

GELBVIEH GAZETTE

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Gelbvieh Interbreed Champion

After two years of nearly being named the Interbreed Champion Team at the Brisbane Royal Show a magnificent pairing from Norolle Gelbvieh Stud bowled over the competition winning the 2001 Interbreed Champion at this year's Brisbane Royal.

This year there was absolutely no disputing the fact that the Champion Gelbvieh Female was the best ma-



Norolle Lady In Red T62

ternal package on the grounds. The 24 Breed Judges looked over the 35 different breeds of females and awarded Norolle Lady in Red T62 a total of 56 points. The nearest to her was the Charolais female who was awarded 114. Norolle Lady In Red T62 went into the pairs judging with a lead of 58 points. Fourteen of the twenty four judges put her in 1st place.

The judging of the Interbreed Champion Bull saw the Charolais win with 87 points and the Champion Gelbvieh Bull place third with 133 points.

The combination of the two scores resulted in the Gelbvieh pair of Norolle Lady In Red T62 and Norolle Absolute Power U77 winning the Interbreed Champion pair by 12 points.

This award was even more remarkable when there were only nine Gelbvieh exhibited this year and more than 150 Charolais.

Congratulations must of course go to Norolle Cattle Co. who not only paraded the winning pair but displayed the highest quality pair of beef animals at the 2001 Brisbane Royal.

This year was the first year that the Interbreed Champions were judged individually before the pairs were awarded. The crowd were prepared for yet another Charolais victory as the Charolais female was judged second and the bull first. They were however pleasantly surprised to see the Gelbvieh team break the vice like grip the Charolais have had on the Interbreed Championship. The last 13 years has seen the Charolais team win 11 times, so victory for the Gelbvieh team is a tremendous achievement.

The winning female, Norolle Lady In Red T62 is accustomed to being in the winners circle. Her achievements include:

- * **1999 Sydney Royal** - Gelbvieh World Conference - Reserve Calf Champion
- * **Beef 2000** Grand Champion Gelbvieh Female - Runner up in Interbreed Champion
- * **2000 Brisbane Royal** Grand Champion Female - Runner up in Interbreed Judging



Norolle Absolute Power U77

- * **2001 Brisbane Royal** Grand Champion Female - Supreme Female Exhibit - Interbreed Champion.

The other half of the Interbreed Champion pair, Norolle Absolute Power U77 the first calf by Remital Fire Power 101F to be exhibited in Australia.

His achievements include:

- * **Beef 2000** - Bull Calf Champion @ 7 months
- * **2001 Brisbane Royal** - Champion Gelbvieh Bull - Interbreed Champion

September/October/ November 2001



President's Report

Firstly I would like to thank those Members who contributed ideas to the strategic planning exercise that the Federal Council is pursuing. All ideas are welcome. We have had two phone hook up meetings recently. The Federal Body has been split up into groups to research ideas put forward by Members and Council. We will be attempting to contact all Members during this time. This information will be tabled at our meeting in October. At that point we will formulate our Strategic Plan, to be implemented and commence 1st January 2002.

We are a small group with a great breed. We all need to contribute and have commitment to pursue our goals. Members can be a huge help to council by sending in as much information as you possibly can about your region regarding Gelbvieh.

E.g. Who is buying Gelbvieh X or European X steers or females in your area? (feedlots, breeders, etc.)

Are there feedlot trials, bull trials, feed conversion trials, or field days in your area that you think that we you and/or your State Branch should be participating in ? Any

success stories, ideally with photos?

Any promotional photos—crossbred as well as purebred. Please send all information to Lisa.

Congratulations to Norolle with their Interbreed Champion award at the Brisbane Royal. A fantastic achievement well done. There has been excellent follow up enquiry since Brisbane.

On a sadder note, a very dedicated and well respected member, Max Ellis passed away. I would like to pass on my condolences on behalf of all Members to Lesley Marchant and Max Ellis's family and friends. Max was a good friend to a lot of Members and will be missed.

It is Spring Bull sale time. Call all those people you have sold bulls to. Call all those people you think may need a bull. Ring all the agents and let them know what you have to sell. Be Pro active !! Make it happen !!

