trafalgar Station, Charters Towers and his daughter Kate.
**CONGRATULATIONS TO VENDOR BUYER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOP PRICE RED SIRE</th>
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<tr>
<td>$26,000 - LANCEFIELD D WARNER</td>
<td>Lancefield Brahmans</td>
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<td>TOP PRICE GREY SIRE</td>
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<td>TOP PRICE RED HEIFER</td>
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<td>$19,000 - LANES CREEK WANDA</td>
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<td>TOP PRICE GREY HEIFER</td>
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<td>$12,500 - EL JA CHRISCILLA MANSO</td>
<td>El Ja Stud</td>
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<td>TOP PRICE EMBRYO</td>
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<tr>
<td>$24,000 - HEIFER</td>
<td>Pioneer Park Stud</td>
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**BUYER**

- Mogul Stud
- Bunda Livestock
- Tambar Brahmans
- Lornevale Past. Co.
- Tambar Brahmans
Hot bidding cements Elrose sale records

Philistine declared by his breeders as the best bull they have ever offered. This imposing 974kg, 29 month old son of JDH Palestimo R Manso and a Lancefield Ambition daughter was purchased by Bill & Lawson Camm of Cambil Brahmans, Proserpine. The Camms were unable to make it to the sale and relayed their bids through Charters Towers Agent Jim Geaney. Philistine's sire quality and beef and carcase style, he scanned an EMA of 140 sqcm with a beautiful cover of 12/8, will complement the renowned Cambil bull breeding operation.

Kandoona’s joint sale topper Kandoona Mentor, is a 25 month old, 788kg grey/red bred son of the Hudgins sire, JDH Sir Marri Manso, one of only a few by the sire in Australia. Roger Landsberg, Trafalgar Pastoral Company, Charters Towers was too strong in the bidding for underbidder Colin Delahunty of Hughenden. The Landsbergs can have confidence also in Mentor's damline. His mother, by the legendary Lancefield D Robinson, is one of the top donors in the Kandoona stud. She is from a line of “blue bloods” being a sister to Kandoona Romeo, a top sire for the Bizzy stud and also to the dam of the high priced bull, Kandoona Big John which was sold to Palmvale stud previously.

Noel & Dallas Daley, Caiwarra stud, Julia Creek outlaid $38,000 for the big bodied, poll sire Elrose Marshall, the first son of Lancefield Moreton to be sold. At 26 months he weighed 892kg and looks to have a big future gauging by the increasing industry demand for poll bulls. Elrose would be extremely pleased with the sale ring debut of Lancefield Moreton’s progeny with 12 sons averaging $11,415 at the sale.

John & Dianne Brownson & Family, Forest Home, Charters Towers were the underbidders on the top price grey sire Philistine, however their disappointment was tempered some 25 lots later when they secured Elrose Major for $32,000. This 2yo son of FBC Major De Manso is highly credentialed in optimum carcase attributes and weight for age (836kg), and backed up with impressive Group Breedplan EBV's for growth, weight and Jap OX Index.

West Australian grey Brahman studmasters Reg & Carole Teakle, Oakvale stud, Northampton added the 2yo poll sire Elrose Cassanova to their herd with a $25,000 bid. He’s another son of Lancefield Moreton with excellent muscling and strong sirey characteristics. Landmark Charters Towers also outlaid $17,000 for a high performance Moreton son, on behalf of a North Queensland stud client.

The attractive red coloured son of Letoken Bachelor Boy, Kandoona Bagman, was a $20,000 purchase for Eddie & Debbie Streeter, Fairy Springs stud, Monto while Bajool stud enterprise Fern Hills Grazing Company also selected a red Kandoona
NEW BLOOD
HEADED TO
AUSTRALIA

JJ CRAT MANSO 242/2

J-J Means Quality Beef
Hot bidding cements Elrose sale records

stud sire for $11,000. Their purchase was Kandoona Preston, a milk tooth bull scaling 842kg and registering an EMA of 139 sqcm.

Alister McClymont, AJM Pastoral Company, Richmond selected a strong line of 7 bulls averaging $10,140. The poll Lancefield D Robinson son Kandoona Rove, the only red in his purchases, topped his selections at $17,000.

Early in the sale Pensini Grazing Company, Cameron Downs, Hughenden bid to $19,000 for Elrose Paladium, a full brother to the $55,000 Philistine and like him, a natural beef performer. Clermont studmasters Bob & Michael Clarke of Mutation stud travelled to Elrose and paid $18,000 for Elrose Socceroo, the first son of Elrose Significance to be offered. This big, long and strong, white grey sire prospect, a milk tooth, scanned a massive EMA of 143 sqcm.

Northern Territory buyers took a number of top young sire prospects home from the sale. Reg Underwood, Bunda Station, Katherine invested in two sons of Lancefield Signature at $17,000 and $10,000 while his brother John and sister-in-law Terry Underwood outbid $16,000 for a 2yo red sire Kandoona Roy, a high performance poll by Lancefield D Robinson, and $14,000 for Elrose Scarborough at 21 months, a real optimum beef performance bull backed by EBV’s at the top of the breed, for Riveren Station, Katherine. Janice Allison, Broadlands, McKinlay bid to $15,000 to secure a quality Elrose sire bred from the highly successful Ghost Gum family while a lot before, Barry & Liz Miller, Rhondu stud, Mingela purchased a quality Lancefield Signature son from Elrose, out of the same family, for $14,000. David Dennis, Walthum Investments, Clermont left an order with Elders’ Steve Hartwig who secured three excellent, Elrose grey, strong beef types at an average of $9,335. All three, two sons of Lancefield Signature and one by Mr V8 189/4, show exceptional muscling and length and are backed by impressive scan figures. Walthum’s top purchase at $14,000 was Elrose Preston, a very correct, natural good doer. Twelve thousand was paid by Laurie Blacklock & Family, Haddington Station, Julia Creek for Elrose Mayfield while fellow Julia Creek producer Jack Scholes also purchased a quality Lancefield Moreton young sire for $11,000.

