Salers Cattle Society of the UK Ltd



Journal 2020





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Contents

Index to Advertisers

	Page No.
Contents/Index to advertisers/Gestation Table	3
Gestation Table	3
Council of Management	4
Chairman's Report - Tom Walling	5
Vice Chairman's Report - A Sleigh	6
Breed Secretary's Report	6
Members Listing	7-9
Breedplan – Demonstrating Salers Commercial Advantages	10-11
Carrick View Salers	12
Scottish Beef Event	13
Darnford Salers	15
Stirling Bull Sale February	16
Newark Sale March	17
Welshpool Sale May	17
Myostatin	18
Stirling Bull Sales May	23
Balmoral Show	22
Easy Care Salers, a hit for the Crocketts	24-25
Why Salers are so popular in the UK	27
Great Yorkshire Show	29
Royal Highland Show	30
Salers herd aims to become Carbon Neutral by 2035	32-33
Market Review	35
Royal Welsh Show	38
Farming the way his forefathers did - Angus Gowthorpe	40-41
Animals of the Year	42
Rednock's Focus on Forage	44-45
Area 1 & 2 Reports	47
Area 2a & 3 Reports	49
Area 4 report	52-53
Area 6 & 7 report	55
Area 8 & 9 report	57
Welshpool Sale October	59
Castle Douglas Sale November	60-61
Myosatin Gene Explained	63
ISF World Tour 2021	64
International Salers Federation - Salers around the world	65
Salers events 2020	66
Pre sale checklist	67
Breed History & Characteristics	68
Useful Society Information	69
Charges/Royality Scheme	70
Membership Form	71

	Page No.
Aidansfield Salers	31
Approach Farm Salers	39
Bacardi Salers	23
Ballywillan Salers	58
Beeston Hall Salers	20
Biobest Hi Health Herdcare	59
Bovela - Boehringer Ingelheim	26
Caleb Roberts Insurance Services	46
Cuil Salers	34
Cumbrian Salers	36-37
Darnford Salers	14
Drumlegagh Salers	50
Elite Export	18
Farmers Guardian	2
Harperley Salers	48
Lisnamaul Salers	54
Lower Bolie Salers	39
Parkfield Salers	28
Pedigree Tours	46
Preenbank Salers	51
Rednock Salers	43
Rigel Pedigree	19
Seawell Salers	62
Tour Salers International 2021	64
Wallets Marts	4
Whitebog Salers	56

GESTATION TABLE - COWS FIND DATE OF SERVICE IN UPPER LINE -

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Top Price 2nd November 2019 - Bacardi Nashville from Roy and Adam Crockett - sold for £6000

Chairman's Report 2019

Looking back over my first full year as Chairman it is encouraging to see the increase in popularity of the Salers breed especially through increasing numbers in the commercial herd. A good commercial base is important for the future of the breed. Of course an increase in numbers of Salers is not necessarily reflected by an increase in pedigree registrations. We must work to increase membership of the Society and encourage breeders to continue to register their pedigree stock.

I have recently been made aware of some impressive figures from Breedplan. The percentage of registrations coming in with a birthweight has increased to 67% - also the number of performance recorders has increased to 25. Well done our Members for this commitment to improve the accuracy of our EBVs especially as they relate to easy calving. Also, in December, 9 performance recorders submitted 519 weights which is the best ever month since we started recording with Breedplan in 2016. Thank you and keep up the good work.

On the showing scene there has been a good turnout of Salers at the major shows with an increase in the number of entries this year. The Council is grateful for the time and commitment from exhibitors in turning out their animals to such a high standard. As we have said many times – showing is an important shop window to promote the breed and we must keep encouraging new breeders to take part.

The year has been a challenging time for farmers - with extremes in weather and political uncertainty - mainly due to the dreaded 'B' word. At least, following the election, the direction of travel is clearer although uncertainty continues about trade negotiations and whether prices will hold up. Whatever happens I am confident that the British livestock industry has a strong base and will be able to adapt. In the Beef sector Salers should be promoted as the breed of choice - as the modern suckler cow to maintain profit margins and take us forward.

It is not just the political uncertainly that our farmers have been up against in the last 12 months —we have become increasingly attacked as part of the campaign against climate change which itself has been partially hijacked by the anti-meat lobby. Usually when faced with problems - adverse weather for example — farmers just shrug their shoulders, buckle down and keep going. I strongly believe that in this case we farmers should join the debate at every opportunity and try to put across a

more balanced argument to the public. Obviously we have a role to play in combatting climate change. Recent studies have suggested that -with proper planning -agriculture can become carbon-neutral within the next two decades. So making the right choices will be very important -



Tom Walling

and for the efficient production of high quality, low-carbon meat from grass – well- look no further than the Salers!

One of my challenges this year as Chairman was the Myostatin question. I and the Council members carried out a lot of research – and spoke to Salers breeders and people involved in other breeds of cattle – about the Myostatin gene and its mutations. We also took into account the position taken by the French. It became clear to us that there was 'a nettle to grasp' here and that for the sake of the future of the breed the opportunity to act should not be missed. So, after lengthy discussions, the Council made the decision to implement a five year programme to eliminate the various mutations of this gene from the Breed. I see this Council decision as a bold and positive step forward to protect the Salers unique traits. Since the decision was taken it has been interesting to hear some reaction from producers of other cattle breeds - they admire us for taking this decisive step. Among quotes passed on to me were: "Salers will be the only breed for commercial farmers to turn to if they have calving difficulties in their herd"

Anyone wanting technical information on the Myostatin gene and its mutations can find this on a fact sheet available on the Salers Society website.

As you will be aware, Liz has decided to take life a little easier and regrettably give up her post as Secretary. When Liz took on the role of Secretary in 2010 the Society's administration was not in a good state and she did a lot of work to organise, tidy things up and put in place efficient processes. Liz has been approachable and helpful to members and has been a tremendous promoter of the breed. We are very grateful to her and I would like to add a personal thank you for the help she has given me in my first year as Chairman.

Tom Walling - Chairman

Vice Chairman's Report

Breed Secretary Report



Andrew Sleigh

2019 was such a change from 2018 when we were short of grass and straw whereas the following year these were in abundance and we could hardly give them away. At home we had a surplus field of wheat straw and the best offer we got was someone would bale it, remove it and not charge me anything!!!

It is great to see the Salers topping the list of best bulls in the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation's figures for maternal traits.

It is reassuring to know that our breed is the most profitable suckler breed in Ireland since they started recording. Our ability to tap into these reliable and robust figures underpinned by actual slaughter weights will help the breed go forward.

We, in the livestock industry are facing a rough ride in the coming months and perhaps years. We are a very easy target for "save the planet" groups who claim we are one of the main causes of global warming. Perhaps they should look at the air miles for the vegan food their advocate which usually arrives in a jumbo jet.

Unfortunately, we will be losing our very hard working, understanding, and brilliantly diplomatic secretary, Liz. She has left the society in a better place than she inherited it. But it is not goodbye it's just cheerio, I'm only a phone call away!!!

So, hello Sian! You come with a great pedigree, breeding Angus cattle, plus 3 years' experience with The Highland Cattle Society. We all look forward to working with you for many years to come and I'm sure the Society will be in good hands.

Andrew Sleigh - Vice Chairman



Wow! Where has the last decade gone! It is ten years ago since I answered an advert in the Farmers Guardian, who'd have thought what that would bring.

The Salers Society has achieved so much in the last ten years, no longer am I explaining that those red cattle on our stand are

not Red Devon's or Lincoln Reds or a cross breed; now most farmers know what Salers are and more importantly what they can do for them. It has been a roller coaster ride, but it has been thrilling to be part of the Salers journey. It is now time for the next generation to take the reins and guide Salers through the next decade or two.

I shall be leaving at the end of February with fond memories, having met some lovely people, made friends all over the UK, and the world! I leave knowing that the society is in a good place for the future, whatever that will bring, and that Sian Sharpe, the new breed secretary, has knowledge and enthusiasm to take the breed forward under the guidance of the council of management.

Well as they say "see you and thanks for the ride"

From **Sian Sharpe**, the new breed secretary - "I am delighted to be offered the position of Breed Secretary of the Salers Cattle Society and I look forward to meeting the members and

Best wishes, Liz.



working alongside them to help continue to grow the pedigree market and to capitalise on the already thriving commercial market. I am eager to get started and look forward to working with Liz in February to glean as much knowledge and information as possible."



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OJC, Mourne: Carvill Oliver, Grangehill Farm, 24 Lurganconaray Road, Grange, Kilkeel, Co Down, BT34 3LL, 02841 763095, 07751882614

DWB, Knockagh: Boyd David, 15 Slievetrue Road, Monkstown, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland, 02890 852837

TFC, Glencara: Carragher Francis

THC, Ballvellough: Clokev Thomas, Horsepark House, Magheragall, Lisburn, Co Antrim, BT28 2QU, 02892 621217, 07885 677975

SJC, Ballykeel: Connell Seamus, 62 Ballykeel Road, Rathfriland, County Down, BT34 5AZ, 02830 851512

CGM, Ballylesson: Connon Francis

NMC, Drumherriff: Crudden Noel & Marian, 33 Shanvalley Road, Drumhariff, Kinawley, County Fermanagh, BT92 4GU, 02866 348106, 07792 402656

JSD, Brackenagh: Cousins J, 118 Head Road, Brackenagh West, Kilkeel, Co. Down, 02843 768026

EPD, Maghernahare: Donnelly EP, Maghernahare House 24 Ballinlea Road, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim, 02820 769435

MOL, Molly: Doonan S, 19 Corgesh Road, Kinawley, Co Fermanagh, BT92 4DU, 02867 741067, 07703 026727

GLV, Dowdall J, 20 Ferry Hill Road, Clontigora, Newry, County Armagh, BT35 8RT, 02830 848813, 07468 481853

DRU, Drumlegagh: Elliott J.& EA, Drumlegagh, Newtownstewart, Co. Tyrone, N. Ireland, BT78 4HH, 02881 661654, 07771 701086

JEG, Ballybollen: Gregg Ernie, 27 Ballybollen Road, Agohill, Ballymena, Co Antrim, BT42 2RE, 0282 5871063, 07895 255584

CLE, Cleggan: Johnstone D, Cleggan Estates, 162 Carnlough Road, Ballymena, BT43 7JW, 07751 301290

TJK, Ashcroft: Kelly Farms, 95 Ross Downey Road, Londonderry, N. Ireland, BT47 5SU, 02871 347411, 07801 105655

CAK, Mileview: Kennedy C & A, 45 Templepatrick Road, Ballyclare, Co Antrim, N Ireland, BT39 9TX, 028933 42091, 07800 787831

GMC, Carrick View: McCall GA, 27b Ballymacawley Road, Collone, Armagh, N. Ireland, BT60 2BP, 02837 551614

ALM, Polnagh: McCarragher A

AMC, Emerald: McClements D & Sons Ltd., 13 Ardminnan Road, Portaferry, Co. Down, N. Ireland, BT22 1QJ, 02842 772203

JMF, Broughderg: McFarlane J, 88 Davagh Road, Broughderg, Omagh, Co.Tyrone, BT79 8JE, 07818 093664, 02886 751559

ADW, Alderhood: McMahon M, 15 Altaveedan Road, Breakly, Fivemiletown, Co Tyrone, BT75 ONB, 02284 418138, 07884 418138

MMN, Ballynagilly Salers: McNally Martin Patrick, 95 Fegarron Road, Ballynagilly, Cookstown, Co Tyron, BT80 9TA, 02886 751142, 07754 049491

MAG, Lisnamaul: Maginn PJ & Sons, 129 Ballydugan Road, Lisnamaul, Downpatrick, Co. Down, N. Ireland, BT30 8HG, 02844 614301

JJM, Drumcannon: Maguire JJ, 186 Old Coach Road, Drumcannon, Derrylester, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, BT92 3DH, 02866 348472, 07936 388348

WMM, Millrow: Maxwell WJ & M

NKM, Bradoge: Melly Noel, Manger, Belleek, County Fermanagh, N. Ireland, BT93 3DJ, 02868 658879

MRB, Ballywillan: Millar Robert, 20 Ballywillan Road, Gleno Larne, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland, BT40 3L0, 02828 276633

RJM, Ardstraw: Moore Roy, 6, Brocklis Road, Ardstraw, Omagh, Co. Tyrone, BT78 4LS, 07771 808380

ZEB, Lower Bolie Salers: O'Kane Brian, 34c Dunlade Road, Greysteel, Co Derry, N Ireland, BT47 3EF, 02871 812481, 07761 743935

OKB, Ovill: O'Kane Bros, 410 Foreglen Road, Ovill, Dungiven, Co Derry, BT47 4PN, 02877 741388, 07802 583860

ABO, Ardmachree: Quigley A, Ardmachree Farm, 06 Truston Glebe, Macken, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, BT92 3EN, 07976 926632

SIT, Deersleep: Thompson S, 11 Tattynure Road, Omagh, Co. Tyrone, N. Ireland, BT79 7TP, 02882 247227

DEC, Ward Declan, 52 Glenroe, Dungiven, Co Derry, BT47 4DZ, 07582 085007

CKE, Carrickatane: O'Neill William, 22. Carrickatane Road, Donemana, Strabane, BT82 ONG, 02871 398512, 07803 161940

TEE, Teemore Salers: Wilson C, 12 Cackinish Road, Teemore, Enniskillen, BT92 9BY, 07900 994184

GRW, Brookfields: Wilson G, Backna Mullagh House, Hillsborough Road, Dromore, Co. Down, BT25 1QW, 02892 692304

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LHF, Harperley: Allison P & T, Devereaux Farms, Low Harperley Farm, Nr Fir Tree, Co Durham, DL15 8DY, 01388 762130, 07917 461341

TCA, Mickleton Mill: Atkinson T & C, The Mill, Mickleton, Barnard Castle, DL12 OLS, 07810 094072

BPS, Benridge Pedigree Salers: Bird Lucinda, Benridge Farm, Blackhall, Hartlepool, TS27 4BT, 07846 893109

MWD, Marwood: Blyth RA & J, Middleton House Farm, Elwick, Hartlepool, TS27 3EN, 01429 274549, 07977 997326

CNP. Nab Point: Case W & MM & Sons, Plumpton Cottage Farm, Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 7SH, 01229 861030, 07777 564208

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FAC, Frederick: Claughan Liam, Potters Farm, Elwick Village, Hartlepool, TS27 3ED, 01429 270449, 07814 442291

LWH, Lowick Hall: Colgan Conor, Lowick Hall Farm, Lowick, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland, TD15 2UA, 01289 388523

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PSD.Ravensdale: Dean P. Hill Farm, Heaton, Bolton, Lancs, BL1 5DN, 01204 846855

JAD, Driff: Driffield JA & Son, Huntwich Grange Farm, Streethouse, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF7 6ES, 01924 894869, 07889 778455

DMK, Crowgarth: Dumbreck M, 16 Skelton on Ure, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 5AF, 07933 917832

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MSW, Morwenstow: Austin M, Stanbury Manor, Woodford, Bude, Cornwall, EX23 9JQ, 01288 331279

BAR, Tremayne: Barrett CA & JR

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BRU, Brunyee: Cuzens R & J, Grove Cottage, 27 Martinstown, Dorchester, DT2 9JP, 01305 889542, 07971 233652

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VEN, Ashbury: Light Malcolm, Venn Barton, Ashbury, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 3PF, 01837 871203, 07506 483885

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Bishops Frome, Woke, WK6 5BY, 07709 842829

WKF, West Knapps: Robinson A, DM & DAS, West Knapps Farm, Wembury Road, Wembury, Plymouth, Devon, PL9 0DQ, 01752 402007, 07733 325440

CSS, Kington: Simmons, Carol, Steve & Sophie, Horridge Farm, Romansleigh, South Molton, Devon, EX36 4JR, 01769 550366, 07875 334949

ROM, Romfordian: Thorne Simon & Sarah, Romford Mill Farm, Station Road, Verwood, Dorset, BH31 7LD, 01202 822392, 07718 761985

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OAK, Oakfields: Burbage P & R, Oakfields Farm, East Haddon, Northants, NN6 8DS, 01604 770013, 07740 733197

BEN, Green's Park: C.B. Farms, Green's Park, Woodend, Towcester, Northamptonshire, NN12 8SD, 01327 861072

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SEA, Seawell: Donger PM & SM, Seawell Grounds, Foxley, Towcester, Northants, NN12 8HW, 01327 860226

GEN, Gentons: Facon Bertrand, Lessor Farm, Milcombe, Banbury, Oxon, OX15 4RT, 07785 221961/079060529895

BID, Bidwell: Featherstone Peter, Stable Cottage, 11A Baggrave End, Barsby, Leicestershire, LE7 4RB, 07931 769144

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PEG, Peggy: Howkins M J, Anchor Farm, Anchor Lane, Peggs Green, Leicestershire, LE67 8HA, 01530 223425, 07776 051020

CAO, Luchabolsh: Hill Simon, Park Farm, Tyringham, Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, MK16 9ES, 01234 240408, 07887 548003

CST, Great Casterton: Lamb Richard

WLX, Erpingham: Willcox Peter, Erpingham House, Erpingham, Norwich, NR11 7QD, 01263 761208/7

HWJ, Fellside: Wright H Jnr.

Incomplete contact details are due to not receiving a completed GDPR form.

BREEDPLAN

Demonstrating Salers Commercial Advantages



BREEDPLAN

Demonstrating Salers Commercial Advantages



A MINE OF INFORMATION

From the first imports in 1985, the Salers has become the 8th largest UK beef breed, overtaking so many of the established breeds because of its superior performance on farm. Whilst some traits can be evaluated visually, some of the most important cannot, such as those impacting calving ease, and for these performance recording is vital. The number of Salers breeders who are performance recording and the volume of performance data being submitted to Breedplan has increased again in 2019. This enhances the quality when Breedplan converts this data into EBVs to guide breeders and commercial farmers with their selections.

Breedplan is an open system, anyone can access a wide range of information, for example to find breeders nearby, or look up sale catalogues or to study pedigrees, EBVs, animal details such as myostatin status, and much more. To gain access follow these steps;

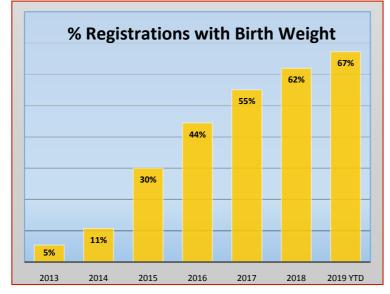
- 1) go to the home page of the Salers Society website (www.salers-cattle-society.co.uk)
- 2) click on the DATABASE menu option, and then enter the database by clicking on the link

Select from the menu of options according to the purpose of your enquiry. For help, contact the Salers Society (see CONTACT menu option on website).

PROTECTING THE SALERS UNRIVALLED CALVING EASE

The reliability of the birth weight EBV is assured by the input to Breedplan of a high percentage of actual birth weights from a wide cross-section of herds across the breed, and for 2019 ytd, 67% of registered calves had a birth weight, the highest yet. This achievement is motivated by the importance attached by Salers breeders to the link between birth weight and calving ease.

Salers sired calves are typically 32-36kg for heifers and 35-40kg for bulls and have a slender shape which together contribute to the Salers exceptional calving ease. Daily live weight gain is also a very important commercial trait, but usually faster growing animals tend to have heavier birth weights, with all that implies for calving difficulties.



The benefits from faster growth must be weighed against the risk of increasing calving difficulties. This compromise can be avoided, as the Published Sires table reveals that there are always some "curve benders" that combine good DLWG with low birth weight.