Enjoy the cattle prices and I hope everyone has an excellent Spring.

Richard Sullivan

RNA Show Report

Kirrily Johnson-Isept of Norolle Cattle Co, Roma, is not a girl who gambles, but she does have a sharp eye for a winner or two.

Earlier this year Kirrily, decided she had two champions-in-waiting which would win at the Brisbane Show - and now, the rest is history.

With just three head, the Johnson family made a clean sweep in the Gelbvieh ring and latter in the Champion Interbreed Pair.

Norolle Lady In Red T62 led the charge, judged Champion Gelbvieh female.

She impressed judge Berry Reynolds, Moorlands IBR Stud, Rosalie Plains for being a "complete package".

"She has a perfect form, with length of spine and is very feminine, plus she is doing a great job with her seven-month-old bull calf at foot," Mr Reynolds said.

Stablemate Norolle Absolute Power U77, a son or Remittal Firepower, claimed the Champion Bull sash.

Only lightly shown, Norolle Absolute Power was bull calf champion at Beef 2000.

QCL, August 16, 2001

Thank you must go to all the exhibitors MA & WM Jackson, G & M Chaplin and Norolle Cattle Co. for a wonderful display of Gelbvieh at Brisbane Royal.

Royal Adelaide Show 2001 Report

A total of 12 exhibits were presented by 3 exhibitors. Results were as follows:-

Cow or Heifer, 10 months and under 20 months

1st DA & JA Gommers & Sons Pty Ltd, *Wychwood Vixen*

2nd Greenhill Gelbvieh Stud, *Greenhill Venus*

3rd Gelbvieh Australia Pty Ltd, *GA Kylie V5*

Cow 20 months and over

1st DA & JA Gommers & Sons Pty Ltd,

Wychwood Showgirl

2nd Gelbvieh Australia Pty Ltd, *GA Kylie U07*

Grand Champion Gelbvieh Female

DA & JA Gommers & Sons Pty Ltd, *Wychwood Showgirl*

Bull, 10 months and under 20 months

1st DA & JA Gommers & Sons Pty Ltd,

Wychwood Voodoo

2nd Greenhill Gelbvieh Stud, *Greenhill Vladimir*

Bull, 20 months and over

1st Greenhill Gelbvieh Stud, *Beauchamp Ulysses*

2nd Gelbvieh Australia Pty Ltd, *GA Summit U06*

Grand Champion Gelbvieh Bull

Greenhill Gelbvieh Stud, *Beauchamp Ulysses*

Junior Bull and Junior Heifer

1st DA & JA Gommers & Sons Pty Ltd

2nd Greenhill Gelbvieh Stud

3rd Gelbvieh Australia Pty Ltd

Breeders Group

1st Greenhill Gelbvieh Stud

2nd Gelbvieh Australia Pty Ltd

Most Successful Gelbvieh Exhibitor

DA & JA Gommers & Sons Pty Ltd

In the all breeds competition a total of 20 Breeds were exhibited and the Gelbvieh pair was placed sixth.

David Bridges

Madison's Central City Hotel - Sydney

Sydney Accommodation Rate - \$95.00 per night, includes GST and light breakfast for two, subject to room availability!

The hotel is **conveniently located** exactly 2km from the CBD, shopping and entertainment of Sydney. We offer **free secure undercover parking** (limited) but if public transport is what you require we are only 300 metres from the bus and train.

This rate is available from now **until 28 December 2001** and is subject to availability.

When making a reservation or any inquiry, **call toll free 1800 060 118** and remember to ask for the **association special rate**.

Email to reservations@centralcityhotel.com.au or www.centralcityhotel.com.au

Tick Fever Vaccination: Best Done at an Early Age

Tick fever is a serious disease of cattle in the cattle tick-infested regions of Queensland, Western Australia and Northern Territory. Producers and breeders who raise cattle in or supply to these regions should always consider tick fever vaccination as part of their animal health program and marketing strategy.

There are many benefits in early vaccination of animals with a vaccine that provides long-term protection - all this goes towards minimising an animal's risk to the disease, limiting problems in the future and providing a more buyer-attractive animal to market.

