

Dexter Promotion Group of Tasmania



Boy have we been busy, what with showing our Dexters and also holding a Field Day in between. Along with plenty of rain, grass growing right before your eyes, with many busy making silage and hay, I don't know how we have fitted everything in.

From the Chair



Hi All,

As Marg has mentioned it has been a very busy few months. I must thank my husband Paul for taking on babysitting duties allowing me to do some of the shows with just one child in tow! Sarah, now 9, has caught the showing bug! I must say I am proud to own such a wonderful breed to enable Sarah to show with such confidence (even though the first heifer she showed was far from co-operative!)

Enough about showing...

The field day held at our place was a great success Jo Garwood pointed out the differences in dairy style, beef style & more true to type dual purpose animals. The 3 heifers I had pulled out for guinea pigs I hadn't truly noticed the difference in their "types" until it was pointed out! I could say that I had purposely picked them for the talk...

We have started cell grazing and can't get over how much more efficiently the grass is utilised! We are now looking at increasing our herd again. (If only we knew about this before we had a stud reduction sale last year!!)

Please seriously consider taking advantage of the Linear Classification – it is a great tool in herd improvement.

Summer is nearly upon us. Make sure you have a fire plan which includes your stock – do you have a fire safe paddock or yard or the ability to remove your cattle to a safe area if the need arises? Don't forget to check water troughs on a daily basis. Even automatic troughs can have problems (and your cows WILL tell you).

Enough from me till next time. Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Cheers,
Andrea

DCAI AGM held in Brisbane

I was happy to attend the recent AGM held in Brisbane, my motivation was to represent many members and vote on proposed amendments to the Constitution. Sadly we were not afforded the opportunity to speak from the floor for or against each change, but fortunately the members rightly voted not to instil the power to deregister animals on the say so solely of the Council of the day. My personal thanks to all of you here in Tasmania who trusted me with your proxy votes, I was pleased to take your votes on your behalf.

As you may have read there has been considerable conjecture on the way the Financial Statements and Report have been presented to the membership, with many expressing disappointment in the large loss which was shown for last financial year. I raised many points at the meeting on this important issue and many of those concerns still remain unresolved. It is important that we carefully consider the amended accounts when they are finally sent to the membership and decide whether to adopt them or not.

On a positive note from the meeting were some good suggestions put forward in the open forum, with one being to establish a calf register to register animals that members want to show, but giving time for those to be assessed for conforming with the Breed Standard prior to full registration. A great idea and one which the logistics will take some time to devise and implement.

There was also discussion regarding the Linear Classification system, cost cutting to give us a balanced bottom line for the coming year, multiple ownership of animals and PHA amongst others matters raised. Lets hope Council was listening to members concerns and suggestions.

The dinner in the evening following the meeting was very pleasant and gave everyone there a chance to network and just catch up.

Marg Rawlings

Field Day

Well a very successful Field Day was held at the O'Grady's on a very cold Saturday morning in October, I am sure the polar bears were hiding around the corner. Steve Sullings gave a great presentation on cell grazing and how to optimise your pasture by creating smaller paddocks (or cells) and resting the grass to give maximum growth between grazing. He also offered to help design electric fencing systems to make this possible. Demonstrating a Smart Fence portable fence system which could create a temporary fence of 100m, or even a square with the droppers having stays to reinforce the corners caught the imagination of many who were there. Check the Gallagher website www.gallagher.com.au to view this product, it was most impressive and as a group we thought it might be beneficial to place a bulk order for these units with one of our rural supply agencies to get the best price. RRP is around \$400. If anyone is interested please contact myself and I will get the appropriate pricing.

Jo Garwood presented the afternoon session and covered analysis of your cows and how to choose a bull to improve your calves. Jo arrived on the Spirit that morning and had a rather rough crossing, but her talk was very informative and I am sure many learned some valuable information to take away with them.