The various mutations of the myostatin gene are also greatly implicated in increased risk of difficult calvings. The Salers breed is free of these mutations except for a few isolated cases, and the Society has a testing regime, with the results shown in Breedplan using these codes.

MU, animal not tested, and its status is unknown

MO, animal has been DNA tested free of all known mutations

MOP, animal is free of all known mutations by parentage

M1(xxx), animal has been DNA tested and has mutation xxx

M2(xxx,yyy), animal has been DNA tested and has mutations xxx and yyy

This information is also published in all Society sale catalogues to guide potential buyers.

PUBLISHED SIRES

Sire	HB Number	Birth Wt EBV	200 Day Wt EBV	400 Day Wt EBV
Rigel Kale Poll	PYE2015674	-2.7	-10	-9
Rigel Kurt	PYE2015684	-2.4	3	17
Rigel Pluto	PYE2011090	-2.1	2	16
Cleuchhead Dick Dastardly	UK562060301028	-1.9	12	26
Rigel Logan Poll	UK122086601781	-1.8	4	6
Rigel Verdun Poll	PYE2012027	-1.7	-1	8
Cleuchhead McTavish	UK562060201209	-1.4	14	26
Rigel Oak Poll	PYE2013002	-0.7	7	6
Rigel Kirk Poll	PYE2015659	-0.6	10	25
Cleuchhead Legacy	UK562060301161	-0.5	16	29
Oaklands Urgent	DIL2003011	-0.5	2	0
Rigel Byron Poll	PYE2010030	-0.5	8	12
Rigel Mycroft Poll	PYE2013031	-0.5	5	7
Seawell Ambassador	SEA2005012	-0.4	5	10
Cleuchhead Yoda	RAB2009023	-0.2	3	6
Rigel Khamsin	PYE2015661	-0.2	6	20
Rigel Orlando	PYE2008071	-0.2	3	14
Rigel Perth	PYE2012006	-0.2	9	19
Gulliver	IMP2012010	0.0	14	28
Rigel Rourke Poll	PYE2014568	0.0	21	25
Cleuchhead Xerox	RAB2008009	0.2	9	20
Rigel Tybalt	PYE2013004	0.2	6	11
Seawell Franko	SEA2010044	0.3	8	7
Domino	IMP2012005	0.4	7	12
Rigel Lennox	UK122086701775	0.4	6	6
Cuil Godfather	MCC2013028	0.5	17	32
Eveil	IMP2014029	0.5	10	7
Gourmand	IMP2010087	0.5	15	21
Rigel Picasso	PYE2011027	0.5	10	13
Casper	IMP2012004	0.6	13	17
Kracker	IMP97053	0.6	2	2
Lataster Hector	IMP2009047	0.6	7	8
Preenbank Izac	RFP2011011	0.6	17	28
Rigel Orton	PYE2013033	0.6	7	8
Casimir	IMP2008054	0.7	21	30
Drumlegagh Brandon	DRU2008012	0.7	6	10
Seawell Kitemark	UK202227103508	0.7	9	-1
Denver	IMP2010054	0.8	10	2
Hockey	IMP2013005	0.8	11	19

Sire	HB Number	Birth Wt EBV	200 Day Wt EBV	400 Day Wt EBV
Tolquhon Trafalgar II	AAS2013004	0.8	16	17
Tolquhon Bonaparte	AAS2009003	0.9	10	12
Cammel	IMP2012006	1.0	18	32
Breed Average		1.0	11	16
Approach Farm Murray	UK127167400713	1.1	11	28
Bruno	172/6386051716	1.1	13	22
Cleuchhead Murdo	UK562060601283	1.1	15	25
Oaklands Genesis	DIL2011028	1.3	9	19
Upperlands Banker Poll	RSB2001002	1.3	9	16
Cuil Madrid	MCC97004	1.4	12	16
Iron Man	IMP2014030	1.4	17	31
Rigel Munro Poll	PYE2011026	1.5	6	21
Illien	IMP2013011	1.6	7	6
Seawell Lithium	UK202227103844	1.6	18	24
Cumbrian Roge	FSG2014746	1.7	13	21
Ledwyche LLewellyn	UK313482700169	1.8	23	32
Seawell Lancelot	UK202227203677	1.8	15	9
Rigel Drambuie Poll	PYE2014620	1.9	17	26
Vaillant	IMP2009026	1.9	18	32
Beowulf Polled Montana	BEE2011004	2.0	12	19
Rednock Lagerfeld Poll	UK122086501773	2.0	16	32
Rigel Kirsch Poll	PYE2015719	2.1	22	32
Seawell Extra	SEA2009050	2.1	17	25
Whitebog Fury	XH02010005	2.1	16	21
Cleuchhead Chief	RAB2013033	2.2	13	21
Cleuchhead Kingpin	RAB2015056	2.4	16	19
Cleuchhead Compo	RAB2013001	2.5	19	34
Cleuchhead Killycrankie	UK562060701123	2.5	10	10
Highland	IMP2012050	2.5	21	33
Cumbrian Joker Poll	FSG2008007	2.6	20	28
Larry	IMP2014067	2.6	16	21
Manor Lane Firework	CAF2012001	2.8	14	23
Preenbank Kester	RFP2013005	3.0	22	29
Rigel Officer	PYE2012025	3.1	18	33
Domino	324/4688016097	3.2	21	36
Approach Farm Kruger	G0W2015610	3.7	21	33
Lascaux	IMP2015008	4.2	17	12
Harperley Lazlo	UK116219600169	4.3	17	28
Nomad (Nicolas)	IMP2016025	5.5	25	29

Source: December 2019 Salers Group Run. Green highlight indicates EBV equal/better than breed average

CARRICK VIEW SALERS

Scottish Beef Event 2019



George McCall of Carrick View Salers, Northern Ireland, hosted a farm visit for members of the Markethill Beef Group (MBG) in November 2019.

Twenty Five members saw the quality of Mr McCalls Salers cows, with calves at foot.

The top quality calves are a combination of Salers and Culard Charolais. A combination which seems to suit the Northern Ireland market.

Two stock bulls were also shown to the group, a Culard Charolais Bull and a Salers Bull used for their outstanding shape and quality. Salers are noted for their ease of calving which is an important factor when choosing stock bulls.

Mr McCall impressed MBG members with his state of the art animal crush and handling facilities, with very modern and well-constructed calving pens with head locking gates and bedded areas.

Throughout the visit it was evident that farm safety and hygiene was a priority for farm workers and animals.

Following the farm tour the group were invited into George's family home where wife Judy and family members treated everyone to tea, homemade bread and sandwiches with homemade cakes and desserts – a fantastic way to end a very enjoyable and educational day at Carrick View Salers.











Scottish Beef Event 2019 at North Bethelnie, Aberdeenshire with Robbie, Barbara & James Milne

Those with an interest in beef production had an opportunity to learn about the latest technology to help support and develop their businesses at the 2019 Scotland's Beef Event, hosted this year by Robbie and Barbara Milne and their son James, at their North Bethelnie



Farm, near Oldmeldrum in Aberdeenshire.

The Milne family run 330 Salers cows and 70 in-calf heifers on their 200-hectare grassland farm, along with a flock of 200 breeding ewes. They also rent 120 hectares of grass and 147 hectares of hill seasonally.

The Milnes enjoyed showing visitors around their cattle enterprise, naturally modest, they describe their business as "very commercial and down to earth", but it is obvious that they work very hard to produce top-quality calves, utilising technology to adapt their system constantly to satisfy the requirements of the market.

The bulls used are mainly Charolais and Salers, but more recently the Aberdeen-Angus breed has been introduced to the herd. Robbie explained that to reduce the workload the cows are split into early and late-spring calvings, with the first batch calving over a six-week period from January until mid-February and the remainder calving from April until June. Heifers are calved in November to give them time to recover before joining the January herd.

Keen to maximise their output, the Milnes have been increasing their cow numbers steadily over the last few years. As well as buying in a few heifers, they have retained the best of their Salers heifers and also some of the Angus cross Salers, which went to the bull in March. Robbie said: "We have always fancied trying out the Salers/Angus cross, which will hopefully reduce the size of our cows slightly without any loss of calf weight. Some of our cows are 800kg, which we feel is too heavy. The Angus breed is also naturally polled, which saves a lot of work."

Ease of calving is one of the main focuses of the livestock policy at North Bethelnie, so heifers are all subject to pelvic measuring and the bottom five per cent are not retained in the herd. Heifers are bulled when they reach about 450kg and calve down at just over two years old.

Robbie and Barbara believe that it is vitally important to have a live calf on the ground, so as well as pelvic measuring females, they select bulls on ease of calving EBVs.

They import their Charolais bulls from France through an agent who knows exactly what the Milnes require in a bull.

Robbie said: "I like the fact that the French bulls are less 'pushed'; they are very good on their feet and legs and are easy fleshed, and they also calve easily."

Last year, fewer than nine per cent of the cows and heifers required assistance at calving and they achieved a calving percentage of 95% at weaning. Barbara highlighted that the installation of cameras in the calving shed last year was a big

help and added: "We can keep an eye on them from the house, so we don't need to disturb them in the middle of the night."

Robbie has managed to maximise his stocking density by paying careful attention to his grass. Last year he over-seeded 40 hectares with a clover mix, which has been very successful.

He manages to cut over 90 hectares of grass each year for silage in one, two or three cuts to give him plenty of fodder for his growing herd.

Cows used to be outwintered on turnips and grass until calving, but the high levels of winter rainfall in Aberdeenshire led the family to review this. They now keep the grass to make extra silage and the cows are all housed over winter on a diet of silage, straw and draff.

The knock-on effect of this is that most of the calves are now sold store instead of being taken through to finishing, as there is not enough housing. However, Robbie said: "We try to adapt our system to what the market wants, and the price has been good for store cattle over the last couple of years. We sell most of the calves at Thainstone at 10 months when they weigh 380 to 400kg."

The January-born male calves are the exception, as they are put on an intensive barley beef ration and finished at 14 months of age.

Regardless of whether calves are sold store or finished, Robbie said: "We try to produce an animal that suits the market we decided to target with our breeding, and we are very proud of the guality and consistency of what we produce."



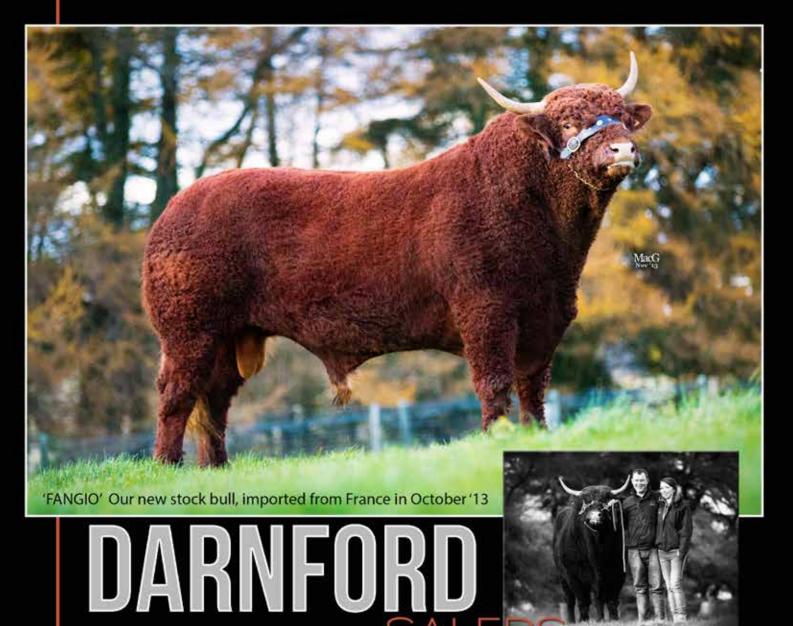
Calves are all electronically tagged and weighed regularly, and the family are looking to invest in a new handling system to make recording easier. Robbie said: "The information we get from EID is great, not only for monitoring calf growth rates but also as a tool for finding the best performing cows."

He continued: "This year we will pick out the bottom 20 per cent of cows, and if they continue to be poor performers next year then we will consider getting rid of them."

The family has also diversified into contract grain milling. Son James runs that side of the business, and they take grain from a 50-mile radius for treatment and milling all year round, although they are at their busiest during harvest.

The Milnes believe it is vitally important to react to markets and produce what is in demand. Even in the current climate of uncertainty surrounding Brexit etc., the Milnes remain optimistic about the future, which is evident in the fact that they are increasing cow numbers. Robbie said: "There is likely to be some upheaval in the market place due to Brexit, and if we knew what markets we were aiming for it would be better, but I believe cattle will be in short supply in two years' time and I want to be in a position to take advantage of that. Also, people still need







Res Senior Champion - Castle Douglas'13 - Joint Top Price, 6000gns

Breeding Success

Males and Females for Sale Member of SAC Health Scheme David Watson 07855 490 495 e: dave811@live.co.uk www.facebook.com/darnfordsalers



Female Champion - Castle Douglas '13 - Sold for 4000gns

MacGregor



by kind permission of Katrina Macarthur

Pete Watson, and sons David and Adam, have become noted consignors at Aberdeen and Northern Marts' (ANM) Thainstone Centre, selling top-end, even batches of Charolais cross stots and heifers which are sold to returned buyers every year.

The well-known family business based near Banchory, includes a large-scale beef enterprise consisting of 420 commercial suckler cows and 30 pedigree Salers, while 550 acres of spring barley is grown for malting and home-use.

"Our business has been trading with ANM for a number of years now and we've been selling at Thainstone since it opened 30 years ago," said David.

"We have a strong belief in the live auction system and believe it's the best way to get the true value of stock. You get the audience and buyers forward at

Thainstone every week, with 90% of our cattle bought by repeat customers.

"In the north-east, the Charolais is king so we are hitting the target market at Thainstone and usually receive a substantial premium over other breeds of cattle sold there," he added.

Charolais cross calves from Darnford are usually at the top of the tree for averages, with the top draw regularly cashing in at £1200 per head and weighing an average of 450kg.

The herd is made up of Salers cross cows, with heifers and second calvers bulled to the Salers or Hereford for breeding replacements and the remainder to the Charolais – a terminal sire the family has been using for more than 40 years.

Of the 420 suckler cows, 330 are calved in the spring and are outwintered on

stubble neeps, before coming inside a fortnight before calving.

The remainder of the herd is calved in the back-end and is housed throughout the winter on a silage and straw based ration.

All calves are weaned at around eight-months-old when they receive a mixed ration of silage, draff, neeps, barley and dark grains formulated around silage analysis by Harbro beef specialist Peter Oag.

The business is fairly self-sufficient when it comes to feed, with home-grown silage and straw used, and roughly 400 tonnes of barley kept for feeding each year.

Additional draff, tatties and neeps are purchased when market prices are favourable.

"We like the Salers for ease of management and we don't have to batch for calving as the Salers can be put to any bull, even easy fleshing, muscular Charolais bulls," commented David.

"The calving ease and great fertility of the Salers breed has allowed us to significantly increase our numbers with the same labour at calving time and we haven't had to sacrifice our calf quality. Conception rates are consistently around 95% with the aim to wean a calf from over 90% of cows put to the bull."

Over the years, superior stock bulls have been bought at auction, with two of the most noted sires being Thurso Franco and Bonnykelly Jackpot, which the Watsons purchased at the Royal Northern Spring Show in 2015 for the top price on the day of 6500gns.

"The Charolais breed produces very uniform batches of calves for selling through the store ring at Thainstone and you can't beat the breed for its impressive weight gain attributes," he added.



A large entry of Salers, 29 bulls and 16 females, gave a good selection of animals for any discerning buyer.

The show was judged by G McDougal, a great Salers commercial breeder from Bassindean, Gordon.



Salers have a good following from younger breeders in the UK, and it was good to see Angus McClymont taking out animals from his father's Cuil herd, which of course was established by Graham McClymont a stalwart of the breed from its beginnings in the UK.



The overall show champion title went to the senior champion from Rigel Pedigree, Leven Fields, Yarm – Rigel Lancer Poll selling for £3675





Top price bull went to Cammock Mormo from Nial Blair selling for £6825 to Salers breeder D Watson, Banchory.

SHOW RESULTS

Judge: G McDougal, Bassindean, Gordon

Bulls born on or between 25 March & 1 November 2019

1st Rigel Lancer Poll - Rigel Pedigree (sold £3675)

2nd Tolquhon Lancelot - Jack Sleigh & Sons Ltd (sold £3990)

3rd Whitebog Lambourghini - D M Lyle (sold £3150)

4th Rednock Lawrence - G & M Pye (sold £3675)

5th Rednock Laphroaig Blk - G & M Pye (sold £2100)

Bulls born on or between 2 November 2016 & 11 May 2017

1st Cuil Leyland - Mr C McClymont (sold £3150)

2nd Darnford Mac - D Watson (sold £3150)

3rd Tolquhon Masterpiece - Jack Sleigh & Sons Ltd (not sold)

4th Cumbrian Masterclass - Farmstock Genetics (Sold £3150)

5th Drumaglea Martin Mr P Boyd (not sold)

Bulls born on or after 12 May 2017

1st Cumbrian Moonraker - Farmstock Genetics (sold £4200)

2nd Darnford Mario - D Watson (sold £3150)

3rd Whitebog Muppet - Mr A MacKenzie (not sold)

4th Darnford Miles - D Watson (sold £3150)

5th Whitebog Magic - Mr A MacKenzie (sold £5250)

Show Champion - Bryan Walling Memorial Cup Rigel Lancer Poll, Rigel Pedigree

Reserve Show Champion

Cumbrian Moonraker, Farmstock Genetics

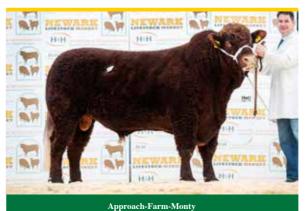
A draft sale of Pedigree Females from Seamore Farming sold to an average of £2053.

Sale Prices/Averages

Pedigree Bulls top price £6825, average £3303

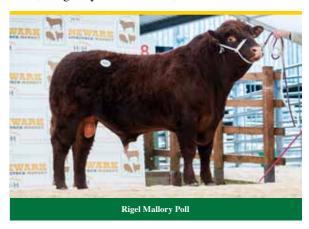
Three bulls and three females were forward for the English Premier Show under joint sale auctioneers Newark Livestock Market Ltd. and Harrison & Hetherington Ltd.

Approach Farm Monty from A & K Gowthorpe captured the eye of pre sale judge Jonathan Shepherd, Yorkshire Wagyu Co. Tibthorpe, Driffield, who tapped him out as Champion on the day, with reserve champion going to female Rigel Black Pearl Poll, who later sold to Salers breeder R Cuzens from Dorchester, who also loaded up with Rigel Martha Poll.





Top price at the sale went to Rigel Mallory Poll at £4200, bought by EJW Holman, Norwick



5 pure bred bulling heifers from GW Woolhouse & Sons Ltd. went through the ring to an average of £860.

SHOW RESULTS

Judge: Jonathan Shepherd, The Yorkshire Wagyu Co, Driffield.

Bulls

1st Approach Farm Monty - A & K Gowthorpe (no sale)

2nd Rigel Mallory Poll Rigel Pedigree (sold for £4200)

3rd Approcah Farm Max - A & K Gowthorpe (no sale)

Females

1st Rigel Black Pearl Poll - Rigel Pedigree

2nd Rigel Martha Poll - Rigel Pedigree

3rd Stillbeck Molly - GW Woolhouse & Sons Ltd.

