



THE
ABERDEEN-ANGUS
CATTLE SOCIETY

REVIEW

ISSUE NO. 104 | JANUARY 2022

Official Journal of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society

OAKMOORANGUS

PEDIGREE | QUALITY | CONFIDENCE



*Oakmoor Kingston X574
By Duncanziemere Edwin J311
Out of Oakmoor Katya R295*

SHOW RECORD

Carlisle Agri-expo 2021: 1st in class, reserve Junior champion.
Exeter Agri-fest 2021: 1st in class, reserve champion and best native calf.
Stirling 'Stars of the future' 2021: 1st in class, Junior champion, overall Junior champion, and best native calf.



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The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society
Pedigree House
6 King's Place
Perth, Perthshire
Scotland PH2 8AD

Tel: +44 (0) 1738 622 477
Fax: +44 (0) 1738 636 436
Email: info@aberdeen-angus.co.uk
www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk

Edited, designed and artworked
by Pinstone Communications
Email: info@pinstone.co.uk

Natalie Cormack
Email: natalie.cormack@btconnect.com

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Words of welcome from Pedigree House

Little did we know just how long the pandemic would last and the impact it would have. Thankfully, although 2021 started in a similar vein with a lockdown, we were fortunate some shows and sales could go ahead.

The first big show to take place, albeit under limited capacity and stringent covid testing, was the Great Yorkshire, extended to four days with a 25,000-capacity limit on each day. It was the first chance in 18 months for the show enthusiasts to showcase their wares in front of the public and enjoy each other's company again after a long period of what for many was virtually solitude.

Last year, the Review was filled with technical articles, case studies and facts and figures because the space was available to do that. And this year is no different, with the bonus of sales and shows to report on. Preparation for this publication starts in early autumn and much is complete by the end of October, a busy time of sales and shows.

Thanks must go to the Committee Chairs. They have helped pull together the Review of 2021, communicated the Review's business and purpose, whilst continuing with Committee and Council activity. Thanks also to the Team at Pedigree House for the help and contribution to this year's Review, a baptism of fire for newcomers Emily Simpson and Robert Gilchrist! And, thanks to our PR agency Pinstone, especially Hannah, Becky and Lucy, for keeping the Review on track to ensure this publication is with you as early in January as it possibly can be.

We hope you enjoy the content this year and a massive thank you goes to the advertisers, members, trade and clubs, without whom we would not be able to publish the annual Review and make it a worthwhile read.

Let's hope 2022 sees a further return to normality and we wish you all the best of health, wealth and happiness for the ensuing year.

The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society

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A review of 2021 from Pedigree House

A second year of the Covid pandemic and the first year of Brexit has meant the Society has faced several challenges, which has kept the staff busy. However, through working from home, utilising online meeting technology and a raft of work carried out in Ireland, we ended 2021 with these problems behind us.

Due to Covid-19, the AGM was delayed until the accounts were prepared and circulated. This meant the new Council did not sit until May. However, much progress has been made.

Online meetings are one of the love-hate factors to come from the pandemic. However, they have been fantastic in allowing business to continue. The Council and various Committees have met regularly and transacted more business than would ever have been possible in the past.

With Council and Committee members stretched from the Orkney Islands to Hampshire and from County Tyrone to Cambridgeshire, getting them all to Perth for a meeting is no small task. However, asking them to jump on a Zoom call for an hour at the beginning or end of a day is quite simple and far less demanding than jumping on a plane or sitting in a car for the best part of a day.

However, it does need to be managed as it is also too easy to have a Zoom meeting that takes away time from

delivering more important aspects for the Society. A balance is to be had and with pragmatism, will be.

Flexible working has seen an improvement to the staff working environment too. While lockdown rules made working from home mandatory, the easing in restrictions has seen most staff members splitting their time between the office and home.

Last year we had some staff changes. Yvonne Buchannan and Amy Johnstone from the Registrations department decided to hang up their Aberdeen-Angus halters and move on to other things. We wish them well in their future endeavours. Also, in Pedigree Cattle Services, Barbara Webster officially retired on 30 June. However, to ease the transition, she has continued to work as a contractor one to two days a week, allowing the rest of the staff to benefit from her vast knowledge and industry experience.

We also saw the arrival of two new members of staff to the team. Robert Gilchrist joined Pedigree Cattle Services as Breed Development Manager to take over from Barbara and integrate more commercially focussed projects. In addition, Emily Simpson joined the Society and is looking after our social media, the shows and sales and in her spare moments helps Fiona and Caroline in Registrations. Both have settled in well and are making themselves part of the team.

On 1 January 2021, Brexit brought the Society's trading relationship with members in the Republic of Ireland since 1874 to an end. No one could know what impact Brexit would have on Society activities and the wider UK business environment. It also meant the rest of our European cousins were no longer in our herd book. However, we were awarded a licence from the competent authority to run a herd book for Aberdeen-Angus with membership in the Republic of Ireland as a separate entity on 30 December 2020, one day before the deadline. This was a successful conclusion of six months of work. The Irish Aberdeen-Angus Association is now a trading entity and is independent of the Society, and apart from two Alignment Committee meetings per year, it may do its own thing.

We appointed Dr Felicity McGrath to take charge of proceedings with an ambitious plan to manage registrations from the Republic of Ireland and all other members in the EU who now cannot register cattle in our herd book in Perth. This has been no mean feat and again a baptism of fire for Felicity when taking on the role. However, it has given her a chance to streamline the processes managed by the team in Ireland. As a result of this change, there has been a reduction in income from managing Irish and European registrations and transfers. However, there was also significant expense incurred managing these registrations, so we expect the books to balance at the end of all of this.

In 2021, Council formally adopted a working document that is currently referred to as the 10-Year Plan. The ambition is to grow the Aberdeen-Angus share of

BCMS registrations from 23% to 30% by 2031. We have embarked on an ambitious program of data collection and projects to back our claims. Also, to focus the workload and bring greater agility to the Society, the Committee structure has been rearranged to use the talents of Council members better.

Our thanks go to the Chairs of the Committees for their commitment and flexibility displayed this year and the Committee members who have willingly given up their time and resources to make the Society work.

The cost of our DNA support has grown as we are testing more animals than last year and increased the size of the test we are doing on our animals. This has increased both the volume and cost of the testing to the Society. The increase in the density of testing is for a good reason. As we look to the future by enhancing our breeding selection criteria by bringing in genomics, we will reap the benefits of faster breed improvement by adopting that technology, again more detail later in the Review.

We thank you as members for your understanding over the last 12 challenging months. Looking into 2022, strategies are being developed to ensure that whilst we aim to move into the future, the key task of registering and protecting your genetics is improved and delivers you, the member, the service you deserve from your Society.

We thank you all and look to a prosperous 2022.

Your Pedigree House Team.

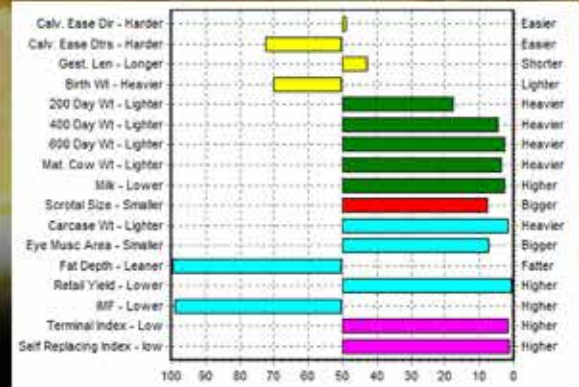


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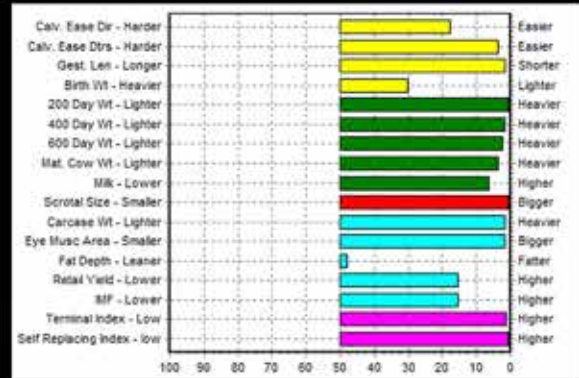
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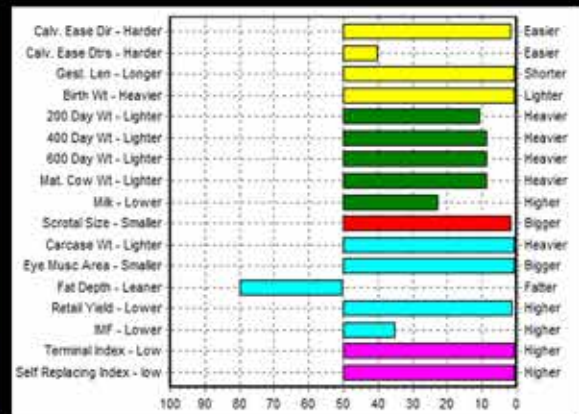
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Now's the time to embrace change and use data to secure your farms future

Eighty-seven years ago, my grandfather purchased Aberdeen-Angus cattle for his farm in Surrey and started the Rosemead herd. Although there was no data in those days, only experience as a beef farmer, he believed those cattle would convert grass to meat better than any other breed.

My father continued the Rosemead herd, and as a Vice President of the Royal Smithfield Club, understood the superior eating quality of the breed, again through experience dealing with butchers but with no data to back it up.

Today, I sell many bulls to the dairy industry, whose top requirement is easy calving. I can tell them which bulls they require through my experience. However, I now can back this knowledge with data reassuring the buyer and me. Data is key!