In the cattle arena with Jo Garwood

Thanks to everyone who attended. We welcomed some new people along to enjoy a superb afternoon tea, which included some delicious cakes, thanks David Herring, and all those who contributed. We auctioned off three Dexter ties, kindly donated by Sue and David Hannaford, which raised \$75 for the group. There was also exciting news for Peter and Teresa Fleming who are expecting their first baby, CONGRATULATIONS!!

Linear Classification in Tasmania

The Classifiers from Holstein Australia will be in Tasmania in January and anyone wishing to have their animals classified should contact Holstein Australia on (03) 9835 7600 to book a timeslot. Your cow needs to be in lactation (i.e. have a calf at foot & feeding it).

Tour of New Zealand

Council (DCAI) is in the early stages of organizing a tour of New Zealand to commence on Sunday the 13th Nov 2011 in Auckland. It will include a five day tour of sight seeing & stud visits on the North Island arriving in Rotarua on Friday 18th Nov. It is hoped to have a Dexter display on Saturday, followed by a Congress & gala dinner on Sunday 20th Nov. If any members which to take part in this tour please register your interest by email to Brian Watts at bmwatts@harboursat.com.au by the 1st December 2010. This will enable him to make up a complete contact list to advise of arrangements as they come to hand.

Dexters on Show

Dexters have been shown extensively in recent weeks, at Burnie, Launceston Royal, Ulverstone, Westbury and Deloraine. It was great to receive such compliments about our cattle with encouraging comments from judges and congratulations from ring stewards for being organised and ready to enter the ring!

It was also wonderful to have so many of our members come along to the various shows just to support those competing. They have held animals, groomed them just before going into the ring, been coat hangers for clothing and ribbons as competitors went in and out of the ring, but most of all gained an insight into what goes into showing your animals. We hope you are encouraged to join us at some shows in the future and enjoy what showing has to offer - an opportunity to promote the breed, create a stud profile, but mostly enjoy the time interacting with your animals and fellow competitors. It is certainly something which Mark and I never thought we would do when we first got our cattle, but something we now truly enjoy.

Dexters have also had interbreed successes at many of the shows, placing on several occasions. It is good to mix it with the big breeds and be recognised for having animals which conform to our Breed Standard!!

Also worthy of mention was the success of our Junior Handlers at many of the shows. Yaminah Taylor who has handled one of Goldshaft's heifers for the show season with Sheffield High's team has had great success at both junior judging, coming first at Burnie and Launceston in the under 15 age group and junior handling placing in numerous competitions with strong competition. Sarah O'Grady has also excelled winning the novice handler class at the Launceston Royal, her first show. She has also placed at numerous other events on the show circuit. Zara Knightley has also grown in

confidence handling cattle in Dexter classes at Burnie, Launceston and Deloraine, and entering her first Junior Handlers class at Deloraine to finish second. Congratulations and well done to these wonderful young people, we hope to see you at many shows in the future.



Yaminah Taylor with Goldshaft Esprit



Sarah O'Grady with Goldshaft Ebony



Zara Knightley in the ring at Launceston Royal

Show Results Launceston Royal Show

Junior Heifer born between 1/9/09 & 28/2/10

1st Kirup Park Freedom
exhibited by S & D Hannaford/M & M Rawlings
2nd Rawlings Eclipse Blue Star
exhibited by M & M Rawlings
(2 Entries)

Junior Heifer born between 1/6/09 & 31/8/09

1st Rawlings Eva Diva
exhibited by M & M Rawlings
2nd Rawlings Emerald Skye
exhibited by M & M Rawlings
(2 Entries)

Junior Heifer born between 1/3/09 & 31/5/09

1st Goldshaft Esprit exhibited by P & A O'Grady
2nd Goldshaft Ebony exhibited by P & A O'Grady
(2 Entries)

JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER Kirup Park Freedom



RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION HEIFER Rawlings Eva Diva