A partnership of Colin Delahunty and Dan Beauchamp of Hughenden bid $10,000 to secure the Mr V8 Superstroke son Elrose.
Where Quality breeds Success

LANCEFIELD
Burton Manso 3251

HAPPY VALLEY & AKAMA BRAHMAN STUDS
Graeme Kemp together with Damien & Leah Sturdy
“Redfern Station”, MS 529, Calen Q 4798 P 4958 7766 or 0427 770 663

Visitors & inspections welcome

DL
Super Sign, while Nelia grazier Peter Woodhouse & Family paid the same money for an outstanding, strong muscled, rising 2yo herd bull from the Elrose draft. Evan & Kim Acton, Acton Land & Cattle Company, Millungera Station, Julia Creek were in attendance at the sale. They purchased a line of 16 bulls, including 6 Charbrays, at an average of $5,095. Topping their line at $10,000 was the heavy muscled 842kg son of Lancefield Signature, Elrose Shoe Shine.

**VOLUME BUYERS ACTIVE**

Other strong volume buyer interest was apparent throughout the Sale. John & Kate McLoughlin, Scott Creek Station, Katherine, Northern Territory purchased 14 bulls including 3 Charbrays at an average of $4,320. The same number went to Oceanic Cattle Stations, Kiana Station, Tennant Creek, Northern Territory averaging $3,820, while Rob Flute of Richmond averaged $4,150 for his 10 bull selection. Brodie & Company, Cloncurry took home 8 bulls at $4,250 while a $4,565 average was paid by Herbert Hall Enterprises of Charters Towers for their pen of 8 bulls. The A.A. Company selected 8 Charbray bulls for Montejinni Station, Northern Territory averaging $4,435 and Mrs Margaret Fisher, Tallawanta Station, Julia Creek selected an impressive, even line of six young Elrose greys at an average of $6,085.

**STRONG FEMALE SALES TO $12,000**

The attractive quality sale offering of Elrose and Kandoona young, unjoined stud heifers sparked studmaster interest from widespread areas. Kingaroy studmasters Dean Rasmussen and Marilyn Hansen of Droonoodoo stud outlaid the top price for the section, $12,000 for Elrose Precious, a high quality daughter of Brahrock White Hawk Man. Regular sale buyers Dale & Kelsey Neilson, Two Rivers Station, Bouli invested in two Elrose grey females at $10,000 and $7,000. Their selections are sired by JDH Sir Andre Manso and Kenrol Aliaz.
JDH SIR CARMICHAEL MANSO 223/7
SIRE: JDH MR WOODMAN MANSO 578/6
DAM: JDH LADY TIMA MANSO

TRITON FARMS
BEEF BREED
American Grey Brahman
Lottie, LA
Co-Owned with Salinas Ranch

SEmen AVAILABLE IN AUSTRALIA
CONTACT BRIAN FANNING  P 07 4927 3102  WWW.STUDSTOCK.NET
Hot bidding cements Elrose sale records

Brian & Cindy Hughes, Lanes Creek stud, Georgetown took the rare opportunity to secure Kandoona females outlaying $10,000 apiece on two red heifers. At 15 and 14 months the sound structured, quiet polls are daughters of Letoken Bachelor Boy and Kandoona Citizen, a sire performing strongly for the Radels. Ten thousand was also needed by Barry & Liz Miller, Rhondhu stud, Mingela to secure the beautiful Lancefield Signature heifer, Elrose Springtime.

Mary Lewis, Inverrio, Duaringa paid $7,000 for Kandoona Christa, while Darren Wood, Woodstock Brahmans, Mackay bid to $5,000 for the stylish red heifer Kandoona Rose. Michael & Brenda Bulley, Bindooran, Julia Creek purchased for $5,000, the poll heifer Elrose Morgan, a daughter of Lancefield Moreton.

“It was a tremendous sale catalogue from start to finish, and buyers from a wide area responded strongly to the quality on offer,” selling agents Spokesman Ken McCaffrey said. “Rodger & Lorena, with the addition of shade covered lanes in the yards and fans in the selling complex, are looking after the interests of their sale clients very well and the signs are positive for further growth of the Elrose sale.”

Agents: Elders, Landmark, Brodie & Company and McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing.

<table>
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<th>No.</th>
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<td>100% Clearance</td>
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Unravelling some of the “genome” technology

On the surface, cattle breeding still happens the same as it always has. However, the tools available to the producer making the critical decisions today have never been more complex. With advances in genetic technologies, you will have heard terms used and wondered about their meaning and application to your decisions in setting breeding objectives. Let’s make an attempt at unravelling the “barbed-wire” surrounding the genetic make up of an animal that has some similarities to the two strands of wire that frequently coil up at some time in a fencing career!

Unravelling some of the “genome” technology

Each characteristic of an animal is controlled by a string of protein molecules joined together in a distinctive pattern referred to as a gene. Many genes are linked together to form a chromosome. Genotype is the set of genes found within an organism’s cells. A genome is all the DNA in a complete set of chromosomes. In all body tissues, the chromosomes are found in pairs within the nucleus of each cell. Each species has different numbers of chromosomes with cattle having 30 pairs of chromosomes. Humans have 23 pairs; 46 in all: 44 autosomes and two sex chromosomes. These chromosomes are threadlike “packages” of genes and other DNA in the nucleus of a cell. Deoxyribonucleic acid or DNA is the chemical inside the nucleus of a cell that carries the genetic instructions for making living organisms. Each parent contributes one chromosome to each pair, so progeny get half of their chromosomes from their dam and half from their sire.

