

Ingledew Salers





PMP Z41

Some of our bulls for sale, featuring side and rear of PMP Z41.

Girls with a break
A glimpse of greenery for some Oakey females after
months of droughted brown!





Ingledew Precious - PMP X03
3 year old female - a soft and feminine mother.
Such Elegance!



18 - 20 month old (ave. 650kg)

Salers steers in Ingledew's Oakey feedlot with 60 days remaining to sale at 100 days on feed.

Stud and Commercial Bulls and Females available for sale.

Properties:

"SUNRISE" Middle Ridge, Toowoomba, QLD 4350

"INGLEDEW FARMS" Sexton - Wise Roads, Oakey, QLD 4401



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96 Cunningham St PO Box 785 Dalby, QLD 4405 ph: 07 4662 4855 or 07 4636 1050 fax: 07 4662 2700

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About the Cover...

The southern areas of France and Northern areas of Spain are home to some of the oldest cave wall paintings in Europe and indeed the world. Some 170 cave examples dating back as far as 40,000 years are recorded. In 1940 in the Massif Central volcanic region, very close to the town of Salers, the famous Lascaux cave system was discovered by four local boys. Detail from this cave wall is featured on this years cover.

Inside the Limestone cave many fine examples of of wall art dating back to the Ice Age (the Wurm Glaciation) have been found. Among the images left on the walls for an estimated 16,000 years are drawings of the animals that were found in the region during the period of their recording. Wild horses, aurochs, cattle, reindeer and giant deer, also wisents (bison) dominate the walls at Lascaux - images are namely of large herbivourous mammals. The animals found in the locality at this time reflected the mild summers and the lesser defined seasons of the age.

The magnitude and size of the decorated walls at Lascaux are among the best of all the caves found and the cave has come to be recognised as the "Sistine Chapel of Pre-history". The images include examples of large, dark red, horned cattle suggesting that a similar type of animal to the modern breed of Salers has been found in the area for many thousands of years, indeed it is today recognised that Salers cattle are native to this isolated and mountainous south central region of France. The Salers breed is considered very different to all other French breeds and is considered also as one of the oldest and most genetically pure of the European breeds. A study (Angress & Reed 1962) of skulls from Salers cattle in Auvergne links the Salers clearly to the primigenius type (refuting the supposed earlier relation to the brachycephalid type thus throwing new light on their pattern of origin) suggesting the breed has originated from Bos pimigenius hahni, a line which which gave rise to the native cattle of Southern Spain and bears some clear resemblance to the ancient red cattle of Egypt. The Salers are thought to be an important connecting link indicating the route of dispersal the breed took in prehistoric times.

The Lascaux caves of are comprised of several connecting chambers, decorated with images and themes both engraved and painted. The Great Hall of the Bulls is the first chamber of the Cave system and an excellent



virtual tour of this chamber and the Lascaux caves can be found at http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/arcnat/lascaux. The calibre of the paintings and the abstract nature of the works comes as both sophisticated and a suprise. Many caves have been found with scaffolding to enable full access to walls and at Lascaux lighting devices made of limestone, lichen and juniper found at the site would have facilitated the journey deep into the cave to complete the works (the Great Hall of the Bulls alone is 20 meters in length).

It has been suggested that the many dots that appear on the walls of the caves, originally thought to maybe be boundary markers, form a map of the prehistoric night sky (D. Whitehouse 2000). The positioning of the dots would be akin to the estimated postion of many star formations 16,500 years ago. Close to the entrance of the caves is a painting of a bull, over its shoulder is what appears to be a map of the Pleiades (the cluster of stars known as the Seven Sisters). Inside the bull painting there are indications of spots that are thought be a representation of other stars found in that region of the sky. In modern times this region forms part of the constellation of Taurus the bull.

In 1963 it was deemed that the caves were detiorating due to exposure to light, air and chemistry triggered by the arrival of many thousands of visitors and so were closed. In 1983 a full sized replica known as Lascaux II was opened and is now the site visited by tourists to the region thus preserving the original

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2008

Welcome to the pages of the 2008 joint New Zealand and Australian magazine - Australasian Salers.

It appears that the current decline in memberships and registrations of our breed associations is a trend happening to many if not most of the small breed associations world wide. The big are simply getting bigger and the small smaller as it is the larger associations that can afford to promote their breeds to the maximum. Suprisingly there are still a lot of cattle producers that have never heard of Salers.

As Salers breeders we have dedicated well over a decade to adapting this breed so that it is readily marketable to mainstream cattle producers and there are now significant gains to be made on a commercial basis by utilizing the Salers gene - even in a small capacity situation. There does however, seem to be consensus by many in the cattle industry that Salers are finished as an acceptable breed in Australia. In fact nothing could be further from the truth! The Australian beef industry could well absorb many real positives from the widespread inclusion of Salers genetics into herds through composite breeding programmes as Salers have survived for thousands of years as fertile, tenacious, self sufficent cattle. Put simply Salers are able to provide what Australian conditons require to allow maximised returns.

In Australia we are now looking at a new era in beef production where herds must be efficient and provide the best possible bottom line for producers who consistently have to endure the often harsh environment of Australia. To be truly efficient a breed must be fertile and able to calve down every year be it drought or non-drought. Salers do this and are genetically predisposed to calve down without supervision or assistance, and provide enough rich milk to be able to wean a heavy calf. Salers are also efficient converters of feed into red meat whether it be grass or grain and then as an end result they are able to produce a carcase with an average 60% yield of prime tender beef. There are not many breeds in Australia that can lay claim to achieving this and Salers can do it with ease.

When the breed was originally

introduced into Australia there were many producers who did not take temperament into account when on selling their stock which has done the public profile of Salers no end of harm. These days, after 20 years of selecting, adapting and consolidating, the breeders of the Australian and New Zealand Associations realize that to sell an animal whose disposition is not of an acceptable standard means a backward step rather than a step forward for the good of the breed.

We must all participate in as many trials, field days and shows as we can manage to give creedence and measure to what we already know.

Updates and results, links and more information are all available on the newly revamped Salers Australia website at salersaustralia.

Finally a thank you to all members and sponsors who have submitted editorials, advertisments, articles and photos and so have supported the Association in the production of this magazine, which in turn supports the strength of our association and the breed that we know to be truly remarkable.

Steve McCourt



EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT 2008

One of Australia's best known poets is Dorothea MacKellar. Possibly her most famous verse reads as follows:

"I love a sunburnt country, a land of sweeping plains, of ragged mountain ranges,

of droughts and flooding rains. I love her far horizons, I love her

Her beauty and her terror - the wide brown land for me!".

During the last decade I believe many Australians would have experienced the reality of at least some part of that famous poem "My Country". In particular we have faced "droughts and flooding rains". Although this poem was written back in 1904, the same feelings and the same experiences are still current in 2007 and 2008. Even our "city friends", especially those in Brisbane and Sydney, would now have an inclination of the impact of drought after they had to cope with severe water restrictions during 2007.

Australian farmers in general, and cattle breeders in particular, have had to "dig very very deep" into their characters and other resources to survive the continuing drought. In many areas of the country the drought is not yet over. In Tasmania, South Australia, and the western regions of New South Wales and Victoria it is still extremely dry (in February 2008) and there is still a lot of hand-feeding and hand-watering of livestock. In Western Australia there was a very dry first half of 2007, causing a lot of worry and hand-feeding, but they had a very good "break" for the spring months - then summer was back dry. For contrast, good soaking rain has finally arrived over summer 2007/2008 in many parts of northern and eastern Australia. Some of those areas have had too much rain - major flooding has occurred in Mackay, Rockhampton and areas around Emerald, central Qld. The long-range weather forecasters say it will be generally a "wet year" for most of Australia throughout 2008 - I think that means "wetter than average" for our normally dry continent!

Salers might not be as numerous in Australia in 2008 as they were before the drought, but it is pleasing to see the core of breeders maintaining the quality and good bloodlines which were developed through the 1990's. Congratulations to these breeders for their dedication and devotion to the Salers breed. "Easy calving" and "getting a live calf each year" are the two strongest features of this breed which keep it going. Unfortunately not many breeders have been able to enter steer and carcase competitions but when this does occur, the results are very pleasing. There is still a good market for both stud and commercial bulls. Breeders who choose to show their cattle have included the Royal Shows of Canberra, Melbourne and Perth on their schedules. Thank you to these "show" breeders for "flying the flag" and keeping Salers in view of the public eye.

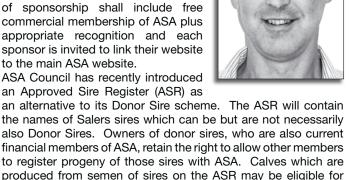
At the Annual Meeting in September 2007, long-time Councillor and former President Lindsay MacKenzie retired from Salers duties. Lindsay was made an Honorary Life Member of ASA in recognition of his commitment, dedication and strongest beliefs in Salers. Congratulations Lindsay, and thank you.

The replacement for Lindsay on ASA Council is Frank Hill from Heathcote, Victoria and I hope Frank enjoys his involvement with the Association. One of Frank's first tasks is to Chair the new Promotion Committee, assisted by Christian Panquet and current President, Steve McCourt. Anyone with ideas for new Salers promotion is invited to contact any of those three committeemen. Website, banners, posters, newsletters, merchandise, brochures are some of the possible ways to further communicate and promote the strong points of Salers.

For financial assistance, the ASA Council is looking for new sponsors of the Salers breed. The first three levels of sponsorship shall be bronze, silver and gold. The bronze level shall be a monetary donation of between \$200 and \$500; the silver level shall be a donation of between \$501 and \$2000; and the gold level shall be a donation of above \$2000. At both silver and

gold levels the donation may include a donation "in kind" provided that the donation also includes at least 50% monetary award. All levels of sponsorship shall include free commercial membership of ASA plus appropriate recognition and each sponsor is invited to link their website to the main ASA website.

ASA Council has recently introduced an Approved Sire Register (ASR) as



the names of Salers sires which can be but are not necessarily also Donor Sires. Owners of donor sires, who are also current financial members of ASA, retain the right to allow other members to register progeny of those sires with ASA. Calves which are produced from semen of sires on the ASR may be eligible for herdbook registration with ASA under similar conditions to calves produced from donor sires except that instead of requiring an Al Certificate of Service to be supplied by the owner of the donor sire, the appropriate Al Certificate of Service will be purchased directly from ASA.

Salers Breedplan is continuing in 2008. Members from either ASA or New Zealand Salers Society who wish to participate should contact the Executive Officer. The cut-off date for submission of 200-day weights, or other performance measurements, will be at the end of April, 2008. The 2008 Trans Tasman Salers Genetic Evaluation Report will be prepared during May and circulated mid-year.

The New Zealand Salers Society (NZSS) has decided to conduct its 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM) during a tour of western Victoria and SE South Australia in May, 2008. A 6-day bus tour has been arranged from 13th to 18th May and this will co-incide with the National Beef Expo at Bendigo, Victoria on 16th and 17th May. Best wishes to our Kiwi guests and I hope that steady rain before these dates will help the Australian hosts to prepare for their visit.

Le Wonga Stud will donate a heifer to be auctioned during the Bendigo visit, with proceeds going to the ASA. Also on Friday 16th May there will be a special Salers dinner in Bendigo for both NZ and Australian enthusiasts. An additional fund-raising auction is anticipated to be held during the dinner. Members are invited to submit donations for the auction and/or give bids for the auction.

The ASA is an important member of the International Salers Federation (ISF). Other members of the ISF are Salers societies in USA, Canada, France, UK and New Zealand. Elsewhere in this magazine are details from John Crowe (Secretary of Salers Society of United Kingdom) about the next World Salers Conference, to be held in the United Kingdom. The tour dates are 16 June - 28 June 2009, with the two-day Congress being held in Edinburgh on 27 and 28 June 1009. More information will be available later in the year from John Crowe or ASA Executive

The 2008 Annual General Meeting for ASA is scheduled to be held in conjunction with the 2008 Royal Melbourne Show. The actual date is not yet known, but it is expected near the end of September, 2008. If you are considering entering Salers for this particular show, or visiting Melbourne at that time of year, I am sure there will be other Salers members also in Melbourne to make your trip even more worthwhile.

I congratulate the ASA Councillors for their planning and efforts during 2007 and 2008 - especially your President, Steve McCourt. My best wishes also go to all members for an improving year in 2008 - "recovery" might be the best possible objective.

David McDonald Executive Officer

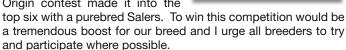
PRESIDENTS REPORT - NEW ZEALAND

The Salers breeders in N.Z. are a dedicated group, breeding cattle that are superior to many cattle being bred here. We still have stock agents who are unwilling to accept them for their qualities. Salers cross weaners have topped sales in the south and in both cases the agents have advised the vendors to sell them as Angus cross, the Angus being the flavour of the month. These weaners have gone on to outperform other breeds running under the same conditions. I am sure the tide is gradually turning for us be it somewhat slowly but surely. It is very frustrating seeing and hearing this happening not only in New Zealand but in many other countries as well. This came out very strongly at the world conference in France. We all have faith in the breed and I am sure that we will be rewarded in the near future as the world of success stories becomes more widespread.

It has been a very tough year for farmers financially and having a very mixed season weather wise. The winter was one of the coldest for many years and the spring cold with slow growth. Now as I write this in January it is very dry in many parts of the country. With costs rising rapidly over the past few years we now have a down turn in stock prices. Cattle prices at present are holding more firmly than sheep meat. The poor returns for traditional sheep and beef farming have seen a large number of farmers and farms converting into dairying which is on a high

compared to sheep and beef. This has also pushed the price of land through the roof having no relevance to its production potential.

One of our breeder's entries in the European section of the Steak Of Origin contest made it into the



During our Autumn Tour and 21st Celebration last year it was very pleasing to have Steve McCourt and Micheal and Helena Manley from Australia and Kathy Adams from Canada join our group and enjoy our celebration and tour through Otago. We enjoy our closer relationship with the Australian Salers Association and trust we can enjoy this more in the future to the benefit of both our countries. We thank you for the opportunity in this joint journal.

Ken Bain Salers Society of New Zealand



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GREETINGS FROM CANADA

I am honored to have been asked to contribute to the 2008 Australasian Salers Journal – thank you Steve McCourt and David McDonald for the invitation to write.

As some of you will know, I am the Secretary/Manager of the Salers Association of Canada and the current Canadian representative to the International Salers Federation. I have been fortunate to do a bit of traveling in this capacity and have visited some excellent Salers and Salers cross herds in France, New Zealand, NSW and Canada, of course. I have spoken with breeders from Mexico, Columbia SA, England, Scotland and Wales. The breeders and Salers enthusiasts I have met, have reinforced my belief that the Salers breed is truly the "Balanced Breed" and has tremendous potential in the beef industry of ANY country.

The American Salers Association is using a thought provoking one-liner to promote Salers, "How Can One Breed Set You Free?" Excellent question - which some people might scoff at but it's true and we know it, so how do we get that information out to the commercial man and his agents? One of the big challenges we all face is to get credit in our beef industries for the Salers breed; feedlot and packer-buyers have been purchasing Salers crosses for years, without identifying and acknowledging them as Salers. They are quite astounded when it is pointed out to them. Salers breeders have done an excellent job of improving the temperament, moderating the frame and selecting for the polled trait (if desired). In North America, the blacks are very sought after and because the black colour gene naturally occurs in Salers, we don't have to breed that in from an outside source. What we don't do well is promote the breed with pride and demand credit where it is due - if we or our bull buying customers are topping the markets with our Salers calves, we should be letting everyone know that they ARE Salers calves. If we don't tell them - nobody else will!

