

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The weather is never far from the topic of choice in a farmers world for good reason. Climate has such an effect on our fortunes and the spring has not sprung for many around the country. Hopefully the strong prices for beef are helping mitigate the difficult season many parts of the country are experiencing.

We have just finished another week at Christchurch Show. Anna and I along with Kate and Paula Jordan exhibited cattle at the show. We both had great success and enjoyed flying the Charolais flag in Canterbury that week. Simon and Wendy Collin also took cattle along to Hawkes Bay Show and had success. The Shows are another way of keeping our breed in front of the public and every way we can do this is important for the breed.

Beef + Lamb NZ Genetics are running trials on large sheep and beef properties around New Zealand where they are Aling large numbers of commercial beef cows to mainly Angus and Hereford bulls to show the value of high genetic merit bulls. On

two of those properties the managers were keen to try Charolais, so they have been included in the trial. This is very positive because like the shows it keeps Charolais at the front of people's minds. I firmly believe that the very positive breed feature along with individual efforts made by the breeders help sow the seeds to help get the Charolais name out there. The message is that individually as breeders or jointly as a society together we can never do enough to promote the breed.

Also on a positive note, progress is being made with regard to getting the two societies back together as one. I am really confident that this will happen and can only be good for the breed.

Bulls will be out and AI taking place now with everyone. Good luck with this. Before we know it Christmas will be with us.

All the best

Brent Fisher - President

HAWKES BAY ROYAL SHOW - CHAROLAIS REPORT



The Charolais section at this year's Hawkes Bay Royal Show was a small section, with Rauriki the only exhibitor. Unfortunately both Silverstream and Gold Creek were unable to come up from the South Island.

Supreme Champion was Rauriki Icebreaker I3 (Sired by SVY Freedom PLD 307N - IMP Can / Rauriki F13), and Champion Female was Rauriki Jade J10 (Rauriki Vero V12 / Nouvelle Hallo H6). The section was judged by Allan Hayward from Cambridge.

Rauriki Icebreaker was third in the Interbreed Senior bull, and fifth in the Meat and Wool Cup on the Thursday afternoon. Bruce Robertson from Gore was the All Breeds judge on Friday, and Rauriki Icebreaker was awarded first in the Senior Bull - a great result for the youngest bull in the class of nine other senior bulls. The Meat and Wool cup was won by the Mitchell family from Raglan with a 3yr Gelbvieh Cow with twin calves!

In other results from the Royal Show, the Clements family was won the Poll Dorset section with their Ram, and won Supreme Sheep of the Show - fantastic result for the Clements. White stock with pink



Simon Collin with Rauriki Icebreaker I3

noses still comes out on top! Lucy Collin was fourth in the RAS Beef Cattle handler's class, and also represented Eastern District in the RAS Beef Junior Judging section.

SHOW RESULTS 2015

CHRISTCHURCH SHOW



Silverstream Ocelot I100



Silverstream J86

Results are:

Silverstream Ocelot I100

Champion Charolais and Meat and Wool Cup Winner.

Silverstream J86

Interbreed Champion yearling bull and 2nd in All Breeds bull.

Silverstream Elsa J57 4th All Breeds Yearling heifer.

Silverstream Chandler H46 3rd All Breeds cow.

Silverstream J86 and Elsa J57 were 2nd in All Breeds Pairs.

The Charolais were also winners of the Interbreed pairs. Kate and Paula Jordan of Willowhaugh Charolais also took cattle to the Christchurch show and were placed in the Allbreeds classes.

Willowhaugh Jillian J9 - 5th Allbreeds Yearling heifer

Willowhaugh Jasper - 5th Allbreeds Yearling bull

Willowhaugh Jillian & Josephine J23

3rd Allbreeds Pair of yearlings



Anna and Brent Fisher

MARLBOROUGH SHOW

Well done to Kate & Paula Jordan who also exhibited at the Marlborough show on the 7th Nov. They had a very successful day with their show team.

Willowhaugh Groovie G3 - Meat & Wool cup winner

Willowhaugh Jasper J31

won the Antrim Trophy for "Opposite to Meat & Wool"

Willowhaugh Jillian J9

- Allbreeds Yearling heifer

WAIRARAPA A&P SHOW

The week after the Royal show, Wairarapa A&P had an All Breeds cattle show. Rauriki took down 2 cattle to the show. Rauriki Icebreaker I3 won the senior Bull, and was reserve Surpeme Beef Cattle of the Show. The other section was the Steer Class that Rauriki won with a Charolais/ Romagnola/ Braham cross yearling. The Steer was well led by Molly McKenzie from Maungahina (understand it is nearly 20 years since a "McKenzie" has been in the Show ring - go Molly!)



