



GELBIEH

December 1999

Newsletter

The Australian Gelbvieh Association Inc C/- ABRI, UNE, Armidale NSW 2351
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EBONY LODGE VICTORIOUS WIN IN MLA VALUE BASED STEER TRIALS

Ebony Lodge stud principal Mick Ralston and his manager, Larry Cutler, placed first, second and third in the 100-day grainfed trial and first in the 150-day trial.

This confirms the breeding direction of the Gelbvieh and Red Angus stud, which is based on Mr Ralston's property, Gladstone Park at Willow Grove in Gippsland, Victoria.

Mr Ralston has 500 cows in his breeding program, including 100 registered Gelbvieh cows and 150 Red Angus cows.

The remainder are Gelbvieh Red Angus cross. Mr Ralston and Mr Cutler were delighted at their results in the Meat and Livestock Australia performance-based marketing trials.

They were the only breeders to meet the specifications for all the 12 Gelbvieh Red Angus steers they had entered.

The steers were by three homebred sires, which are also involved in a progeny testing program. The 14-month-old steers had an average weight on entry into the trial of 374kg, with a final average weight of 539kg and an average daily weight gain of 1.6kg per day.

On their way to the Albury Meat and Livestock Australia producers' forum, the stud took out the carcass competition at Yarram show.

It won with champion steer, supermarket trade

steer and restaurant trade steer, as well as champion carcass with the supermarket trade steer.

Mr Cutler said the stud kept an extensive database on both its cow and sire lines, selling between 40 and 50 bulls a year.

"This sort of trial helps us to let our clients know which genetics are doing the job," he said.

Mr Cutler said the Gelbvieh breed was beginning to fire in Australia.

He regards the future of the beef industry as 50 per cent the Gelbvieh breed and 50 per cent British breed.

"You also need maternal strength in your sire line," Mr Cutler said.

"The Gelbvieh is the most balanced as well as being the most placid and fertile of the European breeds.

"It is not extreme.

"The information from this trial has reinforced our breeding direction".

Border "Country Mail" 1/12/99

RESULTS

1. 100 Day Grain Fed

Ebony Lodge's 6 Gelbvieh/Red Angus and Gelbvieh/Shorthorn steers performed as follows:

- a) Feed conversion efficiency - 4.6kg of feed per 1kg weight gain (Class average was 5.19kg/kg)
- b) Saleable Meat Yield - highest average of 241kg (All others average 202.7kg - Class average 213.2kg)
- c) 1st, 2nd and 3rd in meat value with \$938.76,

\$891.20 and \$880.42
 Ebony Lodge average meat value = \$857.38
 Class average meat value = \$714.35
 All others average meat value = \$660.89

d) Highest average hide grading of 84.7 (All others average = 65.6 - Class average = 71)

e) 1st, 2nd and 3rd in total animal value with \$941.62, \$887.81 and \$886.60

Ebony Lodge average total animal value = \$861.30
 Class average total animal value = \$711.95
 All others average total animal value = \$655.94

f) All 6 carcasses within specification for weight, fat and MSA grading

g) All graded either MSA 2 or 3 (No other group where all group met MSA specifications)

2. 150 Day Grain Fed

6 Gelbvieh/Red Angus steers entered by Ebony Lodge achieved:

a) Highest \$ per kg for saleable meat yield for any animal in the whole trial - \$4.72 per kg

b) Highest average saleable meat yield = 70.5%

c) Highest animal value = \$1192.91

d) Highest average price for average total animal value = \$873.40
 Class average = \$744.33
 All others average = \$714.55

e) Highest marbling score = 3

f) All 6 steers met specifications for weight, fat and MSA grading.

NO EXCUSE NOT TO USE GELBVIEH

With fall quickly approaching, many of you have or will soon complete the weaning of your 1999 spring born calves. In your continuing efforts to enhance the profitability of your operation, you will evaluate the weights of your calves and the breeding program that created them. Did they measure up to your expectations? Are they all they could be? If those calves aren't Gelbvieh-sired, they probably didn't measure up.

If you didn't use a Gelbvieh bull because of

concerns over increased birth weights, we've got good news for you! Given the decline in the birth weights of Gelbvieh-sired calves over the last several years, you may now select genetics from a large percentage of the breed that will sire calves with average birth weights that are less than or equal to Angus-sired calves.