Our goal has always been to continually select for improvements which meet our market demands without giving up the maternal, growth and carcass qualities. The Salers breed is proven to be structurally sound and correct, on good feet and legs; this allows

them to cover rough terrain and forage easily throughout the mountains in the West and the rocky Canadian Shield areas of Eastern Canada. They have adapted well to our harsh winters and hot summers – like Australia and New Zealand, we have a wide range of climatic conditions for raising livestock. Salers cross well with the Bos Indicus breeds of hot countries and produce exceptional crosses with the British breeds.



Canadian Salers genetics have been exported to countries around the world and those importers will proudly point out those animals in their herds carrying the Canadian bloodlines. Fullbloods must all be parentage verified by DNA before being accepted into the SAC Herd Book, all Al sires must have DNA types on file with SAC, and all sires must be B-Mann clean. Throughout the last four years, our borders have been closed to live breeding stock but semen and embryos have been eligible for import and export; now with the borders opening up to live cattle once more, we're looking forward to renewing trade opportunities with you – our "partners" in Salers.

Good luck to all Salers breeders in Australia and New Zealand – I loved every minute of my visits to your countries and hope to come back SOON! You're always welcome to visit Canada, we'd love to tour you around. Remember: "THE BEST HYBRID DOES NOT COME FROM A HYBRID!!!

Best Regards, eh! Kathleen (Kathy) Adams

WARM GREETINGS FROM THE U.K.

We look forward to welcoming our fellow Salers breeders here in the UK in 2009, for the tour of the UK and the ISF Conference at the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh, Scotland. The tour will be split so those who cannot get away for 16 days can join the tour halfway through. Details will be sent to all countries secretaries together with the cost when details are finalised.

So what has been happening in the UK? David McDonald asked for a short article so I will try and cover some of the things. Our Society continues to grow steadily with more commercial farmers and cattlemen and we see an increase in our registrations year after year. Last year in 2007 we were 33% up on the previous year. This also helps with our finances and allows us to promote the breed and its benefits but we could do a lot more if the money was available, although the best promotion is to get interested farmers and cattlemen on a farm visit and get amongst the cattle. They are surprised to find that the temperament problem they are told Salers are supposed to have is not a problem after all. Stockmanship is so important and the maternal traits of the Salers should not be misconstrued as the Salers breed being generally wild. We continue to import from France although the UK Salers Society is now in its 23rd year. New bulls are selected every year and around 60 females were imported in 2007 and for the first time three UK bred bulls have been exported back to France, one horned and two polled, one of which was black. Knowing how much importance the French give to the horns of their cattle I am waiting to see how polled cattle are accepted in France.

We have had several difficult years with very hot dry summers in 2005 and 2006 to extremely wet in 2007, where some shows had to be cancelled or shortened because of the wet weather. Our winters, however, have been milder, particularly in the south of the UK. We seem to be getting back to some normality after the major foot and mouth outbreak in 2001.

Despite the hurdles and difficulties in the suckler cow and beef market we continue to grow and prices have been reasonable for good cattle. For good cattle this seems to have been the case for all breeds at major shows and sales. More breeders and purchasers are looking for cattle with high health status and as a Society we are currently looking at the various schemes available and what they cover and are recommending our members to join one of the schemes. Higher Health cattle can command a better price both at home and in the sale ring.

We hope as many as possible will be able to visit fellow breeders here in the UK in 2009. For the ladies it won't be all cattle. There will be places of interest and of course free time to browse the shops in Chester, also in Edinburgh.

We look forward to receiving you in the UK in 2009 where a warm welcome awaits you.

John Crowe

AROUND THE STATES

QUEENSLAND and INGLEDEW SALERS

The last year has been a time of enhancing Ingledew's genetic and profile performance.

It commenced with exhibiting 7 head at the Toowoomba Royal Show in March, followed by Farmfest field days in June and Melbourne Royal in September where we met with considerable success, culminating in grand champion Salers Bull at Melbourne with our 1,200 kg Ingledew Ripper, who was recorded with the highest eye muscle area 149 sq. cm out of all 226 bulls from 30 different breeds exhibited, and with the very favorable fat cover figures of 19mm rump: 14mm rib.

2007 marked the third straight year of disastrous drought conditions prevailing throughout southern Queensland and a complete lack of breeding interest exhibited at Farmfest time which is our traditional best selling venue. All breeds are currently finding a distinct lack of demand for bulls in southern Queensland east of Roma as a lot of the breeding properties have converted to fattening properties from stock transferred west of this line due to the terrible drought conditions. The stud has been selling some bulls in that western area, and is planning to attend a field day in the central west of the State later in the year.

Ingledew has seen first hand the hardiness of the breed demonstrated by the 100% survival rate of its entire female breeding stock as well as its bulls, despite the fact that at times the faeces colour produced by the animal is grey in colour, obviously resulting from consuming quantities of baked soil together with the hardy feed available. The condition of the stud's cattle has remained very good, and the break in the season experienced during the last four months has seen a great enhancement to the outlook of our paddocks.

Our 100% calving ease record of the past 20 years with no calving losses from more than 2,000 calvings remains in tact, despite the fact that a significant percentage of those were by heifers. Vets would go broke relying on these trouble-free cattle for their custom.

We marvel at the yield return for the end product as demonstrated recently by one of our grass fed 22 month old purebred cull steers recently raffled by the Association which grossed 700 kg and returned \$1,257 through the abattoirs, yielding 449 kg or 64.14% with av. fat depth of 14mm. Salers are definitely a great breed for meat production when prices trend lower with their extra weight compensating for deflated price per kg, while bonus returns are received when the price improves.

In November'07, Ingledew introduced some new genetic bloodlines into its herd with the acquisition of 6 head from Papillon Stud bearing lines from sires MW Renegade and Papillon Samsan, and French Import females Caille, Camelia, Elisse, Emmanuelle, and the Canadian Import Marissou. This will further add to the powerful diverse bloodlines already existing in our herd.

Ingledew launched its website www.ingledewsalers.com.au last year and intends to regularly update same with useful information for the producer. We include samples of cattle available for sale thereon, and have others on another internet site to which we can refer you.

We look forward to the next 12 months of exhibiting features of our stud at the Toowoomba Royal in April, National Beef Bendigo in May, Farmfest Field Days in June, and Western Queensland Field Days in July.

Mike Manley

TASMANIA

The Tasmanian Salers Branch again attended Agfest "Tasmania's Premier Field Days" in May 2007, and plans are in progress for May 2008 which will be our eighteenth consecutive year.

2007 saw the introduction of a European Bull sale run throughout the event, operating under the Helsman Auction system throughout the 3 days, closing at midday on the 3rd day. Royston Salers exhibited 2 bulls, 1 black and 1 red, with the black bull going to a new breeder to use over his Angus cattle and the red

to clients who had previously used Salers over their Hereford females and were impressed with the results. 2008 on offer will be a Salers x Shorthorn bull and purebred red bull.

With 3 pens of females also on display, including black & red and roan cross bred heifers, this gave us the opportunity for us to talk to cattle breeders about the huge advantages of using Salers cattle in their herds and particularly to be able to use Salers or Salers cross females in their herds for maximum milking ability and calving ease.

With many people coming through the site and appreciating the quality of cattle on display this was an excellent opportunity for our breeders to catch up with old and potentially new clients.

Greg & Tanya Downham continued their successful calf sales in April 2007, selling their calves at the Bothwell sale. There Salers x Hereford calves are admired by many people at the sale, and have been great advertisement for our breed over the years.

With our season in Tasmania a lot easier than our last season, and hopefully things are improving for everybody else around the country, we look forward to breeders looking to increase breeding stock and being able to market cattle in more productive times. Rebecca Woodiwiss

NEW SOUTH WALES

The NSW region has had a very active and busy 2007/2008.

A small but very focused and motivated number of members have been attending branch meetings, shows, field days as well as "Dubbo Beef Week". Shows have included Melbourne, Canberra, Goulburn, Yass and Crookwell. Hopefully one day we will be back in Sydney. I was talking to one of their Beef committee members, they are eager to see Salers back there.

NSW members showing cattle at all the above venues have won a wide variety of prizes including broad ribbons, attracting great comments for the quality and presentation of their cattle, not only from the other (very enthusiastic) members present, but from Judges and other Breeders. Congratulations to the participating studs, it is very rewarding as a society to see two and three generations being involved. As we saw at Canberra.

The NSW region has also been involved in creating or revamping old material and we will have ready in the near future brochures, pamphlets with NSW region logo to be handed out with the Salers plastic bag, a big thank you to the people who have been involved.

Members are participating in collecting data for steers in feedlot, so that we can compile some recent Australian numbers.

NSW members are very eager to participate in The Australian National Field Days with some numbers already committed, as NSW we hope the Federal Body will support the project by asking and promoting Australia wide participation, and offer some incentives for members to enter some of their steers.

So a very good year for NSW, I would like to thank all the members who participated in our activities, and say to the others "welcome to join in". I also would like to thank the people who have helped me and made my role so much easier.

I can say with pride that the revamped NSW Region is going places.

Visceralement Salers Christian Panquet



International Conference 2007

Report by Ken Bain

Forbes and Christine Cameron, Doug and Jenny Harrington, John Druce and myself, Ken Bain, all met up in Auckland and flew to Singapore. On arrival there we did a tour of the city by bus and boat. Singapore is a very beautiful and very prosperous place. Every car looked as if it was brand new. The only older cars were the taxis. The boat trip on the river showed us some remarkable buildings. Some of the skyscrapers were over 70 stories high. The city had many different cultures and we visited two mosques which were very rich in tradition and wealth. When we flew out of Singapore we met up with Myra's sister, Gwen Walker and Bev Gregory a friend of Gwens. They became part of our clan straight away.

On our arrival in Paris we had a short wait till Sophie arrived with our bus. We then went to another terminal to pick up the Americans. Unfortunately there was a bomb scare and we had a long wait until they were allowed to join us. On getting to our hotel we had much difficulty as our bus was too big to go down the street to our hotel. So out of the bus, get our bags and walk down to our hotel. This proved to be an experience in itself. One bus load, one small reception area, 5 stories up, one lift that held one person with their bag. So as can be imagined there was a procession up the stairs to our 17th Century rooms, which were adequate but not large. The bath rooms were not very big, but as it was to turn

out they were quite large compared to what we were to get later on. We met up



Looking across the holding area for Salers animal exhibits at 133rd National Salers Competition 2006, also looking back towards historic city of Salers, France.

with the rest of the NZ crew, Bill and Mary Harvie, and Mike and Jenny Oxley. Bill and Mary's daughter Gwen joined them in Paris and in Salers, while Jenny and Doug's daughter Jane and husband Innes joined them in Paris.

We were rallied up that afternoon for a visit to their House of Representatives. It was a long walk to get there but very interesting. After a thorough search we were taken into the debating chamber and watched proceedings. As it was all in French we didn't have a clue what they were talking about. We were told they were debating the amalgamation of the electricity and gas boards. The ceiling of the chamber was a real masterpiece. How they ever did it so well must have taken a very long time. We were unable to take in cameras so have no photos to show. After trying to explain to the Frenchman at the hotel desk that night that we (John Druce and I shared a room) would like a wake up call at 6am. -'oui, oui, yes, yes!! " The phone goes, John answers and as there was nobody on the line I said that it was our wakeup call. I then asked John if he would like to shower first or would I. He replied that I should go first as he felt he hadn't been asleep long. After I came out of the shower all ready for breakfast John thought he would just get up and have breakfast and come back to bed as he felt he hadn't had enough sleep. At that point I checked my watch and found it was 1;40 am! That was the last time we relied on a wake up call.



Salers cows and calves on the farm belonging to Michael Tafanel, President, UPRA Salers, France.



Attendees at the 2006 Board Meeting of International Salers Federation in Salers, France.

L to R: Ray Depalme (Canada), Randy Mader (Canada), Bruno Faure (Exec. Officer, UPRA Salers, France), Sophie Bargie Secretary ISF, France), Michael Tafanel (President UPRA Salers, France and President, International Salers Federation ISF 2006-09), Bill Harvie (New Zealand and President ISF 2004-06), Ken Bain (President New Zealand Salers Society). Back Row: David McDonald (Australian Salers Association Exec. Officer), David Pease (United Kingdom), Bruce Lowenberg (American Salers Association and Vice President ISF 2006-09).

After our first Stud visit we came back into Paris and the bus let us off at the Eiffel Tower. As the waiting queues were over 2 hours long only Bev and Gwen were game to venture to the top. Unfortunately they did not realise that they would have to queue again to get back down! Needless to say they missed the bus back to the Hotel. The bus was then leaving again at 7p.m for our river dinner cruise. Back at the tower Forbes and I decided after looking around we would make our way back to the hotel via the tube. As we had been on the tube once we were very confidant of getting back to the hotel successfully. After being shown on the map how to get to the tube we made off. Unfortunately due to a miss calculation after one and a half hours we still hadn't found the tube. By this time we were both looking for a toilet which proved to be just about as elusive as the tube. There was only one solution, into the nearest pub, have a drink and use their toilet. We bought a medium sized beer each and the bill came to 13 euro. I said I supposed that wasn't too bad when Forbes pointed out that it would be \$13 NZ each. Needless to say we only had the one and there were some surprised faces on the bus when they saw Forbes and I still there.

It was now time to get on the bus for our cruise. Still no sign of Bev and Gwen. After waiting a further 20 minutes we said to Sophie that we would have to leave without them. Sophie was very reluctant to do this but after another 5 minutes we left. After arriving at the boat Sophie then received a call from Bev and Gwen to say they had just arrived back and there was not time to get to the boat before it left. Unbeknown to us Sophie rang a taxi, rang the girls back and arranged for the hotel reception to give directions for them to get to the boat on time. This was typical of the organisation on tour by Sophie, right from start to finish. She did an excellent job.



Head on view of Salers cattle awaiting entry to judging ring for 133rd National Salers Competition,

It was a memorable boat cruise with an excellent meal, music and the lights of Paris. Just as we were coming off the boat the lights came on the tower which was a remarkable sight.

The next day saw us into the buses and make our way into Normandy area. We stayed two nights in Carbourg on the north coast. We visited a horse stud as well as Salers studs over the next two days. The visit to Normandy was a highlight for me. The D-Day museum, in Arromanches, illustrated the story of "Mulberry's artificial Harbour". How the British were able to float an entire harbour from Britain was unreal. It is still in place today after 60 years. The structures were made in two years by 30,000 people. Each section weighed 7000 ton, and were towed over the channel in 24 hours. When the valves were opened, they filled with water to rest on the sea bottom. The visit to the Normandy American Cemetary where over 12000 are buried, many of them unnamed, was a very sobering experience.

From there we made our way south on the journey to Salers, visiting studs on the way. We had an overnight stay in Pouilly Sur Loire, in the Burgundy area. This was in the heart of a large wine growing area. We were shown through and partook of a very pleasant meal there. As it was my 65th birthday Bill Harvie presented

me with a bottle of their wine which I have brought home to open on some future special occasion.