The structural arrangement of DNA or “double helix” looks something like an immensely long ladder twisted into a helix, or coil. The sides of the “ladder” are formed...
Searching the ABBA Pedigree & Performance Database for over 500,000 animals...

...is simply a click away

WWW.BRAHMAN.COM.AU
A good crowd assembled at the Townsville Showgrounds for the 4th Tropical Cattle Production Sale, conducted by the Elders team in conjunction with Ray White Rural, Townsville in November.

The sale grossed $335,500. All buyers received good value for an even quality, well-presented line of select sires, registered sires, herd bulls, registered females and purebred commercial females.

Buyers were appreciative of the even line of high grade Brahman cattle on offer, many with exclusive genetics only available at this sale.

A 94 per cent clearance was achieved.

The sale started with registered heifers selling to breeders all over Queensland and as far south as Echuca.

Kevin Currie, Ray White Rural, Townsville, handled the Victorian sale to Jane Boys, Kallarn Brahman.

Buyers with a strong interest in the heifers included Bill Smith, San Remo Farming, Sandy Knuth, Nathan and Lydia Deguara, Peter Chiesa, David and Erica Scott and Matthew Neilson.

Unregistered Hudgins derivative heifers sold to a very strong market with Dan Beauchamp outbidding all contenders on all lots and taking home a beautiful even line of outstanding quality heifers.

Select sires averaged $5550, topping at $14,000 to Sandy Knuth, Charters Towers who purchased an excellent JDH Atari Sugar Manso son out of a JDH Madison de Manso daughter.

Tom and Pat Sheahan, Valley of Lagoons, selected an attractive JDH Winchester Manso son, and Larry Muller, Pluto Pastoral, Proserpine, took a select sire carrying JJ Wise Didor and Rexcrata Manso bloodlines.

Donald and Kay Black, and Pat Sheahan each bought good sons of Tropical Cattle Nav Manso.

Further success at Townsville for Tropical

from North Queensland REGISTER
Thank you

2008 FEBRUARY SUMMER BRAHMAN SALE

Massive thanks to...

...Lawson and Bill Camm “Cambil Brahmans” on the purchase of all three heifers.

WILARANDY S MISS DEACON MANSO

WILARANDY S MISS DATALIST MANSO

WILARANDY S CALISTA MANSO

2008 BIG COUNTRY BRAHMAN SALE

Big thanks to...

...the Curley family, a fabulous female joining the great Gipsy Plains herd.

Wilarandy S Martika - Huge thanks to repeat buyers Reedy Brook Pastoral Company
Wilarandy S Julie R - Thanks to DJ & SJ Beauchamp
Thank you to all bidders. Special thanks to the Bishop Family “Garglen” - under bidders on Rad Dove

WILARANDY S MISS RAD DOVE

Steve and Sharon Turner, ‘Foxtail’, Calgoa Road, Woolooga Qld 4570
Phone/Fax: 07 5484 2120  Mobile: 0417 492 225
Email: wilarandysbrahmans@hotmail.com  Web: www.wilarandysbrahmans.com.au
Further success at Townsville for Tropical

Dennis Pastoral Co, Walthum, Clermont, Grahame Von Wald, Gainsford, Charters Towers, Frank Blacklock, Balootha, Julia Creek, Mick Earley, Larrimah, Northern Territory, the Crisp family, Oakhills, Colin Delahunty, Rockwood, Hughenden, Gavin Scott, Rosetta, Collinsville, Darren Humphreys, Townsville, Steve Smith, Ingham and Tony Standford, Upper Stone were active throughout the sale.

A high percentage of repeat buyers were present along with many new faces.

The showground selling complex provided an attractive setting for the sale despite heavy rain on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, totalling 175mm (7 inches).

Registered heifers got things going at the Tropical Cattle Texas to Townsville sale in November which boasted 94pc clearance.

Frank and Sally Blacklock, Balootha, Julia Creek were buyers at the sale.

Caroline, Trevor and Joelene Crisp, Oakhills, Mt Garnet show their support for the sale, buying some quality cattle.

Ian Berryman, Charters Towers with Colin Delahunty, Hughenden discussing cattle and the beef industry.

David Deguara, Hammondvale Brahman, Nebo talking with Ross Palmer, Ray White Rural, Townsville as they take a closer look at the cattle.

Peter and Blake Chiesa, Ingham with David and Erica Scott, Ingham.
ENTRIES INVITED...

Brahman Commercial Breeding

FEMALE SHOW & SALE

GUEST SPEAKER DON HEATLEY, CHAIRMAN, MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA

Tuesday, 15 April 2008

ENTRIES EXTENDED

GRACEMERE SALEYARDS

Classes:
1. Weaner heifers not more than 300kg (under 10 months of age)
   Sponsored by NAB Agri Business
2. Yearling heifers not more than 380kg (10 - 20 months of age)
3. PTIC Heifers under 3 years of age
4. PTIC Cows under 10 years of age
5. Cows & Calves (under 10 years of age)

PRIZES:
- $2000 per class
  1st: $1000 plus trophy
  2nd: $600 plus trophy
  3rd: $400 plus trophy
- Champion Pen
  $1000 plus trophy
- Reserve Champion Pen
  $600 plus trophy

Entries close Friday, 14 March 2008

FOR ENQUIRIES, ENTRY CONDITIONS & ENTRY FORMS CONTACT YOUR PREFERRED GRACEMERE SALEYARDS AGENTS

Brian Dawson Auctions 0417 667 668 • Elders 07 4927 6122 • Landmark 07 4927 6188 • Fanning Rural Agencies 07 4933 1387
Savage, Barker & Backhouse 07 4927 1677 • Ray White Rural 07 4931 7315 • R.F. Duncan & Co 07 4922 3837

ENTRY CONDITIONS
1) Pure bred Brahmas. 2) Straight colour (reds and greys). 3) Entry fee $20 per pen. 4) 1% of gross to ABBA. 5) All entries in the show and the sale in half deck lots. Weaners 18, yearlings 14, PTIC heifers 12, PTIC cows 10, cows and calves 9. 6) All entries to be effectively dehorned or polled. 7) All cattle for genuine sale. 8) All entries to be at the Gracemere Saleyards by 1pm Monday, 14 April 2008 and penned for judging by 4pm. 9) All classes to be sold open auction.