In fact, the slight increase in birth weights that results from crossing two breeds, is as large as the difference that exists between the Gelbvieh and Angus breeds. In 1997, the average birth weight of a Gelbvieh bull calf was 88 pounds and the average Angus bull calf was 83 pounds. The genetic trend for birth weight continues to decrease.

With the birth weights of the breeds being nearly equal, and plenty of opportunity to select bulls with even lower birth weights, it makes sense to look at the advantages of using Gelbvieh sires on Angus-based females. One major advantage is the increase in weaning weights a producer can expect. Straightbred Gelbvieh-sired calves have a 20 pound advantage over Angus-sired calves. Include the expected effect of hybrid vigor and this advantage more than doubles to 42 pounds.

The increase in weaning weight equates to increased revenue for you. For example, if you sell 50, 100, or 250 Gelbvieh crossbred calves, you can expect approximately \$1,768, \$3,536, or \$8,840 more revenue than Angus-sired calves, respectively. These figures are based on previously mentioned weight data and calves priced at \$85.00/cwt.

As the calf market recovers, it's time to make the "Pounds Pay". For more information on selecting Gelbvieh bulls for use in your planned crossbreeding program, contact the AGA.

Gelbvieh World, November 1999

PETER COX TROPHY

Eligibility:

Any animal entered as Gelbvieh or Gelbvieh cross in a recognised public hoof/hook competition is eligible to score points for the trophy.

Entrants must specify Gelbvieh, Gelbvieh x Hereford, x Angus, x Brahman etc or simply Gelbvieh x if other breed/s is unknown.

Entry is open to any individual breeding Gelbvieh or Gelbvieh x cattle. Membership of the Association is not a pre-requisite for entry.

A copy of the competition entry form and official results sheet must be supplied with each entry. Entries should be received within 60 days of the end of the Calendar year. (Entry Form enclosed).

Competitions:

An entry in any carcass competition, be it led only, hoof and hook or a productivity trial may be

WEDDING BELLS



Rabone/Nixon

Aderian Nixon and Julie Rabone were married at Weetalabah Station, Coolah.

Aderian is the son of Les & Lyn Nixon, Dulacca Station, Dulacca, Qld, and Julie is the youngest daughter of Ian and Gay Rabone of Weetalabah Station, Coolah.

Aderian was attended by his brothers, Shane, Bruce and Mark Nixon, and Julie's nephew, Luke Hamilton. Julie was attended by Lisa Herrath, Megan Spicer, Lisa Moody and Alexandra Doyle.

Aderian and Julie have made their home at Dulacca.

The Rabone family are relatively new to Gelbvieh, but their female achieved 4th place in the recent Gelbvieh Futurity.

lodged for the Competition.

It is the exhibitors responsibility to locate appropriate competitions and lodge entries as per their rules.

The Council of the Gelbvieh Association reserves the right to determine the status of any competition of trial in dispute.

Allocation of Points:

Each entry in a competition = 1 point (pen classes = 1 entry)

1st in class **3 points**

2nd in class **2 points**

3rd in class **1 points**

Win of an *acknowledged* (ie award given) sub section = 1 point. (e.g. greatest gain in value)

Grand Champion **4 points**

Champion **3 points**

Reserve Champion **2 points**

Points are cumulative and apply to single and pen entries and to both hoof and hook placings.

For example:

A pen of 3 Gelbvieh x steers are placed first in their class on the hoof (3 points), Reserve Champion on the hoof (2 points), 2nd in class on the hook (2

points), Reserve Champion on the hook (2 points) plus 1 point for their entry = 10 points.

Points are cumulative within and between competitions.

The current (first) holder of the Trophy is Ebony Lodge in Victoria.

BULL TRANSFERS

In an attempt to get an improved database of Gelbvieh bull buyers the transfer fee on bulls has been abolished. There is a concern that many bulls are sold to non-members and are not officially transferred through the Association.

It is very important for the Association's records that all bulls are transferred so that non-members can be targeted when promoting Gelbvieh. Without a good database the Association will only be "preaching to the converted" (Gelbvieh Members).