Tick fever can cause loss of condition, abortion, fertility problems in bulls and even death of some animals.

All cattle breeds are susceptible to the disease. Even cattle born and raised in tick-infested regions can be 'at risk'. However, this risk, particularly to valuable stud animals can be minimised by the use of tick fever vaccines - the most reliable and cost-effective method of control.

Vaccinating (also commonly known as 'bleeding') calves between 3-9 months of age is ideal as young animals show little or no reaction to the vaccine but develop a long-term, usually life-long immunity. Trivalent (3 germ) vaccine is the preferred choice as it provides protection against all three types of tick fever.

Other benefits of early vaccination:

- * Calf vaccination overcomes the risk of reactions that occur when vaccinating adult animals for the first time.
- * It is a major selling point to buyers if adult sale cattle have already been vaccinated and are solidly protected against tick fever prior to a sale. If revaccination is a condition of sale, there is little risk of reactions. This is especially important for adult bulls, as they are more likely to react.
- * It eliminates the need to vaccinate cattle just before a sale when vaccine reactions can affect their presentation.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

The Qld Branch Scroll has gone missing! It was last used during the World Conference in Sydney - 1999.

If anyone knows its whereabouts please call John Cleary Ph: 07 4692 4222.

Gelbvieh Steer Tops Sale

One Gelbvieh Steer sold by Norolle Cattle Co. topped the entire Roma Cattle Sale on Thursday August 2, 2001. His total weight was 740kg, sold for 1.92c/kg, making \$1420.80.

* No need to worry about keeping animals tick-fever prior to and shortly after vaccination when being introduced into ticky country. Note: solid immunity begins to develop at about 4 weeks and animals exposed to ticks before this time may succumb to a field infection.

* No concerns about having to move vaccinated cattle during reaction periods when stress should be kept to a minimum.

Tick fever vaccine can be used in all Australian States although certain conditions apply for New South Wales and Victoria. Contact the relevant Department of Agriculture for further details.

Vaccinated cattle can be moved anywhere in Australia without restriction except the Kyogle Cattle Tick Protected Area in New South Wales where certain conditions apply.

Some overseas markets may impose restrictions on importing animals vaccinated against tick fever. If you sell cattle overseas, it would be worthwhile finding out if any restrictions do apply to your particular market before embarking on a vaccination program.

In Queensland, vaccines can be ordered through local stock and station agents, private veterinarian or directly from the Tick Fever Research Centre (TFRC).

For more information on vaccination against tick fever -

Information kits are available from TFRC and Qld DPI officers

Instruction leaflet is provided with each order of vaccine

Visit the Qld DPI website:

www.dpi.qld.gov.au/tickfever/

Contact the Tick Fever Research Centre

280 Grindle Road, Wacol Qld 4076

Ph: 07 3898 9655, Fax: 07 3898 9685

Email: tfrc@dpi.qld.gov.au

New International Livestock Resources Facility for Armidale - \$4.5 Million to Assist UNE Project

National Party Federal MP for New England, Stuart St. Clair, today announced that the University of New England will benefit from \$4.5 million over 5 years to establish the International Livestock Resources and Information Centre (ILRIC) in Armidale.

Funding for the project was confirmed in Parliament House, Canberra today as part of a nationwide announcement of Major National Research Facilities (MNRF) Program funding.

“The project, spearheaded by Arthur Rickards and Graeme Dennehy at the University of New England, is one of only fifteen across Australia to be allocated funding under this programme,” Mr St. Clair said.

“It will produce more jobs for local people in the Armidale area and provide another incentive to keep our young people in the district and attract more families to come and live in the New England,” he said.

“It is a credit to the UNE’s dedicated livestock research team that we have now secured another exciting research project for the New England.”

Mr Arthur Rickards, in Canberra for the announcement today, said the International Livestock Resources and Information Centre will be a ‘virtual’ research facility that builds on the strength of existing research facilities

and organisations in Armidale.

“The ILRIC will provide state-of-the-art data collection, storage and distribution with high-speed computing capacity to provide business intelligence solutions to the livestock industry worldwide,” he said.