BEEF INDUSTRY FORUM

"Managing Meat Quality"

1pm Tuesday, 15 April 2008

FOLLOWING THE BRAHMAN COMMERCIAL BREEDING FEMALE SHOW & SALE

FORUM PROGRAMME INCLUDES

★ Meat quality as an issue affecting future profitability
  Speaker David Palmer, Managing Director, MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA

★ Maximising MSA grading percentages with high grade Brahman cattle with reference to:
  Management Factors • HGF Treatments
  Speaker Cameron Dart, Manager, MEAT STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

★ Gene Markers and Meat Quality - What do we have and what is ahead
  Speaker Jason Strong, General Manager - Sales, CATAPULT GENETICS

★ The Value and Profit Drivers for grassfed beef with reference to:
  Meeting Market Targets • Feed Efficiency • The impact of yield and marbling • The grassfed brand
  Speaker Rodger Joffers, Elrose, Cloncurry

Enquiries to AUSTRALIAN BRAHMAN BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION LTD
P 07 4927 7799 F 07 4922 5805 E abba@brahman.com.au
Strong volume buyer sale support from a number of leading pastoral company as well as private family operated Northern beef cattle enterprises and a high level of long time repeat sale buyers, coupled with studmaster interest from as far away as Western Australia and Western and Central Queensland, provided the key ingredients for a highly successful 20th Anniversary Wilangi Invitation Brahman sale at Charters Towers in late November.

Many cattle producers in attendance, regular bull sale buyers, passed comment that the Dalrymple Saleyards had not ever yarded a better sale line up of grey beef Brahman. Their pre-sale assessment was endorsed by strong, sustained bidding, especially on the large, even line of commercial type bulls, many of which sold three at a time to buyers.

Bidding competition was so spirited in the day sale section that 98 registered bulls and 230 herd bulls, 328 lots, were sold by the Landmark and McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing auctioneering team at an average of 57 seconds per lot, with the sale concluding 1:56pm. “The exceptional temperament, evenness of beef type and breed quality right through the sale was appreciated by the large panel of buyers who bid to their budgets quickly and with determination,” sale Co-ordinator Ken McCaffrey of McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing said.

It was a milestone sale for principal vendors Ron & Bev White of Wilangi and their group of Invited Vendor Studs FBC, KP, Brahrock, El Ja, Apis Creek, Raglan, Olive, Viva and Wallace, with Dalrymple Shire Mayor Ben Callcott in his sale opening speech congratulating them on 20 years of successful sales at Charters Towers and for their support of the Northern cattle industry. This year’s sale gross of $1,746,500 takes the cumulative total of 20 Wilangi sales to $20,307,025 for 5,802 lots sold. The sale continued its proud tradition of recording a 100% clearance.

**NIGHT SALE TOPS AT $28,000**

The outstanding weight for age, full Direct Import bloodline bull, FBC Battler De Manso topped the “Studs Under the Stars” section of the sale selling to Rob Oates, Mt Brett, Comet at $28,000. This superbly bred son of LL Sugar Ely Manso 727 and JDH Dakota Manso import cow JJJH Lady Jo Liberty Manso, weighted 851kg at 21 months and is backed by breed leading weight EBV’s. The sale’s biggest eye muscle area bull at 146 sqcm, El Ja Amos Manso, a Full Hudgins strong beef type scaling 948kg, was a $20,000 purchase for Stewart & Kerry Wallace, Wallace Cattle Company, Marlborough, early in the sale. His full brother El Ja Autograph Manso opened the event with an $8,000 sale to Kelly Farming Company of Ayr.

The Wallace’s were also sellers on the night. Their bull, the 828kg Wallace Fiddler, made $14,000 selling to David Dennis & Family, Walthum Investments, Clermont.

An impressive, dark pigment, strong carcase and heavy muscled sire KP Jefferson was a $13,000 purchase for Colin Blacklock of Julia Creek. The Blacklocks were among the buyers at Wilangi’s first sale in 1988 and have been strong sale supporters ever since.
Garglen
Offering 4 RED FEMALES
Gympie Female Sale
JUNE 2008

2 x Mr Winchester Magnum 999
2 x Mr Sting Ray 10/0
Buoyant bidding for Wilangi 20th

Apis Creek Remembrance, a quality 2yo sire by Wilangi Ultimate weighing 888kg and scanning an EMA of 131 sqcm was sold for $10,000 to RW & LM Brown, Gunnerside Station, Hughenden.

Also in the bidding action on grey sires in the night sale were Graham Bolton & Family, Cooinda, Dingo who purchased FBC Lee Roy De Manso, a strong muscled son of JDH Nieto De Manso for $9,000 and David & Joy Deguara, Hamdenvale, Simla who took home the eye catching, strong bodied 880kg Wilangi Quiz son, Wilangi Wales for $7,000.

Twenty thousand topped the sale’s stud heifer section. That price was paid by Robert & Mandy White for Brahrock Nav Empress, a classy, unjoined Full Hudgins bloodline daughter of JDH Navasota Manso. She will go into the White’s stud at Anglewood, Marlborough. Tim & Lynette Olive, Apis Creek Brahman, Marlborough also selected an impressive Brahrock heifer. Their purchase at $15,000 was Brahrock Miss Manso Empress, at 19 months combining the JDH Madison De Manso and Anna-Bri 52 bloodlines.