The non-member list is entirely confidential. Under no circumstances will it be made available to any Gelbvieh breeder regardless of their position within the Association.

ROYAL SHOW SPONSORSHIP

The Australian Gelbvieh Association has made provision to sponsor the Supreme Gelbvieh Exhibit at Royal Shows to the value of \$50.

SALE OF GELBIEH FEMALES

As a result of an unfortunate situation that arose with a Gelbvieh Dispersal Sale, Council have requested that all females sold at all stud sales be accompanied by an individual veterinary certificate indicating pregnancy status.

GET SET FOR NEW NATIONAL GRAIN FED BEEF COMPETITION

Lotfeeders and breeders should 'pull out all stops' to prepare for ALFA's all-new National Grain Fed Beef Competition with at least \$50,000 in prize money on offer.

ALFA president Robin Hart says: "Judging of entries in the prestigious new competition will take place in July/August 2000, with the competition covering the four major categories of production so relevant to grain-fed beef marketing.

"This means lotfeeders and breeders who want

to enter the longfed category (240 to 270 DOF) need to get themselves organised quickly to have a chance of picking up one of the valuable prizes," Hart says.

The National Grain Fed Beef Competition - a world first - has won the support of Elanco Animal Health, with another major sponsor yet to be named.

"We've specially designed and developed the competition to not only promote the lotfeeding industry but, even more importantly, to spotlight grain-fed beef as a premium, flagship product for both our domestic and export markets," Hart says.

"The competition will be open to all NFAS-accredited feedlots. Importantly, it will also be open to breeders who supply them with feeder stock.

"This is the first time Australia has run such a comprehensive promotion to recognise and reward both feeders and breeders who each play vital roles in delivering premium quality beef to our local and overseas markets.

"What will make this competition unique on the world stage is the intended use of Australia's world-leading, objective meat-quality measurement technologies: Viascan and Meat Standards Australia (MSA)," he says.

Winners of the inaugural (1999/2000) competition will be announced at ALFA's international conference and trade exposition, BeefEx 2000, which will be held from September 5 to 7, 2000, at Royal Pines Resort on the Queensland Gold Coast.

It is planned for video images of all entries to be on show at BeefEx 2000.

Four categories

To cover each of the specific market destinations and their associated feeding requirements, there will be four competition categories:

- * domestic (70 - 100 DOF);
- * shortfed (100 - 120 DOF);
- * middlefed (150 - 180 DOF);
- * longfed (240 - 270 DOF)

Importantly, the competition aims to judge the end product rather than the feedlot itself. To achieve this, entries in each category will be independently, objectively measured and judged on the basis of their eating quality and yield attributes.

Each entry will be based on commercial delivery consignments. At the end of the feeding period, and before slaughter, each feedlot will be asked to nominate a minimum number of animals from their entry for judging.

During judging, through July and August, each carcass will be assessed according to a series of yield and quality criteria, each of which will be allocated a maximum score.

Simple rules: big prizes

Each entry will cost \$500 and there are no restrictions on the number of entries which can be submitted per feedlot. Prizes will be awarded to each category winner, with the best scoring category winner to be deemed the 'Supreme Champion'.

Special prizes will also be awarded to the breeders of each of the category winners and there will also be a 'Supreme Champion' breeder prize.

Because it would be impractical for all cattle to be slaughtered at the one plant, it is intended that all entries will be assessed using Viascan technology. This means carcasses can remain in their existing marketing channels without need for a third party to purchase the meat.

To ensure full compliance with all the competition rules, there will be a number of verification systems including electronic individual animal identification in line with NLIS, NFAS accreditation, and AUSMEAT auditing. All competition entries will be audited for authenticity and verified using these systems.

Time to move!

Because judging will take place from July next year, entrants in the longfed category will need to be placed on feed during late November/early December, which means entry forms will need to be in as soon as possible.

Breeders should get in touch with their feedlot customers as soon as possible to encourage their entry in the competition. And lotfeeders should be contacting their breeders to seek their support and a chance to win handsome rewards at BeefEx 2000.

Lotfeeding, November 1999

GST AND THE YEAR 2000

As you would be aware the GST Legislation reached Royal Assent on 8 July 1999. GST will generally apply to all taxable supplies of goods and services supplied after 1 July 2000.

