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Top price bull for 2018, Clukan Axel, bred by Steve & Theresa Taylor. Purchased by GI Brahmans, Harriman Family for $100,000 at RBWS 2018.

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President’s Paragraph

It’s with a heavy heart that I put pen to paper for my report.

Since my last “President’s Paragraph”, a lot has happened in the rural industry affecting most of our members in some way. From tragic losses of family members and friends, to devastating floods, wild fires and severe drought conditions, to say we are in challenging times, is truly an understatement.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to Mitchell Cole and his family on the tragic loss of his wife Juanita and daughter Ava late last year. Words elude me at this point but I know there are so many people, family and friends that will stand beside you in all your times of need.

In January Samuel Palm tragically passed, this young man was just starting to find his way in the rural industry. Sam, the son of Jacqui McCamley and Andrew Palm, Grandson of Sir Graham and the Late Lady Shirley McCamley, will be forever sadly missed.

Our thoughts are with you all.

To all our friends and fellow graziers affected by the recent natural disasters. It is very comforting to know that human kindness is as strong as ever with so many lending a helping hand whether it be with goods and services, labour, donations or even an ear can be one of the best things; we can all contribute in some way.

I wish to thank members who are able to contribute to the ABBA Northern Queensland Flood Aid 2019 charity semen auction. The auction is also supported by Rocky Repro, Beef Breeding Services and Elite Livestock Services all donating their time and services. All proceeds of the auction are ear marked for distribution to three separate charity organisations: Sisters of the North, QCWA and Blaze Aid.

Editorial

One could not say that mother nature has been favorable to the East Coast for the start of 2019 with the devastating floods in the north west Queensland and the continuing drought in the remainder of Qld and NSW and pushing further into the southern states. As the cleanup continues in the North my thoughts are with all involved in that ongoing process that will take many many years of recovery. On the other spectrum hopefully rain will not be far away for those that remain in drought.

There has only been one sale for the start of 2018 with February All Breeds Brahman section being held in Gracemere on the 12th of February. There were some nice types of bulls on offer and the sale topped at $13,000 for a red bull, Wandilla Jagger offered by Lee & Gill Collins, Marlborough. Top price heifer was sold for $9,000. A red heifer from Kenrol Stud at Gracemere, Kenrol Miss Getti. The yarding of bulls was reduced and one would have hoped for a better clearance however the many weather influences in play had a large impact on this sale. Females remained in high demand with 100% clearance and that pressure for females should remain strong as breeding females head back into the north.

Big Country Sale, Charters Towers has had to be put back due to the effects of the flooding in the north and was held on the 25th & 26th of February.

Preparations have now been finalised for the BeefUp Forum being held in Mundubbera on the 6th of March with a bus trip out to Narayen where the BIN Project cattle are held. We will have a display of No 7 steers including a sample of the No 8 females from Brian Pastures along with some interesting speakers all connected to the projects.

The BeefUp Forum is closely followed by the Rocky All Stars Elite Female Sale on the 16th of March. There are some lovely females on offer at this sale and they shall be in high demand I am sure. A few of the vendors are donating to the North with part of the proceeds of the sale of their heifers going towards the charity, Sisters of the North based in Cloncurry. There is also some excellent Semen from
impressive sires on offer that has been donated to raise funds for this same charity. There are some first release Australian bulls and also some Semen has been donated by fellow American Breeders VB stud. Thank you all for your support. With so many of our stud and commercial breeders effected and as many as 800 producers as a whole this support is greatly appreciated.

ABBA will be having a Charity Semen Auction with the catalogue going online directly after the Female Sale on the 18th of March with the sale starting on the 22nd of March and bidding continuing for the week until the 29th of March. We are still collecting lots for this auction however I am sure there will be some interesting sires available for purchase all for a great cause. If you would like to donate some live cattle to send to the North, please check recent emails or ring the office for details of this campaign.

All the best to all fighting the elements. Please look after yourselves and your families and if you or someone you know needs help with mental health please contact Lifeline on 13 11 14.

The Editor
Wilangi result weather affected

Contributed by McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing and photos by NQ Register

Although maintaining an excellent Sale clearance rate of 94% and a solid average throughout, there is no doubt the weather of the week of the 2018 Wilangi Invitation Brahman Sale negatively affected prices achieved. It was the last week of November with blistering and persistent hot dry winds across most areas of Queensland, and bushfire battles raging in Central and Southern Queensland, and up as far as the ranges of West and North West of Mackay.

“The closer we got to Sale day, the more we found prospective buyers unlikely to attend,” Sale Co-Agent Ken McCaffrey of McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing said, “people just lost confidence in a break to better weather at that stage. It was dry, and many were already feeding cattle at home.”

Nevertheless the resilience and strong reputation of the longstanding Wilangi Sale resulted in nearly 60 entities from the Sale’s bidder registrations accounting for 234 bulls, selling from $3,000 to $32,500 and averaging $5,520. “It was a buyer’s market on the day as the offering of Grey Brahman sires and herd bulls from Wilangi, Cambil, Raglan, Viva, Lanes Creek, Glengarry and Wallace Studs was excellent, one of the best we have offered at this Sale,” Ken McCaffrey said, “those who made it to the Sale and purchased would have been very pleased with their day’s work.”

The $32,500 Top Seller was Cambil Heineken, an 818kg milk tooth son of NCC Jaguar. The bull scanned a 143 sqcm EMA and carries excellent bone and softness. Astute Brahman breeders of many years, Reg & Wendy Valmadre, Cedar Bend Brahmans, Jambin are the new owners of this impressive young sire prospect.

Earlier in the Sale, Clermont based Stud Karmoo Brahmans, operated by Lance and Sonia Faint & Family, outlaid $20,000 for Viva Nevada, a big, imposing, dark grey son of NCC Judah. He’s a real masculine and strong breed character type scaling 1,030kg at 34 months, and recording an EMA of 148 sqcm, the biggest of the Sale.