2019 Welshpool Society Sale May

A successful spring sale at Welshpool with plenty of interest around the ring. Plenty of choice in bulls and with a production sale from Preenbank Salers there was more than enough choice in females.

The pre-sale show was judged by Geraint Powell from Kerry, Newtown who tapped out his champion to Seawell Magnum from P M & S M Donger, Towcester. Approach Farm Monty from A & K Gowthorpe, York made reserve.

SHOW RESULTS

Judge: Geraint Powell, Kerry, Newtown

Senior Males

1st Approach Farm Monty - A & K Gowthorpe (sold for £2100)

2nd Seawell Maverick PM & SM Donger sold for (£3780)

3rd Seawell Montgomery - PM & SM Donger (no sale)

4th Seawell Merlot - PM & SM Donger (sold for £2625)

Intermediate Males

st Seawell Magnum - PM & SM Donger (no sale)

2nd Seawell Mozart - PM & SM Donger (no sale)

Junior Males

1st Preenbank Nando F & B Robinson (sold for £3570)

2nd Preenbank Norman F & B Robinson (no sale)

rd Preenbank Nobleman - F & B Robinson (sold for £2415)

Overall Champion

Seawell Magnum, PM & SM Donger

Reserve Overall Champion

Approach Farm Monty, A & K Gowthorpe

Sale Prices/Averages

Pedigree Bulls top price £3780 average £2898

Pedigree Females top price £2625 average £1695 Commercial Females top price £1400 average £1100

MYOSTATIN

MYOSTATIN testing has been introduced by several beef breeds as another selection 'tool' for beef farmers, and while the majority of farmers have little knowledge of what the gene is or how it operates, the Salers Cattle Society has made the decision to eliminate it from their herdbook within the next five years.

The gene, which is associated with double muscling and is recessive in all mammals, influences the production of a protein that controls muscle development. Natural mutations cause a deletion in the bovine myostatin so the muscles keep growing, resulting in the double-muscled phenotype.

However, while double muscled calves regularly command a premium in the market place, breeding from cattle with this extra muscle often results in calving difficulties and reduced fertility the exact opposite of the Salers which is renowned for it's wide pelvis and unrivalled calving ease. Hence, the decision to make the breed 100% free of these mutations which to date have only been found in very small proportion of cattle, has been made.

"The Salers is one of the fastest growing breeds in the UK and we have to protect the breed's maternal, fertile, ease of calving characteristics," said Tom Walling, chairman of the Salers Cattle Society. "Testing of individual bulls over the years and their family lines, show there are only a select number with the NT82L gene which is one myostatin that has been shown to cause calving problems in Charolais and Limousins, and has already been banned in Salers in France, so we are in a good position to protect the UK Salers population. Trials have shown double copies of the gene (from the dam and sire of a mating programme) reduce fertility and the size of the testicles while also shortening the bones in the pelvis thereby affecting calving ease in the progeny. We just cannot afford to let such genes ruin the Salers which is renowned for it's ease of calving," he said.

The starting point to make UK Salers 100% myostatin free was the discovery by the French Salers Society that a couple of the myostatin mutations had infiltrated the breed. These were found in about 1% of animals tested.

The French took the decision to eliminate them and implemented a programme of mandatory testing of bulls and don't allow bulls with these mutations to be registered. Subsequent testing of Salers in the UK revealed the presence of the mutated genes in a small number of animals descending from four French animals.

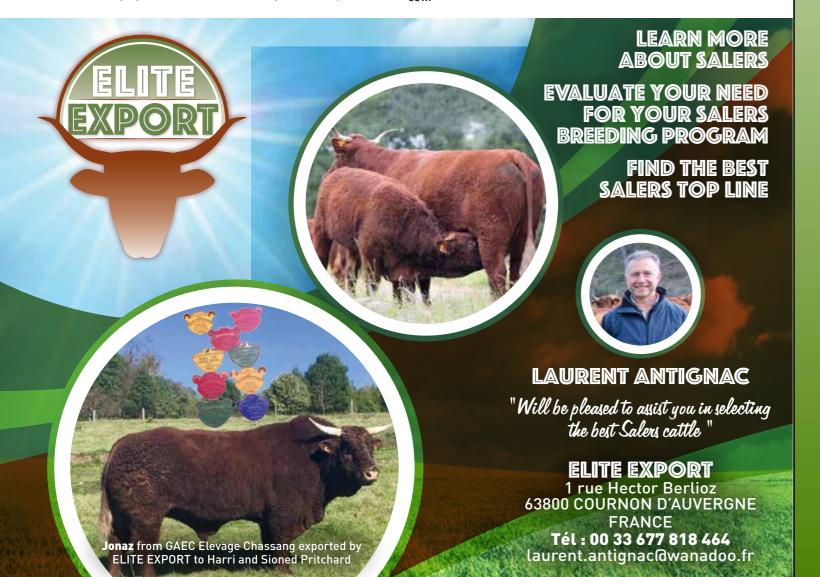
Following consultation with members, in March 2019 the council of the Salers Society decided that there is no place for these

To give breeders time to tidy up their herds, the deadline of January 1, 2024 was set, from which no registrations will be accepted for animals with any of the myostatin mutations. Great progress has been made with almost 1200 animals achieving M0 status in five months. In the interim, to ensure that purchasers of breeding stock have the information, all bulls must be tested to be registered, as must all entries to society sales.

The myostatin status will be shown on the pedigrees and in the sale catalogues, where a status of M0 or M0P indicates an animal is free of the mutations. M1 means an animal has a single copy and M2 means it has two copies of any of the mutations.

Making the myostatin status known to commercial farmers it vital, as the worst effects of the myostatin mutation on calving ease etc. occur when an animal inherits two copies, one from each parent. Suckler farmers can avoid this risk by keeping cows that are M0, whilst still being able to use a strongly muscled terminal sire to gain improved conformation, as the resulting calves will at most have just one copy.

The Salers Cattle Society believes making the breed M0 in addition to its well documented ease of calving, milkiness and fertility, will protect its position of aiming to be the ultimate suckler





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Junior Female RHS 2019 Beeston Hall Mitzi



BVD Accredited Johnes level 1 **TB4 Area**



2019 Stirling Bull Sales May

A good sale of Salers at Stirling in May, eleven entered, eight forward, seven sold to an average of £4080.

Pre-sale judge Mr Jim Morton, Melrose, Roxburghshire thoroughly enjoyed the task in hand and was very happy that his show champion Rednock Mercury took top price, with his reserve taking second highest price.





£6510 was paid for the pre-sale show champion Rednock Mercury, lot 177 from Rednock Estates, Port of Menteith. This April 2017 born bull sired by Rigel Officer showed some power, he sold to Messrs Proctor, Hexham Northumberland.



The reserve show champion Drumaglea Major, lot 173 from P Boyd, Isle of Tiree, made 4,500gns and sold to A V Hamilton, Dumfries.



SHOW RESULTS

Judge: J Morton, Melrose

Bulls born on or between 2 April 2016& 29 March 2017

Drumaglea Major - Mr P Boyd (sold £4725)

Rigel Memphis Blk - Rigel Pedigree (not sold)

Bulls born on or after 30 March 2017

Rednock Mercury

- G & M Pye (sold £6510)

Whitebog Muppet

- A MacKenzie (sold £3150)

Rigel MacAllan Poll

- Rigel Pedigree (sold £4200)

Drumaglea Mighty Mouse

- Mr P Boyd (Sold £3000)

Marwood Mighty

- R A & J Blyth (Sold £3675)

Rednock Meteor Blk Poll

- G & M Pye (sold £3150)

Show Champion

Rednock Mercury, G & M Pye

Reserve Show Champion

Drumaglea Major, Mr P Boyd

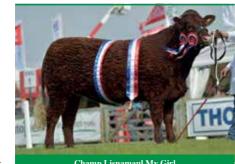
Sale clearance rate of 88%

2019 Balmoral Show (RUAS)



"My Girl" scoops the Salers Championship at the Balmoral Show

It was a super week for the Maginn family, Downpatrick when they scooped their first Supreme Breed



Championship in the ring at the Balmoral Show.

Their outstanding home bred two year old heifer Lisnamaul My Girl is sired by Seawell Fitzpatrick and out of Lisnamaul Eimar who is still going strong at 16 years of age.

Standing in Reserve position was the Junior Champion from B & P O'Kane, Greysteel; Lower Bolie Neala was winner in the yearling class and was bred by the O'Kane's, sired by the French bull Druide.



This pair of animals then joined up with B & P O'Kane's Brookfields Rosheen, P J Maginn's Lisnamaul Molly and a young bull Kaimburn Mr Cool from C & S Kennedy to be tapped out runners up in the Continental Team of 5 Championships.



The Reserve Junior championship was awarded to J & EA Elliott, Newtownstewart with their young bull Drumlegah Neptune, who is sired by the multi prize winning home bred bull Drumlegagh Hamish.

SHOW RESULTS

Judge: Patrick Boyd

Cow, in calf or with calf at foot

1st Drumlegagh Galaxy

J & EA Elliott

Heifer, born on or before 31st December 2017

Lisnamul My Girl - P Maginn & Sons Brookfields Rosheen - B & P O'kane

Lisnamaul Magic - P Maginn & Sons

Lisnamaul Molly - P Maginn & Sons

Drumlegagh Luna - J & EA Elliott 5th

Drumlegagh Lexie - J & EA Elliott

Heifer, born on or after 1st January 2018

Lower Bolie Neala - B & P O'Kane

Drumlegagh Nikita - J & EA Elliott

Ochidee - P Maginn & Sons Lisnamaul Nancy - P Maginn & Sons

Ondine - P Maginn & Sons

Bull, up to 2 years old on day of show

Drumlegagh Neptune - J & EA Elliot Brookfields Majestic - B & P O'Kane

Bull over 2 years old on day of show

Kaimburn Mr Cool - C & A Kennedy

Drumlegagh Hamish - J & EA Elliott

Ballybollen Moore - E Gregg

Salers Show Champion - Highways Hotel Cup

P Maginn & Sons, Lisnamul My Girl

Salers Reserve Show Champion - Highways Hotel Cup

B & P O'Kane, Lower Bolie Neala

Salers Junior Champion Cup

B & P O'Kane, Lower Bolie Neala

Salers Junior Reserve Champion Cup

J & EA Elliot, Drumlegagh Neptune

Wallets Marts Shield for best home bred animal

P Maginn & Sons, Lisnamul My Girl

Salers Society Cup for Best Pair of animals

P Maginn & Sons, Lisnamaul My

Girl and Lisnamaul Magic

Salers Society Cup for Best Turned Out Team

P Maginn & Sons

The show team took Reserve Champions in the Inter breed Team of Five.

A tremendous results for Salers!

The best pair from one exhibitor is always a good class, and this was won by the Maginn family with their Champion Heifer matched with another two year old heifer from the Lisnamaul herd also sired by Seawell Fitzpatrick.

Judging was in the capable hands of Patrick Boyd, who runs the noted Drumaglea Salers herd based in the Isle of Tiree.

Bacardi Salers



BULLS & HEIFERS FOR SALE PRIVATELY Sired by Magnificent | Seawell Kitemark | Gulliver



f Bacardi Salers

EASY CARE SALERS

A HIT FOR THE CROCKETTS

Feature courtesy of Kathryn Dick, Scottish Farmer, photographs by Emma Cheape

ENTICED by their longevity, high fertility and easy calving potential, father and son duo, Roy and Adam Crockett, are firm converts to Salers cattle and believe they have found the ideal when producing the ultimate suckler cow.

Based outside Melrose, in the scenic Scottish Borders, the Crockett family manage a herd of 100 pure-bred Salers cattle, of which 24 are run under the well-known Bacardi prefix. Roy, who is a full-time foot-trimmer, alongside his son Adam, ran a herd of pure-bred Charolais and Limousin cattle, before switching to Salers.



After encountering the breed whilst working on other farms, the Crocketts decided to sell up their Charolais and Limousin herds and invested in 22 pure-bred Salers cows from Rob and Kath Livesey's Cleuchhead herd – famed for producing the most fertile cattle in Scotland in 2012 – which is located in Melrose. It was made clear by both Roy and Adam that, since the switch, life has been made a whole lot easier with the breed. "The Salers is the ideal animal if you are looking for an easily managed breed that is hardy with a good temperament – as well as producing top quality breeding and fat cattle," said Roy.



"Adam and myself are both busy with other enterprises, so we needed cattle that didn't require monitoring 24/7 and could just get on with calving by themselves. The Salers proved to be the perfect breed for us."

Since the initial purchase of their foundation cows, the Crocketts have bred all of their own herd replacements, with the exception of bought-in bulls from herds abroad and in the UK, including Seawell Kitemark, a bull from Peter Donger's Seawell herd, from near Towcester, Northamptonshire.

One other bull that has made his mark on the herd was the French import, Gulliver, purchased as a yearling in 2012, which went on to stand as Royal Highland champion in 2013. He has since produced some of Roy and Adam's best cattle, including their highest priced Salers bull to date, Bacardi Legend, which was sold at Castle Douglas for £15,000, in 2017.

Other progeny by Gulliver included the 2018 Royal Highland reserve champion, Bacardi Ludacris, as well as Bacardi Jessie Jay, the 2018 Great Yorkshire and Royal Highland champion, and this year's Royal Highland champion, Bacardi Kesha.

On average, Roy and Adam aim to purchase one bull per year to ensure the genetics of their herd are continually mixed and improved. When picking a bull to buy, it seemed that the pair have very high standards and the old saying goes – behind every good man, is an even better woman!

"We never buy a bull without looking at the mother. We are breeding with the aim of producing the ultimate female that has good udders, a quiet temperament and easy calving "We want to be able to breed a cow that can be put to any breed of bull and will produce a good calf. If the mother of the bull has all those attributes, then we hope to see that follow through in the offspring of the bull."

To back up their claims for the commercial abilities of the pure-breds, a few years ago the Crocketts decided to put some of their Salers cows to a Simmental bull, and the results were as foretold.

"The Salers cow put to a Simmental bull worked well. The calves thrived off of the mother and had a bit more muscle about them, from the sire. We were able to get bull calves away quicker than the Salers, and heifer calves sold well too," stated Roy.

"However, the Simmental cross breeding heifer wasn't as popular when we took them to market, compared to the pure-bred Salers heifers, which were making around £1000 more, per head."



After years of breeding their own replacement stock, the Crockett's are now in a position where they can sell some of their top quality cattle, and demand for their Salers seems to be high.

"We tend to keep the best cattle from all age groups for replacements and then open the doors for buyers to take their pick," Roy said.

"We sell the majority of our pedigree stock privately off the farm, with the rest heading to Castle Douglas for commercial use."

The rest of the cattle that are not reared for breeding purposes are finished on the farm and then sold deadweight to ABP, hopefully at around 400kg hanging up.

In the winter months and during calving, the cattle are housed at Prieston Farm, which Roy and Adam rent from Philip Haugh Estate.



Calving occurs in two batches, with 50 of the cattle calving in January, and the other half calving in mid- April, all of which occurs indoors and requires little input due to the Salers easy calving abilities.

They are low maintenance in terms of feeding, too, with cows receiving a silage and straw mix, plus the addition of a soya concentrate three weeks prior to calving.

The cattle are then put out to 200 acres of rented grassland at the beginning of April, until the end of October.

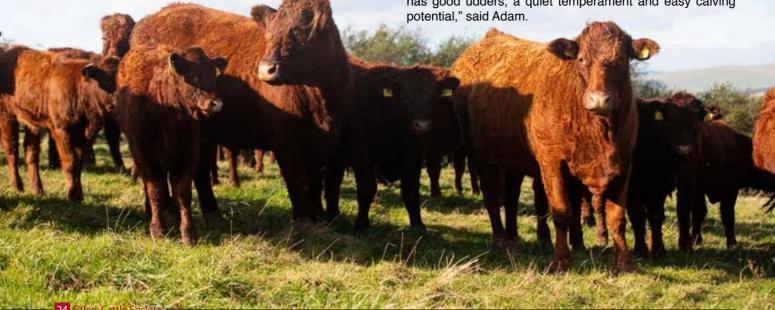
The Crocketts have a strict policy when it comes to ensuring only the best of the best are retained in the Bacardi herd. "Firstly, we muscle scan everything, particularly eye muscle scanning, which helps us detect if the cattle have a good top and back layer," pointed out Adam.

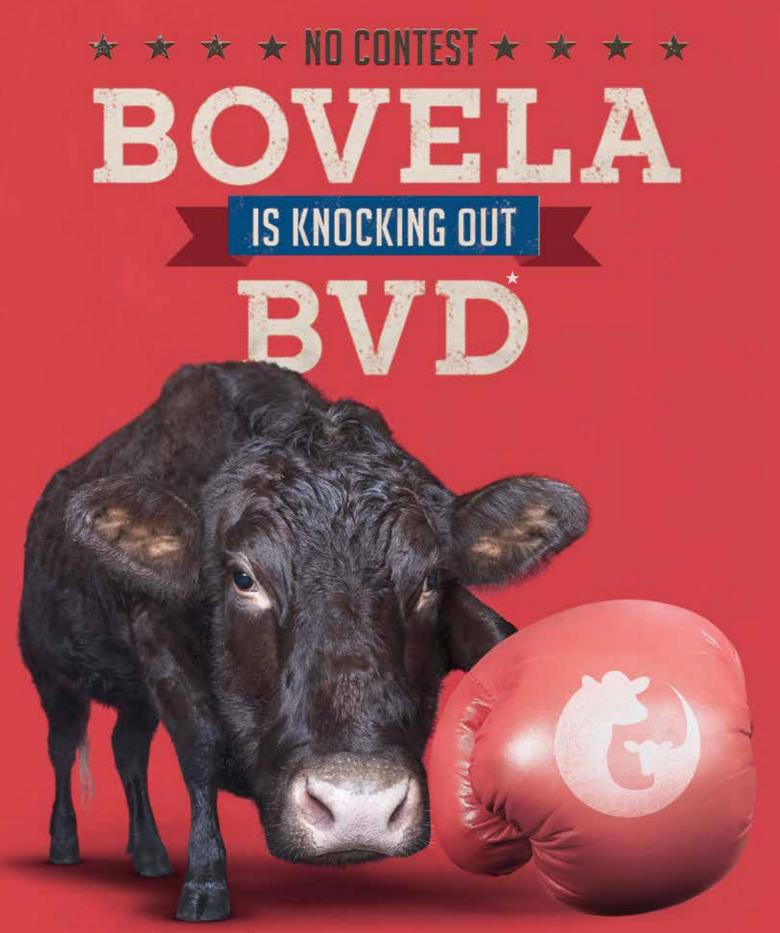
"As well as this, we record testicle size and daily weight gain. On average, our weaned calves should be gaining 1.6-2kg per day. If the calves don't meet this benchmark, then they are reared for beef."

It follows, then, that Roy and Adam also have a strict culling policy. Any cattle showing signs of bad temperament, as well as poor udder, daily weight gain and overall appearance, are sent 'down the road'.

When asked about the myostatin ban (double muscling gene) within the breed, Adam commented "this really isn't an issue to us. None of our cows have been bred with the gene and we have no intention of introducing it. If we had a bought in bull that did have this gene, then we would remove him and any of his offspring."

Touching on the future of the breed, Roy concluded "As long as the cows can be used to breed a calf off any breed of bull and milk well then the Salers breed will be fine. However, I can see people wanting to introduce a bit more muscle to the cattle, which, in turn will reduce their ease of calving abilities and the breed will suffer.