The 11 month old heifer Wallace Flo Jo by JDH Mr David Manso was the subject of strong pre-sale inspection. Barry & Tammy Hughes, Tambar Stud, Forsayth won the bidding duel for her at $12,000. Barry & Liz Miller, Rhondhu Stud, Mingela purchased three heifers at the sale. Topping their draft at $10,500 was FBC Miss Biddy De Manso, a 2yo daughter of FBC Anchor De Manso with a positive pregnancy to JDH Echo De Manso.

Charles & Carmel McKinlay and Carl & Gail Morawitz of Stewart Park, Comet invested in two heifers, each at $9,000. Their purchases were a rising 2yo daughter of JDH Mr Boswick Manso from the El Ja stud and a well bred JDH Nieto De Manso heifer from FBC.

Ian Hewitt, Hewitt Pastoral Enterprises, Taroom selected four heifers averaging $4,250 at the sale. FBC Lady Texas Manso, PTIC to JDH Roman De Manso was his top purchase at $7,500.

DAY SALE GETS FLYING START

The “Grey Sellabration 07” Day sale section of the Wilangi Invitation Brahman sale started on a positive note with the first pen of Wilangi herd bulls selling for $5,500 and $5,000. The $7,000 top price herd bull of the sale was sold in the first 10 bulls of the morning. Acton Land & Cattle Company claimed the strong bodied Wilangi bull as part of the magnificent line of 45 bulls they selected at the sale, averaging $3,877.

David Connolly, General Manager Livestock Operations of the A.A. Company in company with Mick Tasker, A.A. Company’s Manager in charge of Northern Territory Stations, Camfield and Montejinni were at the sale to secure drafts of quality bulls for both properties. At the end of the day they had put together outstanding yards of 33 bulls for each station - Camfield’s averaging $4,295 and Montejinni’s averaging $3,735.

Volume buyer support was the strongest seen at a Brahman sale for a long time. Seven buyers accounted for 220 bulls, 67% of the day sale section. “When you see their purchases put together in

Satisfied vendors and happy buyers after the successful 20th Anniversary Wilangi Sale are from left to right: vendors Helen & Les Donald of El Ja stud with Ian Hewitt and his son Cameron, Hewitt Pastoral Enterprises, Taroom; Ron Pelling, Willtory stud, Theodore and Bryce Coben, Elders Theodore
2nd Annual
TOOWOOMBA PREMIER
BRAHMAN FEMALE SALE

Saturday, 26 April 2008 at 10am
Toowoomba Showgrounds

85 GREYS 30 REDS 3 SEMEN

Featuring leading imported & Australian bloodlines

PRESENTED IN TICK FREE COUNTRY FOR IMMEDIATE TRAVEL ANYWHERE

COMPLIMENTARY Sausage Sizzle 7am - 9am

SPONSORED BY HARcourts

Online sale catalogue www.brahman.com.au
Buoyant bidding for Wilangi 20th

yards after the sale you can understand why leading cattle producers regularly target the Wilangi sale to source lines of high quality, high beef performance, commercial bulls,” Ken McCaffrey said. “Any commercial herd would register significant positive benefits utilising lines of bulls like these.”

Wilangi stud’s draft of 99 herd bulls averaged $3,795, up 20% on last year. The Wallace stud sale draft of 23 herd bulls met ready acceptance averaging $4,240. The $6,750 second highest price herd bull of the sale came out of the Wallace draft. It was one of a line of 13 bulls regular sale buyer Mrs Margaret Fisher, Tallawanta, Normanton selected at an average of $5,345.

Graham & Ben Von Wald, VW Grazing Company, Charters Towers were also in the market for superior beef performance bulls, following strong repeat buyer interest for their properties’ commercial cattle turnoff. Their 17 bulls averaged $5,370.

Landmark Key Account Manager Jim Matthews, was at the sale with Barkly Pastoral Company Principals John & Trish Dunnecliffe, Beetaloo Station, Elliott, Northern Territory. Jim never fails to select from the Wilangi sale, on the Dunnecliffe’s behalf, a sizable and strong line of ideal young bulls, and this year purchased 34 averaging $2,310.

Sheahan Land & Cattle Company, Esmeralda Station, Croydon and David & Judy Camm, Natal Downs, Charters Towers were also strong bidders on herd bulls selecting 24 averaging $3,335 and 21 averaging $3,465 respectively.

It was the day stud sire section where the $30,000 sale topper came from. El Ja Sir Ronald Manso, a Full Hudgins bloodline, rising 2yo son of JDH Fred Manso, caught the attention of buyers with his extra length and deep, square body. Exceptional weight for age of 898kg and eye muscle scan of 141 sqcm reinforced his credentials. Ron Pelling, Willtony stud, Theodore was committed in his bidding and secured this promising sire. El Ja had a solid sale with their draft of 14 sires averaging $10,570. The stud also recorded sales of $14,000 for the smart sire type El Ja Admiral Arman Manso to Tartrus Brahmans, Marlborough, $12,000 for the 878kg Tartrus Ace Manso son El Ja Ace Manso, to Herb & Margaret Clemments, Porcupine Stud, Hughenden and two $10,000 sires selling to Rosewood Station, Western Australia and Ian Hewitt, Mt Rose, Taroom.

Doug Struber of Rosewood Station also outlaid $10,500 for Raglan Mr Drifter, a 930kg, long bodied sire from Andrew & Roxanne Olive’s team.