The $20,000 Second Top Price bull of the Wilangi Invitation Brahman Sale, Viva Nevada, seems happy to hang out with L.toR. Vendors AJ & Pam Davison of Viva Stud and his new owners Lance Faint and his daughter Kirstin of Karmoo Brahmans, Clermont.

Wilangi Invitation Brahman Sale Top Price Bull Cambil Heineken with his purchaser Reg Valmadre, Cedar Bend Brahmans, Jambin and Lawson Camm of Cambil Brahmans, Proserpine.
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Andrew, Anna & Jarod McCamley of ZAM Brahmans, Dingo were at the Sale and went home with big smiles on their faces after investing in two sires at $18,000 each. Their first purchase was Cambil Corona Manso, a JDH Clanton De Manso son bred from the illustrious Jewel cowline, which has been ultra successful through the Brahman breed for years. Wallace Mr Quillon, a rising 2yo of outstanding carcass qualities and extra length was their second purchase. He is an Elrose All Rounder son with his damline tracing back to a JDH Sir Gregory Manso cow.

A poll Lanes Creek sire, WT Jumbo, a son of the breed impact poll sire Avee Jackson, made $17,000. He was backed by good weight and carcass figures and was purchased by Landmark Rockhampton on behalf of a client. Sale Vendors AJ & Pam Davison of Viva Brahmans also took the opportunity to invest $14,000 in a sire prospect, Cambil Budweiser Manso. This is a well bred, well put together sire by JDH Clanton De Manso out of a young daughter of JDH Mr Elmo Manso.

The brother-in-blood to Viva’s purchase was sold early in the Sale to Dillon Scott of Rosetta Grazing Co, Collinsville for $12,000, and was considered a bargain of the Sale. This bull, Cambil Coopers Manso, a 2 tooth, 27 month old, soft creamy grey, scaled 850kg and coupled that with a 144 sq cm EMA.

Five bulls through the auction sold at the $11,000 figure. Two Lanes Creek white grey, poll sires, both by Avee Jackson, WT Justice and WT Juror, sold for that price to the Clementsons of Capricorn Estates, Mt Joseph, Brooweena. Glengarry G Franklin, a rising 2yo of excellent growth and length was an $11,000 purchase for Appleton Cattle Co., Yarmina, Charters Towers, while Alan Williams, Riverside Pastoral Co, Nebo also bid to that figure for Raglan Mr Jenkin, the heaviest milk tooth bull of the Sale at 890kg. This very impressive natural beef and carcass performance bull was one of five sires Alan selected at the auction.

A brother to the $32,500 Sale topper from the Cambil draft was an $11,000 purchase for Hammer & Co, Annvale Stud, Charters Towers. He is very similar in type to his brother with natural softness and smoothness, and excellent weight for age and carcass scans.

There was a good spread of buyers at the Sale stretching from the Gulf Country and Cloncurry in the North West through to the Central Burnett area of Southern Queensland. Biggest volume buyer was GDL Manager Peter Daniels who put together an attractive line of 21 bulls for Lawn Hill & Riversleigh Pastoral, Doomagee, while Camm Agricultural Group and Claraville Station Pty Ltd both assembled drafts of 20 impressive quality herd bulls from the offering.

Top Price herd bull of the Sale was a Wallace 2yo, Wallace 125, purchased by Hacon & Sons of Nelia for $8,000. Agents: Queensland Rural and McCaffrey’s Australian Livestock Marketing.
Photos from left to right

Cooling off with a refreshing drink at the Wilangi Invitation Brahman Sale Welcome function were Trisha Sheahan (left), Tweedsmuir, Richmond and Sale Vendor Kerry Wallace, Wallace Brahmans, Brigalow, Marlborough.

Enjoying the Wilangi Invitation Brahman Sale Country Cocktails Welcome evening are L.toR. Darryl Pitt, Belinda Irvin and Patrick Sheahan, Valley of Lagoons, Ingham.

Mandy & Rob White of Wilangi Brahman Stud, Marlborough with their daughters Polly (left) and Charli enjoyed welcoming guests to the Sale’s Country Cocktails function.

Relaxing at the Wilangi Invitation Brahman Sale ‘Meet & Greet’ were Jessica Brieffies and Central Queensland Sale visitor Lisa Cullen of Marlua Station.
Reds dominate the leader board at the Summer Brahman Sale 2019

By Cindy Benjamin and photos by KB Consulting

Reds proved popular at the Summer Brahman Sale on 12 February 2019 with nine of the top-10 priced sires and the two top-priced females all being red.

The CQLX Gracemere event saw 105 quality Brahman sires and females change hands for a gross earning of $442,250, an average of $4211 per head.

Just a few less sires than last year’s sale, 63 bulls (including 3 used sires) changed hands for a total of $311,000, an average of $4936.

With a similar number of females sold as the 2018 Summer Brahman Sale, 42 females grossed $131,250 or an average $3125.

Top selling Brahman sire was Wandilla Jagger, a 37-month-old red son of NCC Duvall and Wandilla Regina 184/9. Weighing 858 kg and with an EMA of 142, Jagger was offered by Lee and Gillian Collins, Wandilla Stud, Marlborough and sold to Hazelton Stud, Middlemount for $13,000.

Top selling used sire was rising 7-year-old FBC Bravo Manso, sired by FBC W Jerome De Manso. Weighing 1038 kg and with a 144 EMA. Hazelton Stud was keen to add this Wandilla offering to their draft of two for $8000.

The 60 unused Brahman bulls averaged $4916 with a top of $13,000 while the three used sires averaged $5333 and topped at $8000.