“Features include a high-speed communications centre and comprehensive knowledge base for sheep and cattle producers,” Mr Rickards said.

“The facility will support research essential to maintain Australia’s leading position in the global market place in livestock industries.”

There is a huge potential market for livestock research with the industry in Australia currently producing \$14.8 billion at the farm gate.

The International Food Policy Research Institute have identified a ‘livestock revolution’ in which overall production of meat and milk is expected to double by year 2020, from that produced in 1983.

Mr St.Clair and Mr Rickards agreed that the establishment of the ILRIC in Armidale will help Australian livestock industries to seize export opportunities that will undoubtedly flow from this projected growth in demand and production of livestock worldwide.

Paul Leven, Stuart St.Clair Office, Armidale NSW

Why Examine Bulls?

The examination that best suits each situation may vary. Veterinarians are the most competent assessors of the fertility and health status of bulls.

The Australian Association of Cattle Veterinarians is moving towards uniform Australia wide bull examination standards, with allowances for some regional variations.

Pre-sale Examinations

Pre-sale Examinations are usually done on behalf of bull vendors who wish to ensure that they are selling a fertile bull to their valued client. The pre-sale examiner has no knowledge of the future mating conditions for the bull.

Pre-join Examination

Pre-join Examination is performed for the bull user who knows the requirements and history of the bull.

Pre-insurance

Pre-insurance examination is good investment when policies have the option of Loss of Use due to accident or illness. Frequently Loss of Use, is defined as Total and Permanent inability to achieve conceptions.

Examining a bull at the time of taking out an insurance policy gives a benchmark of the bull's fertility at that time.

For example, a bull in the first season of mating is found to have either poor quality semen or poor ability to perform natural service, resulting in few calves. If no previous record of good semen or serving ability exists, the exact cause of the infertility may be difficult to determine and a claim may not be payable.

Infertility

A veterinarian should be called to assess a herd with an unsatisfactory pregnancy or calving rate. Detailed record keeping and prompt investigation helps to determine an exact cause. For example, a herd infected with Vibriosis for the first time will show variable infertility depending on joining management. Diagnosis can be assisted with good pregnancy testing and mating records.

A bull suffering a short term semen deficit or a minor self curing injury may be impossible to detect many months after the incident. Always remember, infertility may be the fault of bulls or cows, infectious or nutritional, temporary or permanent, total or partial. Bull infertility may be incapability of service, lack of libido or failure of semen to fertilise.

Insurance Claim

A veterinarian is required for all Loss of Use claims to determine the time of onset infertility, precise nature of the infertility, totality and permanency of the infertility. A single assessment may be insufficient to conclude a claim, especially when dealing with injuries or semen deficits which may be treated. The decision to treat or not may also become an issue, depending upon the nature of the disability, the projected cost of the treatment and the insured value of the bull.

Health Assessment

Bulls may require a general health assessment for a variety of reasons including entry to artificial breeding

centres, movement across control areas or export to other countries. Such examinations frequently require laboratory tests. Accordingly precise reasons for the requested exam will assist in collecting all necessary details and conducting the correct tests.

The Bull Examination

Physical

This examination will assess the general physical health, mobility and structure of the bull, with a focus on the reproductive organs. This is essentially a screening test to detect any aspects likely to render the bull unsuitable as a sire.

Semen

Semen may be collected for assessment either by serving an artificial vagina, by electro-ejaculation, or manual palpation.

Semen is examined primarily for motility, percent live, density, sperm morphology and freedom from extraneous disease e.g. infection. Semen defects may result in serious loss of fertility, often unnoticed since the bull is observed to be working well.

Serving

A serving test examines the bull's desire to mate (libido) and ability to mate effectively. This test is performed either by observation of natural mating to an oestrus cow, or with restrained cows in serving crates.

Bull's may be ranked according to their serving capacity, reflecting the ability to mate with more or fewer cows. As with semen defects, serving disabilities may be congenital (present from birth) or acquired e.g. injury. Some abnormalities may also have a genetic basis.

Other Tests

To consider may include:

- * Tests for presence of genetic disorders
- * Blood tests for assessment of diseases
- * Preputial washings for presence of Venereal Diseases

Bulls are half of the breeding equation involving

- * the breeder,
- * the purchaser,
- * the insurance company
- * the veterinarian.