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ces: 1, Yarnall and Thrusfield (2017) Vet Record doi: 10.1136/vr.104370 2. Kynetec (2019) BVD sales data by value, Full year 2018 3. For immunisation of cattle against BVDV-1 and BVDV-2, to prevent the birth of persistently infected calves caused by transplacental infection,



The Salers Cattle Society explains why the breed is proving so popular in the UK.

With the courtesy of the Northern Farmer

THE Salers has grown in popularity since arriving from the French Central Massif in 1985, to now be the eighth largest beef breed in the UK.

According to BCMS figures, over the last five years the number of calves by Salers bulls has increased by 50 per cent and the number of Salers suckler cows is up 34 per cent.

Without the benefit of supermarket schemes or lavish funding for promotion, the secret of the Salers sustained growth is simply its demonstrated performance on farm, which rests on the Salers unrivalled calving ease.

Farmers switching to Salers are often busy commercial farmers with large and/or varied farming enterprises and what they get from Salers is unassisted calvings, lower costs, more calves weaned, more kilos sold, more profit and less hassle.

The Salers unique combination of traits stem from its origins in the Cantal mountains, where the cows were milked for cheese production, and their calves kept separately but are brought to suckle their dam twice a day after milking. These calves were sold as yearlings for fattening All this was achieved without concentrates, just grass or hay.

This system selected cows that are great forage converters, are milky with good udders and that produce fast growing beef calves.

Salers breeders in France are guided by their breed society to give importance to low birth weight and large pelvic area as selection criteria, which is reinforced by the selection of AI sires with these traits from amongst the young bulls from their bull test station.

Traits underpinning the Salers' outstanding easy calving:

- Calf conformation
- Calf size (birth weight)
- Dam pelvic area.

Calf conformation is very important. Some breed's calves have a large head, shoulders or hips, which is where they get stuck in bad calvings. A Salers bull has a strong advantage as his calves have a streamline conformation (small heads, slender shoulders and hips).

Salers sired calves are small compared to those by other breeds, with heifers typically 30-35kg and bulls 35-40kg. These low birth weights, in combination with slender calf conformation, are the secret of the Salers effortless easy calving. Also, the Salers gestation of 280 to 285 days is about ten days shorter than other continental breeds, taking about 5kg off the birth weight.

The frustrations and costs of bad calvings are spurring farmers to switch to using a Salers bull for his easy calving. However, the real payoff comes if the Salers heifers are retained for replacement sucklers, as the Salers bull confers a very large pelvic area on his progeny.

Research in the USA identified that the Salers has the largest pelvic area of any of the major beef breeds.

Salers-sired cows put to the Charolais or Simmental bull are proving very successful as they calve unassisted to these breeds and have the milk and mothering ability to rear an outstanding calf that commands a premium at market.

For more information, visit www.salers-cattle-society.co. uk or call the Salers Secretary on 07903 626249.

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2019 Great Yorkshire Show

Record cattle entries in this year's iconic three day Great Yorkshire Show, one of the largest shows in the English calendar.

Judge Alun Jones, Talsarnau, Wales picked a sweet little heifer in Jedforest Nightshade as his breed champion, owned by Greg and Lewis Ralston from Jedburgh. Reserve went to Rednock Mauriac, G Pye from Stirling.



SHOW RESULTS

Judge: Alun Jones - Gwynedd, Wales

Bull born before 1 January 2018

Rednock Mauriac - G & M Pye Cumbrian Moonraker - T & I Walling

Bull born on or after 1 January 2018

Rigel Norbert - Rigel Pedigree

Rigel Nirvana - Rigel Pedigree

Bacardi Nashville - R & A Crockett

Kaimburn Nuclear - Edgerton Trading

Cleuchhead Norman - R & K Livesev

Rednock Nile Poll -G & M Pve

Cow born on or before 31 Dec 2016, in milk or in calf

Bacardi Keisha - R & A Crockett

Cleuchhead Image 1158 - R & K Livesey

Mock Delia - A & K Gowthorpe

Manor Lane Hope - C A Fox

Heifer born on or after 1 January 2017 and before 31 December 2017

Bacardi Miss Money-Penny R & A Crockett Approach Farm Mary - A & K Gowthorpe

Manor Lane Mia - M Dumbreck 3rd

Manor Lane Mischief - C A Fox

Beeston Hall Mitzi - S & R Hallos

Beeston Hall Melinda - S & R Hallos

Cumbrian Jolie 916 - T & I Walling

Rednock America - G & M Pye 8th

Heifer born on or after 1 January 2018

Jedforest Nightshade - G & L Ralston

Approach Farm Narnia - A & K Gowthorpe

Kaimburn Nigella - Edgerton Trading

Group of three animals, property of the same exhibitor (L'Ansons Trophy)

A & K Gowthorpe

R & Crockett

G & M Pye





Pair of animals by the same sire

(Jock Watson Trophy) S & R Hallos

R & A Crockett

3rd A & K Gowthorpe

Best polled animal (Arthur Beevers Cup)

Rednock Nile Poll - G & M Pye

Salers Breed Champion (Rigel Cup)

Jedforest Nightshade - G & L Ralston

Salers Reserve Breed Champion (KW Alternative Feeds Cup)

Rednock Mauriac - G & M Pye

Salers Male Champion (Watson Trophy)

Rednock Mauriac - G & M Pye

Salers Reserve Male Champion

Rigel Norbert - Rigel Pedigree

Salers Female Champion (Bents Farm Trophy)

Jedforest Nightshade - G & L Ralston

Salers Reserve Female Champion

Bacardi Keisha - R & A Crockett

Salers Junior Champion (Salers Society Cup)

Jedforest Nightshade - G & L Ralston

Salers Reserve Junior Champion (Dennis White Cup)

Rigel Norbert - Rigel Pedigree

Stockmans Cup

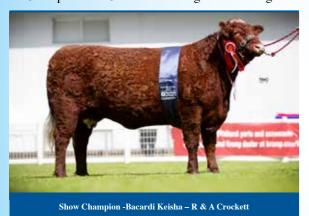
Greg Lewis

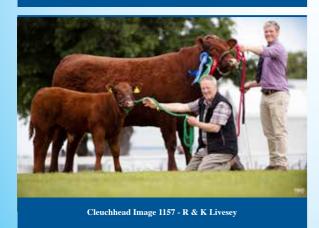
2019 Royal Highland Show



The 179th Royal Highland Show is one of Scotland's most celebrated events showcasing the very best in farming, food and rural life. The show has over 900 competitions, 1,000 trade exhibitors and over 6,500 animals. Salers are a small but vital part of the cattle show.

Judge Alisdair Davidson, Moffat did a fine job choosing his champions as true representation of what a good Salers should be. The females took it with Bacardi Keisha taking the Breed Champion and Cleuchhead Image 1157 taking reserve.







SHOW RESULTS

Judge: Alisdair Davidson

Female born after 31st March 2018

Jedforest Nightshade - G & L Ralston

Cleuchhead Image 1329 - R & K Livesey

Kaimburn Nigella - Edgerton Trading (2006) Ltd 3rd

Mickleton Mill Nebula - T & C Atkinson

Female born or or between 24th June 2017 and 31st March 2018

Beeston Hall Mitzi - Beeston Hall Farms Ltd

Beeston Hall Melinda - Beeston Hall Farms Ltd

Cleuchhead Ideale 1303 - R & K Livesey

Rednock America - G Pye

5th Mickleton Mill Noelle - T & C Atkinson

Rednock Daenarys Blk - G Pye

Female born on before 1st January 2016

Bacardi Keisha - R & A Crockett

Bull born after 31st March 2016

Kaimburn Nuclear - Edgerton Trading (2006) Ltd

Cleuchhead Norman - R & K Livesey

3rd Cleuchhead Nordic - R & K Livesey

Bacardi Nice Guy - R & A Crockett 4th

Rednock Nile Poll - G Pye

Bull born between 24th June 2017 and 31st March 2018

Cumbrian Moonraker - T & I Walling

Bull born before 24th June 2017

Cleuchhead Munro - D R Durno & Son

Rednock Mauriac - G Pye

Show Champion (Swardsman Perpetual Trophy)

Bacardi Keisha – R & A Crockett

Show Reserve Champion (The Salers Bell)

Cleuchhead Image 1157 – R & K Livesey

Champion Female (QET Perpetual Trophy)

Bacardi Keisha – R & A Crockett

Champion Male (Rumenco Perpetual Trophy)

Cumbrian Moonraker – T & I Walling

Junior Female Champion (The Lochdougan Trophy)

Beeston Hall Mitzi – Beeston Hall Farms Ltd

Junior Male Champion (The Cuil Claret Jug)

Cumbrian Moonraker – T & I Walling

Best Pair of animals

R & A Crockett

Best Group of three animals (Dingwall & Highland Marts Trophy)

R & K Livesey

Stockmans Cup

Catherine Atkinson





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HOW A SALERS HERD AIMS TO BECOME CARBON NEUTRAL BY 2035



An ambitious Northumberland farmer has halved his beef unit's carbon footprint since 2009 and is now striving to be carbon neutral in 16 years. Michael Priestley reports

Mixed farmer Conor Colgan is using increasingly sophisticated methods and research to increase the efficiency of his farm in an attempt to become carbon neutral.

Relatively basic improvements in herd productivity have been achieved at Aidansfield, near Berwick in Northumberland, by changing breed, increasing herd size and selling animals at a younger age.

But Mr Colgan is now looking to use ground-breaking science to drive future progress.

"It's important the herd is efficient here, as this is 4.5t/acre wheat country," says Mr Colgan, who farms on a heavy clay loam over a limestone substrate.

"The cows need to be producing an income of £800/acre to justify themselves against the wheat."

Aidansfield farm facts

- 335ha, of which 66ha in permanent pasture
- 305ha ring-fenced, with 30ha of cropping land around neighbouring village
- Farmed in a family partnership
- 145 pedigree Salers suckler cows
- 30-40 yearling heifers sold for breeding annually
- Cattle finished intensively and sold to Linden Foods

Reducing the farm's carbon footprint

he first moved from Northern Ireland to Lowick in 2002, Mr Colgan switched to pedigree Salers cows.

Up until 2006, the farm finished steers and heifers at two years old from a herd of 60 cows, but by building a name for goodquality Salers heifers and finishing stock more intensively, the system has doubled its stocking rate.

Mr Colgan now sells bulling heifers at 12-14 months and all bulls of the farm are finished by 15 months of age, rather than selling much older steers.

This means there is room to stock more cows, with the stocking rate now at 1.92 livestock units (LSU) a hectare.

This has lowered the carbon footprint of the beef produced on the farm, because there is more beef being produced across which the carbon can be shared, explains Mr Colgan.

Methane emissions have been lowered and labour is being used more efficiently by finishing bulls at roughly 370 days of age, rather than steers at 540 days.

Carbon targets

- 2009: 34.5kg carbon dioxide/kg liveweight
- 2019: 17kg carbon dioxide/kg liveweight
- 2029: 12kg carbon dioxide/kg liveweight
- 2035: carbon neutral

Further carbon reductions

A further 5kg carbon dioxide/kg beef will be cut from the farm's production by 2029, explains Mr Colgan.

This will be done by:

- Cutting fertiliser use by 30% from 220-230kg N/ha to 154-161kg N/ha
- Increasing stocking rates to 165 cows and calves (2.25LSU/ha)
- Finishing more bulls between 370-410 days.

He aims to achieve this by improving grassland management and selecting the most feed-efficient genetics on the farm (see box below "How Aidansfield will further reduce herd carbon footprint").

Mr Colgan's goal is to run the herd at a 10% replacement rate and increase the net feed efficiency of the cattle by 20% in 10 years, with the end goal of being able to run 165 cows on 60ha (one cow an acre).

How Aidansfield will further reduce herd carbon footprint

1. Net feed efficiency

Current performance: Achieving about 2kg of daily liveweight gain over a 70-day finishing period in trials.

Target: A 20% increase in feed efficiency.

How they will do this: Eight GrowSafe feed bunks have been installed on the farm for net feed efficiency (NFE) trials. Coupled with weigh cells in front of water troughs, they are capturing how much feed individual bulls require to grow.

Feed intakes will also be measured in the heifers/cows when stock are housed through the winter to find the most efficient female lines and breed a herd with lower maintenance costs.

By finding the heifers and cows that grow and maintain body condition on less winter feed the farm will be able to increase stocking rates at pasture. Meanwhile, the margins and finishing times of animals in the feedlot should improve due to progress in NFE.

Research: A 70-day feeding trial has already taken place on intensively finished Salers bulls.

The ration includes: 7.5kg of barley, 6kg of grass silage, 1.66kg of protein pellets and 1.5kg of beet pulp.

- · Individual bull daily liveweight gains ranged from 1.89kg to one doing 2.78kg.
- Bulls were offered 18kg freshweight of ration every day.
- The most efficient bull ate 2.06kg less ration each day on average and grew at 1.8kg a day.
- The least efficient bull ate 2.4kg more ration each day on average and grew at 1.5kg a day.

2. Grassland management

Current performance: Growing about 11t DM/ha and using 7-8t DM/ha, with 50 cows and calves allocated 24ha, split into four 6ha paddocks.

Target: Grow 12.65t DM/ha and use 8.85t DM/ha from eight smaller 3ha paddocks. Grass will be plate-measured and logged on Agrinet.

How they will do this: By halving existing paddocks with electric fencing and shifting cows more regularly. They are targeting entry covers of 2,500kg DM/ha and residuals of 1,500kg DM/ha.

Research: A variety of plot trials, measuring grass and clover species performance and linking cow performance with net feed efficiency.

Biostimulants (enzymes, acids, vitamins, hormones) will be evaluated for their use as a soil additive in improving plant growth, soil microorganisms and root mass.

Carbon-neutral beef

Beyond 2029, Mr Colgan is targeting running a carbonneutral farm by offsetting the remaining carbon after all his management changes have taken effect through sequestering (storing) carbon in the soil.

Biostimulants (enzymes, acids, vitamins, hormones) will be explored to increase grassland productivity and use of clover and other legumes will reduce nitrogen requirements, while maintaining grass yields that will capture carbon.

Cover cropping and straw chopping on arable fields will build soil organic matter and hedge and tree planting will hopefully fully offset carbon within the farm's ring fence.

What is Aidansfield Research Farm?

- · A state-of-the-art greenfield site beef and arable unit run as a commercial farm, with a diversification in doing trials with academic and commercial organisations on the cattle, grassland and arable.
- Mr Colgan moved from Northern Ireland to Lowick Hall Farm in 2002 and in 2017 completed the construction of the new facility, which he dubbed Aidansfield Research
- GrowSafe feedbunks were part-funded by a Leader grant through the Rural Development Programme for England.
- Farm is run on the principles of "lean management", a Japanese ethos based on efficiency, minimal waste, product quality and consumer satisfaction.



Initially running Simmental-cross commercial cows when



Colin McCymont BVD & Johnes Accredited Cuil Palnure Newton Stewart 01671 820 214 colin@cuilfarm.co.uk "Cuil Herbie" "Cuil King" Sold at Stirling sold at Castle Douglas for 7800gns for 8000gns he Usual Consignment of 50 Commercial earling Heifers and 12 Pedigree in-calf eifers will be sold at Castle Douglas, November 2020 Blackface Ewe Lambs Blackface Shearlings and Ewes Sold at Sold at Newton Castle Douglas Stewart 5 Pedigree heifers sold at Castle Douglas 2019 to Trevor Quirk ,Isle of Man

Market Review 2019

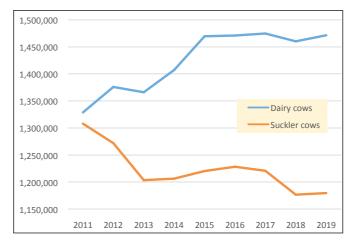
Increased Salers Market Share in a Difficult Year

2019 was a challenging year for UK suckler farmers due the combination of the continuing uncertainty over Brexit, atrocious weather and declining fatstock prices. The pain was felt in breeding stock sales across all breeds, with lower prices and good animals going home unsold.

Perhaps it is too soon to see the impact of this on the statistics, but the great news is that despite or maybe because of all this, the Salers market share for suckler cows increased to a new high with the best year on year growth rate of all the top beef breeds, in stark contrast to the ongoing decline in suckler cows from the main terminal sire breeds.

Market Overview

Data from BCMS indicates that the overall cow numbers for 2019 are on a par with 2018 (see chart), however, the number of beef sired calves increased to over 1.8 million. This increase in beef sired calves is driven by the greater use of beef sires in the dairy herd. This year 35% of beef calves have a dairy dam, compared to 25% in 2011. Dairy farmers (attracted by the Salers ease of calving) are increasingly using Salers bulls/AI and 7% of 2019 Salers calves have a dairy dam.



Suckler Herd

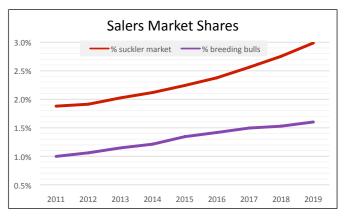
Whilst overall cow numbers may now be static, significant changes in the breeding of suckler replacements continue apace. Cows by terminal sire breeds are rapidly declining in numbers, and they are being replaced cows bred by maternal breeds like the Salers and traditional breeds like the Angus and Shorthorn. In 2011 there were 812,000 suckler cows sired by Limousin, Simmental, Belgian Blue, Charolais, and Blonde but in 2019 the number of active cows by these breeds has dropped to 632,000.

The Salers remain the 8th largest breed, with an increased market share. The 7.2% annual rate of growth of numbers of Salers cows exceeds that of any the breeds with larger market shares.

Salers Market Share

2019 data ex-BCMS	Salers Breeding Bulls	Salers/Salers> Suckler Cows		
Market Share	1.6%	3.0%		
Growth Rate (4 yr avg)	6.4%	7.2%		

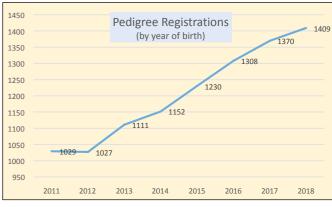
In years gone by, too many good Salers heifers were being fattened but now the strong demand for them as suckler replacements is increasing the proportion of the Salers heifers that are being selected for breeding. This will in turn ramp up the demand for more Salers bulls.



The Salers bull holds the 8th place in the league table of beef sires with close to 30,000 Salers sired calves registered with BCMS in 2019.

Pedigree Herd

Pedigree registrations continued their 6-7% annual rate of growth, demonstrating the confidence of breeders in the future of the Salers breed, which comes directly from their experience of the Salers superior performance on farm, especially in respect of ease of calving.



Prospects for 2020

We are in turbulent times, but we can confidently make the following predictions for 2020:

The number of Salers sucklers will increase, due to the Salers cow's easy calving and ability to rear a high value calf.

The number of Salers sired calves will increase, due to the Salers bull's easy calving and the demand for Salers heifers as suckler replacements

The number of Salers breeders will increase, as will the number of pedigree registrations, due to the demand from suckler and dairy farmers for Salers genetics.

Salers breeders and our commercial customers can look forward to 2020 (and beyond), knowing that we have the breed most ideally suited to the market requirements.

CUMBRIAN SALERS

FARMSTOCK GENETICS



Champion Royal Highland Show



Homozygous Polled Sold to Parkfield Salers







Cumbrian-Hyacinth

Champion Royal Highland Show

Hector

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Cumbrian Lieutenant

Poll **Exported to France,**



Cumbrian Toker

Exported to France

Reserve Male Champion Great Yorkshire Show



Semen Available (ELITE Expot)



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Semen for Sale

Cumbrian

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2019 Royal Welsh Show

A small but select group of Salers and young breeders exhibited at the 100th Royal Welsh Show.