Twenty-six grey sires averaged $4000 while their 34 red counterparts attracted an average $5617 from buyers. The difference in averages for the 17 polled and 46 horned sires was too close to call, being $5117 and $4869 respectively.

Top grey price was $9000 for the Olsen’s Lot 120, a large framed herd bull Neslo 4313 GR Macca by a polled sire. He was the sole purchase of Capricorn Qld Contracting.

In total, nine sires attracted $9000 each, including the top-price grey. Eight lots were red, with seven hailing from Andy and Marg Olsen’s, Neslo prefix, Thordon Park-Carramar, Wandoan and one from Mike Peters’ Bremer Vale stud, Wovli.

Strong interest was shown in the 42 Brahman females, which sold for an average $3125 and a top of $9000.

Top female at the sale was Ken and Wendy Cole’s Kenrol Miss Getti 2975, a cherry red yearling heifer with a proven fertile dam line. She was the sole purchase of Fenella Neilson, Tolmie Creek, Blackwater.

A scurred red offered by Jim and Bonnie Besley reached the second top female price of $6500 for Bungarribee Maria, selling to bulk...
2018 was a very successful year for us here at BOS Indicus Cattle Co. and Cherokee Stud. When we look at our achievements throughout the year, we certainly kept ourselves busy and kicked some goals along the way.

BOS and Cherokee studs achieved tremendous stud cattle sales to new and repeat buyers. The increasing interest in our Zebu herd has been driven by our participation at Beef Australia 2018, sales last year at the Gympie Female Sale, RBWS and via our Facebook page & website along with St Josephs, Nudgee College preparing and showing cattle on our behalf. We plan on preparing three heifers for the Gympie female sale this year after the successful sale last year.

Feedback from buyers has been overwhelmingly positive. One repeat buyer recently told us, "The yearling bull I purchased from you was joined to about 20 heifers in his first season and he got them all pregnant. All calved successfully with low birth weights and vigorous natures. Of the 6 bull calves born - 4 are retained as sale bulls. They all have a very quiet temperament and are growing very quickly. I currently have 52 bulls on feed including 9 Charbray bulls. Your bull is the sire of bulls ranked 1, 5, 8 and 10 for weight gain."

The above speaks volumes about the performance of our cattle, particularly in relation to growth and weight gain. We've always been a big advocate for lower birth weights a trait that was synonymous with Brahman cattle. Ease of calving should be paramount in breeding herds. It really is about reducing the risk of potential losses amongst maiden heifers and cows, not to mention the financial costs of labour, vet fees if required and lower rates of herd fertility due to the longer time required by assisted females to conceive again.

We anticipate evidence of hybrid vigour from the progeny to some of our sale bulls that were pastured with herds of commercial cattle. However, feedback from Brahman studs having used our genetics across their stud females have indicated that their progeny have performed exceptionally well. I believe it’s due to the genetic diversity that the different bloodlines each bring. Strong evidence that Zebu type cattle and original content genetics have an important role to play in the future of the Brahman industry.

Jesse Zischke.

Jesse Zischke
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(w) www.bosindicuscattleco.com.au
female buyer Casey Dahl for her Brolga Gully C prefix, Baralaba.

The third top female, McClennan Partnership’s, MCL Aria 1616, a rising 2-year-old grey, sold for $6000 to Geoff & Gladys Angel, Glengarry, Kunwarara, who also bought half-sister MCL Mockinjay 1610 for $5500.

The biggest investment in draft of four or more females on the day was an average $3542 for one red and five grey heifers by Casey Dahl.

The 31 grey females averaged $2976 (top $6000) and 11 reds attracted an average price of $3545 (top $9000). Eight polled females fetched an average of $2812 (top $4500) while the 34 horned heifers made an average $3198 (top $9000).

Largest offering was by the Collins family’s, Kelly Creek Pastoral Wandilla stud, selling 16 sires, including the top priced sire, for an average $5594. The Olsen’s sold the second largest consignment of sires for an average of $9000 for eight sires, all of which were in the top ten priced sires for the sale.

Two bulls sold for $7500 each. Lot 99 Wandilla Jefferson 050/0 offered by Kelly Creek Pastoral and sold to Fort Cooper, Nebo. Lot 74, Avee 808, 35-month-old son of Lancefield A Cooper 3208 was catalogued by Bill and Vicki Gabel, Wowan and sold to Phil Smallcombe, Bororen.

Four more Kelly Creek bulls sold for $7000 each, finding homes with Rideout Grazing Company, R & J Jacobsen and Loch Pastoral Co.

Christine Parker, Parker Grazing, Clare Station Jericho purchased two sires for an average $4000 and a top of $5000, and seven females for an average $2500 and top of $3500, investing a total of $25,500 at the 2019 sale.

June Hood bought six sires, two red polled, two grey polled and two grey horned, for a neat $3000 each.

The highest average invested in a draft of four or more bulls was $6125 by Fort Cooper, to secure three grey and one red for their sire battery at Nebo.

Ken and Wendy Cole, Gracemere catalogued 11 Kenrol heifers, which averaged $3773 and a top of $9000 for the draft of two reds and nine greys.

The McClennan Partnership, Goovigen sold nine heifers, including one red for an average $3638 and a top of $6000. Nathan and Julie Deguara, Mt Larcom sold a draft of seven grey heifers for an average $2464.
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Maximising value from a smaller area

By Cindy Benjamin and photos supplied by Bungarribee

Starting out with just 65 ha of land just north of Rockhampton, Jim and Bonnie Besley founded Bungarribee Brahmans in 1985 as a means of finding their niche in an industry they loved.

Their plan was to maximise returns from the limited number of cattle, through a stud cattle operation. They have since been able to purchase some adjacent properties and lease extra country, giving them access to approximately 3500 ha now.