Consider all aspects of bull fertility when requesting an examination and choose whichever tests will best eliminate the risk of bull failure.

Contact the examining veterinarian for further information on what attributes have been fully evaluated and those that may be satisfactory but have not been **proven** to be fully functional.

For further information please contact
Australian Association of Cattle Veterinarians
PO Box 34, Indooroopilly Qld 4068
Ph: 07 3378 7944, Fax: 07 3878 3559

Branch Reports

New South Wales

Gunnedah Ag-Quip 2001 - Yet Another Successful Operation!

Once Again, core Central NSW members banded together under the military precision captaincy of President, Margaret Single, to promote Gelbvieh, work hard at the barbi and raise money for further promotional activities.

The site this year featured 4 bulls, 2 from Rob & Chris McGregor's Retreat and 2 from Keith & Margie Single's Gold Bar S Studs. In addition both studs supplied excellent cross bred cattle - Gelgus heifers from Retreat and Poll Hereford/Gelbvieh X from Gold Bar S. Enquiry was high not only for bulls but there was substantial interest in Gelbvieh cross females. The four bulls displayed were high quality and demonstrated differing types of Gelbvieh bulls which was say, "The differences within breeds are as great as those between breeds."

Without exception, all the cattle were of good disposition and this factor is recognised (often with astonishment) by newcomers to the Gelbvieh experience. Point of fact, a couple of "bull lookers" were initially alarmed at Margie Single jumping the fence to tap one of her bulls on the rump and get him up. This particular "New Day" sired bull had only been brought into the yards and subjected to Margie's secret Gelbvieh training - 10 days prior to Ag-Quip!

Weather-wise, the threatened extreme cold front held off (by and large), although we experienced one day and overnight temperatures that were less than ideal.

The 2001 Ag-Quip team that survived the monumental fried onion crisis and lived to combat the adrenaline raising sausage run out were: Margaret & Keith "never panic" Single, Rob & Chris "Onion Chopper" McGregor, Geoff & Cass "bull rider parents" Steinbeck, the hard working, expert cookie cooking, Mills Family, Bernie "the bar-b-que king" Mausolf, our President Richard Sullivan and his marvellous father-in-law Tim (Susie's Dad) who remained undaunted regardless of the sausage crisis (it's in

the genes), Brian Thornton and Margaret & Keith Single's grand children, Naomi, Justin, Anthony & Alex lent a much needed hand as did Bob & Ian Moxham and there was me (Lesley Marchant). Another member of the team who must be mentioned was "Eric" - a charming man employed on a casual basis, who has nothing to do with cattle or Gelbvieh but was indispensable.

Thank you to all people who helped make 2001 Ag-Quip a success.

AND THAT IT WAS - not only did we cover all costs, we made a profit ... furthermore a Retreat bull was sold direct off site, enquiries rattle thick and fast and to top it all off - the Gelbvieh steak sandwiches were the best at Ag-Quip! (Many reports to this effect and many return customers over the 3 days).

GET READY FOR NEXT YEAR - and do yourselves a favour... BE THERE. Cook a steak, sell a bull, have a laugh (especially at the R McGregor pyjama story - always told in times of stress) and be part of a seriously fantastic promotion.

Sydney RAS Show

One line of discussion during coffee breaks at Ag Quip was on numbers of cattle for the 2002 RAS Show. It is imperative we keep numbers up.

Whilst showing cattle is expensive and time consuming, it is viewed as being part of promoting breeds and underpinning the outward fact of breed strength. Gelbvieh are not in the position to be complacent in regard to any aspect of breed promotion. Bull buying in Australia is still largely subjective - strong "top of mind" awareness is the key factor - not solely EBVs or objective selection when it comes to breeds. For this reason, all members are urged to take stock to Sydney 2002.

Don't wait for the cart to be pushed for you, help push it. Or, as one of your Gelbvieh cows would say "Push it! Stuff that! **I'll put it!... and eat my dust!**". Think about it.