The next day we were on our way to Salers with more stud visits on the way. I must point out that at every stud we were hosted to either meals or nibbles and lots of wine. All meals during the day and at night were four courses with mainly red wine. The red wine must be good for you as I did not gain as much weight as I thought I would normally have put on. I have not had a wine since coming home. Forbes was complaining that the wine was making him very dry and all he wanted was a good beer. As it was their custom to drink mainly wine, that is what we did

At Salers we had the meetings of the ISF at which every country gave a presentation. I must congratulate and thank Mary Harvie for the excellent job she did putting ours together. Each person spoke on their own stud and Mike Oxley did it for the ones that were not there. The next morning countries gave papers on research and how Salers were involved. There were optional tours on as well as the Show, where according to the entries there were over 650 Salers cattle on the grounds. As well as all the aged classes they had groups of five in their different age brackets as well. These events were very popular. It was a great sight and a bit overwhelming to see so many Salers and interested people in one place. What was also pleasing was to see all ages of the family being involved from grand dad to the young grandchildren.

Bill Harvie finally managed to get a meeting of the IFS delegates for an hour on the last morning. The French President Michel Taphanel is the new ISF President, with Bruce Lowenburg vice President. Bruce was made convenor of keeping all countries in touch with each other and informing one an another of what was happening in each country. Sophie Bargy is the new Secretary, taking over from Sherry. All we had seen of the meeting of the minutes from the Queenstown meeting were at this meeting. Bill had been trying to get them since he took over from Dennis Hutchings. There were things in the minutes that should have been done but no one knew about them. Bill Harvie did a very good job in chairing the meeting which was not easy. Well done Bill.

That was the end of an unforgettable tour. Meeting friends and making new ones from around the world is a bonus that one gets from attending the ISF Conferences. Some NZers stayed awake and left for Paris on the 1 a.m bus while the rest left at 4 a.m. Others in the party were going their separate ways on further sightseeing. All of us agreed it was an unforgettable and memorable tour.



Looking into the historic city of Salers in Cantal Province, central France. Note stone walls which surround this ancient city.



Standing in "central square" of historic city of Salers. Note buildings with 3 floors and usually an attic for the fourth (top) floor.

ISF WORLD SALERS CONFERENCE JUNE 2009

the following letter was forwarded to The ASA in January, please note that update tour deatils are now available.

Dear All,

It does not seem over a year has passed since the ISF Convention in France and we here in the UK agreed to hold the next ISF Convention. It is ten years now since Joyce & I organised the last one in the UK. We have agreed the date as from Saturday 13th June 2009. The tour will take in England, Wales and Scotland. For those who do not want to take in the whole tour they can join the ISF Convention in Scotland for the Royal Highland Show and the ISF meetings. The ISF meetings etc. will be based round the Royal Highland Show based just outside Edinburgh. More details and costs will follow. This is just an outline to give dates in order that there is time for delegates to plan for the ISF visit. The proposed outline plan is:

Day 1: Delegates will arrive at London-Heathrow and there will be dinner and welcome in the hotel by the airport in the evening.

Day 2: A visit to Windsor Castle and then travel on to Salisbury to see Stonehenge.

Day 3: Travel south to Cornwall with stops on the way in the South of Englandfarm visits and places of interest will be made and an evening meal in Caerhays Castle with an overnight stay in St. Austell. Arthur Broom is manager of this estate. Many of you have met Arthur on previous ISF visits.

Day 4: Farm visits in Cornwall.

Day 5: Visit the Eden project, which is a large Botanical garden and is becoming one of the most visited places in the UK. Travel back north to Oxford. O/nite stay in Oxford.

Day 6: Visit an experimental farm with Salers cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry and grassland management and it is laso involved in animal welfare. One of our members is involved with this organisation. Visit and free time in the university town of Oxford. O/nite stay in Oxford.

Day 7: Travel to Towchester, approx 45 minutes from Oxford, to visit one of our members who has 300+ pedigee Charolais and 100+ pedigee Salers. After lunch at the farm we will travel north to Chester, an old walled Roman city.

Day 8: Free time in this unusual cathedral city with it's timbered buildings, Roman ampitheatre, river, city wall etc.

Day 9: We will make a visit into Wales, as Chester is right on the border, and visit a farm and some places of interest. Return and o/nite in Chester.

Day 10: From Chester we will travel north to the Lake District to Lake Windemere and Coniston Water. This is where Sir Donald Campbell made his attempt to beat the world water speed record in Bluebird. Travel north to Gretna Green on the Scottish borders and visit the old Blacksmith's shop. This is where couples used to elope to, from England, to get married by the blacksmith just over the border in Scotland. O/nite stay at Gretna.

Day 11: Travel into Scotland to visit Salers breeder Willie Davidson who has some 300+ Salers and is a past president and Chairman of our society. Travel north to Jedburgh.

Day 12: Visit farms in Jedburgh area and also include a Whiskey distillery (samples available!) then on to Edinburgh. Stay in Edinburgh.

Day 13: Royal Highland Show Edinburgh. Salers judging a.m. ISF Convention meetings in evening in hotel.

Day 14: a.m. Royal Highland Show and/or visit to Edinburgh for personal sightseeing. Early p.m. Presentations from countries in President's Pavillion followed by evening Convention Dinner.

Day 15: Interbreed judging or guided tour of Edinburgh.

Day 16: Depart after breakfast ~ possible further visit north in to Scotland.

This is just a draft and we have to finalise details. There will obviously be a number of addittional events fitted into the programme. When this is finalised I will be able to get the costs sorted out. We need at least 45 people for the coach to make such a visit viable costwise.

We look forward to welcoming you all to the UK.

John Crowe, Secretary, Salers Cattle Society of the United Kingdom Ltd. www.saler-cattle-society.co.uk

johncrowe@salers-cattle-society.co.uk

PH: 01948667223



The 19th Annual General Meeting and the Autumn Leaves Conference held recently in Otago went off very successfully with everyone having a good time. Many of the participants gathered at the Pacific Park Hotel in Dunedin for a get together dinner. We met up with Micheal and Helena Manley and Steve McCourt from Australia who had flown in the previous day and

Kathy Adams from Canada. Although the cost of getting to Dunedin proved a little too high and the first evening was very misty and wet (real Scottish mist) the relaxed atmosphere set the stage for the rest of the trip. The AGM started late and the business was easily handled. There were problems getting the data projector to work but finally, due to a couple of laptop computers most of us were able to see the NZ presentation that was compiled by Mary Harvie for the International Conference in France. Thank you again Mary

for that great showcase of Salers in NZ.

Saturday morning dawned clear but cool and by 9 a.m. we were on the buses headed towards Oamaru. Unfortunately due to the very dry weather and shortage of feed along the coast we were not able to view the Bowally stud of Alan and Winsome Gibson, but one of their main herd sires Apollo, a nine year old bull was able to be seen along with the cattle at Raeburn stud. Bazel and Myra Severinsen purchased Apollo from Bowally last season. He has passed on his quiet temperament and great body to progeny at Bowally and the Severinsens are very keen to see his calves this coming season. He ran with 60 cows and still looked a picture at the viewing. Also on view was a young French blood bull Titan purchased from John Smith and Anne Pacey's Loch Amber stud.

After a good lunch supplied by the local Lions Ladies it was on to Nenthorn where John and Bill Harvie had a great herd of cows and some excellent two year old and yearling bulls for us to view. The weather had turned from sun to cool so the lovely afternoon tea that Mary had prepared and the warm fires were very welcome.

By this time, as often happens we were running very late so the call was made to the hotel in Alexandra warning them that dinner should be late rather than earlier. A very interesting bus drive through the back roads often following the rail trail, with glimpses of brightly coloured autumn trees finally delivered us in the dusk to the Centennial Court Hotel where a quick change saw everyone in their glad rags ready for the celebration dinner. Right on cue the piper made his appearance and piped in the 21st birthday cake which was cut by Bill Harvie with help from and encouragement from Mary. The piper made another apperance later on, in disguise and entertained us with a very humorous

Scottish monolouge and ditty. They say laughter is good for the soul. It was certainly good for the digestion. Great Meal!
Sunday again dawned misty and

Sunday again dawned misty and cool but a great treat awaited everyone as we drove up to Earncleugh Station to meet Alistair Campbell. This is a very vast station carrying high quality Merino sheep, Angus and Hereford and Composite cattle. I'm sure the men of the trip could describe the operation much better than I, but seeing those magnificent fine and ultra fine wooled rams, and realising what



Happy 21st New Zealand.

a hard environment the stock and men alike had to survive in was a real eye opener. The bulls were a credit to the operation and it was so interesting listening to Alistair explaining what they were trying to develop for their high country farming conditions. We took on board the comments he made about the problems he had with the Salers but there was a definite Salers influence in some of the composite bulls. He also still has some first cross Salers cows in the run herd. It would be interesting to see what he would do with the modern quiet Salers stock available today. With the sun coming through we finally were able to see the wide Otago views, rocks, mountains and patches of green. Then on to Longview where we again met the Piper but this time in his normal role of Ken Bain our President. Again we saw excellent examples of the Salers breed, this time on the irrigated Millers Flat country. With its history of Gold mining and Scottish settlement in many areas Millers Flat was the ideal place to finish our tour. Warm Autumn sun, lovely garden setting, great cooking for a BBQ lunch and Dawn and Kens wonderful hospitality epitomised the whole feeling of the tour. It was one of friendship, sharing and strengthening the bonds that bind us together as breeders, users and friends of Salers cattle in NZ. Thank you to all who made it possible, and thank you all for coming.



Mike Manly at I ongview.



"Did you hear the one about the cattle breeders convention."



Longview Heifers



Land of the long white cloud.



Lovely white fleeces on these rams



"I wish...I wish...I wish...



"Theres money in sour cherries, John."



"Where are we Ken?"



"Hi Kathy!"



"Quick...lock up your daughters!"

Happy 21st Birthday Salers New Zealand!

2007 was the 21st Anniversary of the NZ Salers Association and to celebrate this milestone a property tour and dinner was organized in the Otago region to combine with the Associations AGM at Dunedin. Micheal and Helena Manley and myself represented Australia and Kathy Adams, the Canadian Association's secretary, was also in attendance.

The Manleys and I enjoyed the first afternoon travelling on the restored Taieri Gorge Railway and consequently were late arriving back for dinner with the New Zealand members! Once dinner was over it was on with the A.G.M. - with reports given on the I.S.F. conference and new semen sires and also with a very favourable financial report.

Next morning we headed off in the coach, picked up Bill and Mary and then arrived at Basel and Myra's Raeburn stud to view lines of Salers stock on display which was followed by lunch, Salers steak of course! Basel and Myra were about to move out of the hills to another farm that would be easier on Basels knees. I hope that they have settled in well. Feeling quite full and contented we then headed off for the Harvey families Nenthorn stud. Taking in the sights of a large open cut gold mine along the way.

The Nenthorn herd, founded by Bill and Mary was one of the first established in New Zealand with genetics used that I had not come across in Australia, and so this was of particular interest. Of course after viewing the cattle it was off up to the house for some afternoon tea, and what a spread it was.

We headed off again, for a place called Alexandra somewhere up in the hills. It was dark when we finally arrived after a very interesting trip taking in the sights and history of the region. After a quick freshen up and some dinner the 21st cake was piped in by Ken and cut by Bill and Mary. The evening progressed with speeches, fines and an appearance by a mysterious Scottish

comedian complete with pipes and kilt. Lots of laughs thanks Ken.

A good nights sleep and we were away again. Just a short trip to Campbells Earncleugh Station. Alistair the proprieter had fine wool Merino rams in the shed for us to look at. All the sheep were electronically tagged and every fleece weighed. The property is high up with the snow line visible. It had only been recording an average of 8 inches of rain in recent years, however there were a series of shallow ditches bringing water down from the snow line and irrigating most of the property that we saw. Rabbits had been a major problem over the years with the station spending as much as 1/3 of it's income on rabbit control. Alistair then took us to view his sale bulls consisting of three breeds ~ Angus, Herefords and a composite. He said the composite was by far the most popular and he sold about 80 bulls a year and that he had a Salers influence in some of his cows that he bred his composites from and would be interested to find some moderate framed, well muscled and docile Salers to re-introduce them into his herd.

We boarded the bus again just as the cloud was beginning to lift off the mountains and had an enjoyable trip to Ken and Dawn Bains Longview stud. There was a magnificent line of heifers on display at the Longview yards as well as young bulls by Challenger, Vivid Black and others. A BBQ lunch was laid on and we had a bit of a talk about the trip before going our seperate ways. We were dropped back at the airport at Dunedin and although the trip was short it was very memorable and most enjoyable. I look forward to repaying the hospitality given and reconnecting with our friends from Aotearoa in May 2008.

Steve McCourt

AGRI-GENE PTY LTD YOUR FRENCH SOURCE FOR THE BEST SALER GENETICS



RINGO transmits very good muscle and Feet & Legs. Progeny are very well balanced with plenty of softness. Use on cows with added frame to bring back the thickness. His dam was Champion at the French Saler feature SPACE Show in 2004.

GPM: Gardien

SIRE: Niki

GMM: Ingrid

GPP: Hardy

DAM: Nina

GMP: Bayonne



SANCY is a well balanced Igor son with an excellent ratio of Muscle to Frame with very good growth. Sons shows plenty of muscle and his females have very good maternal qualities - use to bring back added muscle and growth.

GPM: Dauphin

SIRE: Igor

GMM: Daisy

GPP: Lama

DAM: Olympe

GMP: Homelie



GITAN is the bull who marks the Saler breed having been very famous and shows fantastic Indexes. He is one of the most complete sires with a French weaning Index of 116 and excellent maternal qualities.

GPM: Anguetil

SIRE: Etna

GMM: Sierra

GPP: Ringo

DAM: Sultane

GMP: Jonquille

Agri-Gene also has Numero, Variegois and Texas semen available from Sersia France



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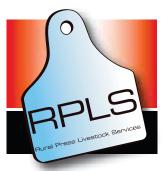




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A COMMERCIAL CATTLEMAN'S PERSPECTIVE

BY F.A. HILL

Following my election as Victorian representative to the Federal board of the Australian Salers Association, I was asked to form a committee to formulate ideas to promote the breed. First and foremost it is important that I get my own ideas recorded and sent to Steve McCourt for the benefit of the coming magazine and it's readers. My approach to breeders has been to speak to them on their properties and talk through their ideas and impress on them the need to come up with new information. Salers are outstanding cattle, there are excellent genetics in Australia and a huge bank of semen is available. Salers breeders must become better at talking and impressing upon other cattlemen and women the benefits of Salers. Here are my ideas on "Why Salers have been profitable to me"

FERTILITY:

The number one factor influencing profitability of the Cow/Calf operator is fertility and Salers are very fertile. Cows have a calf each year and can produce more on top feed. Cows have a long thick hairy winter coat enabling them to concieve at a lower fat score than other breeds especially British cattle. They are highly feed efficient in cold conditions.

Salers bulls are extremely active and after serving a cow move to another and serve her quickly, unlike British bulls that stay and guard one cow after she has been served. Less bulls are needed with Salers reducing costs considerably. Lake Genoe Panther has served 460 cows in three years from Nov '04 to November '07.