What we lacked in numbers we made up for in appearances, with great success in the Exhibitor Bred Pairs Championship with Fred and Bryn Robinson taking reserve overall with Preenbank Neddy and Preenbank Miss Emma, missing out on the interbreed championship to the British Blues. Preenbank Miss Emma also took Gwawr Griffiths to reserve overall champion in the interbreed young handler.

Preenbank Neddy from Fred and Bryn Robinson took the overall Breed Championship, sired by Preenbank Lord Charles out of Preenbank Jolanda this Jan 2018 young bull looked the part and has gained a new home.

Dragon Polled Britannia from Mathew Jones took reserve. A beautiful sweet young heifer sired by Rigel Khalid Poll out of Indiana Poll born March 2018 this 16month old heifer has plenty of scope and promise for the future.





SHOW RESULTS

Judge: Andrew Powell, Knighton, Powys **Sponsors:** Tithebarn Ltd, Farm Feeds.

Bull born on or after 1 January 2018

1st Preenbank Neddy - J F Robinson and Sons

2nd Parys Nelson - Gwawr Griffiths

Heifer born on or before 1 Jan 2017 and 31 Dec 2017

Preenbank Miss Emma - J F Robinson and Sons

Dwyryd Mandy - Carwyn Robert's

Heifer born on or after 1 Jan 2018

Dragon Polled Britannia M Jones

2nd Morfa Glesni - J E Thomas

Salers Champion

Preenbank Neddy

Salers Reserve Champion

Dragon Polled Britannia

Male Champion

Preenbank Neddy

Reserve Male Champion

Parys Nelson

Female Champion

Dragon Polled Britannia

Reserve Female Champion

Preenbank Miss Emma

Stockmans Sheild

John Thomas





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Farming the way his forefathers did is paying dividends for Angus Gowthorpe.

Chloe Palmer reports, Photos by Marcello Garbagnoli



How farming like his forefathers did is paying off

At first glance, Approach Farm is an archetypal mixed farm set against a traditional estate landscape between Selby and York. But Angus Gowthorpe is making a success of conservation agriculture by adopting many of the forgotten methods of his farming ancestors.

The Gowthorpe family has farmed at Approach Farm since 1944, where they were tenants for more than 35 years before buying the farm from the Escrick Estate in 1980.

Beef cattle have always been a feature of the farming system, but the first major change at the farm happened when Angus' father bought his first Salers from the Society sale in 2004.

Now he has a herd of 50 Salers, most of which are pedigree with a few remaining commercial three-quarter-bred cows. He is pragmatic about his preference for the breed and the way they integrate so well within his farming business.

Angus says: "Salers calve themselves and are excellent mothers with plenty of milk.

"They have superb temperaments and those not sold for breeding fatten well. I could not make any money out of cows if they were not Salers."



Another significant change happened six years ago, when

four years, we have used a disc drill. We have broadened

the rotation to include spring beans and linseed alongside the winter wheat, barley and oilseed rape. This year we are growing spring oats for the first time.

"Cover crops are a vital part of the rotation and we grow a mix of species which is grazed by sheep in late winter before we spray them off and drill spring crops. The aim is to graze onethird, trample one-third and leave one-third to build organic

Angus is delighted with the improvement in his soils following the introduction of direct drilling and last year, he was runnerup in the UK Soil Farmer of the Year Awards.

He says: "I have not cultivated anything for six years because there is no need to. We are starting to see a cottage cheeselike structure develop in the top 6in of the soil and our earthworm counts have gone through the roof.

"Soils drain incredibly well and, after heavy rain, you can hear the land bubbling as the water drains through the profile."

Livestock form an integral part of the system, both the sheep grazing off the cover crops and the inclusion of temporary leys within the arable rotation, which are either mob-grazed by cattle or cut for silage.

Angus says: "We started growing rye-grass and red clover leys four years ago, but are now in the second year of growing

"The ley includes legumes to fix nitrogen, as well as herbs and grasses. All the species have different rooting depths and some have anthelmintic properties.

"We mob-graze some of the leys, so cows are eating the top third of the plant which is the most nutritious as it contains all the seed. The rest of the plant is trampled or left to regrow after we move cows on. This method of grazing rapidly builds soil health and organic matter."

All straw from the cereal crops is either fed to cows, used for bedding or chopped so none is sold off-farm.



Adapt

Like many farmers in the area, Angus has encountered blackgrass on the farm, but a combination of direct drilling resulting in minimal disturbance to soil and the inclusion of a three- to four-year ley in the rotation, has almost wiped out this problem.

Using old-fashioned solutions to tackle pests and diseases in arable crops is already paying dividends at Approach Farm.

Angus says: "We now grow blends of varieties, mixing the seed in the drill the first year, then home saving seed for the following year.

"This means if we get a disease problem, it will not spread throughout the entire crop, but will perhaps affect only occasional plants.

"Currently, we are growing a mix of Shabras, Crispin, Kerrin and Gravity winter wheats and we have drilled Surge and Orwell winter barley varieties together.

"We tend to choose newer varieties which have good resistance to diseases and pests, such as orange wheat blossom midge."

Reducing the amount of chemicals he uses is a priority for Angus too, and he believes improving soil health and looking to traditional farming methods are ways of achieving this.

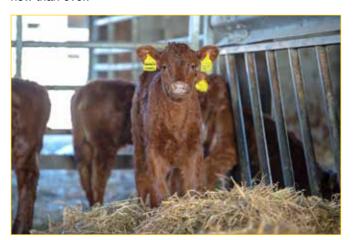
He says: "We cannot continue farming with the can and the bag because it is not the answer.

"We need to use less herbicides, insecticides and fungicides and we hope to stop using growth regulators altogether, because as our soils are healthier, the crops do not grow as tall and are stronger."

Direct drilling has reduced the amount of time Angus spends on a tractor by two-thirds and fuel use has also plummeted. Wildlife on-farm has benefited too, and numerous skylarks sing over the arable fields on a sunny early spring day.

He says: "We have many more small mammals, so more owls and other birds of prey. The seed left on the soil surface provides a useful food source for birds and beneficial insects.

"We are no longer in an agri-environment scheme, but we have left many of the features in place and have more wildlife now than ever."



Hard

Despite his focus on soil and cropping, Angus is evidently passionate about the Salers herd and is now one of the breed's greatest advocates.

He says: "We find finished animals are easier to sell deadweight than liveweight, because buyers at ringside will usually choose an animal with Limousin or Charolais. But once buyers know the Salers, they will buy them again.

"We sell surplus heifers to local commercial suckler herds, as well as at Welshpool breed sales at between 12 and 18 months. We sell breeding bulls at Newark breed sale and privately off-farm.

"Any bulls which are not of the standard to sell for breeding are sold fat before they are 16 months old at 410kg deadweight to ABP in York."

Calving begins around January 21 and usually lasts for about six weeks. Salers are extremely fertile, so begin cycling again after three weeks. They are good converters of forage and cows thrive on a forage-based diet.

He says: "Due to the drought, we have much less silage this year, so we have bulked it out with straw. I have found since doing this, muck is more solid and I think cows are utilising what is in the silage more effectively, because straw is holding it up in the rumen for longer.

"I will continue to mix silage with straw in future, because they have done so well on it and we are also using less bedding."

Breeding cows are fed only forage over winter and are usually turned out in April after calving.

Bulls are offered ad-lib barley with a little protein and molasses. but tend to shun it for herbal ley silage.

After the success of herbal leys, Angus is now looking to introduce greater species diversity across his permanent grassland by oversowing with a mixture of suitable herbs.

He says: "I watch cows browsing on the hedges and the trees and they look for variety in their diet. We could mob-graze without herbs, but it is better with them."

Looking to the future, Angus is clear he wants to continue to build on the environmental achievements he has made so far.

He says: "I would like to see a green Bill for agriculture, which enables me to continue to farm in a way which improves soil health and the environment for the next generation. I do not want to go back to 'bag and can' intensive farming."

Farm facts

- Approach Farm is a mixed arable and beef farm on the edge of Riccall village, between Selby and York, and extends to 164 hectares (405 acres)
- Angus and his wife Kerry farm with their two children, Bronwyn and Robert
- The farm comprises 50ha (125 acres) of winter wheat for feed/biscuit, 24ha (60 acres) of winter barley for feed, 10ha (25 acres) of spring beans for human consumption. 18ha (45 acres) of spring oats, 15ha (45 acres) of winter oilseed rape, 11ha (29 acres) of temporary herbal ley for silage and 7ha (17 acres) of temporary grass/clover lev for grazing within the arable rotation and 24ha (60 acres) of permanent grass
- The farm also has a caravan site
- Average yields are: winter wheat, 9.4 tonnes/ha (3.8t/ acre): winter barley, 9t/ha (3.6t/acre); spring beans, 6.2t/ ha (2.5t/acre); and winter oilseed rape, 4t/ha (1.6t/acre)
- Angus has a spring calving high health herd of 50 pedigree Salers cows; most of the cows are covered naturally by the bull (Seawell Lithium)
- Angus also uses AI on some of the cows to bring in new genetics and reduce the workload on the stock bull
- Recent showing successes for the family with their Salers cattle include champion female Salers and champion male Salers at the Great Yorkshire Show, champion any other breed at Driffield, champion any other breed at Lincolnshire and junior inter-breed champion at Ryedale
- Angus was reserve UK Soil Farmer of the Year in 2018, he is a farmer partner of the Sustainable Futures Initiative and he is on the council of the Salers Cattle Society

Angus first tried direct drilling on-farm.

He says: "We ran a strip-till drill for two years and, for the last

40 Salers Cattle Society -

ANIMALS OF THE YEAR 2019

Showing animals throughout the year is a difficult but rewarding task; selecting, feeding and training animals starts well before they are taken anywhere near a showground. Then there is transportation and time away from your farm whilst you attend shows and the society appreciates the effort it takes and the expense involved. In appreciation of the commitment we have the Animals of the Year Awards, where points are allocated according to shows attended, classes and placings and the winners received £250 for each champion animal.

Yes it's time consuming but what a craic everyone has at shows, why not give it a go and see!

This year's winners are as follows –





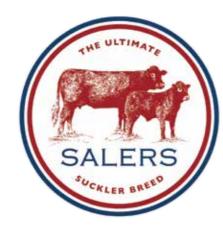


CHAMPION SENIOR FEMALE Brookfields Rosheen Brian & Pearse O'Kane



CHAMPION JUNIOR MALE Kaimburn Nuclear Edgerston Trading (2006) Ltd





CHAMPION JUNIOR FEMALE Jedforest Nightshade Greg & Lewis Ralston

REDNOCK SALERS

GILL & MALCOLM PYE

REDNOCK MYRRH

Senior Female Champion & Reserve Senior Overall at Stars of the Future 2019







REDNOCK MAURIAC

Supreme Champion at Castle Douglas 2019

Champion Male & Reserve Overall at GYS 2019

REDNOCK MERCURY

Supreme Champion & Top Priced Bull at Stirling Bull Sales May 2019



Polled/horned bulls & heifers All performance

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REDNOCK'S FOCUS ON FORAGE:

SUSTAINABLE GRASS FED SCOTCH BEEF

Adapted from "Forager" Magazine issues 18-20

By Dr. Martin Tomlinson BVMS Dip.ECBHM PGCAP MRCVS

Gill and Malcom Pye's sustainable focus on quality forage production on their 700 acres of LFA land at Rednock Estate, Stirlingshire, is paying dividends in 2019 with a bumper year of award winning pedigree Salers cattle and silage.

There is a huge variation between farms relating to land type, feeding and management systems, but everyone needs to be able to answer the same question: "Do you know what your land is capable of producing?" One consistent factor across all systems is the energy requirements of the average suckler cow in early lactation producing 10kg/day of milk will eat approximately 2% of her body weight, requiring 11-12 ME kg/dry matter (DM) and around 12% protein. British suckler farming with its high welfare standards and majority of feed inputs coming from grazing, home grown forage or by products is world leading not only in the quality of meat produced but it also acts as a huge carbon sink of marginal grazing land. When it comes to improving forage production Gill and Malcolm have focused on three cost-effective management tools for a quick return on investment.

Rotational grazing

If a farm is relying on set stock grazing, one way to increase stocking rates and forage utilisation is by investing in a rotational grazing system. "Two of the four pedigree cattle groups have been trialled in rotational grazing systems this year for the first time. It has meant some investment has been needed in water troughs and electric fences but we have been able to carry an increased number of cows on



paddock rotational grazing is introduced, utilisation increases to 80% - a dramatic improvement! "Creating and understanding sustainable grazing also facilitates soil health, reseeds, land rotation and the possible introduction of supplemental forage crops can create a forage system that works 365 days a year," concludes Gill "By adopting the mind set of forage farmer first, and the beef will follow, we are improving efficiency on the farm overall."

Increasing cattle density on rotational grazing systems has freed up the more favourable land for quality silage production. "A focus on increased DM whilst maintaining metabolisable energy (ME) and palatability in our silage has helped to reduce not only the overall winter feed bill but also storage and bedding costs," comments Malcolm. "We look to produce 3 cuts of silage a year if possible but would rather make quality over quantity." Ben Outterside is Rednock's assistant farm manager and is responsible for the grassland work on the estate. "It sometimes means we are baling when other people aren't, or that everyone

Reseeding

Rednock's land contains approximately 300 acres of derelict ground with collapsed drains and fences, and the majority of the other more favourable land hasn't been productively farmed for approximately 25 years. "There is a lifetimes worth of drainage to be done at Rednock, but if we can pull in 30 extra acres a year it's a good start," comments Malcolm. According to data from the journal Germinal: After a full reseed at a cost of approximately £193/acre, the performance of a perennial ryegrass ley that produced 8,000kgDM per year and 80,000 ME per acre per year, will increase to 12,000kgDM per year and 132,000 MJ of ME per acre per year. When over-seeding is done to rejuvenate the ley, performance increases to 9,000kgDM and 94,500 MJ of ME per acre, at a cost of £100/acre. "We had considerable drainage costs of around £15,000 a year so we decided to bring this in house and purchase an excavator and other surveying equipment. We have managed to drain an additional 40 acres this year which will be reseeded in the spring and hopefully boost forage production further."

Re-stocking

Gill and livestock manager Kenny McKeague have seen success in the show ring this year across the board. Rednock Mercury took champion and top priced bull at Stirling bull sales in May, Rednock Mauriac winning multiple championships at the Royal Yorkshire show and National Breed society sale at Castle Douglas and Rednock Myrrh taking champion senior female and reserve overall at Stars

of the future. At the same time they have looked in detail at the herd structure and breeding of the 100 pedigree female Salers and how best to utilise the good foraging ability and maternal traits of the breed.

"The main focus of the herd is still the production of pedigree Salers bulls for sale, but making the best use of the less favourable land at Rednock goes hand in hand with sustainable ruminant based protein production." The commercial herd at Rednock has doubled this year to 30 cows. Herd expansion is ongoing with an annual plan of putting another 15-20 home bred replacements, that are surplus to the pedigree herds requirements, to a Charolais bull. "The female Salers seem to eat everything out on the bog, even the rashes! The Charolais cross calves do really well as store animals at local markets and have very low production costs and importantly generate great cash flow."

Improving grazing worldwide has the potential to lock up more carbon than reforestation projects. Ruminants will increase the biomass, output and production levels of less favourable land locking in nitrogen through organic selffertilisation whilst sequestering more water and reducing run off and flooding risk. "The foraging capability of the Salers breed is a key attribute for us at Rednock in driving sustainable protein production. This is helping us to increase output whilst lowering inputs so increasing the overall profitability of our business and at the same time lowering our carbon footprint."





Working together to bring you a great

Salers Experience





Looking over the Worlds Hedgerows

Some Dates to Remember for 2020

Salers National Show

25th 26th and 27th September 2020

This year the Salers National Show will be held in the pretty town of Brive-la-Gaillarde very conveniently south of Limoges. We hope to organise a 5 day tour to the National Show —including 2 days at the show and 2 days of Great Farm Visits.

Fête de l'Estive in Allanche - 23rd May 2020

Come for a weekend and celebrate with the French breeders taking their cows back up into the Mountains A truly memorable experience of good humour food and wine

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Area 1 Report Northern Scotland 2019

When Robbie and Barbara Milne agreed to hold the Scottish Beef Association Farm open day, they did not realise the size of the operation they had taken on.

The event was outstanding with over 4,000 people attending from all over Great Britain.

Their herd of 350 Salers cows which are put to Salers, Charolais and Angus Bulls were of great interest to all who were there.

The Salers bull provides replacements for the herd, the Charolais as a terminal sire and the Aberdeen Angus to gain the Aberdeen Angus premium.

The farm tours showed how good a Salers cow is whether being bred pure or being crossed with Charolais or Angus.



In recent years Robbie has started using French Charolais bulls, mainly due to the fact that they have fewer foot problems.

When asked about Myostatins Robbie was fully supportive of the Society's aim to be myostatin free.

In appreciation of all Robbie and Barbara have done for the Society this year and in the past, we presented him with

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Liz, our secretary, for all her hard work and leaving the Society in excellent shape.

Andrew Sleigh - Area Representative

Area 2 Report South West Scotland 2019

2019 saw new Salers breeders establishing both pedigree and commercial herds in the south west of Scotland. Salers bullocks are starting to become more popular at store sales with Salers topping the p/kg at Wallets marts at a recent sale. There is an opportunity for breeders in the south west to enter more local shows, as the breed is under represented on show days locally. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome those new breeders to the society.

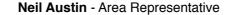
The premier sale at Castle Douglas reflected the poor beef trade seen throughout the country in 2019, with a lack of confidence within the beef sector. These depressed prices have highlighted the need to improve on farm performance and that's where the Salers cow really comes into her own. There are a variety of traits which help the Salers cow to be the ultimate suckler cow.

Fertility

The QMS average farm is only selling 86% of calves compared to cows bulled. With the depressed beef price on farm performance has never been more important. There is an expression "The most profitable calf is a live calf". We bulled 157 cows and heifers at Boreland to calf in the spring of 2020 and the cows have achieved a scan result of 105% with no barren cows. With 92% due in the first 6 weeks, I'd happily take that result every year. The smaller birth weight of the calves results in an easier calving; reducing problems with retained cleaning and allowing the cow to cycle again more quickly.

Ease of management

With increasing financial burdens beef farmers are increasingly looking to cut labour costs. The Salers cow is the perfect answer as they have the ability to calf unassisted. Last year at my home farm we calved 120 back end cows, to say we calved them is a stretch. All the cows calved themselves with all calves suckling themselves, within the first few hours, reducing the labour requirement. Now really is the perfect time to establish your own Salers herd and see for yourself just what these cows can do!





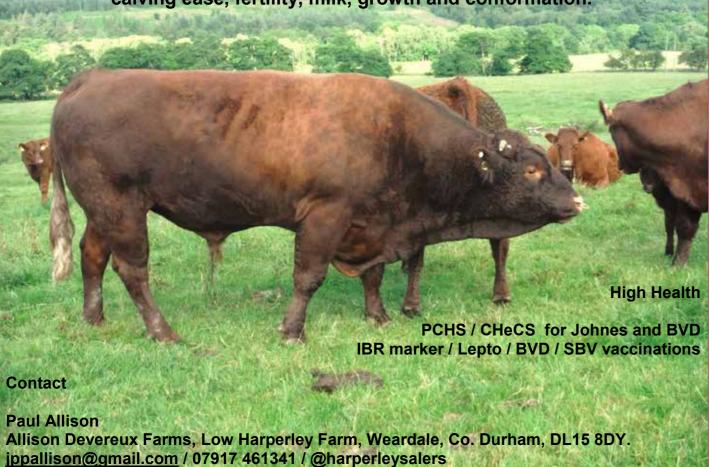
HARPERLEY SALERS

Hard working stock for the progressive commercial farmer

Visitors are always welcome at Low Harperley Farm, so give us a ring, come to the Durham Dales and see happy Salers doing what they do best.