Following their successful heifer sale the previous evening, Brahrock stud also enjoyed strong competition on their sale draft of stud sires. The seven Brahrock sire prospects averaged $11,360. Topping the team at $22,000 was Brahrock Financial, a well bred, heavy muscled JDH Datapack Manso son selling to John & Jan Nelson, Herbert Hall Enterprises, Charters Towers. Geoff Angel, Glengarry Brahmans, Kunawara outlaid $16,000 for Brahrock Faise, a son of JDH Sir Parker Manso with excellent carcase qualities, while Dick & Sue Smith, Depot Glen, Longreach opened their sale buying Brahrock Miss Manso Empress was a $15,000 purchase for Tim & Lynette Olive, Apis Creek stud, Marlborough (centre). Vendors Beryl & Royce Sommerfeld of Brahrock stud were pleased to see her go to a good home

Left to right: Vendors Ken Roche, KP Brahmans, Marlborough and Robert White, Wilangi Brahmans, Marlborough with stud sire buyers Dick & Sue Smith, Depot Glen, Longreach and fellow vendor Neville Sommerfeld, Brahrock stud, Maryborough

Admiring the $20,000 top price heifer of the Wilangi Invitation Sale, Brahrock Nav Empress, was buyer Robert White of Wilangi stud and vendors Shannon and Neville Sommerfeld, Brahrock stud, Maryborough
MILLDALE Brahmans
Pursuing Excellence

OFFERING THE FIRST RELEASE PROGENY OF BRAHROCK ASCENT
SELLING 5 ELITE HEIFERS AT TOOWOOMBA PREMIER FEMALE SALE 26 APRIL, 2008
All by full Hudgins sire Ascent (JDH Sir Liberty, Elefante & Mr Manso 855)

LOT 33
MILLDALE RUBY 23/6

LOT 34
MILLDALE PIXIE 24/6

4 HEIFERS FROM YENDA WENTWORTH FEMALES (JDH GREGORY R MANSO & MR CHARLIE MANSO)
1 HEIFER FROM MILLDALE ERNESTO 989 (JDH ERNESTO & DENVER)
George Miller & Family, Mt Whitestone & Back Plains P/F 07 5462 6743 E milldalebrahmans@bigpond.com

7 QUALITY BRAHMAN HEIFERS BOUND FOR TOOWOOMBA PREMIER BRAHMAN FEMALE SALE
Saturday, 26 April 2008

HATARI BRAHMANS
MALCOLM & PRUE DAVISON “Tehillim” 66 McCarthy Road, Greenmount Q 4359
Phone: 07 4697 1200 • Mobile: 0429 442 044 • Email: hatarimda@bigpond.com.au
Buoyant bidding for Wilangi 20th

paying $11,000 for Brahrock Fable, a 893kg son of Mr V8 189/4. The Smith’s also selected at $10,000, KP Jonathon, a quiet natured BNA Double Take Manso son, over 800kg at 25 months, and backed by ample muscling.

The 840kg, rising 2yo, white grey sire prospect FBC Cedric Manso led the Fenech’s day section of the sale at $20,000. Astute Brahman enthusiast Dan Beaucamp, Bareniya, Hughenden was the purchaser. The well named bull FBC Muscles De Manso, by home bred sire FBC Kruger Manso, made $18,000 selling to Barry & Liz Miller of Rhondhu stud, Mingela. Wallace Cattle Company was again in the five figure price action with their selection of sires. Donald & Kaye Black, Langley, Middlemount paid $13,000 for Wallace Fletcher. Backed by a proven successful pedigree, Fletcher scaled 782kg at 22 months of age. Rob Wearing & Son, Etna Station, Hughenden bid to $10,000 to secure Wallace Flynn, another good young son of Wilangi Riddle.

As always, the Wilangi Invitation Brahman sale proved its ability to supply high quality grey Brahman stud and herd cattle to buyers at every level of the market, according to Wilangi stud principal Ron White. “Our buyers are comfortable with the genuine way the sale is conducted, and the large selection of stud bloodlines from our group of Vendors gives Brahman breeders excellent diversity at this sale,” Ron White said. “Some of our buyers today purchased lots under their budgets, however we’re happy for them as, for 20 years, we’ve always met the market.”

“It was pleasing to see so many people here for the 20th sale,” he added. “We greatly appreciate all the support which comes to this sale from cattle producers across Australia.”

Agents: Landmark and McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing.

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NEW AND PROVEN SEMEN

Principe 87/8
Cross Fire Manso 02/2
JDH Mr Henry 294/3

165 Dreamboy
Mr KC Apache 707/4

JDH Sir Carmichael Manso
JDH Sir Shank Manso

Bacardi 730
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Summer rain dampens February Brahman sale

Flooding rains impacted on clearance rates and values at the 2008 Rockhampton February Summer Brahman Sale on February 11 and 12, but prices still managed to peak at $15,000 for heifers and $14,000 for bulls.

Although 372 Brahman bulls and 272 heifers had been catalogued as part of the annual three-day all breeds sale, 200mm of rain during the fixture forced the non-arrival of a number of lots and a number of potential buyers, resulting in a $3033 average for 189 bulls and a $2373 average for 184 females. Eighteen frozen embryos were also sold, going for between $800 and $1000.

**SUMMER FEMALES SELL STRONGLY**

High quality females met with solid demand at the February Summer Brahman Sale. Topping the fixture at $15,000 was 15-month-old full Hudgins heifer Glengarry Anna Manso, purchased by Graham and Gregory Newsome, Newburra stud, Bajool. Offered by Scott and Geoff Angel, Glengarry stud, Kunwarara, who set a $23,500 record for a female at last year’s sale, the heifer is by PBF Grafton Manso and out of the Datapack Manso female Brahrock Miss Data Anna 2688. The Newsomes also paid $6000 for the Grafton Manso heifer Glengarry Le Countess Manso, who is out of the high performing JDH Mr Larmo Manso (imp) cow Glengarry Le Countess Manso 771. The Angel’s draft of four heifers secured the best female average of $7750.