Having worked in the cattle industry in the Northern Territory after finishing school and working on ‘Eulogie’ at Dululu for several years under the guidance of Jeff McCamley, Jim was keen to put what he had learned into practice in a business of their own.

With cows from Henry Douce, Cleveland stud at Alpha and the purchase of sire Cumberland Downs 1318, they initiated their red-Brahman breeding program. Solid male bloodlines from Cherokee Prince 2/480 (IMP US) and Arkana Rouge were also introduced through AI in the early years of Bungarribee stud.

Taking the property name and stud prefix from the Besley family’s historical horse-breeding home of ‘Bungarribee’ at Parramatta, NSW Jim and Bonnie strive to produce beefy red Brahmans that offer great fertility and temperament.

Using four single-sire herds of about 50 females each, Jim and Bonnie sell bulls and females at sales from Charters Towers to Gympie, with their main selling arena being Gracemere. They also run a 300-head commercial herd on their leased land at Byfield. Using Bungarribee bred bulls within their commercial herd gives the Besleys an excellent opportunity to see how their bulls are breeding and the offspring that they are producing.

A three-week AI program is run each year with the two-year old heifers and they find that this is a good opportunity to work with their young breed stock and to prepare them for entry into the stud herds. Some selected heifers that do not calve as three year olds, particularly those that are younger or smaller at the initial mating, are given a second chance and included in the annual AI program.

When choosing bulls to bring into Bungarribee, Jim and Bonnie look at bloodlines that are producing quality offspring. Great recent examples have been the purchase of semen from Mt Callan Governor 7/06, Muan A Orson 4247, Narranda Shaka 2293 and the renowned Lancefield D Robinson 416. Some semen from overseas has also been used throughout the years.

The Besleys were fortunate with some early purchases at the Burnside clearance sale 25 years ago where they bought two polled cows with polled bull calves at foot.

Jim and Bonnie Besley founded Bungarribee Brahmans, Barmoya in 1985 as a way to maximise returns from a small area of land and aim to provide buyers with predominantly red polled good quality, ready-to-work bulls.
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Burnside Kenya 2nd produced a large percentage of polled calves and provided a solid polled genetic base for their stud. Over the years the Besleys have built their herd around these genetic traits and were ready to meet the increasing demand for polled bulls in recent years.

Having said this, they also see the benefit of working with horned bulls as required and currently three of the four sires being used in the stud are horned. These bulls have been chosen to help maintain good bone and frame.

Jim says he wants to ‘breed quality polled beef cattle over eighty years not eight years’ to maintain all the desired beef traits in their cattle throughout the breeding process.

Three years ago the Besleys purchased a cow from NCC with a bull calf at foot, carrying a double-cross of Elmo. This is proving to be a good investment as they are impressed with the first calves by this bull on the ground this season.

The Besley’s appreciate the support of several return buyers who are generally looking for good doing bulls that work well with horses and dogs. Having built a good reputation as vendors at the Rockhampton Brahman Week Sale and the Gold City Sale at Charters Towers, Jim and Bonnie are working hard to continually improve their offering and produce bulls that meet their clients’ needs. The recording of female fertility and their calving intervals is considered very important.

Bonnie and Jim enjoy the company of their seven grandchildren, aged 7 to 14 years, who are all keen to help with the cattle work on Bungarribee. Preparing cattle to take to the annual Junior Beef event held in Rockhampton is one of the highlights of the children’s year.

A three-week AI program is run each year with the two-year old heifers and the Besleys find that this is a good opportunity to work with their young breed stock and to prepare them for entry into the stud and commercial herds.
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Sivyers’ rapt with Sammi

By Matt Sherrington, Queensland Country Life

After paying the top money in the female section for MCL Sammi 1585 at last year’s February All Breeds sale, Mackay-based commercial graziers Don and Carol Sivyer are eagerly anticipating her first-drop calf to arrive later this year.

At the 2018 sale the Sivyers paid $15,000 to secure the now 23-month-old daughter of Yenda V Bomber from Bram and Dell McLennan and family, MCL Stud, Goovigen.

“We loved her from the moment we saw her, she was oozing with quality at sale-time, and she’s proven to be a very good doer since we brought her home,” Don said.

The Sivyers run a pure Brahman herd of 90 head across 48ha of flat to slightly undulating country at Farleigh, and 5120ha of slightly undulating to hilly country at Bloomsbury.

“We’ve always found that the Brahman is the best performer in the tropics by far,” he said.

Don said they primarily purchased MCL Sammi 1585 because they’re currently buying superior breeding stock to bolster the overall quality of the progeny they produce.

“We’re really making a push to strengthen the genetics through our herd, and to aid with this we also recently began an AI program.”

He said MCL Sammi 1585 was placed in the AI program, and is now four weeks in-calf.

“We’re very excited to see how the calf looks when it drops.”

Don said in their operation bullocks are sold at 300kgs or more, and cull cows at 220kg-plus direct to the meatworks.

“With the program we now have in place we’ll hopefully be able to produce better overall quality cattle while increasing our weight for age figures, so we can then sell-on our cattle quicker.”

With the success they’ve had with MCL Sammi 1585 post-sale, Don said they’re hoping to attend the February All Breeds sale again this year.

“I’ve been very impressed with the photos in the catalogue of the cattle being offered there this year, and there will be some really strong bloodlines represented there as well.”

Great purchase: Don and Carol Sivyer, have been highly impressed with the performance of their $15,000, 2018 February All Breeds sale purchase, MCL Sammi 1585, who is now four weeks in-calf.
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Ava Rose Cole.
31st Aug 2008– 31st Dec 2018

Ava was born at the Innisfail District Hospital in 2008 as the first born daughter of Juanita and Mitch. She came home to Tumoulin where she quickly became the apple of her parents' eyes.

Rosanne found a quote that for her summarised how important Ava would become to all her grandparents … “As I grew older I thought the best part of my life was over... Then I was handed my first grandchild and realized the best part of my life had just begun”. As our only granddaughter for six years, Ava was cherished.