Established with carefully selected UK and French stock, our performance recorded herd is bred to maintain the optimum balance of calving ease, fertility, milk, growth and conformation.



Area 2a Report South East Scotland & the Borders 2019

Looking back, the winter of 2018/19 was very kind in this area with stock staying out longer than usual and keeping their condition. Breeders reported a good calving season to follow which was hassle-free as is the norm.

There was a good turnout of Salers at the Highland Show and the cattle looked very well. Congratulations to Bacardi Salers from our area for winning the championship.

Although just outside this area, Salers were exhibited at the 'Stars of the Future' calf show. With a good show of Salers from the Borders, Bacardi went on to win the interbreed junior championship.

Congratulations are also due to Cleuchhead Salers for being finalists in the QMS Scotch Beef Farmer of the Year competition – great publicity for the breed.

Salers continue to grow in popularity – let's hope for a good 2020!.....and to return to the weather.... it certainly couldn't get any wetter than at present!

Tom Walling - Area Representative

Area 3 Report Wales 2019

Salers numbers in Wales continues to increase as does the membership. In today's environmental and economic climate the breed does itself justice. With easy calving, easy care and easy management they are able to compete well in livestock markets; the breed goes from strength to strength. Prices are on a par with other bigger breeds which are not as easily managed. The Charolais cross Salers is still the popular choice for many. Salers females will always sell well and there is a good market for them in Wales both privately and in the local markets.

Despite low entries at the Royal Welsh Show (as with other breeds) Salers had good results and it is a delight to see younger members getting involved with enthusiasm and determination, we just need more exhibitors so please give it a go, help and support is at hand if needed. The after show presentation evening is as ever a popular event where members (from all over the UK) and exhibitors can get together on a social basis.

Harri Pritchard – Area Representative



J. & E.A. Elliott

11 Lough Road, Drumlegagh, Newtownstewart, Co. Tyrone, N. Ireland Tel: 02881661654/07771701086



Drumlegagh Hamish

Stock available from our multi-show Champion

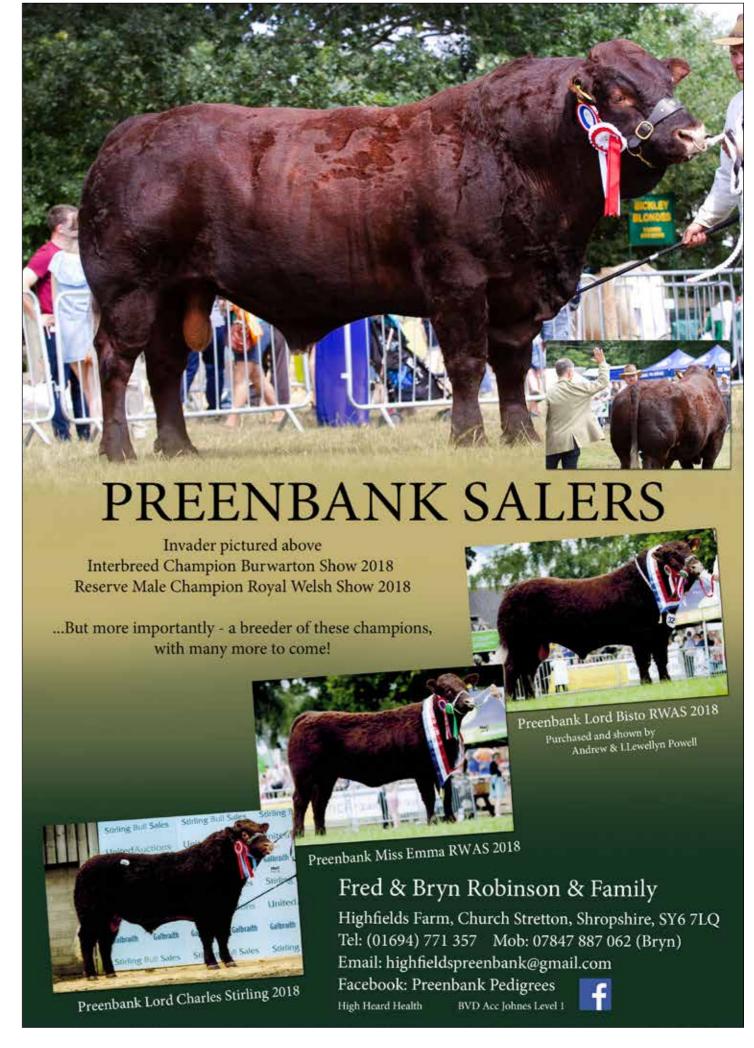


Salers Champion at Clogher and Saintfield Show









Armagh Show 2019

Judge: Mr Andrew McClements, Co Down

Senior heifer

Brookfields Rosheen 1st 2nd Lisnamaul Molly 3rd Lisnamaul My Girl

Junior heifer

Ondine 1st 2nd Orchidee

Lower Bolie Neala 3rd

Cow Class

Sligo Pheobe 1st

Bull

Brookfields Majestic 1st

Armagh Show Champion 2019 Brookfields Rosheen from B & P, O'Kane, Co Derry



Armagh Show Reserve Champion 2019 Ondine from PJ Maginn & sons, Co Down



First in NISA Beef Heifer **Competition 2019** Lisnamaul My Girl from PJ Maginn & sons, Co Down

Reserve Interbreed group of three 2019 Lisnamaul Salers



Ballymena Show 2019

Judge: Mr George McCall, Co Armagh

Senior heifer

Lisnamaul My Girl 2nd Brookfields Rosheen

Junior heifer

Lisnamaul Natasha 1st Lower Bolie Neala Orchidee 3rd

Pairs

Lower Bolie Salers 1st 2nd Lisnamaul Salers

Bull

Kaimburn Mr Cool 1st **Brookfields Maiestic**

Ballymena Show Champion 2019 Kaimburn Mr Cool from C &

A Kennedy, Co Antrim



Ballymena Show Reserve Champion 2019

Lisnamaul Natasha from PJ Maginn & sons, Co Down



Newry Show 2019

Judge: Mr David Boyd, Co Antrim

Senior heifer

Brookfields Rosheen Lisnamaul Molly 2nd Lisnamaul My girl Ballykeel Missy-Moo Lisnamaul Magic 5th

Junior heifer

Lower Bolie Neala Orchidee 2nd

3rd Lisnamaul Natasha 4th Ondine

Carrickview Nessa 5th

Junior bull

Brookfields Majestic

Calf class

1st Carrickview Nessa Lisnamaul Notorius Lisnamaul Noddy 3rd

Senior bull

1st Herbin

Newry Show Champion 2019

Sligo Pheobe from G McCall, Co Armagh



Newry Show Reserve champion 2019 Lower Bolie Neala from B & P O'Kane, Co Derry



Reserve Interbreed Champion 2019 Lower Bolie Neala from B

Interbreed Pairs Champion 2019 Lisnamaul Salers with Molly & Magic

& P O'Kane, Co Derry



Castlewellan Show 2019

Judge: Mr Neil Ralston, Jedburgh, Scotland

Senior heifer

Brookfields Rosheen 1st Lisnamaul Molly 2nd 3rd Lisnamaul My Girl

Junior heifer

Lower Bolie Neala 1st Drumlegagh Nakitta 2nd 3rd Ondine

Junior bull

Brookfield Majestic 1st 2nd Lisnamaul Notorious Lisnamaul Noddy 3rd

Best NI

1st Brookfields Rosheen Brookfield Majestic 2nd Drumlegagh Nakitta 3rd Lower Bolie Neala 4th

Pairs

1st Lisnamaul Salers Lower Bolie Salers 2nd Drumlegagh Salers 3rd

Group of 3

Lower Bolie Salers 2nd Lisnamaul Salers

Castlewellan Champion 2019

Brookfields Rosheen from B & P O'Kane, Co Derry



Castlewellan Reserve Champion 2019 Brookfields Majestic from B

& P O'Kane, Co Derry



Omagh Show 2019

Judge: Miss Sophie Donger

Senior Heifer

Lisnamaul My girl Lisnamaul Molly 2nd 3rd Drumlegagh Luna

Junior Heifer

Drumlegagh Nikkita 1st Lower Bolie Neala 2nd 3rd Orchidee

Bull any age

Drumlegagh Hamish 1st Brookfield Majestic 2nd

Cow class

Drumlegagh Galaxy

Pairs

1st Lisnamaul Salers Lower Bolie Salers 2nd Drumlegagh Salers

Omagh Show Champion 2019 Lisnamaul My Girl from PJ



Omagh Show Reserve Champion 2019

Drumlegagh Hamish from J Elliott, Co Tyrone



Omagh Show Second Reserve Champion 2019

Drumlegagh Nakitta from J Elliott, Co Tyrone

Clogher Valley Show 2019

Judge: Mr David Boyd, Co Antrim

1st Drumlegagh Galaxy Sligo Pheobe

Junior heifer class

1st Drumlegagh Nakitta Lower Bolie Neala Lisnamaul New Look 3rd Carrickview Nessa

Senior heifer class

Lisnamaul Molly Brookfields Rosheen Drumlegagh Mia 3rd Lisnamaul My girl 4th

Bull class

Kaimburn Mr Cool 1st **Brookfields Maiesty** Lisnamaul Notorius 3rd

Pairs class

Lisnamaul Salers 1st Drumlegagh Salers Lower Bolie Salers

Clogher Valley Show Champion 2019 Kaimburn Mr Cool from C &



Clogher Valley Show Reserve Champion 2019 Drumlegagh Galaxy from J Elliott, Co Tyrone



Saintfield Show 2019

Judge: Mr Sam Cleland

Cow in calf or calf at foot class

Drumlegagh Galaxy

Senior heifer class

Drumlegagh Luna Lisnamaul Molly Lisnamaul Magic 3rd

Junior heifer class

Ondine 1st

Pairs class

Lisnamaul Salers Drumlegagh Salers

Saintfield Show Champion 2019

Drumlegagh Salers from J Elliott, Co Tyrone

Saintfield Show Reserve Champion 2019

Ondine from PJ Maginn & sons, Co Down

Seamus Connell

Area Representative



Area 6 Report North of England 2019

2019 was a year of contrasts equal in memory to 2018, all be it a near mirror image of 2018. A very dry year up to mid-September followed by nothing but rain resulting in what will be a very challenging start to the new decade. Fortunately, on a personal level we had a relatively stress-free harvest and good stocks of straw and silage were made, though we were unable to gather most of our 3rd cut due to the downturn in the weather.

Several members from the area took cattle to Welshpool for the spring sale in May and were met with good demand for both bulls & heifers, which was repeated at the October sale. If you have cattle to sell it is well worth the journey. Good trade was also achieved by those members who took stock up to Castle Douglas in November, though heifers sold better than bulls.

The show season commenced in earnest with the Great Yorkshire Show, and may I thank Mr Alun Jones of Talsarnau, Wales for making the journey north to judge this year. We had record numbers of both breeders and animals this year and with the generous actions of those already stalled and the YAS all who had entered were able to bring cattle to the show. Salers are always highly praised for the number of cattle shown in the Grand Parades at the GYS and this goes a long way to ensuring we are looked upon kindly by the YAS. The summer shows are the shop window for the breed and it is always a pleasure to meet those newly discovering the breed as well as those who already have Salers at home. Do come along to say hello, or even better enter some cattle and join those who are already showing and promoting the breed. Don't be daunted there is always help for anyone interested in showing, we have all been there and know how it feels!

Angus Gowthorpe – Area Representative

Area 7 Report Western England 2019

Last year I started my report saying the year had been dominated by Brexit, and a year on and we are still overwhelmed by Brexit and its uncertainty, although now it is going to happen, giving an overall lack of confidence throughout the industry. On top of this we are being battered by environmental issues, conflict with media messages and dare I mention the word veganism?!

But seriously can we honestly do anything about it? Probably not, except have confidence in British Beef, its quality traceability and indeed our whole industry. More importantly confidence in our breed Salers continuing to rise in popularity and having an increasing influence in beef production.

This is certainly reflected in my area with a steady encouraging interest, and despite ongoing uncertainty, some very good sales throughout the region- not just for pedigrees; Salers stores hitting the markets are being well received with a strong following. This said, there seems to be a premium for well-presented and importantly an easy fleshing type of cattle not necessarily the biggest and rangiest.

As well as this Salers are being kept and pushed commercially producing females of great quality probably due to the strong hybrid vigour. In fact many respected farmers that have used other breeds have been converted to Salers- a real message in itself.

We must not forget the opportunities and promotion showing brings and I would encourage more breeders from my area and indeed beyond to get involved. It is fantastic having some younger members at the shows getting stuck in, lets hope it gets the ball rolling. But, it needs planning and animals must be well prepped and presented, then the rewards are there.

Hopefully at some point this year, I thought it would be good either to have some type of social or even better a visit or trip to get the breed together.

Overall amid everything being as tough as it is, Salers in my area have had yet another good year. I have confidence in Salers and the future that is to come.

To finish off, a couple of thoughts- has anybody thought of measuring emissions if we all became vegan? We all know what beans and cabbage can do!!! Speaking of which, if anyone has a bull that doesn't fart, let me know, name your price- I'm your man!

Thanks everybody for continuing to support Salers, please let me know if any of you have any thoughts or ideas, good luck for next year,

Bryn Robinson – Area Representative

WHITEBOG

SALERS

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WHITEBOG KRACKER, BREED RECORD PRICE FEB 17



WHITEBOG KIM JNR CHAMP FEMALE RHS 17 & BREED CHAMP ECHT SHOW 17





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Area 8 Report South West England 2019

The area had some wonderful success in the show ring with breeder Steve Simmons and daughter Sophie. Shows are our shop window and we encourage members to give it a go, help and support is available you just need to ask.



SHOW RESULTS

North Somerset Show 6th May - Judge Mrs V Smith

Heifer born on or after 1.1.17

1st Kington Heather – Mr S Simmons 2nd Kington Maple – Miss S Simmons

Cow or Heifer in milk or in calf, born before 1.1.17 1st Cumbrian Camella 589 – Mr S Simmons

Bull born on or after 1.1.18

1st Kington Norman – Miss S Simmons Champion - Kington Heather – Mr S Simmons Reserve Champion - Kington Norman – Miss S Simmons

Mid Devon Show 27th July - Judge Mr W Palmer

Cow or Heifer born before 1.1.17

1st Cumbrian Camella 589 - Mrs S Simmons

Heifer born on or after 1.1.17

1st Blonde d'Aquitaine – Exmoor Blondes 2nd Kington Heather – Mr S Simmons 2rd Blonde d'Aquitaine – Exmoor Blondes

Pairs

1st Blond d'Aquitaine – Exmoor Blondes 2nd Salers – Mr S Simmons

Honiton Agricultural Show 1st August

Any Other Breed Continental

Bull born in 2018

1st Kington Norman - Miss S Simmons

Heifer any age

1st Kington Heather – Mr S Simmons 2nd Kington Maple – Miss S Simmons

Pair

1st Salers – Mr S Simmons and Miss S Simmons Champion - Kington heather – Mr S Simmons Reserve Champion - Kington Norman – Miss S Simmons

North Devon Show 7th August

British Salers - Judge R Loud

Bull born in 2018

1st Kington Norman - Miss S Simmons

Heifer any age

1st Parkfield Polled Crys – E & M Heard 2nd Kington Heather – Mr S Simmons 3rd Kington Maple – Miss S Simmons

Champion - Kington Norman - Miss S Simmons

Reserve Champion - Parkfield Polled Crys - E & M Heard

Okehampton & District Agricultural Show 8th August – Judge Mr R Bicknell

Heifer born in 2017

1st Kington Heather – Mr S Simmons 2nd Kington Maple – Miss S Simmons

Heifer born on or after 1.1.18

1st Parkfield Polled Crys – E & M Heard

Pairs

1st Mr WS Simmons & Miss S Siimons

Champion - Kington Heather - Mr S Simmons

Reserve Champion - Parkfield Polled Crys - E & M Heard

Gillingham & Shaftesbury Agricultural Show 14th August

Continental Beef – Judge Mr J Shouler

Heifer born in 2017

1st Kington Maple – Miss S Simmons 2nd Kington Heather – Mr S Simmons

Pai

1st Mrs S Simmons & Miss S Simmons 2nd Blonde d'Aquitane – Robin Joyce

Mid Somerset Show 18th August

Any Other Continental Beef Breeds – Judge Mrs M Reynolds

Heifer born on or before 31.12.18

1st Kington Heather – Mr S Simmons 2nd Kington Maple – Miss S Simmons

Pairs

1st Blonde d'Aquitaine – Mr & Mrs D Knight 2nd Mr S Simmons & Miss S Simmons

Champion - Blonde d'Aquitaine - Mr & Mrs D Knight

Reserve Champion - Kington Heather - Mr S Simmons

Malcolm Light - Area Representative

Area 9 Report Mid to South East England 2019

Well if we thought things would get easier once Brexit looked like getting sorted we should have known the weather would step in to challenge us!

The flooding has caused havoc in Lincolnshire and the surrounding areas and meant livestock coming in earlier than ever - great for ducks but without webbed feet even Salers cause severe poaching! I'm sure the relentless rain has caused much frustration so fingers crossed for an early dry spring.

Thank goodness Salers can cope easily with all extremes of weather and climates, at least they make life a little easier in tough times. As farming faces major changes in the immediate future the Salers ease of management will prove a great advantage for those with the breed. The demand for

grass fed cattle will suit our breed perfectly.

Dairy farmers are continuing to appreciate the benefits of the Salers sire especially on heifers. For both dairy and beef, profit starts with a live calf and a healthy cow after calving.

The number of Salers is steadily growing within the region with demand increasing yearly.

Dates for your diaries - 21st March, Newark multi breed sale, Newark livestock market.

9th & 10th May, Nottinghamshire County Show

25th & 25th June, Lincolnshire County Show

Carolyn Fox - Area Representative

BALLYWILLAN SALERS

Ballywillan Road, Gleno Larne, County. Antrim, Northern Ireland

HORACE (STOCK BULL)

(son of Don Juan)

Imported from Gaec Freyssac Semen available - see below



BALLYWILLAN BIRRICK

(son of Horace) Reserve Champion at the Royal Ulster Show 2016



VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME

Semen from Horace available from Al Services (NI) Ltd. - Tel: 028 9083 3123 / www.ai-services.co.uk Alta Genetics Inc. - Tel: 01727 884 534 Eurogene Al Services (Ireland). - Tel: +353 (0) 52 7442940

Robert Millar

Tel: 02828 276633 / 07807 572737 **Email:** richardmillar_2005@tiscali.co.uk



2019 Welshpool Autumn Sale

Female trade was good at the society sale at Welshpool Livestock Market on 12 October, with plenty of buyers around the ring.