Lesley Marchant, Secretary

Victoria

All the news is good as far as demand for Gelbvieh, climatic conditions and market prices are concerned.

An extraordinary number of inquiries for bulls and females has been received and the only concern being the difficulty experienced in meeting the demand.

Victorian Members exhibited or entered Gelbvieh in a number of Royal Shows, Field Days, Open Days (Beef Week) and carcass competitions over the past financial year.

These have included Melbourne (Tuerong Park, Boisdale, Glengarry Gold & Oatlands), Canberra (Boisdale & Oatlands) and Sydney (Oatlands) Royal Shows, Maffra (Boisdale), Sale (Oatlands & Boisdale) and Red Hill (Tuerong Park) regional shows, Gippsland Beef Challenge Carcass Competition (Sale) and Yarram Show Steer Carcass

Competition (Ebony Lodge), Royal Melbourne Show Carcass Competition (Boisdale), Lang Lang Show Carcass Competition (Ebony Lodge), Gippsland Grass Fed Steer Trial (Ebony Lodge & Pleasant Hill), Gippsland Field Days (Glengarry Gold & Ebony Lodge) and the East Gippsland Field Days (Boisdale).

Balgowan, (Neerim South), Ebony Lodge, (Willow Grove) and Gunvar, (Shepparton), opened for Beef Week.

We continue to receive valuable support from Ridley Agriproducts and Ben and Margot Guzzardi through the provision of prizemoney for our Royal Melbourne Show Champions, awarded in 2000 to John Stubbe, Tuerong Park, and Gavin Kallady of Oatlands Stud. Ridley have this year doubled their sponsorship and we encourage members to consider Barastoc products for preparation and

maintenance of their cattle.

The Branch, with assistance from Federal Council, created a TV advertisement extolling the virtues of the Gelbvieh breed.

Sam Degabriele, Glengarry Gold, is to be congratulated for his vision, enthusiasm and coordination of this project which has produced an excellent marketing tool. Sam, through WIN TV, has arranged for all active members in the state to receive a copy for their own use and is also being made available to members in other states. The ad' can be modified at member's cost to include specific stud information and will be most useful in the lead up to Beef Week, Field Days and sales. Feedback from the ad' at Farm World was exceptional. For copies of

the Video contact, Marcus Fraser, WIN Traralgon (Ph) 03 5176 2243, Email fraserm@winvic.com.au

There will be 10 head exhibited at Royal Melbourne Show this year. Helen McDowell has sold her Boisdale Stud but two animals from Boisdale Gelbvieh, under the new management of Bob and Angela Anderson of Romawi, via Bairnsdale, will be exhibited. Tuerong Park, Glengarry Gold and Oatlands have also entered Melbourne this year.

The Victorian Branch recently held its Annual General Meeting. Elected to the State Committee were: Chair – John Stubbe. Vice Chair – Gavin Kallady. Secretary – Sue Richards. Treasurer – Ted Hazlett. Promotions – Helen McDowell.

Helen McDowell, Secretary

Western Australia

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 4th August at Meadowbrooke Farm Boyanup, the meeting was a friendly gathering that was followed by an evening meal at the restaurant. Earlier in the day members gathered at the Double Bar Stud for lunch followed by an in field inspection of their Gelbvieh, an event that was enjoyed by all attending.

The AGM proved to be quite encouraging with the decision being taken to ask members to submit details for inclusion on a web site page at the Australian Gelbvieh Association Internet web site, (WA Members are requested to submit your photos and details to Tony Kitchen by 19th October). It was realised by those at the meeting that this was the best way to promote our Gelbvieh on the

world market under our Clean and Green image.

Members are working hard towards offering only the very best of their bulls at future bull sales. It has been good to be told only recently that there are still prospective buyers wanting to purchase Gelbvieh bulls now which is quite late in the breeding season.

The WA membership has declined with the Meelon Stud of Mike and Jan Burkett being sold, due to ill health, by private on farm sales. Mike and Jan were respected and involved members and their presence at our functions will be missed. Another stud to disperse was the Bellatrix Stud selling with a clearing sale where some members sourced some useful bloodlines to bring into their herds.