Growing up at Bullock's Swamp was to give Ava an appreciation of country life. She developed her love of cattle from a very young age from being her parents' little shadow. This way of life was to ultimately lead to her following in her father's footsteps. Mitch was only too happy to see Ava continuing on the family tradition of showing cattle. Ava very quickly became Dad's little mate and right hand man and if you believed Ava, ... she did it all.

In 2014 Ava commenced school at Saint Teresa's in Ravenshoe where she was loved by all and went on to forge firm friendships. She affected everyone she met as evidenced by the attendance at the liturgy held for her on Tuesday.

With the arrival of Hannah on the 4th June 2014 and Olivia on February 11th 2016 Ava became an adored and adoring big sister. The relationship

Juanita Jane Bendel.
29th of May 1979– 31st of December 2018

First of all we'd like to thank everybody for coming. Some of you have travelled long distances to be with us today. We're gathered today to celebrate and remember the lives of Juanita and Ava and we want to thank everyone for the love and support that they have shown to us.

Juanita came into the world at the Innisfail District Hospital on Tuesday, May 29th 1979. We brought her home to the farm at East Palmerston where at that time we were growing bananas and heavily involved in breeding Brahman cattle. It was during this time that Juanita developed her love for Brahman cattle and where she also spent many hours over at the shed with us while we packed. By the time she was 4 she had learnt to steer the tractor and banana trailer while we picked bananas. Ray always said that by the time she became useful she was ready for school. It was during this time that she formed a special bond with Grandma and Grand Dad.

In 1985 Juanita started her schooling at East Palmerston State School. The friendships that she made with her primary school friends were lifelong. On the 31st of July 1987 Yolande entered her life; somewhere along the line Juanita and Yo became our George and Jack. Even though as children they fought like cats and dogs, as adults they shared a special bond. Juanita was bridesmaid for Yo at her wedding to Andrew and adored their two children Arlo and Blaire. Their closeness was evidenced at our last Christmas together.

In 1992 Juanita entered her high school years at Innisfail State High School. She loved her friends and the social side of school and would often remark that the only reason she was at school was to eat her lunch. Juanita's high school friends who are here today would understand that remark. It was during her year 12 year at school that Juanita first met Mitch. At this time Mitch and his family had moved into the district and were managing Wallace Vale Drought Masters at Tully. She quickly became part of the family and was much loved by Errol and Estelle, Justine, Wylie, Rye and Blaine.

Juanita and Mitch met at the 1995 North Queensland Brahman Breeders Christmas Party. It was their common interests and love of Brahman cattle that brought them together. On the 4th of February 1996, Mitch rang to speak to Juanita. Ray answered and in his mind he was wondering why Mitch Cole would be ringing him and the penny didn’t drop until Mitch asked to speak to Juanita. Juanita
always referred to this day as their anniversary; almost 23 years ago.

When Juanita left school she stayed at home and worked with us until 1998 when she moved with Mitch to Laglan at Clermont. It was during this time that Mitch started calling her Conchita. In 2002 they moved back home with us where they stayed for a little while before moving to Tumoulin to begin their new life together. Tumoulin was Juanita’s sanctuary and her world …… along with her family.

On the 31st of August 2008, Juanita and Mitch became parents to Ava. It was love at first sight and a life-long bond was formed. After Ava commenced school Juanita became part of the school community. She was very proud of Ava’s achievements with many “proud mummy moments” to come. From the very beginning, her girls became her world and on the 4th June 2014 when Nit became a mother for the second time with the arrival of Hannah, the bonds between Juanita and her girls only grew deeper. Life certainly became busier for her when Hannah started kindy.

On February 11th 2016 the arrival of Olivia completed the family; it was at this stage the realisation hit Mitch that he was surrounded by females!

Juanita derived great pleasure from her children and delighted in instilling her love for all creatures great and small in her girls. Juanita was a kind and thoughtful woman; happy in her world. She was generous and loving and would do anything for anybody.

Juanita will be remembered as being a treasured daughter and sister, loving partner, devoted mother and a trusting and loyal friend to all.

Ava shared with her sisters can be evidenced by the quote chosen by Juanita that hangs in their bedroom: “Side by side or miles apart, sisters will always be connected by the heart.”

Being the only child for six years, allowed Ava to develop a special relationship with her mother. Their last outing together was on December 13 to the tattoo shop in Atherton to fulfil a promise of having her ears pierced when she was 10 years old.

Ava spent Christmas Day at East Palmerston where she loved nothing more than swimming in the pool. Two days later Ava enjoyed a family outing to the Cairns Aquarium.

Ava will always be remembered as a loving daughter, adored big sister, cherished grand-daughter, niece and cousin. Although Ava was only 10 years old, she deeply touched the lives of all her family and friends.
Beef Cattle Association of Thailand

By Anastasia Fanning

It was with much pleasure that I attended The Beef Cattle Association of Thailand Show to judge the Brahman section. The show was held on the 8th and 9th December at the Kamphaneng Saen campus of the Kasertsart University, 80klms west of Bangkok.

Upon arriving at the campus on Friday we received a very warm welcome from the lecturers of the Faculty of Agriculture who were running the event for the University. The Saturday morning began with a ceremony of presenting the trophies to their Crown Princess, Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. Although the Crown Princess did not attend the cattle judging she had attended the show for the official opening a few days before and a large banner of her adorned the main ring for all to see. This is where the trophies were put on display for the two days of judging and also where the Champion photos were taken.