I firmly believe the Aberdeen-Angus breed is ideally placed to take our industry forward as an answer to sustainable beef production. In a climate-changing world, low-cost cattle producing superior beef from low input grassland is vital.

Whatever your thoughts on climate change, methane and carbon sequestration (and you might passionately believe it's all a load of hokum), the reality is it is a subject that will never go away. As an industry, we need to respond to the changes that are required to survive. In addition, post-Brexit, the support mechanism for agriculture will disappear and the Government will have very little money to spend on agriculture for the next generation due to Covid.

Low input cattle farming, meaning reducing vet bills, the use of vaccines, wormers, foot trimmers, low feed costs, and long-lived easy-care cattle, will be the future.

So, as farmers, we can sort out our health status, we can select cattle with good feet, udders and temperament and cull animals that cost money (we should soon be able to see these traits in genomic data). However, we need data to help choose cattle that are best to convert feed. We need data to sell our breed not only to other farmers but to the whole supply chain, including Government, consumers, retailers, processors, and their advisers.

A generation ago, we started recording data in the national herd through Signet, pushed by some forward-thinking farmers. Eventually, the Society decided to encourage members to go with the Australian system of ABRI and now most members successfully use the figure-based system.

Over the last 15 years, the Society has been making decisions on DNA, what data is required and how we can use it. It is a constantly evolving and complex subject, with potential pitfalls at every turn, but we have to move forward.

Members will rightly question why we need to go down this road and ask how it would benefit them. However, the Council firmly believe we need to show the benefits of DNA collecting to members.

As DNA data evolves, the Society needs to respond to this and I hope in five years we will have a stable, successful program with huge benefits, but we need to be at the forefront of this race.

EBV's are what they say on the tin; they are estimated. If we can crack the DNA code, then we will have accurate figures that cannot be manipulated.

Worldwide several organisations are reading and using genomic data successfully. We as a Council must choose which organisation we need to align with. The arguments are complex, and the process the Council is taking, using experts in this field, should lead to a successful conclusion. It does show you, the member, the type of work the Council and Society are involved in. We are more than just a Breed Society.

The breed, being the leading player in the beef industry in the UK, will continually come under pressure from every side, and who has the breeds back? Who will question the decisions others make about the breed, the marketing, the schemes and who does the industry come to when they need help or answers? The Society, the staff and Council roles have changed, but that is no excuse when basic, core responsibilities get delayed, as has happened with registrations over the last year.

We now have a Registration Committee looking at problems that have occurred, and they have been working on solutions. As I am sure you're aware, the problem stems from the failure rate of the DNA samples that led to the Office becoming overwhelmed. The DNA Committee has made some changes that will lead to an improved situation in the future. However, as I said before, the issues are complex and as one problem is resolved another one arises.

It has become clear that evidence-based research that produces accurate data will be fundamental in the future. Government and retailers who are consumer-facing will need to use them to justify policies. We need to own this data and be at the forefront of collecting and

analysing it. My grandfather and fathers' job would have been so much easier if they had this tool to work with.

It was wonderful to see a well-supported National show at Westmorland and congratulations to all the prize winners, especially David and Penny Evans, who won the champion honour With Tree Bridge Polly Perkins. A September Balmoral Show saw Woodvale Miss Annie from Alwyn and Carol Armour's stable winning the breed championship and the interbreed, well done to them. At the Winter National, supreme champion was a November 2020 Heifer Tonley Ester W786 from the Wattie family, well done to them and all the breeders who support these shows.

There were several herd dispersals throughout the year, but at the October bull sales, the Massie family not only dominated the bull show, including the top four priced, but their dispersal was probably the most exciting in the history of the breed. Well done to them and happy retirement.

Covid has defined the last two years, the team at Pedigree House has had to operate remotely, which has not helped the registration process. I would like to congratulate the team on the effort that they have put in over the last 12 months to keep the Society running. Key new players Robert Gilchrist and Emily Simpson, both based in or near Perth, have also joined the team. Emily is taking on the social media remit and Robert will run PCS as Breed Development Manager. He comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience. Finally, I am sure you would also like me to thank Barbara Webster, who has retired after three decades of service to the Society, although she has not entirely left as she is continuing on a part-time basis.

I would also like to thank the Council team, especially the Chairs of each of the five main Committees and four Sub-Committees and the presidential team of David, Finlay and Alan, whose intellect and experience make this journey easier.

Angus Stovold

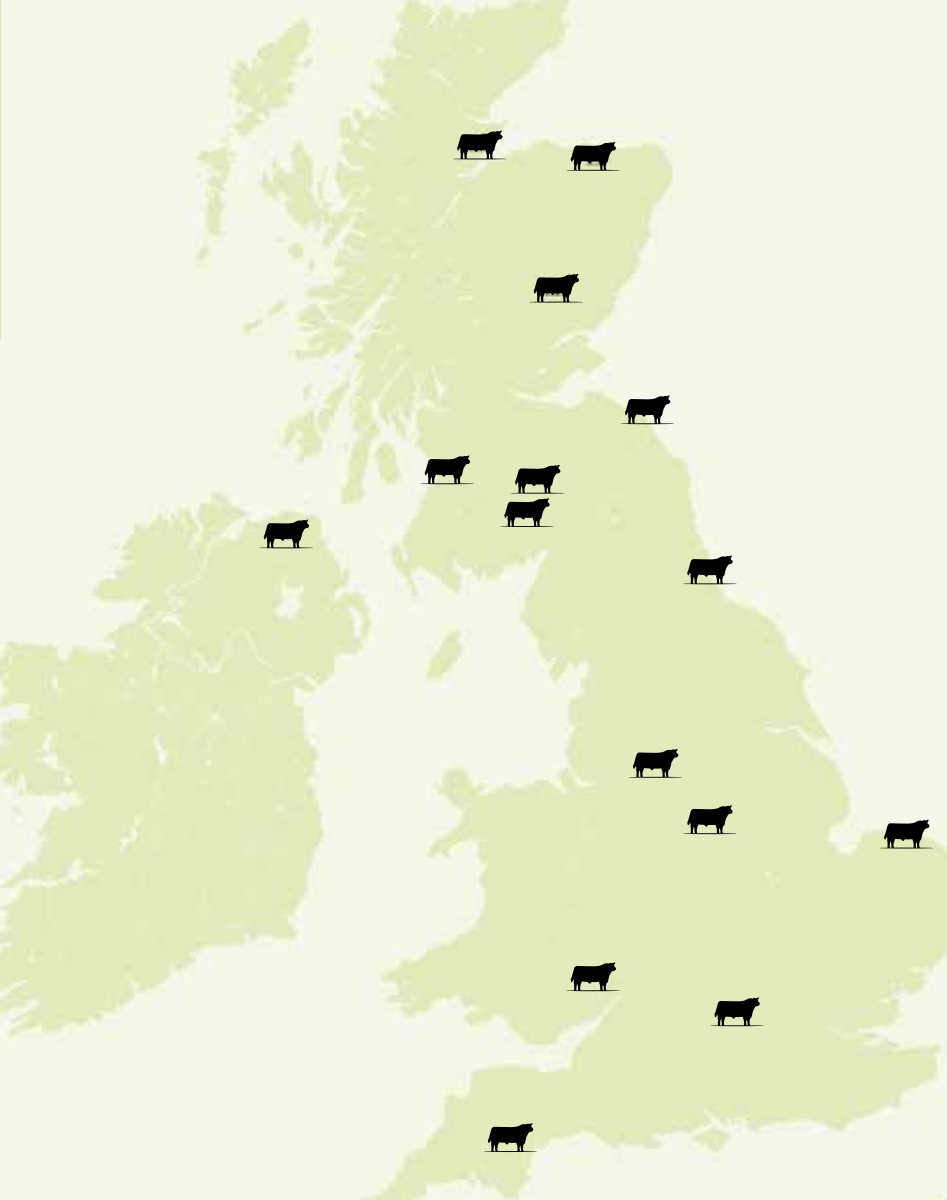




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Aberdeen-Angus, its more than a breed, it's a brand.



The Aberdeen-Angus Clubs

The Clubs play an essential part in what we do representing the Breed and the Society around the shows in their regions, as well as organising meetings, herd walks and competitions throughout the year.

It is the intention of the Society to help the Clubs engage more with promoting in their areas and start to play an essential role in the publicising of the breed and the brand going forward. If you are reading this and are not a member of your local Club and have an interest in learning more about membership benefits, contact the Secretary in your local area.

We will be making some investments this year to encourage the Clubs to be 'legs on the ground' in spotting opportunities to help us market the breed and the brand going forward.

The regional Clubs are not just for breeders, but for anyone with an interest in Aberdeen-Angus Cattle - be it breeding, beef or just would like to be a part of the story going forward.

www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/
the-society/regional-clubs/

Gill MacGregor, Secretary

HIGHLAND AREA A-A CLUB

1 Raddery, Fortrose, Ross-Shire. IV10 8SN.

Tel: 01381 620570

Email: gillian.macgregor@btconnect.com

Cara Thomson, Secretary

NORTH-EAST SCOTLAND A-A CLUB

South Ardoyne, Oyne, Inch, Aberdeenshire, AB52 6RN.

Tel: 01381 620570

Email: aa.in.nescotland@gmail.com

Elaine Smith, Secretary

CENTRAL SCOTLAND A-A CLUB

Incheoch Farm, Alyth, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.