The Society will now be acting as a tax collector for the Government. This does not necessarily mean that the Society or you, the members paying for the services, will bear the burden of the tax. For a **registered** business the GST impact should be fairly neutral.

The following example for the payment of the year 2000 membership and inventory fees helps to illustrate this point.

As the provision of these services spans the period from 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2000 the GST has been levied on a pro-rata basis for the period from 1 July 2000 to 31 December 2000.

ITEM	BASE FEE	GST	GST INCLUSIVE CASHFLOW
Membership	150	7.50	157.50
Inventory	2000	100.00	2100.00
		107.50	2257.50

It should be noted that cash transactions after 1 July 2000 and all annual fees in respect of the 2000/2001 year attract the full 10% GST. Thus if you are paying for say 10 registrations with a base fee of \$20 each after July 1, 2000 the fees will be:

ITEM	BASE FEE	GST	GST INCLUSIVE CASHFLOW
Registrations	200	20	220

In the above example, if your business is registered for GST purposes you will be entitled to claim as a credit from the Australian Taxation Office the full amount of the GST paid.

In the near future the Society will be providing you with their new price list inclusive of GST. The majority of you will have already received your tax registration forms in the post. It is recommended that you contact your financial advisers prior to registering.

If you would like additional information, the National Farmers Federation in conjunction with the Australia Society of CPAs has published the Farmers ABC of GST. A copy of this can be obtained from your Executive Officer.

FEMALE INVENTORY 2000

Female Inventory will be invoiced in January 2000. The female inventory fees will include 5% GST to account for the period July 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000.

Female Inventory paid prior to March 31, 2000 will be rewarded with an early bird rate of \$22 per female, plus 5% GST. This earlybird rate offers AGA members a 12% discount per female. Council is hopeful that this earlybird rate will encourage members to pay their inventory promptly.

Female Inventory paid after March 31, 2000 will revert to the standard rate of \$25 per female plus 5% GST.

Council would like all female inventory to be paid by April 30, 2000. If members are prompt with female inventory payment, the Association will be able to better allocate its finances to promoting Gelbvieh in the market place.

ACCOUNT KEEPING FEE

At the last meeting of the Gelbvieh Council, concern was raised over the cost to the Association to maintain the debtor account. Council voted to apply a 1% per month book keeping fee to 30 day accounts that is to be compounded monthly to 90 days. Ninety day accounts will be charged an account keeping fee of 11/2% per month until the account is finalized.

AMERICAN BULL SELLS FOR \$45,000

A homozygous black, polled herd sire prospect set the Gelbvieh scene buzzing when he sold for \$45,000 during the Jumping Cow Gelbvieh Spirit of the West Sale on October 2, 1999 near Ramah, Colorado, USA.

JCGR Bar GT Newton 7J, crowned Grand Champion Bull earlier this year at the Colorado State Fair, caught the eye of several. Sired by JCGR Bar GT Einstein and out of the proven homozygous black donor cow JCGR "Whitney" 224B2, Newton sold to a syndicate of buyers. Newton is a half-brother to E Square, a \$26,000 bull that set a sales record at the 1999 Tennessee Agribition in Murfreesboro.

Jumping Cow Gelbvieh, owned by Grant Thayer, holds its annual production sale the first Saturday of October each year at the ranch near Ramah.

Gelbvieh World, December 1999

INACTIVE GELBIEH FEMALES

The Gelbvieh Council hold concern for Gelbvieh females that are removed from the female inventory system. Council feel that this loss of well bred females will lead to a decline in the genetic base of Gelbvieh in Australia.

In an effort to stem this loss the Association will publish a list of females for sale, at the member's request. This will give Gelbvieh members the opportunity to purchase quality Gelbvieh females that would otherwise be lost to the commercial market.

The Gelbvieh Association is also giving members the opportunity to reinstate inactive females into inventory at the current inventory rate without penalty. Effective from January 1, 2000 until March 31, 2000. Calves born in 1999 will require 1999 FIS to be paid.

HEIFERS JOINED TO NON-GELBVIEW BULLS

Gelbvieh heifers joined to non-Gelbvieh bulls will be charged \$10 Female Inventory in 2000.