Top price bull at £3360 was from J Hallett, Shropshire with Ledwych Nero, born 3/4/18 Sire: Ledwyche Llewellyn, Dam: Preenbank Justine went to J L Hartley & Sons, Much Wenlock

Averages

Pedigree Bulls £2870

Commercial Salers - In-calf averaged £1174, bulling heifers £965, cow and calves £1653

A production sale of pedigree females from JF Robinson, Preenbank Salers sold to an average of £1732.50 for cows and calves, £1155 for in-calf heifers.

Judge Geraint Roberts from Gardolbenmaen chose PM & SM Dongers bull Seawell Nijinski his Show Champion, which went unsold. Nijinski is a March 2018 born bull sired by Seawell Juggernaut, Dam Seawell Gemma.

Reserve Champion was Rigel Monarch a bull from Rigel Pedigree which sold for £3150 to AL Davies & Son. Monarch is the first calf from imported bull Lascaux out of home bred Rigel Apple.







2019 Castle Douglas Society Sale November



Courtesy of Patsy Hunter/ Business and Technical Editor



Beef prices at a seven year low, combined with the ongoing uncertainty surrounding Brexit, have hit all pedigree cattle sales.

With many suckler farmers already reducing cow numbers and several having dispersed as a result of the continued downturn, the Salers breed which is renowned for it's ease of calving, saw averages drop in both the commercial and the pedigree bull sections at it's main sale.

Conversely the small number of pedigree in-calf heifers improved by more than £800. With increased entries, the commercial section was most affected with in-calf heifer averages dropping £470 on last year's flying trade to level at £1303.57, while bulling and yearling heifers fell £340 to cash in at £979. In saying that, there was a 100% clearance in the commercial section, with pedigree bulls and heifers witnessing 71% and 73% of the numbers forward finding new homes.

"Trade was very much weakened by the general lack of confidence in the industry as a result of finished beef prices some £250 per head down on the year and the continued uncertainty surrounding Brexit," said Robin Anderson, managing director at Wallets Marts. Speaking after his final fling as auctioneer at CD, before moving up to Thainstone as head of operations of Aberdeen and Northern Marts' livestock division next month, Mr Anderson added the industry is also suffering from a lack of cash and confidence to invest in the future.

Top price amongst the pedigrees was 6000gns paid for one of the youngest bulls, Bacardi Nashville, an 18-month-old from Roy and Adam Crockett from Deanfoot, Denholm, Hawick. A son of the French sire, Gulliver, a bull that has bred two previous Highland Show champions and a 15,000gns son, Nashville is out of the Seawell Fortune daughter, Bacardi Isla. He sold to Peter Alexander who bought three bulls to cross over his commercial Limousin enterprise based at Mains of Mause, Blairgowrie.

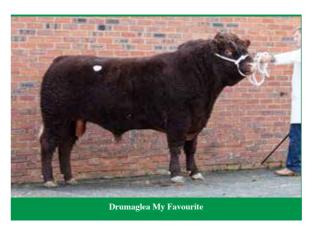


Next on his list at 5000gns was Harestone Magnum, a June 2017-born boy from Aberdeenshire breeders, Neil and Stuart Barclay, brought out by Robert Marshall. Magnum is by the 7500gns Whitebog Convener, which is still going strong at 13 years of age having bred last year's champion that sold for 9000gns. His dam is the imported French cow, Infidele, one of only 15 Salers females which run alongside pedigree herds of Charolais, Aberdeen-Angus and Limousins at Harestone, Insch.



Second top price was 5200gns paid for retired Tiree vet, Patrick Boyd's Drumaglea My Favourite. Local breeder Neil Austin, Boreland of Girthon, was the last man in on this 26-monthold son of the French sire Baron. My Favourite is also a full brother a 9000qns bull sold here last year being bred from Drumaglea Alice, a Variegeois daughter that has bred sons to 12,000gns at Stirling. Mr Boyd's second bull, Drumaglea Morris, a similarly aged

son of the French sire, Bronson that has bred sons to 5000gns, then made 4600gns. He is out of the Baron daughter, Drumaglea Joanna and headed down to Devon with John Heard, Hughslade, Oakhampton.



Females were led by entries from Colin McClymont's Cuil herd from Palnure, Newton Stewart. Top here at 2800gns was Cuil Nina, a February 2018-born in-calf heifer purchased by new breeders, Trevor Quirk, Corvalley, Isle of Man, who also bought another four Cuil heifers.

"I've used Salers semen before on my Limousin cross heifer and I really like them. The calves were easy calved, quick to get to their feed and they showed better growth rates than the other breeds I've used," said Mr Quirk who was also buying the first pedigree Salers for the island.

Nina is by the 12,000gns Drumaglea Kingpin bull bought at Stirling and bred from the Ballymackeogh Leo daughter, Cuil Hannah. She sold due in May to Cuil Malta. Next on Mr Quirk's list at 2400gns was Cuil Nigella, a rising two-year-old by Kingpin bred from the Ballygar Galway-sired Cuil Flo. She sold due in April again to Malta.

Second top amongst the females was 2700gns paid for Cuil Meryl, a two-yearold by Knottown Nector, a bull imported from Southern Ireland by Colin's father, the late Graham McClymont, and bred from Cuil Eadie, a Cleuchhead Xerox daughter. She sold to WK Blair, Parkhead Cottage, Kilry, Blairgowrie, and again due to Malta, to calve in March.

Mr McClymont also enjoyed the best of the trading amongst the commercials, producing the champion pen - five yearlings - which sold to the pre-sale judge, David Wilson, Kirkmabreck, for the top section price of £1600 per head. Overall, Cuil sold 39 mostly yearling heifers to average £1247.69.

Top price amongst the cross-breds was £1700 paid for four in-calf heifers from Roy and Adam Crockett, which sold due in April to Toguhan North Star, a bull bought privately from Andrew Sleigh. The buyers were JR Graham and Partners, Greenshields, Biggar.

averages: Pedigree – 12 bulls, £4208.75 (-£463.75 for four fewer sold); eight in-calf heifers, £2388.75 (+£813.75 for 10 fewer). Commercial heifers – 56 incalf heifers, £1303.57 (-£469.76 for 26 more); 210 bulling and yearling heifers, £978.71 (-£338.71 for 10 more).

Auctioneers: Wallets Marts



Seawell Salers Herd

High health status herd

Visitors welcome Available for Export

M: 07884 186612 (Sophie)

M: 07817 854254 (Peter)

E: seawell.charolais@btinternet.com

F: https://tinyurl.com/seawellsalers



Myostatin Gene Explained

By Morven Coutts BVMS DBR MRCVS

From the very beginning of domestication of cattle, we have been selecting animals for traits which we feel are desirable e.g. growth rates, calving ease, docility or being polled. Historically this has been done by eye and using family histories but now, as technology advances and we understand more about the genetic makeup of each breed of cattle, we can use DNA samples to identify desirable or harmful traits and therefore improve the breed.

In order to fully understand how the use of genetics can influence a breed trait, first, it is important to understand a few of the common terms used when discussing genetics:

Gene - a gene is a sequence of DNA in every animal that controls the expression of a particular trait. Some traits are controlled by more than one gene. An animal has 2 copies of each gene; one comes from the dam, the other from the sire. These copies can be identical or different.

Trait - a particular visible characteristic, e.g. red coat colour

Homozygous – where both copies of a particular gene are

Heterozygous – where both copies of a particular gene are

Dominant gene - a dominant gene is more influential than the other copy of the same gene e.g. polled gene. Only 1 copy of a dominant gene is enough for the trait to be expressed in the

Partial Dominance – where one copy of a gene has an effect on the trait expressed but to a lesser degree than if the gene was dominant

Recessive gene - a recessive gene can only influence expression of a trait if both copies of the same gene are both recessive e.g the horned gene

Mutation – when the DNA code for a gene gets distorted and results in a change in how the gene is expressed as a trait.

Carrier - an animal that has one copy of a mutated gene and one normal gene. The relative dominance of the gene will determine whether the gene is expressed or not.

What is Myostatin?

Myostatin is a growth factor protein that controls and regulates the growth of skeletal muscle in all mammals. The myostatin gene controls the production of this protein. When there is a mutation of the gene, the myostatin protein is not produced and so muscle growth is not regulated, resulting in the classic "double muscling" trait.

In cattle, nine different mutations of this gene exist; some are breed specific and others are seen across the different breeds. Each mutation can exert partial dominance on gene expression. The myostatin gene is also capable of pleiotropy which means that it has an influence on other traits too, specifically pelvic size, milk production and fertility. Many of the myostatin mutations have a detrimental influence on these other traits which will result in animals being born which have smaller pelvic size, lower milk production and reduced fertility.

In the Salers breed, two mutations of the gene have been identified in the UK population:

NT821: this mutation is not desirable. It is only carried by a small proportion of the breed but is the most common mutation seen in samples submitted from Salers breeders in the UK. Animals that carry 2 copies of this mutation will have increased muscle mass (double muscling) and good feed conversion efficiency however it is also associated with higher birth weights and increased risk of calving difficulties. If an animal carries only one copy of the mutation, these traits will be expressed to a lesser degree.

F94L: It is responsible for an increase in muscle size and feed conversion efficiency with no reported side effects of associated calving difficulties, lowered fertility and reduced longevity. Animals with 2 copies of this mutation will express these traits readily. If an animal has only one copy of the mutation, it will express these traits to a lesser degree.

It should be noted that research into these gene mutations is still relatively new and there is still a lot that is not known about the full effects of these genes and the potential consequences of any gene mutation.

How could this affect your herd?

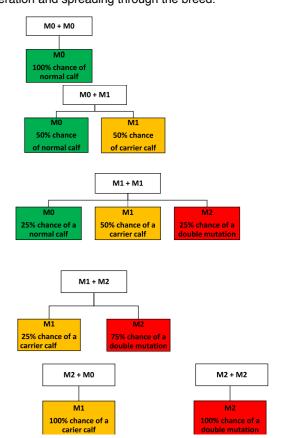
In order to minimise the risk of having the undesirable NT821 myostatin mutation gene in your herd it is important to consider how genes are passed on. All animals have 2 copies of the myostatin gene, but only one copy is passed on from a sire or dam to its offspring. Which gene gets passed on to the offspring is random but each has a 50% chance of being passed on. This means that the chances of an undesirable mutation being passed to the next generation will depend on whether each parent carries none, one or two copies of the mutant gene. The coding used in bull proofs is as follows:

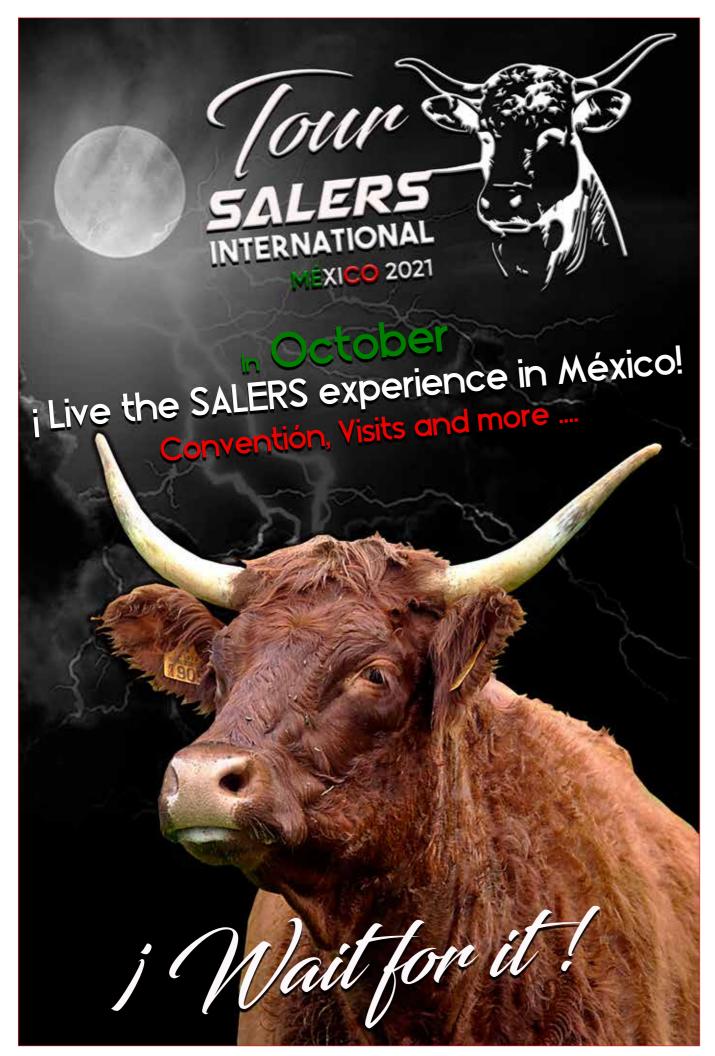
M0 – both genes are the normal myostatin gene

M1 - one copy of a mutated myostatin gene, one normal myostatin gene. A "carrier animal".

M2 - two copies of a mutated myostatin gene.

Below are diagrams that give the likelihood of a calf carrying a mutation depending on the myostatin genes carried by the sire and dam. The more copies of mutated genes in a mating increase the chances of the mutation passing on to the next generation and spreading through the breed.





INTERNATIONAL SALERS FEDERATION



Presidents: Eduardo Padilla (Mexico) & Thomas Helm (Bosnia & Herzegovina) Vice President: Paulino Sanchez (Spain) Chairman: Harri Prichard (United Kingdom) Treasurer: Bruno Faure (France)

MEMBERS

AUSTRALIA

Australian Salers Association www.salersaustralia.com.au

BELGIUM

Belgian Association of Salers Breeders (Bel'salers) ffalmagne@hotmail.com

BOSNIA i HERZEGOVINA

Salers Association of Bosnia and Herzegovina farma.podhum@gmail.com

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Salers Association of Canada www.salerscanada.com

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CZECH REPUBLIC

Czech Beef Breeders Association (CSCHMS) www.cschms.cz

DENMARK

Danish Salers Association www.salers.dk

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Cantal Salers Breeders Association magali.ponchon@orange.fr

FRANCE

ELITE Export laurent.antignac@wanadoo.fr

FRANCE

G.I.E Generation Salers www.generation-salers.fr

FRANCE

Groupe Salers Evolution www.salers.org

GERMANY

Federal Association German Salers Breeders www.salers-rinder.de

IRELAND

Salers Cattle Society of Ireland www.irishsalers.com

MEXICO

Mexican Association of Salers Cattle Breeders epadilla123@yahoo.com

NEW ZEALAND

Salers Society of New Zealand
www.salers.nz

PORTUGAL

Portuguese Association of Salers Cattle Breeders (APCB Salers) www.salers.pt

ROMANIA

Salers Association of Romania Comtrac Agro radu.husau@comtrac.ro

RUSSIA

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SPAIN

Spanish Salers Association (Pro-Salers) info@servi-campo.com

SWITZERLAND

Swiss Salers Association www.salers.ch

UNITED KINGDOM

Salers Cattle Society of U.K. www.salers-cattle-society.co.uk

USA

American Salers Association www.salersusa.org

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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POLAND

Grzegorz and Dagmara Chlopicki vengoalano@gmail.com



Salers Events 2020

February 17th Stirling Bull Sales
United Auctions, Stirling

March 21st English Premier Pedigree Show & Sale Newark Livestock Market, Newark

May 4th Stirling Bull Sales
United Auctions, Stirling

May 13th-16th Royal Ulster Show (Balmoral)
Northern Ireland

May 14th Welshpool Show and Sale Welshpool Livestock Centre

May 28th National Beef Expo NW Auctions, Kendal

June 4th-6th Royal Cornwall Show Wadebridge, Cornwall

June 19th-21st Royal Highland Show Ingliston, Edinburgh

July 14th-16th Great Yorkshire Show Harrogate Show Ground

July 20th–23rd Royal Welsh Show Builth Wells

October 10th Welshpool Show and Sale
Welshpool Livestock Centre

November 6th–7th Premier Show and Sale
Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas

November 30th-1st December Royal Welsh Winter Fair Builth Wells

Council Meetings take place
March 1st / June 7th / September 6th / December 6th

Annual General Meeting
November 6th Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas

Events/dates may change, be added or removed as applicable.

Salers can be seen at many other events around the UK

Your area representative will be able to inform you of events in your area

SALERS CATTLE SOCIETY PRE-SALE CHECKLIST – PEDIGREE ENTRIES

- date for entries with the Auctioneers or the Society website, and ensure all documentation is provided as per the entry form. Late entries or entries with incomplete documentation may be rejected to avoid delaying production of the sale catalogue.
- Tagging: Ensure animals are double tagged in accordance with current EU legislation.
- Herd Health: Ensure all animals meet the requirements of the Salers Society Herd Health regulations and submit a Salers Society Herd Health Declaration for each sale. In addition, you should submit an Owners Declaration of Health Status listing the ear tags of your entries using the form provided by your CHeCS scheme. Be aware that entries of animals not born in your herd may need a separate health certificate depending on the health status of their herd of origin. You will be required to display your CHeCS Herd Health Certificate, or a Health Declaration Pen Card for each animal, supplied by the CHeCs Approved Health Scheme of which you are required to be a member.
- Herd Health Requirements: All cattle pedigree and commercial entered for official Society sales must satisfy the following.
- **BVD Accredited herd:** Entries must be vaccinated with an approved vaccine no more than 12 months prior to the date of sale.
- BVD not accredited herd: The individual animals which have entered must be tested free of BVD virus and vaccinated at least two weeks prior to the sale date. Females that are sold in-calf or running with the bull must be from a BVD accredited herd or individually tested before service, with the BVD status of the bull being determined before he serves any females that are to be sold.
- Johnes: All entries to Society sales come from herds which have entered into a CHeCs Approved or comparable Health Scheme and have a risk classification of 1-4 for the disease. (www.checs.co.uk)
- **Beta-mannosidosis:** All Fullblood and Purebred animals must have a non-carrier DNA status for betamannosidosis.

- **TB:** All entries must comply with current TB pre-movement testing requirements. Cattle coming to Scotland from 1 or 2 year TB testing areas must have passed a TB test within the previous 60 days of the movement. This applies to all cattle over 6 weeks of age. Animals staying in Scotland must pass a post movement TB test carried out between 60 and 120 days following the movement. The current TB test cannot be carried out twice with 42 days or false results may occur. Proof of testing will have to be provided by yourself and dates of testing announced.
- **DNA:** all pedigree animals sold at society sales must be DNA/Myostatin profiled prior to entry to the sale. test kits are available via the society.
- Eyes: The veterinary surgeon may examine the animal's eyes to ensure that the retinas and lenses are sound. The vet retains the right to reject an animal for eye defects.
- **Dentition:** The veterinary surgeon will check the dentition is correct and the incisor teeth are biting on the upper pad. Animals will be rejected from the sale if the vet determines that their bite is severely overshot or undershot.
- Scrotal Size: All bulls will have their testicles examined by a vet. Testicles should be firm and even sized. Bulls deemed by the vet to have defective testicles will be rejected from the sale. The circumference at the widest part of the scrotum will be measured and should be 32cms at 12 months of age, 34cms at 18 months of age and 36cms at 24 months of age. The measured scrotal circumference will be displayed on the pen, and the Society may require the Auctioneer to announce in the ring that a bull does notmeet our standards.
- Teats: All female animals will be put through the crush and have their udders/ teats examined for defects by the vet. They may be rejected from the sale if significant defects are found.
- Diseases etc: Check the animals are free from warts (pay particular attention to the sheath and scrotal areas), Ringworm, Mange, Lice or other contagious diseases.