Following this ceremony, I judged the 100 females that had attended the show with the help of my interpreter, Phoom. The majority of the females were of very good quality with few faults evident. With four champions of each sex which included calf, intermediate, junior and senior it was a pleasure to line up those champions for the Grand Champion award. The four females were all what I look for in females and all of similar type which included femininity, length, good length from hip to pin with nice smooth shoulders and walk out well. I placed the Senior Champion Female as the Grand Champion. She is by JDH Sir Shank Manso 51/7. Although a little smaller than I would like she is a very feminine female doing a good job on her calf. In Thailand they follow the American schedule for showing and a Reserve Champion Female was also required which I gave to the Junior Champion female who was a beautiful thick bodied, long red heifer by Mr H Maddox Manso 684.

On Sunday I had the opportunity to judge 70 bulls. Although not as consistent a line of cattle as the females there were still some nice cattle. As I lined up the four champions for the Grand Champion I was impressed with the four muscly, broad and strong backed, free moving, masculine cattle in front of me. I went on to choose the Intermediate Champion as Grand Champion. He is by the sire SRS Troubadour 933.

Intermediate and Grand Champion Male, Mr TK Red Hot 444, is pictured with his owners as I present the Australian Brahman Breeders Association trophy along with Corbmac Fanning and Phoom Boonsaen. This stud had travelled 700 klms to attend this showing.
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bull at the RBWS in 2018. Muan A Sundown was purchased at that sale for $98,000. With the Senior Champion Bull receiving Reserve Grand Champion this concluded an interesting couple of days of judging. Following the judging we had the opportunity to take a look through the show on Campus. The majority of the displays all related back to what the different Faculties are currently working on in their research projects which made our walk through the grounds very interesting. This included the ability to buy fried bugs to nibble on while enjoying the show. We didn’t participate in this delicacy. Our 80km, two-hour return trip to Bangkok concluded a very enjoyable two days of meeting some lovely, happy Thai people and judging some good cattle and in the process having a much better understanding of Thailand, their culture and their Brahman breeding program.
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World Brahman Congress Colombia

Photos by Sally North, Margareta Fahey & Janice Hirshorn

Australian Group at Farm San Gabriel.

World Congress Champion Red Bull

Brahman Breeders at farm la Angostura, Alfo Ranch Company.

Red females at the ranch, Haciendas Francia Y Lusitania.

JD Hudgins Ranch – Bob Hudgins, Mitch Kirk, Matt Kirk E Dan Radel.

Group Judging during the World Congress.

World Congress Champion Grey Bull from a judging of 800 head.

World Brahman Congress host city, Bucaramanga.
Update on Northern BIN Project

Contributed by: Paul Williams (TBTS)

In late January the Northern BIN steers were mustered at Narayen, Munduberra and their data was collected. The #18 steers had a 400 day weight and a P8 fat measurement taken. This was the first time they have been weighed in the project since arriving just after weaning. The Brian Pastures #18 steers averaged 310 kg while the Spyglass steers were 295kg. The No 17 steers were weighed, P8 and a hip height measured for a second 600 day weight to monitor how the steers were progressing and to get an indication of when the steers would be ready to turn off. The Brian Pasture steers averaged 517 kg and 7mm of fat and the Spyglass steers 484kg and 6mm of fat.

All the steers are also in another MDC project “Objective carcase Measurement” using 3D camera technology to assess P8 fat and muscle score in cattle which may provide a cost effective trait measurement of livestock on farm, and estimate carcase yield in the abattoir.

Northern BIN #17 steers at Narayen, Mundubbera.

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Jason 0402 829 422
Basic guide to using BREEDPLAN information

Contributed by: Paul Williams (TBTS)

The purchase of replacement sires in a beef breeding enterprise is a major investment. As a producer not only should you feel confident that the information which you use to make bull purchasing decisions is reliable but also an accurate description of the genetics you will be introducing to your herd. A Bull Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BBSE) test will evaluate a bull’s ability to produce an adequate quantity of good quality semen, desire and capacity to serve females and a visual assessment can determine both structural soundness and temperament.

However it can be very difficult to identify bulls which are genetically superior for traits such as carcass attributes, daughters milking ability and female fertility, when visual differences between bulls are the result of both genetics (which will be passed on to offspring) and environmental effects such as feed regime and age (which will not be passed on to offspring). A way of getting around the problem of identifying what is genetics and what is nutrition and environment is through the use of EBV’s.

Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs)

An animal’s breeding value is its genetic merit, half of which will be passed on to its progeny in its DNA. While we will never know the exact breeding value, it is possible using both pedigree, an animal’s own performance (e.g. weights, eye muscle size etc) and the performance of all known relatives, to make good estimates of an individual animal’s breeding value. These are called Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs).

EBVs are reported in the units in which the measurements are taken (e.g. kilograms for the weight EBVs). Thus a value of +12kg for 400 day weight means the animal is genetically
superior by 12kg at 400 days of age compared with the genetic base of the relevant cattle population. On average, half of this difference is passed on to the animal’s progeny.

**Using EBVs in Practice**

EBVs are used to identify genetic differences between animals for the analysed traits. To use EBVs in practice it is recommended that:

1. EBVs only be compared within breed. Each breed is currently running a separate BREEDPLAN evaluation with a different genetic base, meaning the EBVs of different breeds are not comparable.

2. Compare an animal’s EBV to the breed average GROUP BREEDPLAN EBVs. The breed average EBVs provide an estimate of the current genetic level of the breed for individual traits.

3. Compare an animal’s EBV to the GROUP BREEDPLAN Percentile bands table. The percentile bands table enables the animal to be ranked within the breed based on its EBVs.

4. Consider the accuracy of the EBV (refer to description below under Accuracy).

5. Consider EBVs in association with other economically important traits that may not be accounted for in the EBV e.g. structural soundness, temperament, bull breeding soundness evaluations etc.

**Accuracy**

An accuracy value is presented with every EBV and gives an indication of the amount of information that has been used in the calculation of that EBV, as shown in Table 1. The higher the accuracy, the lower the likelihood of change in the animal’s EBV as more information is analysed for that animal or its relatives.