PH11 8HJ. Tel: 01828 633709 Mobile: 07719 440542

Email: ecd_007@hotmail.com

Natalie Cormack, Secretary

BORDER A-A CLUB

Dairy Cottage, Tower Road, Ayton, Eyemouth,

Berwickshire. TD14 5QX. Tel: 01890 781006

Email: natalie.cormack@btconnect.com

Shona Andrew, Secretary

SOUTH-WEST SCOTLAND A-A CLUB

25 Burgoyne Drive, Coylton, Ayrshire. KA26 6PB.

Tel: 07912 783719

Email: swsaberdeenangus@hotmail.co.uk

Mrs M. Hamnett, Secretary

PENWAC,

Upper Waterside Farm, Disley, Nr Stockport,

Cheshire. SK12 2HJ. Tel: 01663 767877

Email: olivham@btinternet.com

Mrs Ashley Fenwick, Secretary

NORTH-EAST ENGLAND A-A CLUB

12 Roseberry Drive, Great Ayton, TS9 6EQ

Tel: 07969 012790

Email: a.e.fenwick@live.co.uk

Tom Peters, Esq, Chairman

SOLWAY A-A CLUB

Longbank, Kirkmahoe, Duncow, Dumfries. DG11 1TE.

Tel: 07711 995420 Email: tomp1418@hotmail.com

Miss Katherine Hart, Secretary

WEST MERCIA A-A CLUB

St Dials Farm, Monmouth, Wales. NP25 4HY

Tel: 01600 713102 Email: issyhart@hotmail.co.uk

Mrs Megan Atkins, Secretary

EAST ANGLIA A-A CLUB

Moor Farm, The Street, Foxley, Dereham, Norfolk,

NR20 4QP. Tel: 07979 108714

Email: matkins8nr@gmail.com

M. Spooner, Esq., Secretary

SOUTH-EAST ENGLAND A-A CLUB

Honeysuckle Cottage, Kingwood, Henley,

Oxon. RG9 5NT. Tel: 01491 628637

Email: kingwoodangus@aol.com

Becca Thomas, Secretary

SOUTH-WEST ENGLAND A-A CLUB

May Cottage, 4 The Teeds, Woodbury,

Exeter, Devon, EX5 1LQ. Mobile: 07929 982297

Email: beccaswaac@hotmail.com

Miss Catherine O'Hara, Secretary

NORTHERN IRELAND A-A CLUB

Innisfayle, 130 Mullan Road, Granagh, Rasharkin,

Ballymena, Co Antrim, N. Ireland. BT44 8SH.

Tel 028 29571092 Mobile: 07968 868001

Email: granagh@btinternet.com



Club members with Graeme and Neil Massie during their visit to Blelack prior to the herd dispersal.

Solway Aberdeen-Angus Club

2021 has been a vast improvement from the previous year, allowing us to get back to some normality and organise and participate in some events and shows.

The lifting of restrictions enabled us to make our trip north to Aberdeen to see four excellent herds: Blelack, Tonley, Auchencrieve and Deveron. The cattle presented and the hosts' hospitality was second to none and we all thoroughly enjoyed the trip. Once again, we thank them for their time and hospitality.

Several summer shows were cancelled, but the Club was represented well at the shows that did take place with great success.

The Great Yorkshire Show:

Carruthers Goldsmith 1st and junior champion
Abbey herd with Carruthers Georgie 4th

The Royal Lancashire Show: Abbey Herd

Carruthers Georgie 2nd
McCornicks Duchess 3rd

Westmorland Summer National

Carruthers Earl 2nd and reserve male calf champion.
Longbank Ethel 1st, yearling heifer champion & reserve junior champion.

February Stirling saw just one Club member forward, Newbank achieving 4,500gns and 5,000gns. At Carlisle in May the Club was represented by three herds; Gretnahouse (5,000gns), Carruthers (4,200gns and 3,200gns) and Newbank (5,000gns). At the October bull sales the Club was represented again by the Kingholm herd (5,000gns, 7,800gns and 6,000gns) and Carruthers who stood 1st and reserve junior champion with Carruthers Edd W081 (6,500gns and 5,000gns). Well done members!

HERD COMPETITION

This was our second annual Solway Club herd competition. First, we would like to thank judge Alan Lawson of Hallington for taking the time to judge all herds who participated.

2021 SOLWAY CLUB HERD COMPETITION

**** Stock bull****

- 1st Kingholm - Kingholm Real Pro U221
- 2nd Longbank - Wedderlie Valedictory S371
- 3rd Lessonhall - Schivas Echt U628
- 4th Rosslayne - Rosslayne Everest S347

****2 Year Old Bull****

- 1st Longbank - Carruthers Goldmine V006
- 2nd Housesteads - Fordel Ma Puma V521
- 3rd Carruthers - Housesteads Mr Ace V693
- 4th Border view - Westdrums Edition V195

****Yearling Bull****

- 1st Longbank - Longbank Enzo W246
- 2nd Kingholm - Kingholm Result W280
- 3rd Carruthers - Carruthers Goldsmith W061
- 4th Hardlawbank - Carruthers Duke Windsor W047

****Bull Calf 1/1/21 - 31/3/21****

- 1st Carruthers - Carruthers Edmunson X112
- 2nd Kingholm - Kingholm Barony X310
- 3rd Longbank - Longbank Jubilee Eric X459
- 4th Rosslayne - Rosslayne X520

****Bull calf 1/4/21 onwards****

- 1st Hardlawbank - Hardlawbank Lord Jusiah X400
- 2nd Housesteads - Housesteads X854
- 3rd Longbank - Longbank Jazz Eric X617
- 4th Rosslayne - Rosslayne X553

****Cow****

1st Comlongon - Dalcrest Joylady Erica 221
 2nd Longbank - Longbank Juno Erica H124
 3rd Housesteads - Housesteads Energy R553
 4th Hardlawbank - Hardlawbank Petra P011

****Calved or In Calf Heifer upto 3YR old****

1st Longbank - Longbank Ethel V105 & Calf
 2nd Housesteads - Housesteads Energy U710
 3rd Kingholm - Kingholm Rosehip V235 & calf
 4th Rosslayne - Rosslayne Proud Erica V455 & calf

****Yearling Heifer****

1st Longbank - Longbank Ethel W305
 2nd Carruthers - Carruthers Georgie W052
 3rd Comlongon - Comlongon Blackrose W142
 4th Housesteads - Housesteads Lady Heather W776

**** Heifer Calf 1/1/21 - 31/3/21****

1st Housesteads - Housesteads Elly X814
 2nd Longbank - Longbank Jewlianna Erica X460
 3rd Carruthers - Carruthers Elspeth X114
 4th Kingholm - Kingholm Rosebud X316

****Heifer Calf 1/4/21 onwards****

1st Kingholm - Kingholm Wendy X327
 2nd Longbank - Longbank Erica X588
 3rd Carruthers - Carruthers Elspeth X122
 4th Hardlawbank - Hardlawbank Eleanor X397

**** Small herd ****

1st Comlongon
 2nd Hardlawbank
 3rd Abbey
 4th Border View

****Medium Herd****

1st Kingholm
 2nd Rosslayne
 3rd Lessonhall
 4th Long Park

**** Large Herd****

1st Longbank
 2nd Housesteads
 3rd Carruthers

****Overall Herd winner****

Longbank

Congratulations to everyone who took part. There were some fantastic cattle on show.

Finally, we are always on the lookout for new members for the Club, with four new members this year. Please don't hesitate to get in touch. We are looking forward to 2022 and more Club events, including herd visits, stock judging, herd competitions and hopefully, a visit to Donaumoos Aberdeen-Angus in Germany. If any of this is of interest, please get in touch as we look forward to seeing more members.

Thomas Peters
 Club Chairman

**WINNING TEAM OF 5 BULLS
 AT STIRLING FEBRUARY 2020**

AVG. PRICE FOR THE 5 BULLS **£8,925** WITH A TOP PRICE OF **17,000gns**



VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME

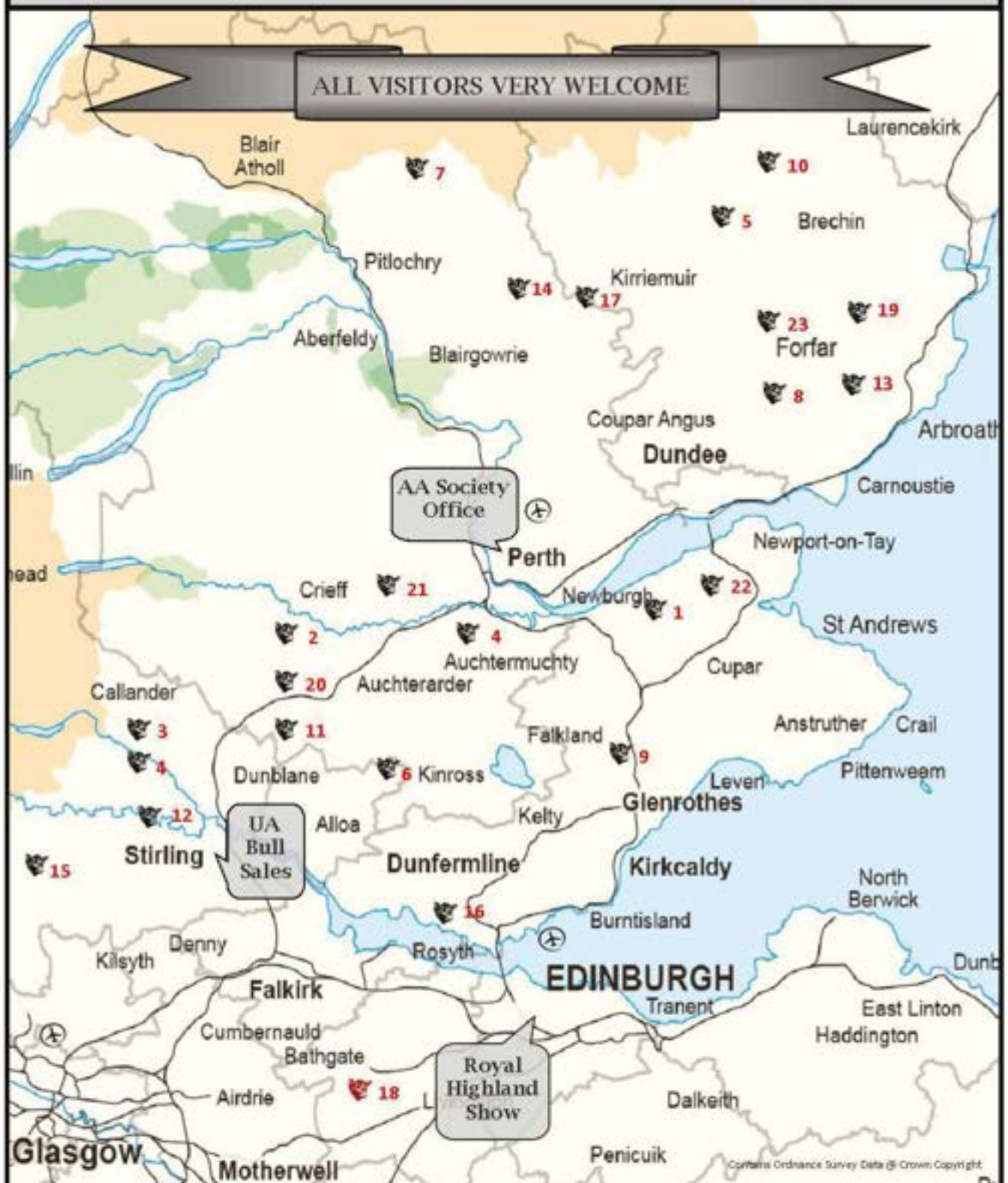
WD Allen, Humbleheugh, Alnwick, Northumberland. NE66 2LF
 Dallas Allen: 07738 220558 dallasallen@hotmail.co.uk