CALVING EASE:

My Salers pelvic bones are 30% wider than my Poll Hereford cows and 10% deeper. This means I can keep all my heifers and join them as early as 9 months and eliminate all calf pulling. One heifer calved in May 2002, the drought year, has been carefully monitored:

first calf - arrived @ 18 months - Oct 2003 / sold July 2004 \$600 second calf - arrived @ 30 months - October 2004 / sold May 2005 \$400

third calf - arrives at 42 months - October 2005 / sold June 2006 \$550

fourth calf - arrived at 55 months - November 2006 / sold December 2007 \$550

Salers have recorded much smaller calves in US study compared to Angus and Charolais. Measurements of the circumference of shoulders and hips prove Salers have a very slim feotal shape and therefore greater calving ease and less calf deaths. this completely debunks the theory of wide hips in cows and wide hips in calves causing calf deaths in the Salers breed.

FEED CONVERSION:

In a trial I conducted in 2005, 104 Angus sired calves by outstanding Angus bulls and 80 Salers sired calves, resulted in Salers returning 32% more than Angus - or over \$50,000 per annum in my operation. The two Angus bulls have been replaced by 1 Salers bull (the legendary breeder of the Angus Phil Collins was sure they would "outperform your Salers", and when I rang him with the figures he almost fell off his chair in shock!).

CARCASE:

Salers are descended from French dairy Salers and dairy cattle are noted for their marbling. Marbling is an intra-muscular fat which melts on cooking and is vital for a good tasting meat. Tenderness is very important and a lack of tenderness, or toughness, is the major cause of dissatisfaction with steaks at eating houses. My Salers genetics with proven genes carrying MARBLING and TENDERNESS will equal any other cattle in the business with the only exception being the very best Waygu genetics, but my cattle would beat them on yield.

Another important factor is yield and some Salers yield as high as 64% dressed weight. However there is a tragedy - higher

yield means more muscle and less marbling and tenderness. This is my next challenge - increase yield but not lose marbling and tenderness.

The fourth important factor is fat cover. When a carcase is hanging up in the chiller it must have 6-8mm of fat cover evenly distributed to prevent the meat from drying out and becoming tough. Carcases are often hung in the chiller for 7 - 14 days to age or tenderise the muscle fibres. British breeds often record fat cover of 30mm, this is extremely wasteful. Firstly excessive fat has to be trimmed by the butcher reducing yields and profits from the carcase, and secondly the meat buyer will discount the excessive fat cover at the point of sale reducing returns to the grower. Thirdly it takes 5 times as much feed to convert 1 kg of fat compared to 1 kg of muscle this is why Salers are far more efficent. They convert to meat and have ideal levels of fat cover - they genetically trim the carcase. Salers heifers make steer prices and cows sell for top money because of their higher yields and lower fat covers. Salers breeders must concerntrate on maximising tenderness as this reduces hanging time and gives butchers a quicker return on a carcase.

DOCILITY:

French Salers are shedded in winter so they are used to being handled by humans. Some Salers have given problems in Australia and temperament if of concern to all breeds. I use a docility test with my cattle in the crush - quick tempered or wild ones "five". The wild ones are no suprise anymore as I know before they go into the race what they will score. A quiet temperamnet leads to a more tender carcase and wild ones cause the meat industry huge losses with bruising and a dark cutter that doesn't bleed at slaughter. A new system of pumping saline through the carcase after the beast is stunned used by Hardwick Kyneton will eliminate dark cutters.

By and large my cattle are very quiet and it is important to keep it that way with careful selection of future sires.

COLOUR:

Most of my Salers are black and there was a premium for black cattle. However now there is a premium for yield, so good yielding red cattle will beat lower yielding black cattle. There are many low yielding Angus about and top yielding Salers over them, either red or black, makes sense. I have been buying British cows at Kyneton to put with my high value Salers bulls.

METHANE:

Cattle are ruminants and when they belch or pass gas they release methane gas, the second most important greenhouse gas after carbon dioxide, into the atmosphere. Salers are the most efficient feed converters possibly twice as good as other breeds so therefore release much less gas. I believe that Salers are therefore the GREENEST cattle on Earth and my cattle are amongst the elite! Salers breeders would do well to acknowledge this fact "that Salers release the least methane into the atmosphere" and any cattleman seeking to be conscious of the environment should increase the percentage of Salers on their properties by buying Salers bulls.

MILKING ABILITY:

Some breeders are obsessed with milking ability and raising good vealers - getting their names in the paper! A good beef cow will yield 8-12 litres of milk per day and if she has a Handline Eschuteon she will milk well into pregnancy. I select for moderate milkers as on dry country high milk is NUMBER ONE enemy of fertility.

WEIGHT FOR AGE:

Salers are noted for their high growth or weight for age. High growth is often said by some as detrimental to fetility, I believe this is nonsense. My high growth heifers get in calf at 19 months

unlike some of the slow growth breeds that join at 18-30 months. One of my major critisicms of show and stud cattle is their breeders like to grow them out and join them late to make them more appealing to the show judges.

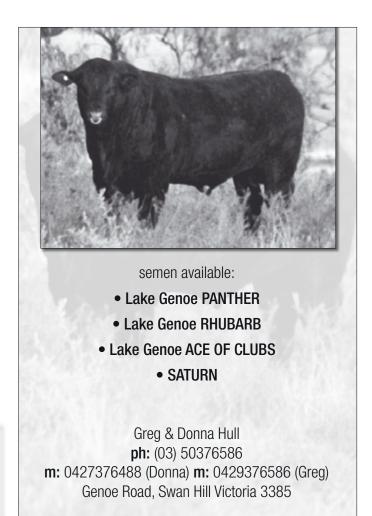
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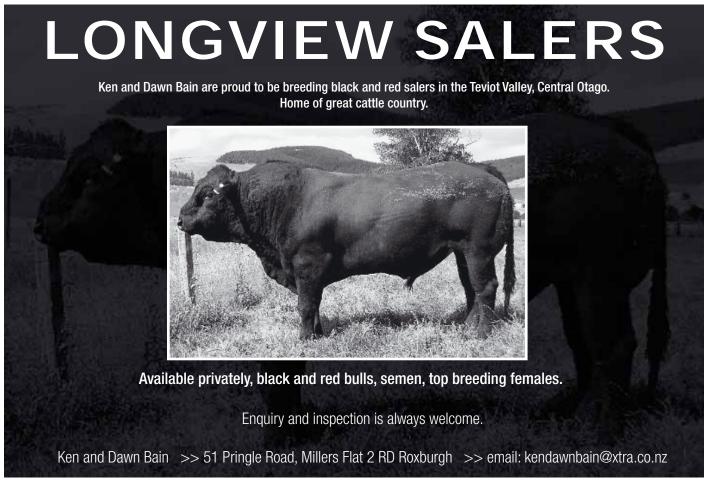
All my life I have been trying to make my cattle bigger on less feed. There are far too many vealer bulls used as stud sires which costs breeders like me a lot of money - they grow too slow and therefore we have to wait longer for our money. Big, faster growing cattle make the carcase weight faster.

The first thing that impressed me with Salers was that they can gain up to 2kg per day on a high roughage diet. This is outstanding. I went out in 1993 and bought two bulls having never seen a Salers before. So Should you.

Frank Hill 2 January, 2008

A reminder that the letter for 2008 is "D".





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French breeder Herve Lacamonte, nominated NZ Salers Herd *Ngaio Glen* as his herd of choice when wanting to fast track the "polled" gene through his salers herd, because of *Ngaio Glen's* large gene pool of diverse genetics.

First Cow Selected: Ngaio Glen U7

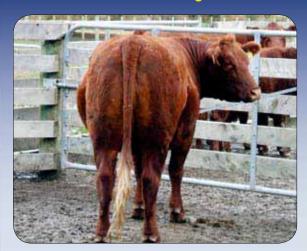


EBV	BW	MILK	200	400	600
NG U7	+.8	+6	+12	+9	+15

U7s sire Optimum Polled Apollo 303A, a Canadian bull who has bred well at Hgaio Glen. Her Dam NG Quoi Q38 "a top" cow leaving excellent progeny. Q38 was Grand Champion Salers at New Zealand Royal Show 1996. U7 is the flush sister to Ngaio Glen Ultra, U4, was the winner of the prestigious NZ All Breed Yearling Bull at Hamilton Royal Show in 2001, and has been used heavily as a herd sire at Ngaio Glen. The sire of U7 embryos, "Springdale Saturn 19J" was seen and selected by me in Montana at the World Salers Conference 1999. He is homzygous polled and heterozygous black. He has outstanding growth rates and muscling and extreme docility.

EBV	BW	Milk	200	400	600
Saturn 19J	+2.2	+2	+20	+32	+35

Second Cow Selected: Ngaio Glen Y71



EBV	BW	MILK	200	400	600
NG Y71	+2.0	+6	+18	+30	+31

Y71 is by Springdale Saturn 19J out of our most productive cow family. Y71 first calf, A127, was used as a yearling herd sire, at Ngaio Glen, and then sold to Four Creeks Salers, as a herd sire (First choice of our 2005 calf drop). Sire of Y71 embryos is GGT Polled Challenger 156J. Challenger is an American bull who was imported by Steve McCourt and was Australasian link sire in 2004. He is homozygous and heterozygous black. He has very light birthweights and medium growth, coupled with calving ease and excellent docility.

EBV	BW	Milk	200	400	600
Challenger	-1.7		+5	+7	+2
156J					

NGAIO GLEN SALERS

Ngaputahi Station, Pohangina Road RD 14 Ashhurst, New Zealand

- Forbes Cameron: p (06) 329 4050 f (06) 329 4051 Angus Cameron: p (06) 329 4711
 - email: cameron.family@clear.net.nz

Factors Affecting Semen Quality in Bulls.

The Tararua Breeding Centre has been doing a unique service for the last 15 years which is the AV collection of bulls on farm. This service has been brought about by the demand for a humane and complete method of testing a bulls ability to get his cows in calf.

We fertility test over 3,000 rising 2 year old sale bulls over a 4 month period and over the years have found the Salers that we test have improved in temperament to where they are now one of the 3 quietest breeds that we test. Temperament has a huge bearing on the ability of the semen collectors to be able to get a semen sample from the bull while he is mounting an in heat female. The reason we do this test with an AV (artificial vagina) is so that we can repeatedly collect the bull in order to see any patterns in his semen, if it is of a lower quality on the first ejaculate.

There are a number of factors that may affect a bull's semen quality and his ability to get a cow in calf. These include:-

- Trauma to the testicles
- Testicular tumours
- Severe inadequate nutrition
- Severely overfed bulls
- · Excessive scrotal fat
- External heat stress
- · Scrotal frostbite or super cooling
- · Diseases eg, BVD
- Epididymitis or other infections in the reproductive tract
- Bulls lying down for prolonged periods
- High oestrogen intake, e.g. some feeds such as sub clover
- Inguinal hernias
- Transport stress
- Twinning with a female
- Excessively small or large testicle.
- Heritable problems Hypoplasia
- Cryptorchidism.
- Genetic defects
- Bull age

Each of these can have either a short or long term effect on the bull's ability to get his cows in calf and the recovery time for the semen quality varies as to the cause. Some of these factors can be treated to improve fertility; others can render the bull infertile.

Semen production from beginning to ejaculation takes around 62 days. Therefore any problem that interferes with the commencement of semen production will still be evident in the semen 2 months later.

Bulls' testicles are very susceptible to body temperature changes and can alter fertility. It only takes 1°C rise to be a concern.

Example:- If a bull is lame today, treated tomorrow and is better in say a couple of days then the likelihood of his semen quality being affected for a prolonged period is less than if the bull is left without treatment for an extended period. The faster you can treat the bull the fewer problems you will have with fertility.

When looking at morphology of the semen, ie the appearance of individual sperm cells, we are able to assess the likelihood of long or short term problems depending on the degree and variation of individual sperm. For example, if we see a high proportion of Protoplasmic droplets then this tells us that the epididymus has been affected (the area of sperm maturation). By talking to the owner of the bull it can be ascertained if there is an obvious reason for this morphological problem. If there has been no obvious problem with the bull then further investigation will be needed.

When a bull fails a fertility test, on a set day, it does not mean that he is infertile. It takes a second test 6 to 8 weeks later to see if the problem has been rectified, or to determine the extent of the problem if it is still persisting.

Therefore, it is very important that you do not disregard any slight changes in your bull. Fertility testing your bulls well in advance of mating ensures that if there are any problems, you are aware of them and can either rectify them or look for another bull.

Robyn How Managing Director Tararua Breeding Centre Ltd Woodville New Zealand

Selection of Sheath Structure -Guidelines

Selecting bulls with good sheath structure is important as loose, hanging sheaths can prove counterproductive to profitability. Poor structure can impair the ability to serve to full capacity and can lead to foreskin prolapse or penile injury. Mostly the problem is a genetic concern and bulls with loose or suspect sheaths should be avoided.

A quick inspection will allow identification of bulls with pendulous sheaths/drooping foreskins which are usually resultant from poor muscle development at the front of the foreskin (cranial)

or from a prolapse of the foreskin lining due to poor retractor muscle development (caudal). The high correlation between poor development of one muscle group to the other means that bulls often display both conditions.

Sheath development refers to the angle Desirable Sheath

of injury to the penis due to repeated mounting and falling. This can lead to lower servicing rates and lower conception rates. Ideally sheaths should be trim and streamlined to the body. Poor development of the cranial muscle resulting in a pendulous

sheath means the foreskin hangs perpendicular to the ground. At servicing the muscle fails to contract enough to allow full directional control of the penis.

Foreskin prolapse is when the foreskin is turned inside out and protrudes beyond the orginal forskin opening. As the inner lining

of the foreskin is tender and prone to irritation and injury, the problem, if severe or prolonged can result in permanant prolapse, secondary infections, swelling and abscesses.

Poor caudal or retractor muscle development can cause prolapse of the foreskin lining often seen developing with

age. The purpose of the retractor muscle is to hold the rear of the foreskin as it unfolds during erection and then to retract the penis once servicing is complete. In severe cases the lining of the foreskin is permanantly exposed and cannot be retracted.

Loose,

Undesirable Sheath

of the foreskin in relation to the abdominal wall. High angles result from excessive skin development, however there is large variation in both the angle of the sheath and the amount of foreskin at the tip of the penis. If the sheath is at too great an angle copulation can be hampered, with a potentially high risk

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Cows and calves in early Spring 2007. Calves sired by Apollo, Optimum Polled Apollo & Lochamber Titan.



18 month old heifers in calf January 2008.

Inspection Welcome:

BT & MR Severinsen 658 te Moana Road, R.D. 21 Geraldine New Zealand ph/fax: 03693 9009 email: myra-bazel@xtra.co.nz



18 month old heifers in calf January 2008.



Grass is Grass! Or is it?

Bruce Davison

Knowing how grass grows and how to manage grazing can have a significant effect on the amount of fodder available for livestock production. In his book Grass Productivity, André Voisin clearly shows rotational grazing produces 200% to 300% more grass than set stocking; the drier the climate - the greater the effect[i]. This book is regarded as a "must read" in the majority of soil science books I have read. It was written after a 10 year study of grass productivity and the grazing habits of cattle by Voisin and in conjunction with several national agricultural science bodies in at least 6 countries in Europe, and is still today considered the most comprehensive study of grass production. Authors such as Arden Anderson, Gary Zimmer, Neil Kinsey, Harvey Lisle, Philip Callahan, Allan Savory and many others who have studied the subject worldwide all quote Grass Productivity as the "bible of pasture management."