Viv Vinicombe, Secretary

Queensland

It would be entirely inappropriate to commence this report with anything other than the latest news, this being of course, the great win by the Johnson family, Norolle stud, at the Brisbane Royal Exhibition, Interbreed Championship. This unprecedented success can only be attributed to the breeding skills and dedication displayed by the stud and the faultless manner in which their cattle are always presented.

The enormity of this win can only be appreciated when you consider the odds against unseating the incumbent Charolais, this breed alone fielding 150+ head at the Ekka. The word about the place is that even the most biased of other breeders have nothing but praise for the astounding cow/calf pair, who swept everything before them. Congratulations must go to Norolle Stud for their personal achievement plus the thanks of the breed nationally for increasing the spotlight on Gelbvieh.

Since taking up the role of Branch President, I have been able to visit many of the Queensland based studs. These visits have led me to conclude, that despite the very best effort of individual studs to meet bull buyers needs, we are coming from a long way back.

I have observed continual frustration over the failure of the selling/marketing arm of the industry to recognise and promote Gelbvieh as a key component in Gelbvieh infused commercial cattle. To a man, all have had enough of "Euro Cross" being the description for cattle carrying Gelbvieh as a major component. Other well known

breeds would not accept this biased treatment. Neither should we. This needs to be a major focus for both the national body and state groups. It will be so in Queensland.

Sales of Gelbvieh and Gelbvieh based composite bulls state wide, have seen a generous lift in values in line with the industry, plus an increase in demand. This demand, combined with the ravages of really tough conditions across the Darling Downs and the exit of bull suppliers from the stud game, saw our annual sale cancelled due to a lack of bull numbers. Subsequent contact from disappointed clients, both past and potential, has confirmed an ongoing demand. It is to be hoped that traditional support for this sale will reappear next year, with all studs having an eye for the big picture and the long term advantages in ensuring continuation of an annual sale.

A major initiative taken by the branch is the establishment of the new branch web site. <http://www.gelbvieh.com.au> Our monitoring system has confirmed a very real place for a topical, up to date web site, as a promotional tool. We should have a links page in place shortly, plus a "cross breeders corner" page, reliant upon some suitable photographs emerging, to be added.

As usual, the small number of branch members have stretched themselves, in terms of general promotional activity. Due to the interbreed win, both Toowoomba based field days have been supported. The branch also donated the steer for the weight guessing competition in support of the RFDS at the Ekka.

Focus during the coming year will include the annual sale and importantly, a real push to get numbers of animals into well profiled carcass competitions. Gelbvieh infused cattle have proven to be equal to the best and better than most, in all corners of the Queensland commercial industry. The breed's profile can only benefit from the exposure that entry and subsequent wins in

carcass competitions will provide.

It is to be hoped that the current pricing for beef is maintained and that the weather smiles a little more kindly on our Queensland based studs, particularly those on and around the Darling Downs.

All the best in beef

Brice Kaddatz, Secretary

Tasmania

A pen of Gelbvieh/Angus cross calves, eleven to twelve months of age, created a new Tasmanian record price for cattle under 1 year old last Friday 30 August, 2001. Sold at Quoiba, near Devonport, on the North West Coast of Tasmania the calves realised an incredible \$905 per head which equated to \$2.31 per kg/liveweight.

At this stage we have been unable to determine if this is also an Australian record. The calves ranged in weight from 365 to 450kg, and had a fat range of 5-6mm.

The calves were owned and bred by Trix and Denis Dobson of the Golden Gate Gelbvieh Stud at Bishopsbourne near Launceston, and had been wintered on a crop of oats with a silage supplement.

Two of the steers have been retained plus a pure-bred steer for entry into the led steer competition at the Royal Launceston Show in October. Last year Gelbvieh cross steers from the same owners won both champion and reserved champion carcass at Launceston.

The Dobsons chose Gelbvieh because of their excellent maternal and growth traits and the very high rating against other breeds in kiloframs of calf weaned per cow mated.

They commenced breeding in 1989 and now believe their decision is well and truly justified.