Kearin and Beth Streeter, Palmvale stud, Marlborough, collected $10,000 for their 19-month-old Mr Winchester Magnum 999 (imp) heifer Palmvale Miss WM Pablo, who featured a +43 EBV for 600-day weight. The heifer, who is out of the stud’s leading donor female Palmvale Miss Pablo, will join the Kaschula family’s Kaschula stud at Cedar Creek.

Palmvale averaged $5542 for six red heifers. Other standouts in their line-up were $7500 Palmvale Uptown Girl 2272, a half sister to Brisbane Royal champion Palmvale Absolute Sting; and $7500 Palmvale Joanne, a Mr Winchester Magnum 999 (imp) daughter with a +48 EBV for 600-day weight. Uptown Girl, who has a +50 EBV for 600-day weight, was secured by the Dunn family, Somerton stud, Mackay, while Joanne was knocked down to the Beissel’s Baiden stud, Wallumbilla.

Ron and Daphne Kirk, Yenda, Gayndah bid to $10,000 to secure Kupala Kelly 4th, a 19-month-old daughter of Wilangi Sullivan and Kupala Kelly 1st (Carinya Plainsman). She was one of six heifers sold for $3458 avg by William and Tracey Tapp, Lonesome Dove, Wowan.

Not far behind at $9500 was K Allan Heritage Queen, a grey Mr Heritage Manso 133 (imp) heifer out of the Glengarry Waco cow K Allan Jessy. She was catalogued by the Hair family, K Allan stud, Bauple and will take up duties in Emmanuelle, Josephine and Eddie Pace’s Blue Water Hills stud, Mackay.

Steve and Sharon Turner averaged $7333 for three grey heifers from their Wilarandy S stud, Woolooga, the trio being purchased by Bill and Lawson Camm, Cambil stud, Proserpine. The Turner’s top seller was $8000 Wilarandy S Miss Datalist Manso (JDH Datapack Manso), while their ET sisters by BNA The Deacon Manso 253 went for $7500 and $6500.

Carl Morawitz, Stewart Park, Comet paid $7500 for Kenrol Miss Kayla 0272, a granddaughter of four times ABBA Dam of the Year Kenrol Kayla 02. The Mr V8 464/4 (imp) daughter, offered with two straws of WR Mr Sid 305 semen, was bred by Ken and Wendy Cole, Kenrol stud, Gracemere. Their draft of five females averaged $4600 and included $5500 Kenrol Miss KM 2222, an unjoined Kenrol Boszee Manso heifer purchased by the Frampton family, Little Creek stud, Widgee.

Robert White, Wilangi R stud, Marlborough bid to $6250 to secure Leany Vale Super Connie, a 15-month-old future breeder carrying Mr V8 287/5 (imp) and Mr V8 900/4 genetics. The Black family, Leany Vale, Biloela sold 34 heifers for $2422 average, their draft featuring $5000 Leany Vale Lucerne (JDH Riddell Manso), purchased by Brett Nobbs, Nobbs Cattle Co, Inverrio, Duaringa and $5000 Leany Vale Ravanne (VL Rojo Grande), bought by the Ferris family, Red Oak stud, Bororen.

Glengarry Belle 1480, a 13-month-old Tropical Cattle Amos Manso heifer out of a Glengarry Waco cow, sold for $5500. Also knocked down for $5500 was Carinyah Park Lady Elly Manso 1-26, a JDH Atari Sugar Manso (imp) heifer purchased by...
Unravelling some of the “genome” technology

by a backbone of sugar and phosphate molecules, and the “rungs” consist of nucleotide bases joined weakly in the middle by hydrogen bonds as shown in the attached figure.

Two base pairs form a “rung of the DNA ladder”. A DNA nucleotide is made of a molecule of sugar, a molecule of phosphoric acid, and a molecule called a base. The bases are the “letters” that spell out the genetic code. In DNA, the code letters are A (adenine), T (thymine), G (guanine), and C (cytosine) which are chemicals. In base pairing, adenine always pairs with thymine, and guanine always pairs with cytosine.

A “nucleotide” is one of the structural components, or building blocks, of DNA and RNA (ribonucleic acid). A nucleotide consists of a base (one of four chemicals: adenine, thymine, guanine, and cytosine) plus a molecule of sugar and one of phosphoric acid.

A “marker”, also known as a DNA marker or possibly “a sign post” on the chromosome, is a segment of DNA with an identifiable physical location on a chromosome whose inheritance can be followed. A marker can be a gene, or it can be some section of DNA with no presently known function. Because DNA segments that lie near each other on a chromosome tend to be inherited together, markers are often used as indirect ways of tracking the inheritance pattern of genes that have not yet been identified, but whose approximate locations are known. Microsatellite (type II marker) is a type of marker made up of a simple pattern of nucleotides repeated over and over. Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs) are another form of DNA markers.

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Summer rain dampens February Brahman sale

B. Mikkelsen. The Bartolo family’s Carrinyah Park stud, Nebo, averaged $3250 for five heifers.

Solo F Miss Gladiola, a JDH Mr David Manso 231/1 (imp) daughter with a +44 EBV for 600-day weight, sold for $5000 to Wallace Cattle Co, Brigalow, Marlborough, and Jarvis Collins, Baldwin Pastoral Co, Middlement paid $5000 for the unjoined red Kandoona Utai heifer Wandilla Rose. Lee and Gillian Collins, Wandilla, Marlborough averaged $2579 for their 19 females.

SUMMER BULLS TO $14,000

The highest priced bull at the Summer Brahman Sale was $14,000 Chasmac Park 88, a two-year-old grey by PBF Gentleman James and out of Tartrus Carmen (Mr International 50/1). He was offered by Charlie McKinlay, Chasmac Park stud, Stewart Park, Comet and snapped up by Pat and Brian Hills, NK stud, Theodore.