design
Max Gitter

THE ANGUS HEARTLAND

CENTRAL SCOTLAND ABERDEEN-ANGUS CLUB

ALL VISITORS VERY WELCOME



CHAIRMAN: Dave Murray T: (01307) 860237 M: 07835 074917 E: pamelamurray1@btconnect.com

SECRETARY: Elaine Smith T: (01828) 633709 M: 07719 440542 E: csaaclub@gmail.com

THE ANGUS HEARTLAND

CENTRAL SCOTLAND ABERDEEN-ANGUS CLUB

1. BALHELVIE

J S Wilson
Balhelvie Farm,
Newburgh
Fife KY14 6HN
T: 01337 870229
E: wilson@balhelvie.co.uk

2. BARNSVIEW

C Davidson & G Thomson
Fintalich Farm Cottage
Crieff PH5 2AZ
M: 07704 878339 Chrissie
E: chrissie_d@btinternet.com

3. CARDONA

J Robert Galloway
Cardona Farm, Doune
Perthshire FK16 6AX
R Galloway: 01786 832911
M: 07979 704330

4. COLDOCH

Stuart D Thomson
South Carse of Coldoch Farm
Kirk Lane, Blairdrummond
Stirlingshire FK8 3DF
T: 01786 860365
E: stftsc@hotmail.co.uk

5. COUL

James Arnott
Mains of Coull
Forfar, Angus DD8 3TX
T: 01307 860223

6. CRAIGOWMILL

Ken & Eva Brown
Ledlanet, Kinross KY13 0RR
M: 07899 877001
E: keva@highlandcattle.co.uk

7. DIRNANEAN

Will & Liz Manning
Dirnanean Farm, Enochdhu
Blairgowrie, Perthshire PH1 7PD
T: 01250 881305

8. DUNLOUISE

G & J Soutar
Kingston, Forfar
Angus DD8 2RU
T: 01307 462784
M: 07860 825324
www.dunlouiseangus.com

9. FIDDLEHALL

Fiddlehall Farm, Falkland
Cupar, Fife KY15 7DD
T: 01337 857308
M: 07828 432054
E: kelth.rennie811@btinternet.com

10. GANNON & LISBANE

Robert Shaw & Son
Dunlapple Farm, Edzell DD9 7UD
T: 01356 648827
E: robertshawson@xln.co.uk

11. HW ANGUS

Highland Wagyu
Burnside of Balhaldie
Dunblane, Stirlingshire FK15 0NB
T: 01786 823767
E: martine@wagyu.co.uk

12. HILLFOOTS

Jamie Rennie
64E Upper Craigs, Stirling FK8 2DS
M: 07725 401662
E: Jamie@jmrplumbing.co.uk

13. IDVIES

F J Fraser & Sons
Newton of Idvies, Forfar
Angus DD8 2QP
T: 01307 818313
M: 07764 532193 Alastair
E: enquiries@idviesaberdeenangus.co.uk

14. INCHISLA

Clare McGowan
Faulds of Derry, Kilry
Blairgowrie, Perthshire PH11 8HS
T: 01575 560236
E: inchislaangus@gmail.com
W: incheochfarm.co.uk

15. JAC

Wester Balgair Farm
Balfron, Stirling G63 0QF
T: 01360 860456
M: 07889 649405
E: balgairangus@gmail.com

16. KEIRSBEATH

Caroline Orr
Halbeath Farm
Dunfermline, Fife KY12 0TY
T: 01383 729329
M: 07966 590251
E: belhavenscot@icloud.com

17. LINDERTIS

Lindertis Farms
By Kirriemuir, Angus
DD8 5NT
M: 07793 011448 Tom Hopkinson
E: tom@anguslimestores.co.uk

18. MOSSHALL

Parkview, Mosshall Farm
Blackburn, W Lothian EH47 7DB
T: 01501 760186
M: 07903 248040
E: mosshallredangus@yahoo.co.uk
W: mosshallredangus.co.uk

19. MOSSTON MUIR

Allan S Rennie
New House, Mosston Muir Farm
Guthrie, By Forfar, Angus
DD8 2TX
T: 01307 468614
M: 07740 947785

20. NETHERTON

W & D McLaren
Netherton, Blackford
Auchterarder
Perthshire PH4 1QU
T: 07740 786112
E: mclaren672@aol.com
W: nethertonangus.co.uk

21. RETTIES

R & C Rennie
Craigend Farmhouse
Methven, Perth PH1 3QY
M: 07714 759643
E: carolrettie@gmail.com

22. ST FORT

A Mylius & Partners of St Fort
St Fort Estate, Newport-On-Tay
Fife DD6 8RE
T: 01382 541587
E: stfort@btconnect.com
W: stfort.co.uk

23. WOLFLAW

D & P Murray
Wolflaw, Forfar, Angus
DD8 3TQ
T: 01307 860237
M: 07835 074917
E: pamelamurray1@btconnect.com

CHAIRMAN: Dave Murray T: (01307) 860237 M: 07835 074917 E: pamelamurray1@btconnect.com

SECRETARY: Elaine Smith T: (01828) 633709 M: 07719 440542 E: csaclub@gmail.com



David Murray Chair of the Central Scotland Aberdeen-Angus Club judging the Stirling October Bull sale show.

Central Aberdeen-Angus Club

Great kudos to the shows that managed to get some action during the summer, as life returned to some normality.

After doing very little because of the pandemic, our Club had a very successful stock judging afternoon at Richard and Carol Rettie's.

The cattle were tremendous, the weather was good, and the refreshments were excellent. Thanks to all who turned up, including Jock Campbell, our official judge and Marjory Davidson for the lovely rosettes.

It was so good to get back to the October Bull Sales and see some of our members doing well with their bulls and

heifers. Also, it was so good to catch up with friends, old and new, that we hadn't been able to see for 18 months!

This year, we will try and put some visits together. Hopefully, the shows will all be able to make a welcome return. To help the shows survive, it would be good to see a decent number of entries from our members.

All the best for 2022.

Dave Murray

Chairman of the Central Scotland Aberdeen-Angus Club

For information on all Aberdeen-Angus Clubs and wider Society news and updates visit our website and follow us on social media

www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk





PENWAC and North West Aberdeen-Angus Club

Well, another year has passed with the Club on hold, waiting for normality to resume.

The club intends to have a full schedule this year. The AGM is already booked for 28 February. The last time we held our AGM was in March 2020, before the pandemic broke. In addition, the planned events, herd visits, herd competitions, YDP's and stock judging for 2020, which were postponed, will take place this year.

The Club Marquee attended the Royal Cheshire Show. The show had been moved to a one day show in July with no cattle, but we were able to welcome visitors old and new for refreshments. However, we missed the cattle. The Royal Cheshire is already booked for 21 and 22 June, so keep the date clear in your diary.

The Royal Lancashire Show had good entries in the Angus classes, though it clashed with the Cheshire Show last year due to their date change. They asked the club to take the exhibition unit this year, which I shall endeavour to do. The show is held over three days in July (22-24). The 23rd is the beef day. I will only be able to do Saturday and Sunday unless I can get help.

With all the show disruptions, we were happy to host the National Show at Westmorland. There was a great show of cattle considering the year. The exhibitors must be applauded in these challenging times. There was a bit of a glitch at the show as the caterers, although booked, cancelled at the last minute due to Covid-19. However, Barrie managed to source hot Aberdeen-Angus beef baps.

We got together with Barrie on two evenings where he brought his BBQ and cooked Angus steak and burgers. Rachael and Richard from the Brailes herd supplied the sloe gin and prosecco. We had a great couple of evenings, so many thanks to them all for making it a wonderful few days. This year's Westmorland Show will be held on 9 September; hopefully, the National will return at some stage.