- Treatments: If your entries are showing signs of any of the above conditions and have been treated then a signed veterinary certificate to that effect must accompany your entry.
- Locomotion: Check the animal's feet and legs are sound and the general locomotion is satisfactory. The animal may be rejected from the sale if the Society Inspector determines that it is defective in its legs, feet or locomotion. Where possible, allowance will be made for animals that have had a long journey time to the mart.
- Docility: All entries are to be halter trained and led using bull ring, or nose clip/bulldog for females. The animal may be rejected from the sale if the Society Inspector determines that it is displaying unruly behaviour.
- Conformation and Condition: Check the animals are of good conformation and in good condition and meet the minimum weight for age standard as per the Society rulings. The measured weight for bulls will be displayed on the pen, and the Society may require the Auctioneer to announce in the ring that a bull does not meet our standards.
- **Declarations:** If semen has been taken from a bull, this must be declared for inclusion in the catalogue, along with the number of straws retained. If females have been flushed, this must be declared for inclusion in the catalogue, along with the number of embryos retained. If females are in-calf by Al, this must be declared in the catalogue and Al certificates must be provided.

Following arrival at the sale premises all pedigree cattle are subject to an official inspection conducted by a veterinary surgeon and a Society Inspector.

The aim of the inspection is to ensure that all animals sold at sales are of a consistently high quality and are free from any health and/or structural defects.

To avoid the disappointment of having cattle rejected, members should carry out checks before consigning Salers cattle to Society sales.

Further information regarding Society rulings re health, testicle size, and weight for age can be found on the Society website or from the Secretary

BREED HISTORY and CHARACTERISTICS

BREED ORIGIN AND HISTORY

Salers (pronounced Sa'lairs) originate in the Southern half of the Massif Central in the Auvergne region of France. It has a rough and variable climate, and though higher, 2000-6000 ft, is very similar to our Lake District and the Highlands of Scotland and Wales. The Salers is one of the oldest breeds in the world, with prehistoric cave paintings suggesting that a similar type of animal has been bred in the area for 7-10,000 years.

They appear to be closely related to the old Celtic breeds and the African breeds, and were probably located in the Massif Central when red cattle migrated from Africa through the Iberian Peninsular and on into northern Europe and the British Isles.

BREED IMPROVEMENT

What is certain is that Devons, Durhams, (Shorthorns) and West Highland cattle were imported into the Salers area in the mid 19th Century with the intention of improving the breed. At the same time a M. Tyssandier D'Escous challenged the introduction of outside blood and set about improving the Salers by selecting from within the breed.

His method was considered most successful, and he became known as the Father of the Breed. A statue honouring his work stands in the middle of the small mediaeval town of Salers from which the breed takes its name.

From that time until well into the 20th century the breed was improved and developed as a triple purpose animal, Milk-Meat-Draught.

Traditionally, this involved the simultaneous production of milk for cheese and a calf for beef production. In 1925 milk recording became compulsory and weight recording started in 1962.

Resulting from all this improvement and recording has emerged the ideal suckler cow with bred-in foraging ability, able to utilise and thrive on native grasses and forage both summer and winter.

BREED CHARACTERISTICS AND QUALITIES

The difficult environmental conditions where the Salers breed developed makes it ideal for the poorer areas of the British Isles and today's beef industry. Salers are usually horned with a dark red coat, though there have always been some with black coats. Polled Salers were once very rare. Since the mid '90s, the availability of polled and/or black fullblood Salers has increased due to the efforts of UK breeders. The skin and pigmented membranes are brown and consequently few eye or udder problems occur. A good hair coat which becomes thick and curly in winter gives hardiness and adaptability to cold and heat.

Having roamed the mountains for centuries, and been draught animals they have developed strong legs and good feet with black hooves. Consequently the cattle can travel long distance over rough ground without developing foot problems. They are equally able to tolerate long periods inside on slats etc. Being one of the oldest and genetically most pure of the European breeds,

the Salers produces a positive effect on the predictability in crossbreeding programmes in a consistent increase in hybrid vigour.

The French National Institute of Agricultural Research has run trials that show that Salers cows and heifers are able to draw on their body reserves when food is scarce to produce sufficient milk for their calf, building them up again guickly when grazing is plentiful. The same trials show that Salers are only fully mature at 5 to 6 years of age.

Measured on farm

Average weight of mature cows 650-850kg Average weight of mature bulls 1000-1200kg Average height of withers of cows 144cm Average height of wither of bulls 154cm

Measured at the Paris Show

Average weight of cows 5 years+ 844ka Average weight of bulls 4 years+ 1209kg Heaviest weight of cow 963ka Heaviest weight of bull 1401kg

(Heavier weights have now been recorded in the UK)

MATERNAL INFLUENCE

Fixed through its heritage the Salers female displays exceptional maternal qualities of fertility, milking ability, calving ease, hardiness and longevity. High percentage calf crops resulting from the inherent fertility of Salers are realised through early puberty, quick rebreeding and high conception rates coupled with the breeds predictable calving ease and large pelvic structure. Further maternal advantage is realised through the Salers ability to wean a heavy calf and take care of herself. More kilograms at weaning result from the combination of good lactation and lean growth factors.

Suckler cow herd costs are minimised though the breeds foraging ability, winter hardiness and minimal feet, eve and udder problems. Salers are known for their longevity and "wearability" no doubt due to many of the factors stated, stress free calving, good feet

In a survey carried out in France, of over 100,000 Salers cows, 25.1% were 10 years old or over and the calving interval was 374 days.

Bulls are known for their ability to cover large numbers of females and in the ranching countries bull numbers have been halved and calving percentages have risen, another valuable saving on herd costs.

Salers are a unique breed that combine high carcass quality and fast growth rate yet calve

More live calves per cow put to the bull means more £££'s and it all begins with a trouble free birth. Vigorous calves born with moderate birth weights and slender long foetal conformation have gained Salers a proven reputation for easy calving. Salers sired calves offer the cowman the unique combination of increased weaning weights with less management at calving.

The dam and the sire both influence the weight and shape of the calf at birth. Salers

calves are relatively light at birth, about 36 Kg for heifers and 38 Kg for bulls, they are also long and rather flat in shape, it is this feature which makes the Salers bull very popular for crossing with commercial and dairy heifers.

The Salers influence contributes a large pelvic area to cross bred replacement females and will allow commercial suckler cowmen to utilise heavily muscled terminal sires in a cross breeding programme with less concern about calving difficulties.

FEEDING AND CARCASS

The final measurement of a breeds capabilities is the economic production of a lean nutritious and palatable protein product. That is what beef production is all about, Salers consistently produce the product that the industry and consumer demand. Salers and their crosses are being proven both by the feeder and the butcher.

Competitive live weight gains and efficient feed conversion have been documented by the feeder, whilst the butcher appreciates carcasses that are of industry acceptable weight from approximately 10-16 months and producing top grades. Salers cattle are extremely flexible in the finishing yard enabling feeders to make the best of the markets highs and lows.

The Salers is a carcass breed that calves easily and consistently produces carcasses that are high in quality and lean in composition. Salers are producing an industry preferred product that is making the breeder, the feeder, the butcher, and the retailer take notice.

THE BEGINNINGS OF SALERS IN THE U.K.

In the spring of 1984, a herd of Salers was founded in Cumbria - 60 females and 4 bulls with as wide a genetic base as possible. Consequently, heifers by 45 different sires and 4 bulls completely unrelated to each other were imported into the U.K. from France.

All the cattle were first choices. Growth rate, docility, femininity, straight top lines and correct legs were the main criteria for selection. All dams, and granddams where possible, were inspected and had to come up to the same standard. In that importation were two females carrying the poll factor. All lived up to expectations, bred and gave no calving problems whatsoever.

From the original importation Salers cattle quickly spread all over the British Isles from the Shetlands to Cornwall and Ireland. The Salers Cattle Society of the U.K. was formed by Bryan Walling, Robert Hudson, Fiona Walling, Thomas Dobson and Bruce Worsley of Crosthwaite,

The first AGM was held in November 1986, at that point there were a mere 10 members. Bryan Walling was elected as first Chairman.

Since then the breed has continued to expand throughout 1000 Salers are being registered annually by 175 members.

The Society is divided into Areas and is governed by a Council made up from the Area Representatives

USEFUL SOCIETY INFORMATION

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: Subscriptions are due and payable on 1st January each year. No invoice will be sent so it would be helpful if all members would please pay promptly. V.A.T. receipts will be sent on payment. Payment can be made by Standing Order.

REGISTRATIONS: Though equivalent in all other respects, the Herd Book maintains a permanent distinction between Full Blood pedigree animals with ancestry 100% traceable to French origin, and Purebred pedigree animals resulting from a grading up program. The registered name of Purebred animals will be followed by (PB). Progeny of a Purebred sire or dam can never be designated as Full Blood.

The poll/horn status is to be recorded as part of the registration. The poll/horn status can be amended if required and a new warranty issued. Up to the age of 12 months of age this is free of charge, and thereafter the normal fee for a replacement warranty applies. Polled animals must include either Poll or Polled in the name.

No calves can be registered unless the sire has been DNA tested and the result lodged with the society. All bull calves must also be DNA profiled before registration is confirmed. Test kits are available from the

To register a calf got by embryo transplant, the Embryo Registration Form No. and Embryo Number (e.g. 186/3) need to be supplied, and its registered name will be followed by ET. Registration must be completed via the office, not on-line.

A.I. CERTIFICATES MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATIONS IF **APPROPRIATE:** Registrations cannot be accepted without A.I. Forms (if appropriate). Remember to note on the Registration Form if the calf is polled. Some semen owners use the Sire Certificate system. Do check when buying semen and remember to forward the Sire Certificate with the A.I. Certificate and Registration Form.

THE GRADE REGISTER: Grade A, B and C females will be registered in the Grade Register. Only Full Blood bulls can be used in a grading up program. Though not recommended, a Purebred bull (31/32 or greater) may be used on a Grade C female and her heifer calf be registered as a Grade C.

Following its first calving, a Grade C cow may be designated as Purebred and transferred to the Herd Book, subject to passing an inspection for conformity to Breed Standard and being tested non-carrier for betamannosidosis. Application for inspection must be made in writing to the Secretary. On passing the inspection, to effect the transfer the original warranty and transfer fee must be forwarded to the Secretary. This cow's calves can then be registered as Purebred according to the table. Grade C cows are transferred as 7/8 PB no matter what % Salers blood they actually are.

UK HERD BOOK NUMBER: The herd book number is now the UK tag number as the unique identification of each animal.

IMPORTATION OF CATTLE: As requirements of importation change CHECK WITH THE SECRETARY what is required when you start on the import of animals, semen or embryos. All imports must have a valid export pedigree certificate from the country of origins society, a laboratory report stating the animal is a non-carrier for Beta Mannosidosis (BetaM), a laboratory report stating the animal is a non-carrier of Blue Tongue, the animal must be DNA profiled and its Myostatin status known.

Please note: if any females you are importing are in calf this must be declared at the time of registration. You must also supply the 3 generation pedigree of the sire, the Sires BetaM report and DNA/ Myostatin profile.

Over 3 months late penalties will be incurred if delayed for any reason.

A system has been set up for registering calves got by a non-owned sire. Service may either be by A.I. or natural. In these cases a Sire Certificate must be obtained from the owner of the bull/semen and forwarded with the registration form (and A.I. form if appropriate). The cost of the Sire Certificate is negotiable privately between

the owners of the dam and the owners of the bull or semen. Sire certificates can be obtained from the secretary at the cost of £30 per 10 certificates. The secretary must be informed if the owner of a bull or semen wishes to use the sire certificate system (otherwise registrations may be accepted without a sire certificate and the owner would lose

EMBRYO TRANSPLANT PROGRAMME: Before embarking on an embryo transplant programme, please contact the secretary who will forward the relevant Salers Society forms. Minimum of £11 per animal flushed (up to 10 embryos) thereafter £1 per embryo. After 3 months minimum of £20 per animal flushed (up to 10 embryos) thereafter £2 per embryo. Remember to insert the ET Form No. and Embryo No. on the Calf Registration Form). £28 per Export Certificate plus embryo registration. One Export Certificate covers all embryos from one flush to the same purchaser. BOTH SIRE AND DAM IN AN EMBRYO PROGRAMME MUST BE BLOOD-TYPED and have clear DNA/Myosatin/ BetaM test certificates.

TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP:

A fee of £6 + VAT is charged for transfer of ownership. The fee is payable by the purchaser who should obtain the warranty from the seller and forward it to the secretary for transfer.

ALL TRANSACTIONS ARE PLUS VAT. NO TRANSACTIONS ARE COMPLETE UNTIL ALL MONIES ARE PAID AND PAPERWORK IS CORRECTLY

IF PAYING BY BACS PLEASE USE YOUR THREE ALPHABETICAL DIGITS FROM YOUR HERD REFERENCE AS THE PAYMENT REFERENCE.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MEMBER TO GET ALL RELEVANT PAPERWORK TO THE SOCIETY ON TIME OR LATE PENALTIES WILL BE



Pedigree Registration Royalty Scheme for AI Sires

THE FOLLOWING BULLS/SEMEN ARE ON THE ABOVE SCHEME									
Name of Bull	Herd Book No.	Ear No.	Royalty Charge	Owner	Owner's Tel. No.	Beta-m Status			
Bruno	172	6386051716	£50 + VAT	Rigel Pedigree	01624 590125	Non-Carrier			
Crocodile Dundee	279	6387062264	£40 + VAT	Rigel Pedigree	01642 590125	Non-Carrier			
Vainqueur	1	1584052218	£30 + VAT	Rigel Pedigree	01624 590125	Non-Carrier			
Vauban	3	1584054531	£25 + VAT	Rigel Pedigree	01624 590125	Non-Carrier			
Kracker	IMP 97053	6327580166	£40 + VAT	John Elliott	02881 661654	Non-Carrier			
Drumlegagh Dennis	DRU2010017	63659800107	£40 + VAT	John Elliott	02881 661654	Non-Carrier			
Turbulent	IMP2007004	1522218702	£40 + VAT	Thomas Kely	07801 105655	Non-Carrier			
Gulliver	IMP2012010	1531258814	£50 + VAT	Roy Crockett	07929 306160	Non-Carrier			
Lord Bisto	303672501071	303672501071	£30 + VAT	AJ Powell	07787 556345	Non-Carrier			

- Before any calves can be registered from the table above a Sire Certificate must be obtained from the owner and enclosed
- The late registration penalty will apply if time is taken to obtain the Sire Certificate.
 Registration fees will apply on the date all paperwork is correctly supplied.
 No advance payments will be accepted.

If a member has collected semen from a registered bull in his/her ownership, or has acquired the sole rights to semen in the UK, for imported or purchased semen and wishes to sell semen at commercial production prices to encourage commercial use, yet retain a higher return for pedigree use by charging a separate levy free on registration of pedigree calves, he/she can apply to the Society to register the bull as a Pedigree Registration Royalty Sire.

INVOLVEMENT OF THE SOCIETY:

The Salers Society of the UK and its secretary will merely be the tools by which those calves gain their registration, in a Pedigree Registration Royalty Scheme, which is an arrangement between the vendor of the semen and the breeder who wishes to register a calf, which is the result of using this semen.

CHARGES for 2020

Registering Commercial SalersX (Grade A, B & C)	Charge	VAT 20%	TOTAL
All cattle	£5.00	£1.00	£6.00
Upgrade a C to Purebred (fee plus society inspection and clear beta M report)			
Intimations are free			
Registrations All other calves (except ET)			
up to 3 months	£28.00	£5.60	£33.60
3-6 months over 6 months	£49.00 £91.00	£9.80 £18.20	£58.80 £109.20
	271100	210.20	
Registrations Embryo transplant calves up to 3 months	£33.00	£6.60	£39.60
3-6 months	£59.00	£11.80	£70.80
over 6 months	£112.00	£22.40	£134.40
Transfer of ownership	£6.00	£1.20	£7.20
Replacement Warranty	£10.00	£2.00	£12.00
Registration of Embryos (including imported)			
Minimum per animal flushed (up to 10 embryos)	£11.00	£2.20	£13.20
Thereafter per embryo After 3 months-minimum per animal flushes (up to 10 embryos)	£1.00 £21.00	£0.20 £4.20	£1.20 £25.20
Therafter per embryo	£2.00	£0.40	£2.40
Subscription payable 1st January	£55.00	£11.00	£66.00
if paid before 4th January	£50.00	£10.00	£60.00
Joining Fee and Registration of Herd Letter and Prefix	£37.00	£7.40	£44.40
Export Certificates	£28.00	£5.60	£33.60
Registration of Imported Cattle not in calf			
up to 3 months from date of entry	£42.00	£8.40	£50.40
3-6 months over 6 months	£81.00 £159.00	£16.20 £31.80	£97.20 £190.80
OVEL O IIIOHUIS	£135.00	131.00	£130.00
Registration of Imported Cattle with in vitro calves	66450	(12.00	677.40
up to 3 months from date of entry 3-6 months	£64.50 £103.50	£12.90 £20.70	£77.40 £124.40
over 6 months	£183.00	£36.60	£219.60

It is the responsibility of the member to get all relevant information to the Society office on time or late penalties will be incurred.

All transactions are plus vat. No transactions complete until payment is received and paperwork correctly supplied.

Membership Application Form

I wish to become an Annual member of the Salers Cattle Society of the UK Ltd.

And hereby agree to abide by the Rules of the Society until the termination of the year in which I withdraw my membership by notice in writing.

I also agree for my personal information (name, address, contact and relevant membership details as is currently published) to be published online through the Salers website and be available freely to visitors to the website. I also agree that my contact details can be shared over the phone with members and other people wishing to get in touch with me. I also agree that any pictures taken at shows/sales or any other Salers events can be published by both printed and digital means.

YES / NO please delete as necessary

will be the society computer reference for your herd.

Signature		Gift Aid provides a gre				
Date		the value of your dona Salers Cattle Society a				
Terms of Membership Initial Joining Fee & Registra £37.00 plus VAT @ 20%	you are a taxpayer we can claim from the basic rate tax paid on your donatio boosting them by 25%. So for every £1 worth £12.50. All the society needs fro					
Annual Subscription £55.00 plus VAT @ 20%	Total = £66.00	declaration saying tha A declaration can cove subscriptions and can	t you want to use er one or more do			
Total	Initial Fee = £110.40	Name of Charity:	The Salers			
Please complete the following (except for email & website a	•	Charity Number:	of the UK Lt			
Membership Name		, , ,				
		Donor Details				
Address		Name ———				
		Address				
Post Code		Postcode ———				
Email		Herd ———				
Website		Prefix				
Tel		I would like all don subscriptions I have	e made since			
Mobile		and all donations in Gift Aid until I notif				
UK Number		Signed:				
*Salers Herd Prefix Name		Date:				
**Salers Letters		To qualify for Gift Aid yo				
* Salers Herd Prefix Name – this car choose provided it is not already re	gistered with the society.	and/or capital gains in t from your donation.	he tax year equal			
** Salers Letters - Select three letter	ers of your choice which					

Sian Sharpe

Jasmine Cottage 2 Maitland Row Gavinton **Berwickshire TD113QP**

Return this form to the secretary:

Payment Details

A Payment can be made by cheque made payable to Salers Cattle Society of the UK Ltd.

B Payment can be made direct into the society account, please pay RBS for the credit of the Salers Cattle Society of the UK Ltd.

Account Number 11861110 Sort Code 16-26-14

Gift Aid

r you to increase scriptions to the selves. Provided the Inland Revenue ns/subscriptions, 0 we receive it is m you is a simple e Gift Aid. onations/ ng in the form below.

Cattle Society

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nount of income tax to the tax we reclaim

Salers Cattle Society of the UK Ltd