This enables the heifer that would otherwise be charged \$25 to be maintained as an active female on the inventory. The resultant crossbred calf can be recorded on the Association files and in time can have its weights recorded with BREEDPLAN. The calf will be recorded in the Grade 1 Register and a certificate will be issued upon request.

Council are discussing the inclusion of crossbred animals in future GROUP BREEDPLAN analyses. This will eventuate once a significant number of cross bred animals are recorded and Gelbvieh GROUP BREEDPLAN is fully operational.

GELBVIEW BREEDPLAN

As many members would realise the Association has surveyed members with female inventory, questioning their involvement in GROUP BREEDPLAN.

We had a very encouraging response from the membership which has enabled the Association to get a more realistic idea of members who actively record their cattle for BREEDPLAN.

It is no longer compulsory for members to record their animals for BREEDPLAN. The only reason Council has taken this stance is to try to reduce the incidence of ineffective data being submitted for analysis.

Council carried a motion that BREEDPLAN should be supported by all members with relevant data, as the Gelbvieh breeders have always set out to be a performance breed.

All members pay BREEDPLAN fees as part of their Female Inventory fees. This entitles all members access to BREEDPLAN data.

HIGH GRADING CATTLE COST FEEDLOTS BIG MONEY

You've heard it before. A cattle feeder rationalizes the premium price he's paid for a set of feeder steers because he believes they're good cattle. "I'll bet they go 80% Choice," he shrugs, half trying to convince himself he hasn't paid too much.

He might make money on those cattle, but data

collected by the American Gelbvieh Association (AGA) shows he's beating against the odds. Through the Gelbvieh Alliance, AGA has collected feedlot closeout and carcass data on more than 55,000 fed cattle, representing, 1,107 pens and a wide array of breeds and breed crosses.

"When we grouped the high-grading cattle together, we found that cattle feeders do not benefit by paying an above market price when they purchase these cattle as yearlings," says Tom Brink, (former) AGA Executive Director. "Feeding margins are significantly lower on both high-grading steers and high-grading heifers, even after grid marketing premiums are included."

AGA's analysis revealed two primary reasons why cattle that grade a high percentage Choice and Prime often return fewer net dollars to the cattle feeder. First, these cattle typically cost more as calves or yearlings. And second, their feedlot performance (gain and feed conversion rates) is often sub-par when compared to cattle with less marbling.

As shown in the accompanying table, larger grid premiums were noted on the higher-grading steers and heifers. But these extra dollars did not offset the higher purchase price and higher cost-of-gains associated with the high-marbling group. Gain costs were higher because the high-grading cattle gained weight somewhat more slowly and less efficiently. "It's a metabolic fact that fat deposition requires 2.5 times more feed energy than does lean tissue deposition.

So it's no big surprise that the high-grading cattle were less efficient from a feed-to-gain standpoint," says Brink. "The high-grading cattle had more marbling and more external fat (compared to the lower-grading cattle), which means a higher percentage of their total energy intake went toward fat deposition. This is the apparent reason they converted feed less efficiently."

Don Schiefelbein, (the newly appointed AGA, Executive Officer) who manages the Gelbvieh Alliance, summed up results to the analysis by saying, "Feedlots can ill afford to pay \$25 to \$50 more per head for feeders cattle that will only bring back an extra \$10 to \$20 per head on the grid. The data we compiled suggests that's what is currently happening with high-grading cattle, and even more amazing is that if you're not selling on a grid, you won't collect any carcass premium at all." *AGA, August 1999*

GELBVIEW CROSS STEERS TOP DUBBO

Gelbvieh cross steers, sold by Rob McGregor, topped the yearling steer category at \$571 at the Dubbo Saleyards last Thursday.

GELBVIEWH SALE CLEARS 96%

A Full brother to the 1999 Gelbvieh World Conference grand champion female led a quality lineup at the RP Gelbvieh production sale in Rockhampton, topping at \$7250.

RP's Boza S422, a 28 month old embryo transfer son of Boza Boza Img went to repeat buyers John, June and Thelma Lothian, the Lake, Rolleston.

Mr. Lothian, who also bought the top priced lot at the 1998 offering, said he intends using the bull's size and muscling to advantage over Santa Gertrudis cows, with the aim of producing bullocks suitable for both the Japanese and European markets.