The exhibition unit has been updated and wrapped with its new display photos. Thanks to Will Chrystal and the Society for the update. It will make a great display at the shows this year.

PENWAC

ANEIBA

Mr & Mrs G Ball
Fairsnape, Garstand Road
Great Eccleston, Preston
Lancs PR2 0ZA
M: 07791 490704

EDDISBURY

RJ Weston
NP & KJ Waterworth,
Eddisbury Lodge Farm,
Delamere, Northwich,
Cheshire CW8 2JD
T: 01829 751525
M: 07810 837370
E: Katie.waterworth@btinternet.com

THE MOSS

Kevin Moores
North Moss Farm,
North Moss Lane, Formby,
Liverpool L37 0AQ
T: 01704 875489

LAMBRIGG

A K, P A & J A Threlfall,
Lambrigg, Hornby Lane,
Inksip, Nr Preston, Lancs PR4 0TU
T: 01995 670306

WOODMOSS

Mr GD & Mrs JE Webster
47 Wood Moss Lane, Scarisbrick,
Lancashire. L40 9RJ
M: 07775591629 M: 07787802090
E: joweb85@yahoo.co.uk

MILLSTONES

Stephan W Edwards Esq
Millstones, Bottomhouse,
Nr Leek, Staffordshire ST13 7NZ
T: 01538 304483
E: swepme@hotmail.co.uk

FORGELAND

Messrs CM & CA Jackson,
Forgelands Estates, Forgelands,
Caton, Lancaster, LA2 9NB
T: 01524 770694. M: 07748708106
E: chris.mjackson@hotmail.co.uk

BLACKWATCH € CHAMPAGNE

Mary Hamnett & Gordon Oliver
Upper Waterside Farm, Disley,
Nr Stockport, Cheshire SK12 2HJ
T: 01663 767877 M: 07817083995
E: olivham@btinternet.com

MOBBERLEY

Ian G Norbury, Dairy House Farm,
Mobberley, Cheshire, WA16 7RA
T: 01565872128 M: 07900922380
E: iannorbury34@outlook.com

AULTHURTSIDE

John & Gwen Hadwin
High Aulthurstside,
Broughton-in-Furness,
Cumbria LA20 6AE
T: 01229 716382

WESTDANE

Mr Philip J Arden
Raven's Clough Farm, Toft Green,
Congleton, Cheshire CW12 3QF
T: 01260 226484

HOLLYHOWE

J F Batty & sons
Bankground Farm, Coniston,
Cumbria, LA21 8AA
T: 01539441264
F: 01539441900
E: info@bankground.com

HEATHCOTE

MR N A & Mrs J Flower
Heathcote Grange
Heathcote, Nr Hartington,
Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 0AY
T: 01298 84918
M: 07977 278586

CONEYGARTH

P & M Stanley
Lower Coney Garth Farm,
Barkisland, Halifax HX4 0DU
T: 01422 822538

HURRIES

David B Wellock and
Wendy P Hoare
Hurries Farm, Otterburn,
Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 4DY
T: 01729 830291
E: david@hurries.plus.com

PEXHILL

G Biddulph
Dalehouse Farm, Gawsworth,
Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 9QT
T: 01625 424284

CUBBYHILL

John Byers
Cubbyhill, Longtown, Carlisle,
Cumbria CA6 5NN
T: 01228 791505
M: 07748935293
E: joycebyers11@hotmail.com

PILSBURY

Mr R Jackson
Endmoore Farm, Tagg Lane,
Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1JP
T: 01629 815683
M: 07966 360210
W: www.peakangus.co.uk
E: rf.re.jackson@btinternet.com

The Pennine and North West Angus Club

BUCKHURST

Mr J Walsh
Buckhurst Farm, Walmersley,
Bury, Lancs BL9 6SZ
T: John 07885 739120
E: richard.walsh@
buckhurstplanthire.co.uk

MORPHEUS

Owen Tunney
Manor Farm, Cuddington Lane,
Cuddington, Northwich, CW8 2TE
M: 07855 822095
E: owen.tunney@btinternet.com
W: www.morpheusangus.co.uk

ROYDMOOR

Gina Barraclough,
Westfield Farm,
Thurlstone, Nr Sheffield,
South Yorkshire, S36 7RD
M: 07521351657
E: gbarraclough1@yahoo.com

BLACKTHORN

Mr K Hancock
Whitebottom Farm
Compstall, Marple Bridge,
Stockport, Cheshire SK6 5JQ
T: 01614 278273
M: 07968 323069
E: karl@blackthornangus.com

WHITEHILLS

Will & Rachel Hurley
Whitehills Farm,
Macclesfield Forest,
Macclesfield,
Cheshire, SK11 0AR
M: 07974074063 / 07871244149
E: rachhelm12@gmail.com

CURZON

D.C. Moss & Son
Glebe Farm, Gotham,
Nottinghamshire,
NG11 0HF
T: 01159 830780
M: 07753 635844
E: pennie.moss@btinternet.com



The PENWAC Club situated predominantly in the North West of England. The members have a diverse range of herds from only a few cattle to over 500, comprising of show herds, commercial herds, organic and pure native cattle. Members have diverse locations from Cheshire plains to Hills and Dales with cattle to suit all locations. We welcome visitors from home and abroad and often have cattle for sale. Please contact the secretary or members direct for more information.

CHAIRMAN: Stephan Edwards

VICE CHAIR: Owen Tunney

SECRETARY: Mary Hamnett

BORDER ABERDEEN ANGUS CLUB



ALN

George & Toby Burrell
Broome Park Farms, Alnwick
Northumberland, NE66 2EQ
georgew.burrell@btinternet.com
T: 01665 574344 M: 07511 726110

BELHAVEN

Messrs J Gilmour & Co. Ltd
The Industrial Building, Penston
Macmerry, East Lothian, EH33 2AJ
T: 01875 616111 M: 07775 537840
E: enquiries@gilmourbutchers.com

BLACKHAUGH

Andrew Elliot
Blackhaugh, Clovenfords
Galashiels, Selkirkshire, TD1 ITW
T: 01896 850333 M: 07798 923663
E: elliotblackhaugh@btinternet.com

BOREWELL

John & Daniel Whiteford
Borewell Farm, Scremerston
Berwick-upon-Tweed
Northumberland, TD15 2RJ
T: 01289 307507 M: 07711 478885
E: info@borewellangus.co.uk

BOTHAL

Gemma Knox
Coneygarth Farm House
Bothal, Morpeth
Northumberland, NE61 6QN
M: 07540 052608
E: coneygarth_farm@outlook.com

CHATHILL

Messrs P.A. Robson
Chathill Farm, Chathill
Northumberland, NE67 5DE
T: 01665 589435 M: 07889 874454
E: pip@chathillfarm.co.uk

EASTFIELD

Ewan Brewis / Iain MacGillivray
Lempitlaw, Kelso
Roxburghshire, TD5 8BN
M: Ewan 07836 349190
M: Iain 07768 022463
E: lempitlaw@btconnect.com

EILDON

Sion Williams
Bowhill Farming Ltd
Bowhill, Selkirk
Selkirkshire, TD7 5ES
M: 07795 403291
E: swilliams@bucclleuch.com

ELLIOT

John R Elliot
Roxburgh Mains, Kelso
Roxburghshire, TD5 8NJ
T: 01573 450223 M: 07795 165140
E: johnrelliot@aol.com

ETTRICK

Gordon & David Gray
Sunnycroft, Lindean, Selkirk
Selkirkshire, TD7 4QW
M: 07751 066053 M: 07841 865769
E: ggraysunnycroft@mail.com

FEABUIE

Donald and Gill MacNeill
Old Orchard Cottage, Cavers
Hawick, TD9 9ST
T: 01450 376265 M: 07925 993070
E: Donald.macneill@btopenworld.com

GORDON

(formerly Linton Gilbertines)
Trustees of the Late Gordon R.
Brooke, Farm Office
Upper Huntlywood, Earlston
Berwickshire, TD9 6RB
T: 01573 410226 M: 07795 165140

HALLINGTON

Alan & Steven Lawson
South Farm, Hallington, Newcastle
Northumberland, NE19 2LW
T: 01434 672227 M: 07701 010294
E: lawsonpedigrees@aol.com

HARDIESMILL

Alison and Robin Tuke
Hardiesmill, Hardiesmill Place
Gordon, Berwickshire, TD3 6LQ
T: 01573 410797 M: 07767 618123
E: info@hardiesmill.co.uk

HAYMOUNT

Messrs Arnott
Haymount, Kelso
Roxburghshire, TD5 7RR
T: 01573 460227 M: 07787 385542
E: arnott@haymount.uk.com

KERSQUARTER

Ian Watson / Jim Ford
9 Abbey View, Kelso,
Roxburghshire, TD5 8HX
T: 07789 128756 M: 07774 283382
E: performancefeeds17@outlook.com

RAETHORN

Gavin Tait
Raethorn, Thorneydykes, Westruther
Gordon, Berwickshire, TD3 6NG
T: 01578 740634 M: 07773 764794

RAWBURN

John Elliot
Roxburgh Mains, Kelso
Roxburghshire, TD5 8NJ
T: 01573 450223 M: 07795 165140
E: rawburn@aol.com

ROSCOE

Ross Farms Ltd, Wester Middleton
Farm, Gorebridge, Midlothian
EH23 4RF T: 01875 820158
M: 07881 815037
E: markrosswesterm@gmail.com

RULESMAINS

Andrew Hodge, Rulesmains, Duns
Berwickshire, TD11 3SY
T: 01361 883774 M: 07889 316106
E: rulesmains@outlook.com

STOUPHILL

W.D. Allen
Humbleheugh, Alnwick
Northumberland, NE66 2LF
T: 01665 579274 M: 07738 220558
E: dallasallen@hotmail.co.uk