Denis Dobson

Ebony Lodge - Carcass Competitions

This year we have entries in Gippsland Field Days trial at Lardner with a pair of Balancer steers. We have entered 7 steers in the Sale Gippsland Beef Challenge with 3 pure Gelbvieh steers, 2 Balancer steers and 1 Red Angus steer. A week later we have 2 pure Gelbvieh steers and 2 Balancer steers in the West Gippsland Challenge at Warragul Show. And finally in November at Yarram we have a Red Angus vealer and a Balancer steer entered.

After the period 1 weigh-in at Lardner our 2 Balancer steers in the second turn-off are well down the list with an average daily weight gain of 1.485kg per day against the herd average of 1.66. This is not a concern to us at this stage, as exactly the same thing happened last year and our steers still won the best pair of carcasses in the competition. We will give further reports as they come to hand.

Ebony Lodge

Website - www.gelbvieh.asn.au

The Gelbvieh website is currently being redesigned at ABRI.

If members have photos of Gelbvieh and/or Gelbvieh cross stock please forward them to the Association as

they may be useful on the website.

Input of any description would be appreciated to update the website.

Sale Results

The Association is asking that Members complete the enclosed survey so we can collate sale results and transactions in this excellent year for beef cattle. As the Gelbvieh is involved in very few multi-vendor, production or Branch Sales it is difficult for the Association to see how Gelbvieh have performed in the market place this year.

Western Australia appears to be the only State that markets Gelbvieh into multi-vendor sales. Members in other states appear to sell their cattle privately in the paddock.

If you could all please take a moment out of your busy schedules and fill out this form and return it to the Association ASAP (before it gets put to the bottom of the "to do list") it would be much appreciated.

We hope that all members have had a very successful year marketing your Gelbvieh stock.

Please remember to transfer your bulls & females through the Association. Remember Bulls are FREE.

Composite Register

Remember the COMPOSITE REGISTER is FREE

The Association is keen to get as many composite cattle on its database as members are prepared to supply.

The database needs to build this to enable the utilization of crossbred EBV's

**NO COMPOSITES =
NO CROSSBRED EBV's**

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it costs you NOTHING -
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Vale - Maxwell (Max) Ellis

The member of the AGA lost a valued friend and tireless worker earlier this year with the death of Max Ellis, following a short, but agonising battle with Leukaemia.

Max came to the notice of the Association with the enrolment, as a member, of Lesley Marchant, when she established the Magnus Gelbvieh Stud. At the time, Max was managing Lesley's broad acre farming activities near Dubbo, where the Gelbvieh stud spent its first few years, under Max's experienced and patient management.

Max viewed beef cattle with a strictly commercial eye, and Lesley recalls that when she asked him to inspect Gelbvieh cattle prior to purchase, he had grave doubts about her sanity. (He had never heard of them!) Max soon changed this mind when he saw them, a view that was reinforced when he worked with them, and saw what they could do, commercially.

His enthusiasm spread to the show ring, and in the 1999 World Conference Futurity, Magnus cattle were in the line up.

Max was very much the quiet achiever, but, despite that, he took on the role of Vice-Chairman of the NSW Branch, and was giving thought to running for Council in the future.

With his vast practical experience, Max's views demanded consideration, and his willingness to help others is sorely missed in the breed. His eventual partnership with Lesley provided each with a soul mate and anchor, and the wider Gelbvieh family will feel inspired by Lesley's decision to carry on with the Magnus Stud.

Thank you Max, and Lesley, for some great memories.

Though I met him only rarely over the years, I feel privileged to call him a friend.

William Hughes

2002 Gelbvieh Sale

Armidale Selling Complex, Armidale, NSW

July, 2002

Selling Agent: Jackson Livestock

Need: At least 40 High Quality Gelbvieh Bulls

Considering: Gelbvieh Females, Composite Bulls, F1 Females

Very strict inspection criteria

We need your support as vendors and buyers.

- * Those who sold Gelbvieh and Gelbvieh cross weaners during 2001 were very well rewarded.
- * Let the beef industry have a place where they know they can access new Gelbvieh genetics.

Are you interested to learn more???

Call the Sale Coordinator:

Geoff Steinbeck

Phone/Fax: 02 6769 4251, Email: gsteinbeck@hotmail.com