When grass is harvested, the initial regrowth is produced by stored root energy. When leaf length is sufficient for solar energy collection, photosynthesis takes over as the primary energy source. The plant then directs this energy to its roots to restore root energy reserves to enable it to survive should it be harvested again. If livestock remain on a pasture long enough to rebite this regrowth before root energy is restored, then further regrowth slows significantly. In warm weather regrowth to a biteable length occurs in approximately 4 days, meaning livestock should not stay on a pasture longer than 3 days. As livestock always graze the most palatable nutritious plants first, it can therefore be seen that in a set stocking management system the most nutritious plants disappear from the pasture first, leaving the pasture dominated by the least palatable plants.

André Voisins' study shows that cows harvest grass for 8 hours per day and eat at a rate of 90 bites per minute. Therefore the performance of cattle is determined by pasture quality, width of muzzle and heritable traits such as feed conversion ratios. In a study by John Hancock on grazing behaviour, Hancock shows how hereditary harvesting capacity may increase harvesting capacity in offspring by up to 63%[ii].

Thus it can be seen that through a better understanding of how to manage pasture, and attention to detail when selecting cattle to remain in the herd, performance and profitability can be significantly improved.

Pasture quality is a hard one to maintain when climatic conditions are unsuitable. On our property at Candelo over the past 9 years, long dry periods interspersed by short wet periods, mean the softer, highly digestible, "agronomically correct" grasses struggle to perform as we would like. The grasses that evolved in hot dry climates such as African Lovegrass thrive. African Lovegrass, Eragrostis curvula, is very efficient at taking in CO2 and coupled with a shallow root system for surface feeding and deep roots to tap into subsoil moisture and nutrients make it very tolerant of drought. The problem with Lovegrass is it's low digestibility. Eragrostis is represented by about 70 species in Australia, including 13 introduced species[iii]. In Victoria it was first reported in 1913 at Drouin and Warragul, in NSW it was favourably looked upon as a fodder plant as early as 1923. These introductions came from America and apparently were palatable to stock[iv]. E curvula is a highly variable plant. Many forms are so morphologically distinct that, in the past, they have been regarded as separate species, yet the common occurrence of apomixis (same genetic constitution) makes subspeciation doubtful[v]. Today E curvula is regarded as an unpalatable

My question here is: Is Lovegrass unpalatable in certain forms due solely to species variation or could this involve soil health? I ask this because the nutritive value of our Lovegrass has increased significantly since we have been mowing and applying liquid vermicast and digestibility has improved to a lesser degree.

As all biology is "environment dependent", then changing the soil environment must surely have an effect on the biology growing there.

Perhaps we should be putting more thought into our pasture species and including more drought tolerant plants that have higher digestibility than Lovegrass. These may then offer some competition and slow or stop the spread of Lovegrass during times of reduced groundcover. Further for those farmers who don't have Lovegrass this would provide feed during dry times. In that way we could better manage for the environment we have rather than the current trend of managing for the environment we want, as we know it isn't going to rain when we want.

To get the best production from Lovegrass, we have found keeping it short during it's growing season, September to May, produces the largest amount of fodder in it's most digestible early leaf stage. Surprisingly, the drier the conditions, the higher the nutrient density in this grass, peaking in February at 12.3% Brix[vi].

We fertilise our soil with liquid vermicast, a biological and soluble mineral fertiliser we make ourselves. We are finding this product increases soil biology, decompacts soil, raises soil pH, increases mineral availability and improves mineral balance, increases plant vigour and has increased plant nutrient density across all plants, including so-called weeds.

One very beneficial outcome of this management is water infiltration. At the beginning of February after a period of hot dry weather we received 127mm of rain in 12 hours. This was thunderstorm rain and included some very heavy falls. Our rate of infiltration was 97.5%. This was easily calculated as our dam held a known quantity of water before the rain and has a known catchment, so by dividing the increase in volume in the dam by the total that fell in the catchment the percentage of infiltration can be calculated. The reason for this high infiltration is high levels of soil biology (microbes). The A1 soil horizon (the biologically active layer of topsoil) has increased from 9cm to 22cm thus far in the 4 years since we started using mowing and vermicast as a management technique. On a district average our property is regarded as steep.

Through the use of the above fertiliser, the regular mowing of pasture, providing organic litter to feed soil microbes and rotational grazing, our pasture has become more dense and more vigorous, and problem weeds such as Fireweed are noticeably declining, in addition, legumes are flourishing. This also lifts soil carbon levels and potential fertility. I recently penned the phrase C+B=F=S. Carbon plus biology equals fertility equals sustainability, because Carbon is the element to which other elements bond, to form the molecules of life. However carbon requires biology in the form of microbes to form into humus. Humus on its own does not equal fertility, only potential fertility. Biology is required to realise this potential including plants. Plants in fact are essential, without plants soil loses its energy as plants are the collectors of energy through photosynthesis. Plants transfer up to 60% of the energy produced through photosynthesis into the soil via root exudation. The purpose of this is to feed the microbes which plants cultivate around their roots setting up a symbiosis where the plant feeds the microbe and the microbe supplies nutrient to the plant. This is a part of the natural nutrient cycle essential for the growth of healthy, minerally balanced plants. When synthetic soluble fertiliser is applied this symbiosis breaks down as the plant already has minerals on tap, resulting in minerally imbalanced plants, hence the decline in food quality since the advent of industrial farming practices.

At the end of the recent drought all of our cattle were in forward store to fat condition. For the 14 month old steers we sold early February, four days before rain arrived, we received a premium. The steers diet was 60% Lovegrass and 40% Paspalum and Phragmites from a dry swamp area and no supplementary feed. The remainder of the herds' feed was 80% Lovegrass and 20% Paspalum and Phragmites.

I believe animal performance is 80% nutrition and 20% genetics, yet from what I read, much time and effort is put into genetics and it seems much less time and effort goes into nutrition.

Whilst I may sing the praises of a particular management system, the true indicators are the performance of the livestock, the carrying capacity of the land, the sustainability of this performance and the overall health of the soil and farm environment.

When one studies enzymes (natures catalysts) and the natural elemental cycles, especially nitrogen, it is easier to understand how far greater production is achieved through the co-operation with rather than the subjugation of nature.

[i] Grass Productivity, pp 19-22.

[ii] "Studies in Monozygotic Twins. iv Uniformity Trials: Grazing Behaviour", published in the New Zealand Journal of Science and Technology 2.(32), pp 22-59.

[iii] Grasses of Temperate Australia. Lamp et al p 168.

[iv] Breakwell, 1923

[v] Grasses of Temperate Australia, pp 170-171.

[vi] Brix is the concentration of sugar in solution.

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Bruce Davison. bruce@candelosalers.com 0428 596 048

IN A NUTSHELL AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT OF SALERS BREED ~ web definition by Liz Roan at UNE

"The number of interbreed championships that Salers have won since their introduction to Australia is phenomenal. This applies as much for interbreed feeding trials and carcase competitions as it does in the show ring.

Scientific studies and trials with other breeds in France, North America and Australia have consistently shown Salers and Salers-cross animals to have superior weight gains, to produce more live calves through fertility and calving ease and to convert feed more efficently.

At the Ladner grassfed trials in Victoria, salers or Salerscross steers had the highest weight gain in three of four consecutive years (about 40% better than average).

The Salers breed has cattle with a range of maurity patterns and finishing abilities. Consequently, a Salers bull can be purchased to produce the ideal product for any market from almost any herd of cows. This ability means more dollars of profit per hectare or per kilogram of feed.

Bos Indicus/Salers cross animals normally have short coats. Hair length of Salers varies and animals can be selected to suit the environment. The coat of Salers is very effective in preventing energy loss on cold winter nights and it would seem from many reports that it is a useful barrier against buffalo fly."

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ADD TODE





Bruce Davison with Lake Genoe Applause, enjoying a scratch.



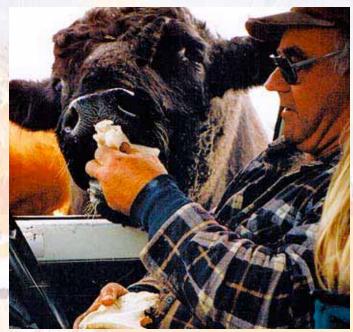
Reg Mickelborough and Bob Curtis, Royal Melbourne Show 2007.



Jarrod Dullard, winner of Junior Handler, Berwick Show 2006.



Paddy and Poddy.



Frank Hill feeds Black Jack a sandwich.



Royston Team.



Jeff Wood with Archer, Mt Gambier Show 2006



Bridie and Carrie



Abbey and Sage, Chudleigh Show.



Peter and Jenny Gregory, Melbourne Show 2007.



Maggie from Essendon gets friendly with I. Ripper.



Ingledew Team, Toowoomba National April 2008, William, Patricck and Daniel Manley.



Patrick and Daniel Manley with Ingledew Cahampions.



Waiting for the Interbreed, William and Brutus of Ingledew.

Get those cameras clicking.

2008 sees the inaugural SALERS PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION winning entry will recieve \$50 & appear as the cover of the 2009 Salers Australasian Magazine.

With remaining photos to be held for possible 2009 calendar
Judging will be held at the Directors Meeting In October 2008.

All submissions prior to this date to: Email: lewonga@eldersnet.com.au

Or snailmail to: Salers Photograph Comp c/- S. McCourt CMB MOORAK South AUSTRALIA 5291

Report on a Project to Evaluate New French Salers Sires for Use in Australia and New Zealand

By Peter Rogers, Salco Partners, Lang Lang, Victoria

During the International Salers Federation World Conference held in the village of Salers, France, from 15-17 September 2006, a group of 5 Australian and New Zealand Salers breeders got together to form a partnership to import semen from a number of leading French Salers bulls.

The rationale for forming this group was:

- 1 Members of the group collectively run about 800-900 Breedplan recorded Salers cows, which will allow a relatively rapid evaluation of the suitability of the selected French Al sires for use under Australian and New Zealand conditions.
- 2 Improved linkage and strengthening of Australia-NZ Salers Breedplan.
- 3 Injection of significant new genetics into the local Salers breed.
- 4 Simultaneous evaluation of several new bulls to reduce the risk associated with selecting just one.
- 5 Increased purchasing and negotiating power to help import semen at an economic price.

The approach to selecting sires was to limit ourselves to Salers beef sires listed in the French 2006 Salers Actualités Al magazine. These sires had semen available for immediate purchase which had been collected under export quarantine and health test conditions. Each of the 26 listed bulls was considered, and those of potential interest were evaluated further

by inspecting the bull where possible, its herd of origin, and any available progeny. For help with this I need to make special mention of Alain Havy, who is Chef de Projet Sud/Sud-Ouest, Service Aptitudes et Sélection des Races Allaitantes. Alain spent a very full day taking us to a large number of properties in the Salers region to look at different bulls and their progeny. Following this, a report with video and photographs of selected bulls and their progeny was circulated among the 5 group members.

Once the report had been digested and discussed by everyone, a bulk order of 500 straws from a total of 7 bulls was negotiated with Alexandre Osio at Sersia France. Sersia export over a million doses of French cattle Al semen per year to more than 50 countries. Agrigene in Australia and Brenco in New Zealand acted as agents for Sersia and assisted the venture by importing the semen and dealing with the relevant paperwork. The 7 French bulls from which semen was selected were Sancy, Ringo, Numero, Texas, Variégois, Précieux, Unkaei, with a limited amount of Nomade semen being subsequently added to the order. Approximately two thirds of the straws were shared between Forbes Cameron, John Druce, Ken Bain

and Basil Severinsen in NZ, with Peter Rogers in Australia taking the remainder.

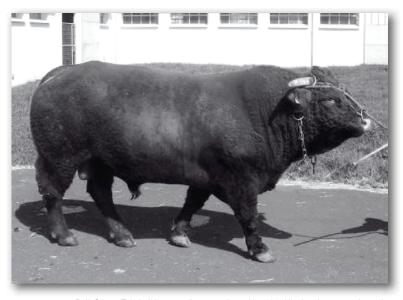
Semen arrived in Australia in early 2007 in time for a limited Al program with a group of autumn calvers at Salco partners. As a result, 11 females are due to calve to Ringo in February 2008.

A larger AI program was undertaken in November using semen from Sancy, Numero and Variégois. The first AI programs using semen from the new French sires will take place in NZ during November and December 2008.

Although sire evaluation is always a lengthy process, by mid 2009, when 200 day weights have been entered into Breedplan from the first drop of Al calves, we will have objective and subjective information on up to 7 new Salers sires from 5 of the larger Salers herds in Australia and NZ. Hopefully, we have now also established the contacts necessary to repeat this exercise in another 2-3 years, which will ensure that we keep adding elite French Salers genetics to the Australian and New Zealand herds.



Bull: Ringo. Has good muscular development on a smaller frame than Sancy with calving ease slightly better than average. Calves that were seen had excellent muscle and butt development, and were quiet.



Bull: Sancy. This bull has excellent muscle and is quiet. His daughters are also quiet and are solid animals. Sancy has good figures in France for growth from birth to weaning (CRsev), muscular development (DMsev) and skeletal development (DSsev). However, calving ease (IFNais) is reduced. Based on the French data, Sancy calves are about 2Kg heavier than average.

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SALERS - a first hand impression

from Lois Thomson as requested by New Zealand President of Salers Society, Ken Bain.

The qualities of Salers cattle were well known to David and Penny Roberts before they moved to New Zealand to farm at Crookston, at the foot of the Blue Mountains in West Otago.

As a stock agent and a farmer he was very aware of the qualities needed in good stock to perform well on the farm and to gain good prices in the sale ring

Mr Roberts attended a Royal show, near London, with a display of international cattle and had first seen the ancient breed of Salers from France and was very impressed with the Salers animals on display.

He discovered that Salers had the reputation for being very active cattle which grazed widely, are very intelligent, females made good maternal dams, were good milkers and bore calves with a low birth weight but which had a rapid growth rate.

He invested in some for his farm property as he believed that Salers were the way to go using them for breeding as suckler cows in his own farming operation.

On a later occasion Mr Roberts asked his son Tim to purchase six heifers at a sale in Scotland, giving him a cheque to pay for them, but a mistake in writing it out, led Tim to use one of his own, and then he decided to keep the heifers for himself.

Tim Roberts is now a Salers breeder and has since won Junior Male and Reserve Champion at Castle Douglas in Scotland and the Royal Show at Stoneleigh, in the Midlands.

"He believes the breed are very intelligent, the cows in range situation leaving the herd to go off on their own to calve and return with the calf in several days to introduce the calf, and will repeat the process if it believes it is not accepted at first", his father said.

Since coming to New Zealand the Roberts have bought Salers X cattle to 'finish'. Attending the Heriot Calf Sale for weaner cattle to fatten on his farm he bought a promising line of calves and then, unable to attend another sale at Millers Flat in the afternoon, asked the person he had spent the morning talking with if he could perhaps find some more calves of the type he had been buying and was delighted with the result.

They were from red Hereford cows crossed with a Polled Black Salers Bull which had been bred by the person he had talked with, New Zealand Salers Cattle Breed President, Ken Bain of Millers Flat.