Willowhaugh Groovie G3



Best in Parade - Marlborough Show

BEEF PROGENY TEST - JASON ARCHER, ABACUSBIO

Beef + Lamb NZ Genetics have initiated a beef progeny test on 5 commercial beef properties around New Zealand. The first crop of calves have been born in Spring 2015 and involved more than 50 AI bulls, 50 follow-up bulls, 1600 cows and 600 heifers.

The three main objectives of the project are:

1. To quantify the value that better genetics can provide in a commercial operation
2. Demonstrate the tools currently available and show how they can be used to identify the best genetics for a commercial operation
3. Improve the overall toolkit available for breeders and commercial farmers wanting to make improvements through genetics.

The first round of matings was principally focused on maternal genetics, but included some terminal genetics in Simmental and just two Charolais bulls. For the 2015 matings there has been an opportunity to increase the terminal component of the project. This will enable the project to quantify the economic value of terminal genetics used in commercial operations, and also to look at the differences among terminal bulls and how EBVs can be used to identify the right terminal bull for a property.

Charolais bulls will be used on two properties within the overall project. Approximately 50 Hereford cows will be mated to Charolais at Mendip Hills in North Canterbury, with the balance

of the cows on this property being mated to Hereford bulls. At Whangara Farms, north of Gisborne, the Whangara "B-herd" of Angus cows will be mated to Charolais (75 cows), Simmental (150 cows) and some terminal-type Angus bulls selected for high growth and carcass traits (75 cows). Across the whole project individual bulls are being used on multiple properties, which provides excellent linkage between properties to enable the whole data set to be analysed together. It also provides the most robust evaluation of bulls. The aim is to mate terminal bulls to 25 cows per bull, as both steer and heifer progeny will be slaughtered, while maternal bulls will be mated to 50 cows and heifers retained as replacements to allow evaluation of maternal traits. Progeny will be killed through the Silver Fern Farms Beef EQ grading scheme to collect information on carcase performance.

Charolais bulls were selected with input from the Charolais Society council. A range of criteria were used. All bulls were required to be well recorded with Breedplan EBVs, and a range of breeding was selected. A couple of international bulls have been included in the programme to provide the ability to link to other programmes, as well as to benchmark some outside genetics into the programme (as has also occurred with the other breeds). Given the Beef EQ aspect of the programme, a couple of bulls were selected with high marbling figures to look at the impact on Beef EQ grading.

Like all cattle breeding, the results will take time to flow but will be of real interest to bull breeders and commercial cattle breeders.



The confirmed dates for 2016

2016 Beef Expo are FBNZ - Friday 13th May to Sunday 15th May
Open Days and sales Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th May

We are currently working to find a grazing property for a bull trial in 2016 with the possibility of a North Island and a South Island trial. Expressions of interest forms are included with this newsletter. If you are considering sending a bull/s please complete the form and return to the office by Friday 10th December 2015. This is not a commitment and you do not need to identify the animal/s at this stage, but we do need an idea of the number of animals we may get in order to get an appropriate grazing property.

If you have any questions regarding this please contact Simon Collin.



STEAK OF ORIGIN

ENTRIES OPEN:
late November

ENTRIES CLOSE:
Friday 19th February 2016

SEMI-FINALISTS ANNOUNCED:
Friday 29th April 2016

GRAND FINAL, PALMERSTON NORTH:
Wednesday 18th May 2016

CHAROLAIS NOTICES

CHAROLAIS BREEDERS NZ AGM

This has tentatively been set to coincide with Beef Expo 2016.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Mark & Suzy Riddington
Kaahu Charolais from Kaikoura

Gary Woolf & Vicki Adnams
Moonlight Charolais from Motueka

Lyle & Bex Burgess
Pearl Ridge Charolais from Dargaville

GET WELL WISHES

We wish a speedy recovery to Margaret McIntyre who has recently undergone surgery and also to Jimmy Vallender who has been laid up for a few weeks after breaking his leg.

NEW ZEALAND CHAROLAIS CATTLE SOCIETY - AGM & TOUR

This Itinerary below is subject to some changes, anyone interested should contact Annette on 03 544 7181 for a more detailed Itinerary.

Monday 14th March

Mystery Creek Heritage Park
Waikato River Explorer
AGM @ 6pm

Tuesday 15th March

Farm Visits - Te Kuiti area

Wednesday 16th March

Options include:
Zeelong Tea Estate
Cambridge Velodrome
Lake Karapiro
Gallagher factory visit

YEAR LETTER

The year letter for 2015 born calves will be

“L”

THE CHAROLAIS COUNCIL

WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE



A VERY
MERRY XMAS
& HAPPY NEW YEAR



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PBBNZ CHRISTMAS CLOSING HOURS

The PBBnz office will close at
12 noon Wednesday 23rd December 2015
& reopen at 8.00am on Monday 11th January 2016

CHAROLAIS COUNCIL

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VERSATILITY
FLEXIBILITY
PROFITABILITY

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