Senior Heifer born between 1/3/08 & 28/2/09

1st Rawlings Delta Blue exhibited by M & M Rawlings
2nd Kirup Park Dimity exhibited by S & D Hannaford/M & M Rawlings
(2 Entries)

Cow born before 28/2/08 with calf at foot born on or after 1/3/10 or PTIC

1st Rawlings Chariot of Fire exhibited by M & M Rawlings (1 Entry)

SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE Rawlings Delta Blue

RESERVE SENIOR FEMALE Rawlings Chariot of Fire

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE Rawlings Delta Blue

Junior Bull born between 1/9/09 & 28/2/10

1st Kirup Park Envoy
exhibited by S & D Hannaford/M & M Rawlings
2nd Kirup Park Esquire
exhibited by S & D Hannaford/M & M Rawlings
(2 Entries)

Junior Bull born between 1/6/09 & 31/8/09

1st Rawlings ET exhibited by M & M Rawlings
(1 Entry)

JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL Rawlings ET



RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL Kirup Park Envoy

Senior Bull born before 28/2/08

1st Elgin Park Demeter exhibited by P & A O'Grady
(1 Entry)

SENIOR CHAMPION BULL Elgin Park Demeter



GRAND CHAMPION BULL Elgin Park Demeter

SUPREME EXHIBIT Rawlings Delta Blue

Sires Progeny

- 1st Rawlings Blueprint exhibited by M & M Rawlings
- 2nd Elgin Park Nevada exhibited by S & D Hannaford/M & M Rawlings
- 3rd Egerton Park Nelson Mandala exhibited by P & A O'Grady
(3 Entries)

SMALL BREEDS INTERBREED CHAMPION FEMALE Rawlings Delta Blue



Proposed Field Day

We are looking for expressions of interest for a Show Preparation and Show Handler's weekend which we are hoping to hold some time late January or early February, as a response to the many members who have shown an interest in getting their animals into the show ring.

As there is so much to cover we would need to hold the relevant sessions over two days. The weekend would cover what you need in your show box, selecting your best animals, grooming (including shampooing and clipping), halter training, preparations on show day and ring craft. The most likely venue would be Rawlings Dexter Stud in Preston, as there are sufficient animals and adequate facilities to fit everyone in. The places would be restricted to a maximum of 12 people and there is limited accommodation available, however plenty of space for camping. There will be a small cost to cover food.

Please contact Marg Rawlings on 6429 1287 or by email rawlingsdexter@westnet.com.au

DCAI Minutes

DCAI minutes are now available in the members area on the Association website www.dexter.une.edu.au Of concern to the Committee is the decision by Council to withdraw promotional grants to Groups. This will affect funding for promotional activities such as Agfest. Our committee is writing to DCAI on the members behalf expressing concern about this decision.

FOR SALE

Kirup Park Dexter Stud has for sale one red bull, Kirup Park Dunlop. Unfortunately he is too closely related to the rest of the herd and so has to be sold. He has a Johnes Status of MN3 and is a non carrier for Chondro. Price \$1320 inc GST. Contact Marg Rawlings 6429 1287

Rawlings Dexter Stud is pleased to offer for sale Rawlings Coppertop, a single polled red bull, we are retaining a son of his who we believe may be double polled, so Coppertop has to go. He has sired some lovely polled calves, has a Johnes Status of MN3 and is PHA Free. Price \$1650 inc GST. Contact Marg Rawlings 6429 1287

WANTED

We still have orders for Dexter beef, so if you are wanting to sell your steers please contact Andrea on 6496 1969

Committee Contacts

Chairperson

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We will need to do a fundraiser early next year to raise much needed funds for our Agfest site in May 2011. We are looking at the possibility of a sock drive, maybe you have a better idea!! Andrea and I would appreciate any thoughts.

Regards,
Marg Rawlings

The committee wish all our members, friends and families a safe and Moo-y Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to catching up with everyone in the New Year.