"The Polled Black Salers are very similar to Angus cattle in looks, but are larger structured animals that develop in depth and 'flesh up very easily by the age of 20months, and kill out with dead weights between 320kgs-360kgs", Mr Roberts said.

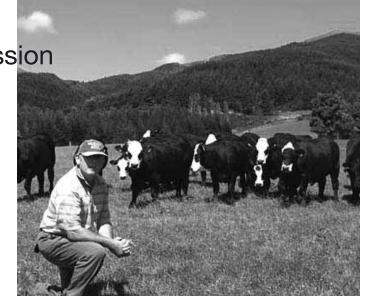
The Roberts have found them very quiet and easy to handle despite the commonly held belief that the Salers x animals tend to be fiery natured and easily upset.

"We have found this reputation to be totally ill founded in England and New Zealand and have had Salers x Friesian and Salers x Red Devon which is very placid," David Roberts said.

"We've always worked very quietly with the animals, talking as we go, never using dogs and never use sticks. The Salers are very intelligent and respond quickly to the handlers."

Recently a stock-buyer came on to their property and when the subject of Salers cattle was mentioned he rushed in to advise against them - "don't touch Salers they 'never flesh up, never





finish off, are hard to handle, aggressive mothers, etc, etc," he said

But when shown the Salers x Herefords was extremely impressed, for they were in marvellous condition, were set down for killing at 18 months, and they calmly and curiously came close to check out the truck and its passengers.

"I sometimes wonder, if handlers create their own problems, by rushing in, and with their own apprehension and nervousness create the wrong atmosphere to which the cattle react," David Roberts said. .

With the financial returns and ease of handling, the Roberts said "they would have no hesitation in keeping on with the Salers.

"If only a few more people would try a few instead of just listening to hearsay," David Roberts said.

Editors note: these cattle have since been sent to kill and at 18 months yielded at 320kg

website design logo + identity brochures business cards posters

so get mooooving and contact..

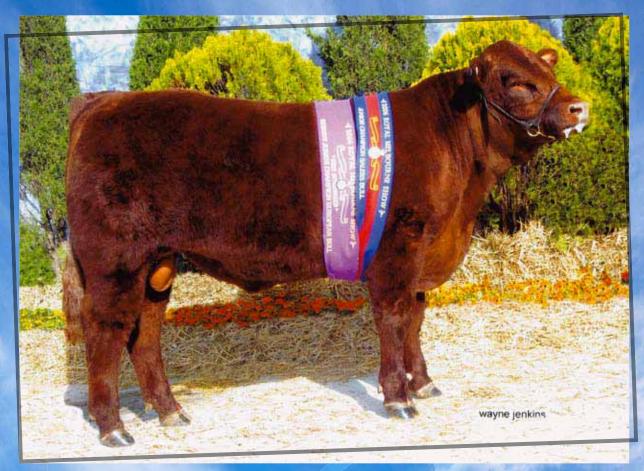
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SUPREME SALERS EXHIBIT Royal Melbourne Show 2006

Scattered Gums Albert Charles



SIRE: Murrabah Yahtzee DAM: Scattered Gums Wandin Valley DOB: 20/08/2005

SUPREME BEEF EXHIBIT DANDENONG SHOW 2006

Judges Comments: "A complete package, a real beef machine"



Bulls
Polled
Females
Red or Black
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SOFT DUNG = BETTER PRODUCTIVITY

In my 40 years of breeding and raising cattle and sheep in central Victoria for both meat and wool production, I've long been aware that you must maintain soft dung all year round to maximise production. This is essential to maintain livestock at optimum levels of productivity so as to achieve "high dollars per acre", and maximize "return on capital".

This is easily achieved on green high-protein pastures, but as pastures hay-off for extended dry periods, the protein level drops considerably from 15-22% down to 4-10%. Such low protein levels causes cattle to have hard dung and sheep to have hard round pellets of manure.

In order to achieve optimal production with sheep, the dung must be oval in shape. If it becomes round, I add more protein to their diet. Similarly with cattle, I frequently check for hard layers or lumps of dung, which indicates the need for diet intervention to increase protein.

While visiting the Farmfest livestock area, I noticed a wide variation in dung samples within the various cattle exhibits which reflected the fact that some were using stockfeeds deficient in protein. I observed that the livestock dung at one particular exhibit excelled in composition, and noted that the stockfeed used bore the Better Blend label.

Upon calling into the Better Blend Stockfeed site at Farmfest, I had a most informative chat with Account Executive Will Robinson, formerly a cattle producer in Zimbabwe, who was extremely informative of the various rations supplied by his company. Now that energy costs of grain have become so expensive per megajoule, his company has concentrated on protein rather than energy levels to provide a more cost effective mix.

As an instance, the Better Blend standard weaner 17% protein pellet can be substituted by the Better Blend Brigalow 25% protein pellet - yielding a 47% increase in protein for only an additional \$30/tonne price increase.

I received a "take home message" from Will to select higher protein levels in my dry feed mixes, in order to produce the telltale indicator of moist dung which equals better production.

Frank A Hill

NATIONAL BEEF 2008 BENDIGO

A visiting New Zealand contingent will spend considerable time at Bendigo Beef on their tour of Victoria and South Australia in May, 2008.

A round trip will begin in Melbourne on day 1 of their visit travelling to Malcolm Randall at Rossander in South Western Victoria / Warrnambool . Day 2 the group will visit Steve McCourt at Le Wonga in Moorak South Eastern South Australia and day 3 will see travel to Mark Trompf of Beauvista via Hamilton in Western Victoria.

The Group will spend 2 nights in Bendigo visiting the farms of Frank Hill (Knowsley Salers) and Marg Lavis (Belle Argent) as well as spending time at National Beef 2008. Many members of the ASA will be visiting Bendigo for the event either in a showing capacity or to enjoy the company of the New Zealand visitors at a joint dinner on Friday May 16th, 2008. A feature



of the evening wil be the auction of a framed, detailed and hand coloured print of an antique French Map as pictured.

A visit to Peter Rogers and Cheryl Bass of Salco at Lang Lang South East of Melbourne on May 18th will see the completion of the tour. We wish all those showing, visiting and touring the best of times and luck, a roundup of results and the tour will be posted to the website in the near future.

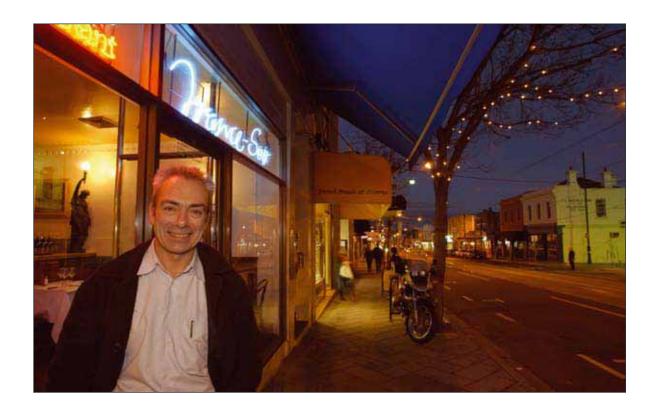
BENDIGO BEEF EXPO AUSTRALIAN SALERS ASSOCIATION AUCTION DONATION HEIFER

LE WONGA SALERS has this year donated LE WONGA CHAMILLE (b:26/03/2007) for auction at Bendigo Beef Expo with proceeds being donated to the Australian Salers Association

Sired by black French fullblood JAIS, CHAMILLES pedigree boasts many full blood lines including Eclair and Etna.

Full pedigree available.





France-Soir

"While some may sniff that this South Yarra Institution has hardly changed in 22 years it is just this familiar unchanging nature - and consistent quality – that has kept this narrow, dimly lit, mirrored dining room full and buzzing year after year. People watching here is a night's entertainment in itself. The food – perhaps a wonderful hearty French onion soup, an expertly grilled steak with excellent fries or pitch –perfect mousse au chocolat – keep things firmly in the comfort zone but are executed with a level of skill that dismisses any suggestion of complacency. Similarly, battered and fried lambs brains served simply with tender capers, lemon and lettuce, or tender grilled calamari teamed with semi-dried tomatoes and olives keep standards high and flavours robust. France-Soir's exciting and lengthy wine list – almost the restaurants raison d'être – is worth a visit in itself, the carefully selected labels offering proof that owner Jean-Paul Prunetti's passion for his restaurant and great wine remains unchanged."

The Age Good Food Guide 2008

In January 2007 Jean-Paul Prunetti settled in South Gippsland on a 620 acre farm with the long term goal of breeding up a herd of Saler cattle in order to supply his restaurant with Saler meat. Late that same January he was fortunate to purchase stud cattle from Greg and Donna Hull; over the ensuing 12-months Jean-Paul has had the pleasure of watching his herd increase in size to 24 head with another 10 calves due shortly. Whilst he is still a long way from selling his own meat at France-Soir, Jean-Paul is keen to see the restaurant supplied with Saler meat on a regular basis. Jean-Paul is contactable on the numbers below should you be interested.

Patron Jean-Paul Prunetti Open daily Noon - 3pm, 6pm – Midnight 11 Toorak Road South Yarra

Restaurant: 03 9866 8569 Office: 03 98668015 Web: www.france-soir.com.au

BRED IN THE WEST TO BE THE BEST



Jillgary Executive - Brunswick, Bridgetown and Margaret River Interbreed Champion 2005





Ian Colin Blake

20.10.1932 - 16.07.2007

It was with much sadness that we farewelled Ian Blake in July 2007.

lan was a long time member of the ASA, serving as South Australian President and was a man truly dedicated to the Salers breed.

Many years of breeding red polls formed the basis of the first herd lan crossed with Salers semen in the early 90's. Ian soon realised that there was much to be gained by breeding Salers. Subsequent investigation of several Salers herds and resulting purchases formed the basis of lans Nyoka herd of large framed full blood cows who often topped local markets and who indeed still hold the record Mt Gambier saleyard cow price since 2004. Ian was a man with much knowledge of and passion for his cattle, and an important member of the Anglican Ministry in Mt Gambier - lans voice was truly stellar.

He will be and is a missed and valued voice for Salers also. C'mon the Navy Blues.



WEBSITE UPDATE

The Salers website has a new address which is

salersaustralia.com

This new address has been linked to the old address: http://salers.une.edu.au so typing either address in will find the website. The site is currently being reviewed and updated with completion anticipated by mid-June 2008. The new site will contain many features designed for members and those seeking information on the breed and society. It is proposed that the magazine be posted on the site to view and download which will potentially broaden distribution.

A 'news' link will host any show or trial results, reports, photos, articles or updates that are forwarded by members at any time. A calender of events will be refreshed on a regular basis and information pages and facts sheets can be downloaded and printed. Membership, council and cattle databases will be included on the site also.

Members are encouraged to forward information for inclusion to:

Jenni McCourt

Email: lewonga@eldersnet.com.au

Postal: CMB Moorak, South Australia, 5291 Fax: (08) 87268107 / Ph: (08) 8726 8109

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations go to Tasmanias Rebecca Quirk and Reg Woodiwiss who married on 5th April 2008. The ASA wishes you all the best in your married lives together.



WEDDING BELLS



Congratulations to New Zealands Mike and Cushla on their 2007 marriage.

AND THE WINNER IS...

In 2007 the Australian Salers Association offered for raffle 1 Salers steer or carcase with the animal kindly donated by Ingledew Salers.

Drawn on 01/12/2007at France-Soir restaurant in Toorak by Jo Bailey, the lucky winner was Maureen Gillan of Dalby in Queensland. Maureen accepted her prize as dollars after slaughter and sale of the raffled steer. The 700kg, 22 month old steer was killed by Swift Australia Pty Ltd at Dinmore in Queensland yielding a carcase weight of 449kg with an average fat depth of 14mm. The carcase yielded 64.14% for a net return of \$1257.20.

Congratulations go to Maureen and many thanks go to Micheal & Helena Manley for their efforts and donation.



Congratulations Frank Hill

Frank Hill must be congratulated on his consecutive participation in the Weekly Times Business Awards 2006 and 2007. The Awards are presented by the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria across all agricultural sectors recognises farm businesses that demonstrate innovation and business practices that maximise productivity and profitability, thus shaping the future of Australian agribusiness. Franks dedication to using a wide range of methods to maximise tenderness and productivity in his Salers and Angus cattle has seen him placed amongst the final qualifiers in both instances. One judge is quoted as commenting that Frank applied an "excellent use of cross-breeding hybrid vigour" and urged him to look at "alternative marketing strategies away from local sale yards, to capitlise on his quality product". Frank uses GeneStar technology to detect tenderness and marbling characterisics from hair samples taken from his bulls as well as weighing GeneStar results and estimated values from various different breed sales and catalogues. Latest samples have given favourable feedback to Frank about his Knowsley bulls. On a scale of 1 - 8, with 8 being the highest score:



GeneStar 2 marbling /5 tenderness /7 feed efficency, GeneStar 2 marbling / 7 tenderness / 6 feed efficency, GeneStar 3 marbling / 8 tenderness / 7 feed efficency, with the final score for this bull totalling a fantastic 18 star rating.

Youth in NSW

One of the most pleasing comments we can make about Youth in NSW is that we had three generations from the Gregory Family preparing, leading and tending to the Salers exhibits at the Royal Canberra Show. Peter Gregory, his son Scott, and Scott's two boys Jason and Todd...were a pleasure to see at the Canberra Show.

Jason and Todd have started to take an active interest in the preparation and handling of the show team and it was great to see them both entered in their very first Junior handler class at Canberra Royal, they did both themselves and the breed proud with the way in which they handled their heifers. Todd then showed Selwood Brigadier in his age group class and won Senior Champion Bull and Jason showed the heifer, Selwood Beguile for Junior champion Female. Their next project will be to break in and show two of our young bull calves.

News Flash.....Candelo Salers.

17th April 2008, Bruce and Heidi Davison sold two, grass fed only, Salers/Angus crossbred steers 'over the hooks' to Cargill Beef Australia. The two were 22 months and 24 months of age, and carcass weights were 282.5kg and 315kg respectively, and returned \$949.20 and \$1,580.40. We received \$3.36 per kilogram, on the same day the 'Over the Hooks Price' quoted on page 53 of 'The Stock and Land" April 17, was \$2.90 and \$2.85 respectively for this class of cattle. They reported an Eye Muscle Area of 68 cms and 94 cms, and a P8 Fat score of 8 and 6. We got the top price for our steers on the B-double load of steers that went out of the Bega Valley that day to Cargill's, we even got a better price than our Stock Agent who had his steers on the same load!! Our Agent says "You've got them all talking about Salers".