THREEBURNFORD

Angus & Patricia Glennie,
Threeburnford, Oxton, Lauder
Berwickshire, TD2 6PU
T: 01578 750615 M: 07702 063072
E: patriciaglennie@hotmail.com

THRUNTON

J.H.C. Campbell & Sons
Thrunton Farmhouse, Whittingham
Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 4RZ
T: 01665 574305 M: 07788 754717
E: thrunton.charolais@btinternet.com
Facebook: Thrunton Charolais &
Aberdeen Angus

TOFTS

James and Debbie Playfair-Hannay
Morebattle Tofts, Kelso
Roxburghshire, TD5 8AD
T: 01573 440364 M: 07831 455994
E: james.playfair@btconnect.com

TULLYFERGUS

Gemma Wark
Southfield Farm, Hawick
Roxburghshire, TD9 OPE
T: 01450 850311 M: 07518 296560
E: gemma.wark@gmail.com
Instagram: Tullyfergus_uk

WEDDERLIE

John, Marion & Wanda Tilson
Wedderlie, Westruther, Gordon
Berwickshire TD3 6NW
T: 01578 740246
M: 07795 493303 / 07796 402468
E: marion.tilson@btconnect.com
E: ewh1@hotmail.co.uk

WESTDRUMS

John M Steel
Allanbank House, Allanton
Duns, Berwickshire, TD11 3JX
M: 07801 802260
E: westdrums@hotmail.com

WINDY GOWL

RED ANGUS
Jill Noble, Windy Gowl Farm
Carlops, Penicuik
Midlothian, EH26 9NL
T: 01968 661095 M: 07836 729988
E: jnoble@phicelandics.co.uk

THE GATEWAY TO HERDS IN THE SCOTTISH BORDERS

CHAIRMAN: Dallas Allen **T:** 07738 220558 **E:** dallasallen@hotmail.co.uk

VICE CHAIRMAN: Daniel Whiteford **T:** 07711 248426 **E:** info@borewellangus.co.uk

SECRETARY: Natalie Cormack **T:** 01890 781006 **E:** natalie.cormack@btconnect.com



Border Aberdeen-Angus Club

The Border Club has not held a bull walk, AGM, or a herd competition since early 2020. Unfortunately, these events fall at a time of year when the country has been in lockdown, and it has not been possible. Thus there have only been a few opportunities for the club to participate in related activities.

Last year, at the reconvened February bull sales held at United Auctions, Stirling, Border Club members were to the fore. The sale averaged £6,499 with an 86% clearance rate. Rulesmains dominated the proceedings with two bulls at 11,500gns and 11,000gns being Rulesmains Lord Hugh and Rulesmains Kai V226, respectively.

Just behind at 10,500gns was Stouphill Major Primus V267, the pen leader from a pen of five, which averaged an impressive £6,680gns. The other members of the pen were, in order of price; Stouphill Quarterback, 7,200gns; Stouphill Erriobol, 6,000gns; Stouphill Tyne, 5,000gns and Stouphill Lord Romulous, 4,500gns.

The Gordon herd had a pair of ET full brothers at 10,000gns; Gordon Picasso and Gordon Pheonix. Gordon Gray of the Ettrick herd sold Ettrick Bluetooth for 8,500gns, while Eilean Elevation from Alistair McSparran realised 6,200gns. Both Thrunton Pegasus and Gordon Ponderosa sold to 6,000gns.

Dallas Allen judged Carlisle bulls in May, and the overall reserve champion was Rulesmains Kings Gold W321. However, he went unsold on the day and is home for pedigree work at Rulesmains. Thrunton Pegasus V296, a second prize bull, realised 5,200gns for the Campbell family.

A small contingent of Border Club bulls were forward for the Stirling sale in May, and the best of them made 5,200gns for John Steel of the Westdrums herd, now based at Allanton, Chirside. Westdrums Everest V202 is away to GT and S Coghill, Orkney.

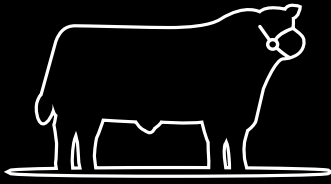
It was great to see the shows open up over the summer, albeit slowly, and a couple of Border Club herds ventured out to the Royal Highland Showcase, the Great Yorkshire Show and Westmorland Show, where the Angus National Show was held.

Rulesmains had success with their juniors at the Royal Highland Showcase, securing junior female champion with Rulesmains Karen W320, a rising two-year-old. Similarly, Rulesmains Excalibur W388 was the junior male champion. However, Dallas Allen was narrowly pipped at the post at the Great Yorkshire Show, having to settle for overall reserve champion and reserve female champion with Stouphill Lady Rose with calf at foot.

Stouphill Ella stood second in the two-year-old heifer class and Eastfield Patricia was a second prize winner for her new owners Michael and Melanie Alford, Foxhill herd.

Local breeder James Playfair- Hannay of the Tofts herd, judged the National Angus Show in September. He tapped two-year-old Rulesmains Princess V183 as his reserve female champion, becoming the best exhibitor bred animal.

Rulesmains held their own in all the classes, having been first and third in the heifer calves, with Rulesmains Elegant X527 and Rulesmains Priceless X564, respectively. Rulesmains were also awarded the best pair.



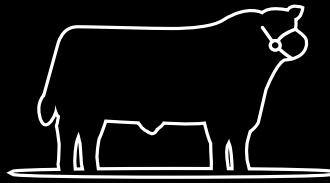
NORTH EAST SCOTLAND ABERDEEN-ANGUS CLUB

*The ancestral home of the
Aberdeen-Angus breed*



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FREE TO CONTACT
THE HERDS DIRECT

VISITORS ALWAYS
WELCOME BY PRIOR
APPOINTMENT.



01 ROSEMOUNT

Alex and Wendy Sanger, Prettycur Farm,
Hillside, Montrose, Angus. DD10 9EG
Tel: 01674 830601 Mob: 07836 622993

02 GLENBERVIE

Glenbervie Aberdeen-Angus Ltd,
Glenbervie Home Farm, Glenbervie,
Stonehaven, Kincardineshire. AB39 3YA
Tel: 01569 740280 Mob: 07802 327438

03 TYNET

Messrs H & C Thomson, South Ardoyne,
Oyne, Insch, Aberdeenshire AB52 6RN
Tel: 07764 860816 (Hugh Thomson)

04 LOGIE

AJR Farms, Milton of Collieston,
Ellon, Aberdeenshire, AB41 8RG
Tel: 01358 751752
Mob: 07771 348299 (Andrew Reid)

05 BURNSIDE

Ms P Hepburn, Burnside,
Tankerness, Orkney KW17 2QS
Tel: 01856 861382 Mob: 07771 675839

06 RETANACH

J and A Strathdee, North Retanach,
Rothiemay, Huntly, Aberdeenshire. AB54 7NU
Tel: 01466 711274

07 AUCHINCRIEVE

C and E McCombie, Auchincrieve,
Knock, Huntly, Aberdeenshire. AB54 7JR
Tel: 01466 711244

08 YONVERTON

L & M Henderson, Yonderton Farm,
Hatton, Peterhead AB42 0QS
Mob: 07796 120255 murray@yondertonfarm.co.uk

09 BALLINDALLOCH

Ballindalloch Home Farms Ltd,
Estate Office, Ballindalloch, Banffshire. AB37 9AX
Tel: 01807 500205 Herd manager Tel: 01807 500329

10 DEVERON

Hamish W Sclater, Denhead Farms,
Dunlugas, Turriff, Aberdeenshire. AB53 4NR
Tel: 01261 821236 Mob: 07779 337621

11 TONLEY

Neil A Wattie, Mains of Tonley,
Alford, Aberdeenshire. AB33 8EL
Tel: 019755 62533 Mob: 07803 186748

12 CAIRNTON

Ken and Margaret Howie, Cairnton,
Lumphanan, Banchory, Kincardineshire. AB31 4QP.
Tel: 013398 83536

13 FOGGIE

Karl Scot, South Brownhill, Turriff,
Aberdeenshire. AB53 4GZ
Tel: 07774 600254
email: karl@foggiefarm.com

14 SILVERMOSS

Rod and Mary Sloan,
Silvermoss, Barthol Chapel, Inverurie,
Aberdeenshire AB51 8TL
Tel: 01651 806850 Fax: 01467 624418

15 BRAEVIEW

George Corsar, Mains of Loanhead Bothy,
Old Rayne, Insch, Aberdeenshire AB52 6SX
Tel: 07967 683830

16 PERKHILL

Alex and Philippa Davie, Bankhead,
Perkhill, Lumphanan, Banchory,
Aberdeenshire, AB31 4RB
Tel: 01339 883636/07778 964438

17 WRAE

Alexander J Norrie, Wrae Farm,
Turriff, Aberdeenshire. AB53 4RB
Tel/Fax: 01888 563595 Mob: 07774 287332

18 STRATHINVER

Wendy Willox, Broadmyre,
Clatt, Huntly, Aberdeenshire AB54 4PQ
Tel: 07718 316470

19 NEWCAIRNIE

Angela McGregor, Auchenuhive,
Whiterashes, Aberdeen, AB21 0QQ
Tel: 01651 882381 Mob: 07515 638592

20 SCOTSMILL

W A L Lawson, Scotsmill,
Tullynessle, Alford AB33 8QF
Tel: 019755 62014

21 CARDENWELL

Mr G Willox, Meikle Pitinnan
Oldmeldrum, Aberdeenshire, AB51 0EH
Mob: 07585 601984