Although the accuracy of an EBV should be considered, animals should be compared on EBVs regardless of accuracy. Where two animals have the same EBV however, the animal with the higher accuracy would normally be used more heavily than the bull with the lower accuracy because the results can be predicted with more confidence.

**Birth Traits**

- Gestation Length: The GL EBV (days) is based on AI records. Lower (negative) GL EBVs indicate shorter gestation length and generally easier calving.

- Birth Weight: The Birth Weight EBV (kg) is based on the measured birth weight of animals, adjusted for dam age. The lower the value the lighter the calf at birth and the lower the likelihood of a difficult birth occurring. This is particularly important when selecting sires for use over heifers.

**Fertility traits**

- Scrotal Size: The SS EBV (cm) is an indicator of male fertility in regards to semen quality and quantity. Scrotal circumference measurements are taken between 300 and 700 days and adjusted to 400 days of age. This EBV is an indicator of male fertility to semen quality and quantity higher (positive) EBVs indicate higher fertility. SS is also positively associated with female fertility.

- Day to Calving: The DTC EBV (days) is an indicator of female fertility based on the time between a cows first exposure to a bull and when she subsequently calved. Cows that calve late in the season or fail to calve are penalised. Lower (negative) EBV’s are...
preferred indicating shorter days to calving for the sires daughters.

**Growth traits**

- **Milk**: 200-Day Milk EBV (kg) is an estimate of an animal’s milking ability. For sires, this EBV is indicative of their daughter’s milking ability as it affects the 200-day weight of their calves.
- **200-Day Growth**: The 200-Day EBV (kg) is calculated from the weight of animals taken between 80 and 300 days of age. Values are adjusted to 200 days and for dam age. This EBV is the best single estimate of an animal’s genetic merit for growth to early ages.
- **400-Day Weight**: The 400-Day Weight EBV (kg) is calculated from the weight of progeny taken between 301 and 500 days of age, adjusted to 400 days and for dam age. This EBV is the best single estimate of an animal’s genetic merit for yearling weight.
- **600-Day Weight**: The 600-Day Weight EBV (kg) is calculated from the weight of progeny taken between 501 and 900 days of age, adjusted to 600 days and for dam age. This EBV is the best single estimate of an animal’s genetic merit for growth beyond yearling age.
- **Mature Cow Weight**: The Mature Cow Weight EBV (kg) is an estimate of the genetic difference in cow weight at 5 years of age. Lower or more moderate EBVs are generally more favourable.
- **Rib Fat**: The Rib Fat EBV (mm) estimates the genetic differences in fat depth at the 12/13th rib in a 300kg dressed carcass. More positive EBVs indicate more subcutaneous fat and earlier maturity.
- **Rump Fat**: The Rump Fat EBV (mm) estimates the genetic differences in fat depth at the PB site of a 300kg dressed carcass. More positive EBVs indicate more subcutaneous fat and earlier maturity.
- **Retail Beef Yield Percent**: The RBY EBV (%) represents total (boned out) meat yield as a percentage of a 300kg dressed carcass. A more positive EBV indicates higher percentage yield for the 300kg carcass size.
- **Intramuscular Fat Percent**: The IMF EBV (%) is an estimate of the genetic difference in the percentage of intra-muscular fat at the 12/13th rib site in a 300kg carcass. Depending on market targets, larger more positive values are generally more favourable.

**Temperament**

- **Flight Time**: The flight Time estimates of the genetic differences between animals in temperament. Trial Flight Time EBVs are expressed as differences in the number of seconds taken for an animal to travel approximately 2.0 metres after leaving the crush. That is, higher EBVs indicate a longer time taken to exit the crush and hence better temperament.

**Selection Indexes**

**What are Selection Indexes?**

BREEDPLAN calculates Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) for a range of economically importantly traits. While this provides cattle producers with a comprehensive range of information regarding the genetic merit of an animal, it can result in a dilemma when trying to select animals for use in a particular breeding program. In an ideal situation, it would be desirable to select animals that excel in all traits, but rarely will an animal be superior for all the available EBVs. So which traits should producers put most emphasis on? How much emphasis should be placed on each trait? Selection indexes are a tool that can help solve this dilemma. Selection indexes combine BREEDPLAN EBVs for an animal with an economic weighting (based on costs of production and returns on outputs), to produce a single value, expressed as dollars per cow mated. They reflect both the short term profit generated by a sire through the sale of his progeny, and the longer term profit generated by his daughters in a self-replacing cow herd.

A separate selection index can be produced for any particular production scenario and market, and majority of breeds have selection indexes available to assist commercial producers in their bull selection decisions. Brahmans currently have two Indexes, Live Export and Jap OX and for a description of these Indexes visit the Technical section of the BREEDPLAN website, and click on the Breed Specific Documents tab and go to Brahman.

For more information about Estimated Breeding Values, selection indexes and bull selection, please visit the TBTS (http://tbts.une.edu.au) or BREEDPLAN (http://breedplan.une.edu.au/) websites.
Please contact the Australian Brahman Breeders’ Association Ltd for further information or entry forms on 07 4927 7799 or email abba@brahman.com.au

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Vaccination best Q fever strategy

By Sally Cripps, Queensland Country Life

Around 100 people lined up for Q fever testing in Clermont last year after the annual beef expo debate emphasised the complications resulting from a dose of the infection.

At the time, well-known local vet, Dr Alan Guilfoyle, public health vet, Dr Guy Weerasinghe, and local doctor, Sarah McLay, outlined how much it could cost rural families and businesses that opted out of vaccinating themselves and their animals.

Emphasising the potential for reduced earning capacity for families if the male breadwinner, the highest risk group, fell ill, the Cowboys and Itchy Bums forum urged listeners to get tested and if needed, get vaccinated.