The Bishop family, Garglen stud, Gympie invested $13,000 in Palmvale Baron Sting 2215, a two-year-old red son of the well credentialed BB Mr Sting Ray 10/0 (imp) and Palmvale Miss Prince 1707 (Palmvale Tabasco). A full sister to the bull was sold for $17000 at last year’s Fassifern Elite Female Sale by vendors Kearin and Beth Streeter, Palmvale, Marlborough. Their Summer Brahman Sale draft of three bulls averaged $7333.

Scott and Vicki Hayes, Yenda V stud, Munduberra, were successful bidders on $9000 Capamaree Interest 15, a Mr International 50/1/Kenrol Miss Kayla 045 product from Patricia Draper’s Capamaree stud, Marmor.

The polled 39-month-old red Alma Erik sold for $9000 to Marg and Andy Olsen, Neslo stud, Wandoan. The Alma Wilbert son was marketed by Stan and Lesley Sorley, Alma stud, Bell. The same price was paid by the Titmarsh family, JNH stud, Chinchilla for Pine Crest Tim, a polled red by Tartrus 034887 and out of the Billabong Robbo cow Palmvale Tina. Tim was the sole entry from the Landsberg family’s Pine Crest stud, Marlborough.

The highest priced used Brahman sire was $8000 Tropical Cattle Amos Manso, catalogued by Glengarry stud. The 50-month-old son of JDH Atari Sugar Manso (imp) will join the Dunn family’s Kamir stud, Biloela.

Muan Healey, a polled red son of Kandoona Emperor, was the top seller from the Gibbs’ Muan stud, Biggenden. He went for $7500 to D. and A. Creed. R. and N. Crawford paid $7000 for a polled Batandra Eric son from Palmvale and Peter Freegard invested $6500 in a Glengarry Waco son from K Allan stud.

Nioka Forest, a polled red son of Mogul Ohio, was the highest seller in the draft from Tim Nicolle and family’s Nioka stud, Warianda, NSW. He went for $6500 to B. and J. Bidgood. The same price was paid by Wales Grazing to secure Little Creek Hoss Man, an FBC D Hoss Grande De Manso son from the Frampton’s Little Creek stud, Widgee.

The top selling herd bull at $6250 was purchased by the Nobbs families’ Yandaburra Pastoral Co and was a son of Leany Vale Bobbie Dazzler presented by Leany Vale stud, Biloela.
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New light on tenderness and the calpain system

The research also revealed a strong genetic correlation between tenderness and flight time (a measure of temperament – see CRC fact sheet). This suggests there is a common factor in the underlying genetics of both temperament and tenderness. This intriguing concept is being explored further in CRC III.

Bos indicus carcases also respond differently to processing and a number of theories have been advanced to help explain these differences. Tropical breeds are more sensitive to having the optimum amount of electrical stimulation. With tenderstretch hanging, their tenderness is improved more than British breed types.

To be eligible for grading, MSA now requires processors to follow best practice in electrical stimulation and chilling to minimize detrimental effects.

LINKS BETWEEN HGPS, BOS INDICUS CONTENT AND AGEING

Cattle with a higher Bos indicus content are known to have a higher proportion of calpastatin. Eating quality studies have revealed that the cuts affected by Bos indicus content are essentially the same ones affected by treatment of the animal with HGP. That these are the same cuts that improve most with extended ageing.

This has led to the theory that all three phenomena are primarily caused by changes to the calpain/calpastatin mechanism in muscle.

POSSIBLE LINKS WITH NET FEED INTAKE

Selection to improve NFI (net feed intake, a measure of feed efficiency) is already progressing in some breeds, following studies that showed substantial genetic variation exists between animals in feed efficiency. Feed intake measurement is now being used by breeders to identify feed-efficient sires.

Calpain and calpastatin have recently emerged as playing some role in NFI. It seems that more efficient cattle may also have slightly higher natural levels of calpastatin.

This suggests there will be genetic connections between meat quality and feed efficiency, and that selection for NFI could lead to tougher beef. Fortunately the correlation looks very small at this stage, and meat quality differences have not been detected in experimental cattle selected for improved feed efficiency.

DNA TESTS FOR TENDERNESS

DNA markers for tenderness have recently been commercialised. These have been identified by screening the data from CRC's cattle experiments to find genes that are associated with differences in tenderness. The key genes that emerged were the calpain (CAPN1) and calpastatin (CAST) genes. These now form the basis of the commercial DNA marker tests.

CURRENT RESEARCH

The interactions between genetics, behaviour, biology and meat quality continue to unfold. Two large experiments underway in CRC III have been designed to enlighten us on all these issues.

The experiments include Bos indicus and British breed types carrying known tenderness genes. They have been divided into groups to compare HGP/non-HGP effects, differences in temperament and stress response and tenderstretch or normal carcase hanging.

In addition to providing definitive measures of these effects, tissue and meat samples will provide a huge resource for further studies on the underlying mechanisms controlling tenderness.

Meat scientists are looking at other ways to offset the meat quality effects in cattle that are profitable to produce, but have high calpastatin levels. They may find a way to inactivate calpastatin at or shortly before slaughter, to allow the calpains to tenderize the meat.

Other breeding experiments are checking for any positive or negative genetic associations between tenderness genes and the breeding efficiency of females. This work is vital to ensure a profitable balance in genetic improvement of our production systems into the future.
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15 April at Gracemere
Brian Dawson Auctions; Elders; Landmark; Fanning Rural Agencies; Savage, Barker & Backhouse; Ray White Rural; R.F. Duncan & Co

TOOWOOMBA PREMIER BRAHMAN FEMALE SALE
26 April at Toowoomba S’grounds
Elders, Landmark, GDL

PONDEROSA BRAHMAN SALE
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GYMPIE BRAHMAN FEMALE SALE
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