22 BREGACH

A Locke, Glenrinnas Farms Ltd,
Glenrinnas Lodge, Dufftown, Keith,
Banffshire, AB55 4BS
Tel: 01340 820384 (Office)

23 ARDOYNE

H and H Rennie, Westfield of Ardoyne,
Insch, Aberdeenshire. AB52 6RN.
Tel: 01464 820325

24 BLELACK

N F Massie and Sons, Blelack, Dinnet,
Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, AB34 5NH
Tel: 01339 886013 (Neil)
or 07753 748023 (Graeme)
massieblelack@hotmail.co.uk

25 MORRISON

Duncan J Morrison, Meikle Maldron,
Torphins, Banchory, AB31 4NR
Tel: 07919 083798

26 NEWTON MUCHALS

Newton Smiddy
Lyne of Skene, Aberdeen, AB32 7DA
Tel: 07729 300062 (Ray Gardinder)

27 BIRKENBOWER

GGR Miller, Birkenbower, Lumsden,
Huntly, Aberdeenshire, AB54 4JW
Tel: 07792 190110

28 NEWTON-STRUTHERS

ACK Rhind & Son, Newton of Struthers
Kinloss, Moray IV36 2UD
Tel: 07721 386802

29 GLENLIVET

DGR Durno & Sons, Auchorachan,
Glenlivet, Ballindalloch, AB37 9DN
Tel: 07718 467868 (Michael Durno)

30 LITTLE GLENCOE

Bruce & Becky MacAngus, Little Glencoe,
Maud, Aberdeenshire, AB42 5PG
Tel: 07917 758668

31 MORVEN

Morven Aberdeen Angus
Tam a ChairrLogiecoldstone
Aboyne AB34 5PQ Tel: 07809224036
nfmassie@googlemail.com

**CARA THOMSON, SECRETARY, NORTH EAST ABERDEEN-ANGUS CLUB,
SOUTH ARDOYNE, OYNE, INSCH, ABERDEENSHIRE AB52 5RN**

TEL: 07791 982 572 E-MAIL: aa.in.nescotland@gmail.com

North East Scotland

Aberdeen-Angus Club



2021 started on a low note, with Covid-19 restrictions re-introduced early in the new year and continuing until the spring. Unfortunately, this meant the club's normal prize giving and dinner did not happen in February. However, we made our club AGM virtual to maintain optimism and help get our planned programme of events off the ground and elect our new committee.

Our retired committee members included Claire Johnstone, a stalwart as Club Secretary; David Johnstone as Chairman, but fortunately, he remains advising us as a member of the committee for a further year. Hugh Thomson of Tynet Angus took over as Club Chair, and we welcomed Graeme Miller of Birkenbower Angus as Vice-Chair.

Despite Covid restrictions, North East Club members continued to take centre stage at many of the bull sales last year. A special mention to the McCombie Family of Auchincrieve, who were again very successful at the May 2021 Carlisle sale with champion bull and a very good average for a big squad of young bulls.

The Stirling bull sales in October will be remembered for years to come after the dispersal of the Blelack herd, a sale that took off! It was a privilege to see an excellent and proven herd make the money it deserved and represent the end of probably the most consistently successful Angus herd in the UK.

Neil and his son Graeme have been trail-blazers in the breed and had the foresight that others did not. They will certainly be missed in the breed, but Blelack breeding will

be a legacy that will undoubtedly drive more herds forward for those investing in their prizewinning genetics.

Tonley Angus also had a day to remember with their females very much in demand. A top of 20,000gns was made for Tonley Princess, an in-calf heifer heading to Newhouse. The Howie family's Cairnton bull entry Cairnton Emperor was admired and sold to a pedigree herd in Ireland. But it was the Massie Family who stole the show securing overall bull champion with Blelack Prince Cartier selling for 24,000gns to Idvies. They also achieved overall reserve champion. The four Blelack bulls on sale averaged 15,600gns.

Congratulations to all the Blelack team and Massie family.

As well as the long-established herds being successful, we seem to have a steady increase in new herds in the North East Club. We look forward to seeing their progression and helping them on their journey. It is an exciting time for the breed due to the increased demand.

This year we celebrate the North East Clubs' 50th anniversary. Planning has started for events to celebrate this milestone, and we hope to put on a spectacle that will draw breeders from across the UK and beyond to celebrate the big day with us! More to follow. Watch this space!

We can only hope 2022 brings back a full complement of shows without too many restrictions. We look forward to seeing our other Angus breeders at shows and sales this year and wish our breeders every success in the forthcoming year!

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Visitors always welcome. Contact Richard and Jean Tully:

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CHAIRMAN: Thomas Peters t: 077119 95420

VICE CHAIRMAN: Kit Acton t: 07792 21903

14 . 9 . 13
1 . 4 . 7 . 5 . 2 . 10
8 . 12
3
11
6



1- ABBEY

Maryfield Farm, New Abbey, Dumfries,
DG2 8RH
T: 078993 12531
E: agnescot1_3@hotmail.com



2- BORDER VIEW

Ridings Hill, Langtown, Dumfries,
CA6 5PW
T: 07921 391094
E: grahambly55@aol.com



3- CARRUTHERS

Besca Farm, Carrin, Lockerbie, Dumfries,
DG11 2DQ
T: 07834 786718
E: argedax88@gmail.com



4- CONLONGON

Conlongon Hales, Clarencefield, Dumfries,
DG1 4NA
T: 077688 26500
E: conlongon@hotmail.co.uk



5- GREYNAHOUSE

Greynahouse, Gretna Green, Dumfries,
DG16 5NR
T: 07468 870488
E: gretna.house@hotmail.co.uk



6- HOUSESTEAD

Bradley Farm, Bordon Mill,
Northumberland, NE47 7AG
T: 07792 211903
E: j.actedon20@hotmail.com



7- KINGHULM

Stewartbridge, Musselwald, Dumfries,
DG1 4EY
T: 077708 70138
E: pattieking@hotmail.co.uk



8- LESSONHALL

Lessonhall, Wighton, Dumfries,
CA7 0EA
T: 075289 68055
E: a.steal.84@hotmail.co.uk



9- LONGBANK

Whitehall Farm, Dumfries,
DG11 1TD
T: 077200 76581
E: bandedcow@gmail.com



10- LONGBANK

Longbank, Broughton, Carlisle,
CA46 4JF
T: 078710 21717
E: longbankfarm@cloud.com



11- TASSY AYLE

Baeburnhead, Kirkpatrick Fleming,
Lockerbie, Dumfries, DG11 3BA
T: 07977 228750
E: tawyle55@hotmail.com



12- NEWBANK

Beattack, Moffat, Dumfries,
DG10 9PZ
T: 07763 071167
E: wilson.newbank@yahoo.co.uk



13- GLENVALE

Longbank, Dumfries,
DG1 3TE
T: 07711 905420
E: temp1418@hotmail.com



14- HARDLAWBANK

Lochmaling, Dumfries,
DG2 8RY
T: 07712 008874
E: hardlawbank@hotmail.com

Northern Ireland Aberdeen Angus Club

<p>Baronagh V & S Wallace 98 Edenbane Rd Garvagh Co Londonderry T: 028 295 57096 E: baronagh Angus@hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p>Birches S & S Matchett 43 Cloncarrish Rd Birches Co Armagh M: 07720077493 E: gmatchett43@btinternet.com</p>	<p>Carmean John Lawrence 22 Carmean Rd Magherafelt Co Londonderry M: 07971193685 E: jameslawrence99@btinternet.com</p>
<p>Clogher Valley Ian & Gillian Browne 47 Screeby Rd Fivemiletown Co Tyrone M: 07591361229 E: cloghervalleyangus@btinternet.com</p>	<p>Coolermoney Adrian & Graeme Parke 23 Coolermoney Rd Strabane Co Tyrone M: 07749166625 E: graemeparke@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Dartrey Hylda Mills 15 Firtree Lane Scarva Co Down M: 07958052121 E: hylda.scarva@yahoo.co.uk</p>
<p>Drumhill Jonathan & Lisa Doyle 306 Drum Rd Cookstown Co Tyrone M: 07803719458 E: jonathan@dexcavations.co.uk</p>	<p>Drummeer Alan & Naomi Morrison 116 Drummeer Road Maguiresbridge Co Fermanagh M: 07811447812 E: theacre@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Ember Freddie Davidson 9 Barrack Hill Banbridge Co Down M: 07517166178 E: freddied1@hotmail.co.uk</p>
<p>Innisfayle Catherine O'Hara 130 Mullan Rd Rasharkin Co Antrim M: 07968868001 E: granagh@btinternet.com</p>	<p>Killaney John & Sandra Blackburn 205 Aghafad Rd Clogher Co Tyrone M: 07760264692 E: s_mb57@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Knockoneill James Mallon 43 Drumblane Rd Swatragh BT46 5NR M: 07701054122 E: jamesjmallon@aol.com</p>
<p>Lana Alan Cheney 14 Stralongford Rd Trillick Co Tyrone M: 07979245994 E: alancheney71@icloud.com</p>	<p>Millbrae Rev Sean Moore Cargalisgarron Derrynoose Co Armagh M: 07713633577</p>	<p>Moneybroom DG & IL Mackey 26 Moneybroom Rd Lisburn Co Antrim M: 07703210545 E: moneybroomfarm@outlook.com</p>
<p>Gillyholme Phillip & James Bonner 25 Faugher Road Springhill, Enniskillen Co. Fermanagh T. 028 6634 1789</p>	<p>Sess Margaret Buchanan 19 Sess Rd Augher Co Tyrone T: 02885568276</p>	<p>Woodvale A & C Armour & Sons 75 Begny Hill Rd Dromara Co Down M: 07748796818 E: alwyn_armour@yahoo.co.uk</p>
<p>Richhill Robin Lamb Lime Tree Farm Richhill, Co. Armagh M. 07745 289428 E. robinlamb5@hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p>Glenloughan Oisín & Anne Marie Murnion & Jolene Burns 140 Glenloughan Road Kilkeel, Co. Down M. 07739 632048 E. murnionoisin@gmail.com</p>	<p>Minran Gordon & Rachel Elliott 224 Glennasheever Road Minran, Derrygonnelly Co. Fermanagh M. 07511 213171 E. minranangus@gmail.com</p>

Chairperson: - Alan Morrison Tel 07811447812 Secretary: - Cathy O'Hara Tel: 07968868001

Members often have stock for sale. Please contact the above herds directly.