The outcome is one that could be mirrored throughout rural Australia according to Dr Guilfoyle, the man who led the charge on the day for testing to occur.

He said this week that because Q fever was endemic in the community, describing it as probably Australia’s number one zoonotic (transferred from animals to humans) infection, vaccination was the key to dealing with it in the community.

That included making the vaccine more easily available and more affordable.

Dr Guilfoyle, known as Gilly, was responding to news that a collaborative research project between Charles Sturt University, the University of Melbourne, the University of Adelaide and the University of Queensland will address major research gaps in Q fever knowledge and finally form a national guideline for an emergency response.

CSU veterinary epidemiology and public health associate professor Dr Jane Heller said the bacteria could travel kilometres and last months in the environment making a national policy highly relevant.

Dr Guilfoyle said more people in peri-urban areas were becoming exposed to Q fever bacteria as they began spreading out to lifestyle blocks, and such people didn’t always have the awareness that rural people had grown up with.

Vets in regional Queensland had plenty of stories of incidental infection, he said, such as a spate of cases around Mackay that were traced to people on acreage mowing lawns covered with dry kangaroo dung.

As the blades chopped the dry material, it entered the air and was breathed in by the mower operator.

“There was the sad case of a vet who had a baby in a cradle on the back seat of her car. She’d been helping with a calving and put her overalls on the back seat as well – that was enough to infect the child,” Dr Guilfoyle said.

In a case documented by Fairfax Media last year, Roma couple Craig and Bec Beissel went through a horrifying ordeal when their nine-year-old son Beau almost died from an acute case, which they suspected came from clothing worn by Craig who had been dealing with cows struggling to calve.

“These cases are not isolated ones,” Dr Guilfoyle said.

“Occupational health and safety is not just a thing anymore.

“If you’re going to employ someone and you don’t take precautions, you’re blowing a million dollars.”

Dr Guilfoyle was preparing for his yearly address to the incoming year 5 veterinary students at James MARCH 2019
Cook University and he said the key message was always “a failure to plan is a plan for failure”.

“It’s all about risk-taking,” he said. “And I don’t think people realise the value of vaccinating until they get sick themselves.”

Comments such as “I didn’t think there was much of it about” indicated the risks people were prepared to take with both their own health and that of their animals, Dr Guilfoyle said.

“You’re heightening your risk (to Q fever) when you’re right in a job like pulling calves but the fact that it’s transmitted by air means the risk is widened,” he said.

While cattle were responsible for 15 to 20 per cent of infections, he said kangaroos and wallabies made up 30pc of transmissions.

He said there was always a possibility of inhaling the bacteria from stock trucks passing by on a street.

“You’ve got to put preventative measures in and do your planning. Simple things like wearing gloves will help.

“If you’ve got your preventative medicine, there’s no need to worry.”

Q Fever research to address major gaps in current knowledge

By Lucy Kinbachers, The Land and photo by CSU

A collaborative research project between Charles Sturt University, the University of Melbourne, University of Adelaide and University of Queensland will address major research gaps in Q fever knowledge and finally form a national guideline for an emergency response.

While Australia has long gone untouched by major Q fever events, there is still the capacity for large scale risk.

Research will now investigate the influences spreading Q fever between ruminants, transmission in macropods and accurate human risk groups.

Identifying the disease in livestock is almost impossible with reduced milk output and neonatal losses sometimes linked to the bacteria, which is transmitted through the air.

CSU veterinary epidemiology and public health associate professor Dr Jane Heller said the bacteria could travel kilometres and last months in the environment making a national policy highly relevant.

“There have also been ones that have been associated with people mowing their lawns in areas where it is thought there have been a lot of kangaroos shedding (the bacteria) but that remains to be proven.

“There have been a number of small outbreaks but no large scale ones and that’s something that we want to really prevent, which is why we are doing this research because the capacity is there.”

While vaccination is compulsory for veterinarians anduptaken by much of the abattoir sector, Dr Heller said producers who weren’t around during the national vaccine program in the early 2000s weren’t as aware of the need to be protected.

Q fever vaccination requires patients to undertake a skin and blood test and return a week later for the injection if they haven’t already been exposed.

With no prevention currently available for livestock, Dr Heller said communication across the animal and human health sectors was paramount to ensure humans utilised preventative vaccines.

CSU veterinary epidemiology and public health associate professor Dr Jane Heller.
SLICE OF HISTORY...

Errol Cole, Campbell Bennett, Bruce Clarke, Alistair Hughes

Hugh Innes, Keith Logan, Maurice de Tournour, Ken Atkinson, Frank Fraser, Monty Atkinson, (pictured at a sale in Warrick, 1953)

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Vic Moir, Carolyn Briggs, Andrew Olive

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- 8232 Women’s New Polo Shirt. Sizes: 8,10,12,14,16,18,20,22, 24 (Black/Pink Trim & Black/White Trim)
- 8229 Men’s New Polo Shirt : SIZES: M, L, XL,2XL,3XL (Navy/White Trim or Black/White Trim)
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- 8271 Hat Pin
- 9308 Cattle Canes
- 8290 Scarf (New Style) (Orange or Purple)
- 8291 Scarf Ring (Lattice or Bar)
- 8294 Tote Bag (New)Purple, Green, Black, Navy,
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- 8301 Liquid Hand Sanitiser (60ml)
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 2019</td>
<td>Rocky All Stars Elite Brahman Female Sale</td>
<td>GQLX Gracemere Elders</td>
<td>Applications Close</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Edgar Hudgins Scholarship</td>
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<td>Sydney Royal Easter Show</td>
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<td>October 2019</td>
<td>Rockhampton Brahman Week Sale</td>
<td>CQLX Gracemere Elders, Landmark, SBB</td>
<td>GDL</td>
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</table>
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