At 1020kg Boza S422 was the heaviest bull in the RP catalogue, also returning the highest EMA scan of 135.

RP Gelbvieh's stud principal Richard Sullivan, Dunmoogan, Mendooran, NSW, presented a line of 51 bulls which grossed \$108,000 and averaged \$2204 for a 96% clearance.

There was plenty of repeat buyer support evident. Charles Green, Tigriegie Cattle Co, Taroom, assembled a choice line of three bulls, including the second top priced lot, to average \$3750.

Queensland Country Life, September 30, 1999

GELBVIEWH-SANTA CROSS CLAIMS RESERVE CHAMPION CARCASS

A SIMMENTAL terminal cross steer out of a commercial Santa cow claimed the grass/cropfed championship at this year's Callide Dawson Carcass Competition for first time exhibitor, Stan Pearce, Innesburn, north of Biloela.

This milk-tooth steer with a carcass weight of 287kg produced near perfect fat depth and coverage, the class's highest EMA of 105sq cm, and equal highest lean meat yield of 62.77percent.

The competition's single heavy domestic/Korean steer class produced both the champion, mentioned above, and reserve champion from the second placed pen of Gelbvieh x Santa exhibited by Peter Lobegeier, Coonardoo and Sangara, near Monto. Third was another pen of steers from Stan Pearce.

This class also produced the overall competition's best marbling result - an AusMeat score 3 for a milk-tooth Brahman cross steer from Tm and ER Goody, Monto.

Exhibiting the reserve champion carcass was Peter Lobegeier, Coonardoo and Sangara, near

The Australian Gelbvieh Association Inc.

Monto, with a Gelbvieh x Santa bred by his son-in-law's family (Danny and Jan Woodward, Monto).

This milk-tooth steer was bought as a weaner, and grown out on Queensland blue and speargrass forest country with some grain assistance.

His carcass performance included a carcass weight of 257kg, optimum fat coverage and depth, 95sq cm eye muscle, and lean meat yield of 62.77pc - equal best in the class.

Mr Lobegeier also operates a small 150-unit feedlot at Sangara, used to supply the Nolans' grainfed domestic trade.

While some of the feeder cattle are bought, others come out of the Lobegeier breeding herd, mostly Santa and Santa x Brahman cows, over which a selection of Euro sires are used.

Queensland Country Life, September 2 1999

MERRY CHRISTMAS



***And A Happy New Year!
To All Gelbvieh Members***

NEW MEMBERS IN 1999

Full Members

Prefix

Postal Name and Address

ARGYLE

Noel & Heather Pilon
"Argyle", Warialda NSW 2402

ANACONDA

Tom Doolan
Sampson Grove P/L, 288 Walsh St, Albury NSW 2640

MORGIANA

Christopher Davison
"Morgiana" Holbrook NSW 2644

HAWTHORN PARK

Murray J Jamieson
PO Box 342, Orange NSW 2800

STRATHGLED

Maxwell J Ellis
"Strathgled" Obley Road MS 3, Dubbo NSW 2830

TELKUK

John Lehman
C/- Yolla Post Office, Yolla TAS 7325

Commercial Members

C39

Mrs Jenny Lewington
"Churchhill Square" PO Box 10, Uranquinty NSW 2652

C20

E & J Bosholm
5728 Bucketts Way, Burrell Creek NSW 2429

C37

VACC
PO Box 2971 EE, Melbourne Vic 3001

C38

Leader Products
PO Box 42, Craigieburn Vic 3064

GELBVIEW COUNCIL

President: Robert McGregor Retreat Gelbvieh 02 6889 1863

Senior Vice President: Richard Sullivan RP's Gelbvieh 02 6848 8130

Vice President: Larry Cutler Ebony Lodge Gelbvieh 03 5635 2244

Treasurer: Darryl McCarthy Silver Downs Gelbvieh 02 6736 1988

Councillors:

Tony Kitchen	Double Bar Gelbvieh	08 9727 2207
Alan Chesworth	Aloma Gelbvieh	02 6955 6447
Cedric Wise	Glenisa Gelbvieh	07 4683 4275
Chris Davison	Morgiana Gelbvieh	02 6036 9252