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2008

May	2-4 1-3 14-18 27-3	Tocal Field Days, Paterson, NSW Ag-Fest Rural Trade Fair, Launceston Closing date for entries Brisbane Show National Beef Show, Bendigo Vic June Casino Beef Week, Casino, NSW	
June	11-14 12-14 27	Farmfest, Kingsthorpe via Toowoomba, Qld New Zealand National Agricultural Field Days, Hamilton NZ Primex, Casino NSW Closing dates for stud beef entries Adelaide Show	
July	18-19 14-17 20-26	Mudgee Small Farm Field Days SA Junior Heifer Expo, Adelaide SA QCL Southern Qld Beef Week	
August	7-16 19-21 29-6	Brisbane Royal Show Ag-Quip Field Days, Gunnedah NSW Sept Adelaide Royal Show	
September	27- Oct 4	Ag-Show, Toowoomba, Qld Henty Field Days, Henty NSW Melbourne Royal Show Perth Royal Show	
October	7-9 12-14 18-19 21-23 22-25	Elmore Field Days, Elmore Vic Launceston Royal Show Murrumbateman Field Days, Murrumbateman NSW Australian National Field Days, Orange NSW Hobart Royal Show	
November	7-8	Farming Small Areas Expo, Clarendon NSW	
December		Entries close for Canberra Show 2009	
January 2009		Entries close for Sydney Show 2009	
April	10	Good Friday April-Sydney Royal Easter Show	
June	13-28 27-28	International Salers Federation (ISF) tour in UK Planned meeting days for ISF in	
		Edinburgh, Scotland	

Knowsley Salers

38 years of continuous selection for fertility, doing ability and calving ease with Salers introduced into the Knowsley herd in 1993, has resulted in the specialized production of outstanding steers and heifers for feedlots. Stock today demonstrate yields suitable for both domestic markets and marbling for export markets, with heifers joined at 9 months producing 2 calves or \$1,000 before their third birthday.

KNOWSLEY CATTLE MAKE ME MONEY AS THEY WILL FOR YOU.

The Knowsley herd is based on elite Lake Genoe Salers bulls: Jupiter, Rhubarb, Black Jack, Scamp, Ace of Clubs, U1, U2, Vegemite, Panther, Meatmarket and Keith Miller and outstanding Angus bulls from Te Mania, Merrigrange and Merridale. Also 20 elite stud females from Lake Genoe, Bonholme and Beartooth, with 90% of the Knowsley herd being black, 500 cows now run with 1,000 fx ewes (10,000 DSE).

All sires are GeneStar tested with outstanding results vindicating my judgement.

SURPLUS BULLS, FEMALES and SEMEN FOR SALE.

Sires in Use



LAKE GENOE U-2 63" Hip / 1300 kg GeneStar 0-5-5, 860 kg@ 20 months "The best bull used in 38 years"



LAKE GENOE PANTHER 62" Hip / 1100 kg GeneStar 3-7-6, 960 kg @ 28 months "Outstanding consistent breeder"



LAKE GENOE MEATMARKET 60" Hip / 1000 kg GeneStar 0-5-8 Rhubarb / Goldbar cross

Frank A. Hill

PO Box 507, Heathcote VIC 3523

p: 03 5439 1240 m: 0429 391 240 e: fah@harboursat.com.au w: www.knowsleysalers.com.au



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SEA GRASS EXTRACT

Sea Grass Extract has over 90 different minerals and nutrients and has a very high "amino acid" content.

ORGANIC CHELATED TRACE ELEMENTS

Certified quality trace elements Copper, Cobalt, Zinc, Selenium, Calcium, Manganese, Magnesium, Boran & Iodine naturally chelated then independantly anaylised by NATA accredited labs.

FULVIC ACID

Because the super electrolyte fulvic acid has a low molecular weight it has the ability to readily dissolve and bond minerals and nutritional elements to greatly improve the absorbtion and retention in animals. Fulvic Acid is so powerful that one single fulvic acid molecule is capable of carrying 60 or more minerals and trace elements into the cells.

"As a Beef Cattle Producer with 29 years of involvement in the indusrty I can state that I finally found a product that truly suits my needs. BLM uses only high quality components in the production of their products, backed up by independent NATA accredited analysis on the drum label. I can highly recommend Beachport Liquid Minerals to all livestock producers."

-George Legoe



www.beachportliquidminerals.com.au

See your local rural store for Beachport Liquid Minerals. If your local store doesn't stock BLM contact us on **0429 358 033.**

LOCAL LIVESTOCK SUPPLEMENT WINS INNOVATION AWARD

Family owned business Beachport Liquid Minerals were winners of the 2007 SA Great Regional Award for Innovation in November last year. The Sutherland family has been involved in the livestock industry in the South East of South Australia for four generations and has built manufacturing facilities on the outskirts of their home town of Beachport. As livestock producers themselves they knew what livestock producers required, a consistent high quality product that was versatile and could be used in all areas and suit the different requirements of individual properties. The Sutherland family has been involved in research and development of trace element deficiencies of livestock for well over 50 years and have developed the product in conjunction with scientists that incorporates chelated trace elements, sea grass extract and fulvic acid. The combination of all three instead of simply a trace element supplement is the key to the success and versatility of Beachport Liquid Minerals. The high amino acid content and over 90 other nutrients and elements naturally occurring in the sea grass extract, combined with the outstanding abilities of Fulvic acid to transfer nutrients into cells. It has also been shown in trials here locally and over seas that among Fulvic acids many natural attributes

it has the ability to suppress stress hormones in animals and is also a natural growth promotent. Using quality trace elements to boost the product for Australian requirements means Beachport Liquid Minerals have all bases covered. It is a cost effective way of supplementing livestock only costing 15.4cents maximum dose for sheep and 77 cents maximum dose for cattle. Beachport Liquid Minerals has been especially formulated so it can be used through a drench gun or boom spray without blockages. The company has also designed a small floating dispenser that can dispense the product in to a shallow trough or water tank taking away the necessity to yard and stress stock. Quality control is one of the families' main objectives and each batch is independently analyzed by NATA Accredited labs and the analysis is displayed on each drum, the reason being, to ensure every drum is to an exact standard. This is done because the Sutherland family believes the typical analysis allowing 20% variation is far too big a variation for livestock supplementation. Our website www. beachportliquidminerals.com.au has been posted with all information regarding our products and all our product range is available at over 50 rural outlets stocking through S.A., western districts of Vic and recently in to W.A. If your local store doesn't stock Beachport Liquid Minerals contact us on 0429 358 033 and we will advise you of your closest outlet and organize prompt delivery.



NEW PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

Thanks to new ASA sponsors BEACHPORT LIQUID MINERALS, new promotional flags and information banners have been designed and a prototype has been produced. These new items have been designed specifiically for use at shows, field days and promotional events and feature eyecatching design themes and info presented in a simple, concise manner. Kim and Chris were thrilled with the end result and are keen to take the banners to their own promotional events which are conducted Australia wide.

The themes used on the banners have been elaborated upon in DL cards containing similar information including the website, in a 'take home' format. More information on availability can be sourced from ASA.

THE AUSTRALIAN SALERS ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS:

GOLD SPONSORSHIP: Beachport Liquid Minerals
SILVER SPONSORSHIP: Tuffrock, Better Blends Stockfeed, France-soir Restaurant
BRONZE SPONSORSHIP: bianca gillin multimedia







www.biancagillin.com.au

France-Soir

Salers Cattle in Wyoming, USA

By Peter Rogers, SALCO Partners

In March 2007 Cheryl and I had the opportunity to visit for a few days with Paul and Catherine Kukowski, who run Salers cattle in Wyoming, USA. We first met Paul and Catherine during the International Salers Federation tour in New Zealand in April 2003. They are a husband and wife team who with their daughter Bridget run a 17,700 acre ranch in north central Wyoming about 10 miles east of Wyarno, a tiny town comprising a post office, a pub and 2 houses. The Kukowski herd consists of about 1000 Salers or Salers cross breeders, with a further 800 young cattle over-wintering in feedlots for turnout onto grass in spring.

The land that Paul and Catherine farm ranges in altitude from 5-7,000ft and comprises hilly country with steep slopes and gullies (termed "draws"). Gullies often have undergrowth where cattle shelter during storms. Winters are severe with temperatures well

below zero and snow cover from November to March.

Calving takes place in autumn, although the majority of ranchers in this area work with spring calving. One major advantage of autumn calving is that calves are big and strong enough to cope with snow conditions when winter arrives. By contrast, spring calving necessitates holding the breeding herd close to the ranch, since as we experienced during our visit, a spring snowstorm can rapidly dump 2-3 feet of snow making survival of newborn calves a risky business. Paul runs 50-60 bulls, and typically purchases 15 replacement Salers bulls each year. Grass and alfalfa hay is purchased from other areas of the USA each year, and supplementary feeding occurs throughout winter. Feedlotting is common in this area, with costs negotiated in advance for a daily maintenance ration through winter that sets the young cattle up to be turned out onto grass in spring.

Why Salers? This is country that Salers cattle were designed for! The easy calving and strong maternal instinct is a huge advantage under rough conditions. Calves that are able to follow their mother within moments of calving are less likely to be left behind by the herd. This is a critical survival issue in territory that is shared with predators such as black and grizzly bears, coyotes, mountain lions, bob cats, and the recently reintroduced timber wolf. Land degradation and failure to utilize remote pasture resources can occur if cattle will not walk significant



Paul Catherine and Cheryl feeding out hay to Salers Cows and calves

distances from established water sources during summer. This is less of an issue with Salers cattle since this breed has good mobility and naturally travels into the higher and rougher country without being forced. In winter, the foraging ability of Salers is also an advantage, with animals still able to find feed despite snow covered ground.

The typical Salers cow favored in this area is moderate framed, hardy and easy doing. The breed is far more commonly seen in the USA than in Australia, with Salers influence evident in many of the big commercial herds. However, the hardy attributes that allow Salers to be successful on the open rangeland have to be complimented with an ability to do well under feedlot conditions with intensive finishing regimes. As in Australia, USA feedlotters have recognized the ability of Salers to gain weight faster and for longer than many other breeds, thus providing a strong market for Salers and Salers cross animals.

We have fond memories of the wonderful hospitality Paul and Catherine gave us during our brief visit, and appreciate the opportunity we had to see how Salers have become significant players in the historical homelands of the American cattle industry.



Feeding out 24 hours and 2 feet of snow later!



Young Salers and Salers-cross cattle in a feedlot on winter maintenance rations.

Show Ring Results.....

ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW RESULTS 2006

Judged By Richard Anderson, Tara, Queensland

Supreme Exhibit:

Scattered Gums Albert Charles R & A Mickelburough, Heatherton, Vic

Grand Champion Bull:

Scattered Gums Albert Charles

Senior Champion Bull:

Murrabah Zippy RC, MF, MJ, & SJ Randall, Tocumwal, NSW

Junior Champion Bull:

Scattered Gums Albert Charles Reserve: Murrabah Atlantis RC, MF, MJ & SJ Randall

Grand Champion Cow or Heifer:

Murrabah Zella

RC, MF, MJ & SJ Randall

Senior Champion Cow:

Murrabah Zella Reserve: Lake Genoe Black Zimba G & D Hull, Swan Hill

Junior Champion Heifer:

Murrabah April RC, MF, MJ & SJ Randall Reserve: Murrabah Aurelia RC, MF, MJ & SJ Randall

ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW 2007



Reg at 2007 Royal Melbourne Show.



Selwood Black Label at 2007 Royal Melbourne Show



Judging time for Selwood heifer, Royal Melbourne Show 2007.



Melbourne Show 2007.

ROYAL CANBERRA SHOW - RESULTS 2008

Judged by Andrew Raff, 23 February, 2008

Bull over 15 months and not over 18 months

1st P & J Gregory, Selwood Black Label

Bull over 18 months and not over 20 months

1st P & J Gregory, Selwood Burgundy

Junior Champion Bull

P & J Gregory, Selwood Burgundy

Reserve Junior Champion Bull

P & J Gregory, Selwood Black Label

Bull over 20 months and not over 24 months

1st P & J Gregory, Selwood Brigadier

Senior Champion Bull

P & J Gregory, Selwood Brigadier

Grand Champion Bull

P & J Gregory, Selwood Burgundy

Heifer over 15 months and not over 18 months

1st P & J Gregory, Belle Argent Breeanna

Heifer over 18 months and not over 20 months

1st P & J Gregory, Selwood Buquile

Junior Champion Female

P & J Gregory, Selwood Buquile

Reserve Junior Champion Female

P & J Gregory, Belle Argent Breeanna

Cow over 30 months

1st P & J Gregory, Murrabah Zenelle

Senior Champion Female

P & J Gregory, Murrabah Zenelle

Grand Champion Female

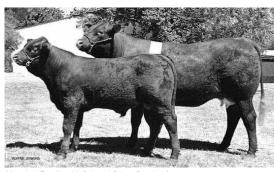
P & J Gregory, Murrabah Zenelle

Supreme Champion of the Breed P & J Gregory, Murrabah Zenelle

Sires or Dams Progeny Group
P & J Gregory, Murrabah Vivid Black

Breeders Group

1st P & J Gregory - Selwood Salers Stud



Murrabah Zenelle with Selwood Chivas Regal at foot.

Tasmanian Winners....



Tasman Trophy, Best Team of 3 on the hook.



Reserve Champion Steer, Sheffield School Show 200



Royston Heifer. 3rd Overall on Hook. Sheffield Show.

Letters to the Editor....

Kintelah Livestock

Neil and Kathy Gardner of Kintelah livestock sold a pen of four Red Angus x Salers 1st and 2nd calvers with 5 - 6 months calves at foot for \$1,210.00 to top the Annual Female Sale held at Taree Saleyards in February.



Another pen of seven

Salers crossbred cows with calves 5 - 6 months of age at foot sired by a Red Angus bull, sold for \$1,110.00.

The sale had a yarding of over 800 head of cattle predominantly of Angus and Hereford cattle.

On the 5th May we will be hosting an Open Day as part of Wingham Beef Week showcasing Salers, Red Angus and composites. It is anticipated that approximately 80 people will be viewing our cattle and for some it may be their first introduction to Salers.

Neil and Kathy Gardner

Salers Lead The Way In Trial

This Letter Was Submitted To The Editor, Stock & Land In May Of 2007

In a trial involoving 104 Angus sired calves and 80 Salers calves aged seven to nine months, sold in Bendigo from February to June 2005, Salers returned me 32% more per head.

The ramifications of this data are huge.

A recent CRC trial showed Brahaman and Euro cross steers are much more efficient than British breed steers on net feed intake (NFI). The top figure recorded was negative 0.61 with Angus Brahaman recording the worst figure of plus 0.30.

There has been a lot of negative publicity about EBV's (estimated breeding values) being unreliable. In my opinion too much emphasis is put on it as a selection tool, with "low reliability" of less than 90%.

GeneSTAR technology with four genes identified for each category of marbling, tenderness and net feed intake is a reliable way of assesing cattle with two stars for each gene.

In a survey of Japanese consumers of Australian beef, consumers rated tenderness more important than marbling. There is no EBV for tenderness.

Salers are leaders in GeneSTAR technology with "awesome results", according to Hayley Moreland of GeneSTAR.

One bull, Lake Genoe PANTHER, has recorded three stars for marbling, seven for tenderness and six for NFI: a total of 16 stars.

Other Salers bulls have recorded seven and eight for NFI and combining these results with Salers renowned high growth rate makes them the breed to be in.

Feedlots want more Euro cross and say the days of straight bred British cattle are coming to an end like in the US.

"Research has inferred that animals with low net feed intake will perform better than their higher net feed intake counterparts, whether in a feedlot or on pasture, in dry conditions or on abundant feed." according to CRC for Beef Genetic Technology chief executive Heather Burrows.

With lower than average rainfall and higher costs of grain and fodder, cattle with low NFI are vital to a profitable beef operation.

Salers have been recorded at 2.66kgs of feed per kg of grain, easily beating the previous best recorded of four to one by a line of 200 Brahaman heifers in a Queensland feedlot.

Can you afford not to have modern Salers bulls in modern times?

~Frank Hill Knowsley via Heathcote, Victoria

Gippsland Beef Challenge

Five of the students from Nagle College attended the Gippsland Beef Challenge presentation dinner on October 31st in Sale to hear the final result for Carcass Competitions for 2007. These students along with another seven had been involved in the preparation of the Challenge team. We exhibited two head of cattle, one a Salers Angus cross steer previously owned and bred by Anne & Reg Mickelborough from Lake Glen Maggie and a Limousin Angus cross heifer previously owned and bred by Di & Gary Freshwater from Lindenow.

The Salers steer, which the students referred to as Strogonoff because of his rich tomato coloured coat, was selected in March, then transported from Glen Maggie to Nagle. Stroganoff weighed 305kgs at his first weigh in on the 20th April. When arriving at Nagle he was immediately put on a diet of primarily Barastoc feed and some other additives. Students weighed him every two weeks, and feed was adjusted accordingly. Stroganoff was broken to lead from June to August, and here he started to bond with an inexperienced handler, whom together taught each other the perfect relationship between human and steer. Brooke Coster, Strogonoffs best friend, and first year student to the program, became Strog's primary carer, and as their relationship blossomed, so did Strogonoff.



Strogonoff put on 1.1kgs a day over the next 6 months in which time he experienced all the adjustments made to his life, including very wet conditions in June/July. He was paraded in the open day at the end of September by Brooke, who was selected as one of the best leaders on the day, which was certainly a rewarding experience as Strogonoff had become very accustomed to having Brooke to himself, and suddenly he was competing with other cattle and students, so decided to become very nervous and naughty with the new experience.

Strogonoff was weighed in at the Gippsland Beef Challenge live at 490kgs, putting him in class 4 (241 - 280kgs HSCW). He got an equal second in his hoof class with 84 points, he won the live Junior Producer section with 92 points, and along with the Limousin Angus heifer won the live section of a Pair of Animals over 14 entries in the grass and Supplementay Fed section.

Carcass results came in a couple of days later, giving us much excitement. He won hook-class 4 with a total of 85.188 points. Strog had a dressing percentage of 58%, perfect fat scores of a 10/10, and an EMA of 82 sq cms. This gave him enough points to win the champion on Hook for Grass and Supplementary Fed. When hoof, hook and hide results were collated, Strogonoff then went on to win 4th in the European/Bos Indicus Live Yield section, 2nd in the junior Producer, and teamed up with the Limousin Angus heifer, Nagle College won the overall group prize.

Brooke and fellow students of the VET agriculture class at Nagle College would like to thank Ann & Reg Mickelborough of the Scattered Gums Salers Stud for their support in 2007 and look forward to further commitments and outstanding results in 2008.

Jenny Nichols

From the Breeders...

Selwood Salers

As one of the newer breeders on the scene, we were given a great head start through the acquisition of some Salers females that epitomized the advantages of the Salers breed, from Papillon and Murrabah Salers Studs. In addition, their friendly professional advice coupled with Malcolm's willingness to impart his showing and fitting expertise has enabled Selwood Salers to grow from strength to strength.

Successes in the show ring have provided us with the opportunity to showcase our breed to commercial breeders who have taken particular interest in the "new" type of Salers, which is very different to their previous experiences a decade ago.

Our show team, comprising cow and calf, 2 heifers and 3 bulls has had a great season and we are looking forward to having their progeny in our show team next season.

We are currently running 20 red and black purebred females, which have been selected for moderate frame, maternal traits, conformational correctness and temperament. As a small stud, we are ruthlessly culling for temperament and type and all bulls sold, whether for commercial or stud purposes are of show quality, as we believe our reputation should be built on the qualities for which the Salers breed is internationally renowned.

The first crosses of Vivid Black and Western and Murrabah and Papillon bloodlines are producing calves of excellent quality and we are looking forward to showing some exciting young animals in the near future.

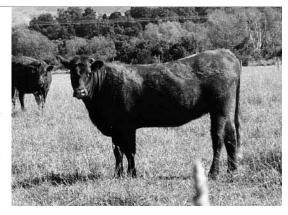
Our commercial herd is based on Murray Grey x Salers and their F1 progeny have topped the weaner market at regional saleyards, with commercial breeders contacting us to purchase bulls as a result.

Raeburn Salers

Raeburn Salers cattle stud was established in 1988 when a herd of stud Red Devon Cattle were inseminated with the imported American Salers semen "Keys Polled Grande". These first cross cattle became the base cattle for our grading up programme.

We have selected purebred bulls which have proven quiet temperaments, moderate, well-muscled frames and good maternal traits to produce the bulls and heifers we have for sale. The cattle are registered and are recorded for productive traits through the Salers Society involvement with the ABRI in Australia.

Our cow herd has just been reduced from 80 to 40 cows and heifers due to the sale of this property. We downsized from 330 acres to a 100 acre property at Geraldine but expect the cows to continue their high profit margins on the new property. They have calved unassisited, reared a high growth calf, got back in calf easily and kept their own body condition on our dry North Otago property.



The last twelve years, with the drought conditions, have shown us that we are on track with our cows and our breeding programme. The move to a flat property will make it easier for us in our semi retirement to still be involved with this versatile breed.

The bulls are run in one mob and taken through to rising two years old for sale by private treaty. They are run under a commercial situation and sold to local commercial farmers.

Farmers that have purchased bulls over the last 16 years since we have moved to the South Island, have been well satisfied with their Salers cross calves and have been coming back for more bulls. Bulls have been sold onto country from Glenorchy to Mt Somers, from high country stations to lowland farms and used over many breeds of cows.

We welcome feedback from our clients, especially in regard to calf growth, temperament of crossbred cows, conception rates and stock health. We need to breed stock that will improve your profits, so we need to know any problems you have with our stock, as well as the things that please you. We like to see the conditions that the bulls are going onto. This assists us in making good selection decisions in our breeding herd.

Le Wonga

Here at Le Wonga we are looking forward to hosting the 2008 N.Z. bus tour in May. Although the conditions have been very dry with the cows being supplementary fed every second day, they still look very good, thanks in part to the Beachport Liquid Mineral product. I'm sure that if you keep them healthy it keeps the worms at bay and the rest looks after itself. During their visit the contingent will be able to check out young calves by Sancy, Ringo, Springdale Saturn, Challenger, BankShot, Lake Genoe U2 and Angus Sires, Connealy Thunder and Right Time also Design Derivative (Angus/Black Simmental).

There are some fantastic yearlings by Saturn and the Angus sire Three Trees Prime Cut, as well as our own line of Zest heifers which will be bred to Midnite Express. The crossing of Gold Bar "Zest" and Express seems to work very well.

There are a mixture of blood lines in the cow herd with most tracing back to the EPR bloodlines we bought in the early nineties. The bulls are mostly composite as that is what we are the most successful at selling.

It is sad that lan will not be here with us to share in the tour. Devoted Salers breeders like him are very good value for newcomers to source information from as well as being an inspiration.

The heifer that we have donated for auction at Bendigo is black & polled by the black fullblood French Sire Jais. The heifer, Le Wonga Chamille is very feminine and classy. We hope that she finds a good home and that the Association coffers are trumped up to provide for more promotion next year!

Our show team is preparing well and we look forward to seeing you here, there or somewhere in the next few months!

Scattered Gums Salers

Reg and Anne Mickelburough of Scattered Gums Salers in Heatherton, Victoria have enjoyed great success with their Salers cattle since the last edition of this journal in 2006.

As reported in Stock and Land on August 9th, 2007 Reg sold 30 ten month old steers ranging from \$635 - \$655 to average \$645. Also 29 ten month old heifers from \$500 - \$560 to an average of \$525, a good set of results by any standard.

Reg has also taken the Supreme Salers exhibit at the Melbourne Royal Show in 2006 with Scattered Gums Albert Charles as pictured in the Scattered Gums advertorial.

Other results include Reserve Supreme Exhibit in Champion Grass/Supplementary Fed Carcase section at the Gippsland Beef Challenge with a Salers / Angus steer entered by Nagle College in

2007, further information is available in a letter to the editor regarding the entrant nicknamed Strogonoff.



Murrabah Salers

The long drawn out drought certainly has tested us, but the Salers cattle cope well, then bounce back in remarkably quick time. Soon after we bought our first Salers cattle, we purchased the last of Mel Gibsons Salers Herd. Among these was a young bull called Parkes. Peter Ford, the manager asked me if we would like him too, assuring us that he had a good temperament, so we agreed. As time went by Parkes showed us who he was. Malcolm and Robert used to take a cattle comb with them when they checked cattle and would comb the ones who had been shown, plus some of the others if they were agreeable. Sometimes he would try it with Parkes. Before long they found they could comb him all over, standing in the paddock.

One day Robert decided to take photos of some of the young bulls in Parkes' mob. Robert and I set off on the motorbike, parked it a short distance from the cattle and walked over, past Parkes who just stood there and on to where the cows were grazing. As Robert took the photos the cows and calves moved further down the paddock, but Parkes just stood there.

When Robert had finished we walked back towards the motorbike, past Parkes, still where he stood before and on towards the motorbike. However, as we walked by, Parkes turned and started to follow. Having owned a few ordinary bulls in the "before Salers" years, we wondered what he was doing. Robert has longer legs than I have and reached the motor bike before me. Meanwhile Parkes, even though not long in the legs, was gaining on me fast. Keeping an eye on him over my shoulder and determined not to run, I found he was now right behind me. I stopped, turned to face him and rubbed his forehead. Parkes just stood there.

After a while I went on to the motor bike, Parkes just stood there, he had only wanted a little attention. Sadly we lost Parkes this year, we haven't lost only an animal - we lost a friend. Parkes sired many of our show bulls among them Western, who won Supreme Bull in Adelaide and Melbourne shows.

Salers aren't just cattle - they're almost part of the family. We'll miss you Parkes.

Royston Salers -

Royston Salers are excitingly awaiting our newest arrivals to our herd with calving about to commence again in autumn 2008, and this being our biggest calving season yet with herd numbers growing significantly in the last 18 months, and the product of so much planning and dedication to arrive. Again in 2007 we were able to increase our herd numbers with the purchase of 4 Salers females from Alana Jetson, ex Valley Water Salers, who have brought new genetics to our herd.

We once again enjoyed the Tasmanian Show circuit, only with a small team consisting of a 3 year old cow with 6 month old bull calf and 12 month old heifer. The cow Ezy Calve Zulu whom we purchased from Kendall Crocker in 2005, once again proved herself in the show ring after success as a young heifer, with major awards in 2008 being 3rd in the interbreed at the Royal Launceston Show and Supreme Beef Female at the Circular Head show.

With our 2007 drop calves performing well under better season conditions than the previous year, we are looking forward to preparing 2 yearling heifers, 18 months old bull Royston Casanova and potentially 2 cows with calves at foot, for the 2008 spring show season.

Royston are also preparing 2 bulls for Agfest 2008 European Bull Sale, by Helmsman auction over the 3 field days. With a Salers x Shorthorn 21 month old bull, who will suit many markets for commercial producers with his exceptional muscle pattern for vealer producers and consisting of two maternal breeds ideal for re-producer breeders. Also offering an 18 month old red polled pure breed bull, with great length and even muscle pattern, out of a cow who has produce 3 bull calves that are all out performing. We will also have some females on display and offer information on the breed for prospective new breeders along with other Tasmanian members.

We wish all breeders all the best for 2008.

Kindaburra Salers

Three of the Thomson boys have been involved in showing Salers cattle at Yass, Goulburn and Crookwell Shows over the last year and a half. They have won Junior Champion and Grand Champion Heifer at Yass in "All Other Breeds" beating a Square Meater Heifer and then a Square Meater heifer cow and calf. At Goulburn they won Junior Champion and Grand Champion Heifer and most recently won Junior and Senior Champion Female and Grand Champion Female Salers at Crookwell and again in Yass.

Damien Thomson (11) received a 3rd place ribbon in the novice handlers judging at Yass in 2008.

Corey Thomson (16) is Captain of the Canberra Grammar School Show team and his 14 month old bull calf won his age group at the Canberra Show. Corey also led one of Kindaburra Salers heifers at each of the Yass, Goulburn and Crookwell shows.

Shane Thomson (18) was awarded the Sir Graham Waddell prize for Agriculture at the Canberra Grammar School for being the top agriculture student in Year 12 in 2007. Shane has started his Vet Studies at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga for 2008. Shane is keen to undertake a research project during his studies, that will show the many benefits of Salers cattle.

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2 New Promotional Items Are Now Available

Quality Cotton/Linen blend teatowel with cave motif + ASA website logo (black print on white cloth)......\$12.50 each or 2 for \$20

Poly/cotton professional chefs apron with front pocket featuring cave motif + ASA website logo + France-Soir sponsor logo (black apron with white print / white apron with black print)......\$25.00 each

As a special package 1 apron + 1 teatowel + printed ecopaper bag \$35.00 (\$40.00 value)

These items have been produced and offered to you for close to cost price and would make great versatile gifts or client promotions. Stocks are limited. + \$2.50 p/p will apply to each package forwarded.

Please contact Steve or Jenni McCourt on 0887268109 for more details.



Salers Merchandise

Golf Umbrella \$15
Flying jacket (black) \$35
Sleeveless Jumpers (maroon) \$38.50
T Shirts \$20.00 each
Stubbie Holders \$5 each
Hats (with full brim - navy) \$10
Baseball Caps \$8 each
Windcheaters \$29.50 each
Belt Buckles \$22 each
Wooden Key Holders \$10 each
Salers Pens \$3 each
Cow Welcome Signs \$10 each

Please contact Merchandise Officer: Frank Hill on (03) 54391240 or 0429391240



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WIUNRAABAII SALLERS



Supreme Salers Exhibit, Melbourne Show 2007



European Interbreed Junior Champion Bull, Melbourne Show 2004



Supreme Interbreed Senior Female, Melbourne Show 2004

The Randall Family
RMB 1550 Tocumwal
NSW 2714
ph: 03 5883 9216

153 Fala Park Rd

Warrnambool Vic 3280

Ph/fax: 03 55616500

Mobile: 0427 387 441

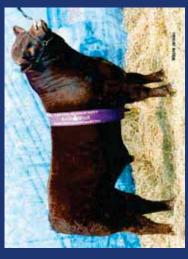
Bulls, Females and Semen Available



Champion of Champions, Canberra Show 2004



Reserve Interbreed Junior Heifer, Melbourne Show 2007



Reserve Senior Champion Salers Bull, Melbourne Show 2004

Le Wonga Saler





Le Wonga Blueprint at 18 months



Le Wonga Bourketown



Le Wonga Midnite Express at 18 months Le Wonga Zest at 2 years





2007 Drop Bulls, March 2008



Le Wonga Aperle



Autumn Calvers 2008



Le Wonga Bridget Jones

Improved genetics, imported bloodlines & selective herd management have yielded many benefits high fertility, real calving ease, high growth rates and feed conversion . high yielding & quailty carcase results . increased docility RED . BLACK . POLLED . HORNED . SEMEN & YOUNG BULLS



Steve, Jen, Bridie, Tom & Patrick McCourt

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