Pictured (L-R) Handler Jake Robinson and exhibitor Jack Smyth

Northern Ireland Aberdeen-Angus Club

2021 followed in the same vein as 2020, ending with almost no activity outside our immediate surroundings.

However, the N.I. Club and Dungannon Farmers' Mart decided to hold the February sale, but of course, there was no pre-sale show. However, despite the restrictions on spectators at the sale, trade was lively, and 20-month-old Birches Bellboy V916 broke through the £5,000 barrier to top the sale. Average prices on the day were up almost £450 on February 2020's sale average.

Following on the success of the February sale, April's sale went ahead as planned, and again, although there was no show, prices were very encouraging.

Once again, the £5,000 barrier was broken, this time by Jack Smyth's Bessiebell Lord Thatcher V072.

There were no summer shows and by mid-July, the Club decided to hold a Herds Competition. We appointed a N.I. based judge - the well-known experienced stockman, Andy Patterson. Andy travelled the length and breadth of the province, visiting 19 herds. The section winners were as follows:

Large herd: The Matchett family's Birches herd.

Small herd: A and G Parke.

Medium herd: Hylde Mills.

Champion stock bull: Ian Browne's homebred Clogher Valley Evolution R616.

Cow family: The Matchett family's Lady Jane family.

Champion calf: Hylde Mills' Dartery Realdeal X694.

Futurity heifer cup: Mark Clements' Clementhill Euphrasy V202.

Inaugural newcomer: Gordon and Rachel Elliott's Minran Herd.

Soon it was September and the Royal Ulster Agriculture Show at Balmoral Park went ahead. Beef cattle showing takes place on day one of the show and that day belonged to Alwyn Armour and Family from Dromara, Co. Down.

Not only did they win the Aberdeen-Angus championship with their lovely homebred cow, Woodvale Miss Annie U436, shown with her December 2020 heifer calf, but they went on to win the interbreed supreme champion of champions award.

Congratulations to the Armour family.

In November, the Society sponsored the beef and lamb event. The Champion Aberdeen Angus and recipient of the Aberdeen Angus Cup at the fourth Royal Ulster Beef & Lamb Championships was awarded to Mr Jack Smyth from Newtown Stewart. Anthony Kitson from Kitson and Sons Butchers in North Yorkshire purchased the champion heifer for £2,500.

The Club plan to hold their AGM in March and then proceed with a more typical year.

However, we are at the mercy of circumstances way out of our control.

Any Aberdeen-Angus breeders in Northern Ireland who are not currently members of the Club should consider joining. It provides a great opportunity to network with others who share your interest in the breed, and make no mistake, you will be made very welcome in our Club.

Cathy O'Hara

East Anglia Club

1. BRAE

KW & SM Catten
Field Farm, Mill Road
Briston. NR24 2JE
T: 01263 860843

2. BRISTON

D K Jeary
Hawthorn Farm, High Road
Briston. NR24 2JQ
T: 07880 508104

3. GLADSTONE

Jill Graves
H V Graves Ltd, Pineview
Gloucester Place, Briston
Melton Constable. NR24 2LD
T: 07818 041048

4. FENLAND

Robbie Moore
Oak Farm, Fenland, Grimston,
Kings Lynn. PE32 1DA
T: 07900 491679
E: oakfarm007@gmail.com

5. GLAVEN

Graham Gower-Smith
Woodlands, Felbrigg Road,
Roughton. NR11 8PA

6. WILDFELL

Chris Wilkinson
Oakwood Farms, Wildfell Farm,
Chapel Road, Ramsey Heights,
Huntingdon. PE26 2RS
T: 07795 098797

7. LILAC

Messrs J Peacock & Sons Ltd
Field Farm, Black Dyke Road,
Hockwold, Thetford. IP26 4JW
T: 01842 827641

8. WRETTON

Iain & Laura Stephen
Home Farm Barn, 76 Wretton Road,
Stoke Ferry, Kings Lynn. PE33 9QJ
T: 07899 906538

9. PARK WALL

B K & J C Musk
35 High Street, Tuddenham St Mary,
Bury St Edmunds. IP28 6SQ
T: 07748 850465

10. SHADWELL

Nunnery Stud
Thetford, Suffolk.
IP24 2QE
T: 07801 571171

11. LONG

Simon Long
Ramms Farm, Park Road,
Stoke by Nayland, Colchester.
CO6 4SH
T: 07990 595502

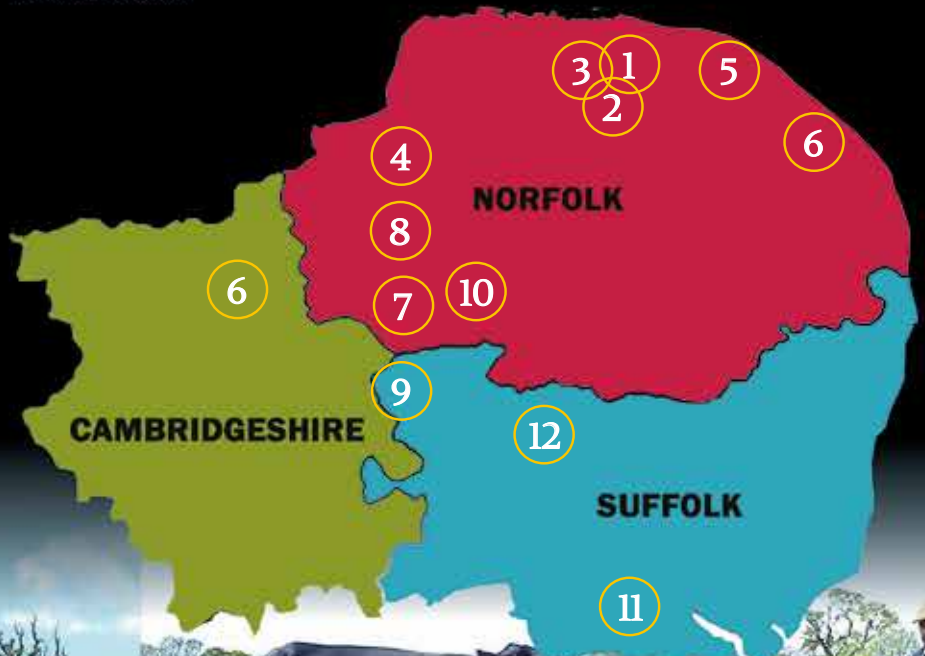
12. HAWSTEAD LODGE

Hawstead Lodge Farm
Pinford End, Bury St Edmunds,
Suffolk. IP29 5NU
T: 01284 755905

Club secretary

Megan Atkins
Moor Farm, The Street, Foxley,
Dereham, Norfolk NR20 4QP

T: 07979 108714
Email: matkins8nr8@gmail.com





South West Aberdeen-Angus Club

Happy New Year. Hopefully, everyone has had a slightly better year than the previous one. In 2021 we managed to get to one show with the stand, the Devon County Show. Despite the uncertainty of restrictions and the virus at large, we managed a great turnout of cattle and had a wonderful time catching up with you all in the cattle lines.

Congratulations to Angus Neish, who won reserve breed champion 2021. Hopefully, we will be able to have strong representation this year with every show going ahead.

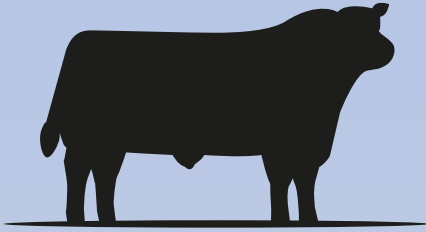
AgriFest 2021 was also a breath of fresh air for everyone wanting to get their youngstock out and start the training for 2022 shows. We had our breed stand there with two exceptional calves from the Temple Meads herd which caused a lot of interest, along with our cakes, of course!

The South West Aberdeen Angus Club would also like to acknowledge and celebrate the contribution made by the late Nick Bursey to the success and development of our Club. Nick sadly passed away in January 2021. He was

one of our longest-standing members, alongside his wife Maria, and his love and enthusiasm for the breed showed in his dedication to the Club and its activities. He was instrumental in the innovative design of our first website and continued to support the Club over many years. He is sadly missed by all.

Finally, we continue to welcome any new members, or anyone with interest in the breed, to contact myself or the Chairman to ensure the South West Club goes from strength to strength and continues in its role of promoting livestock and breeders from the region. We have newsletters, competitions, herd walks and annual dinners to which all are welcome. We can also be contacted via the website www.swaac.co.uk

Keep well and keep safe!



South West of England Aberdeen Angus Club

www.aberdeenangus-swenglandclub.co.uk

Atlantic

Messers Chapman
Helen Barton, Week St.Mary,
Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 6VR
07785 937675



Bosulow

I & D Rowe
Milvale Farm, Little Bosulow,
Newbridge, Penzance, Cornwall,
TR20 8NS
zennorbells@yahoo.co.uk
01736 364070



Buskin

A Eustace
Buskin Farm, Exbourne,
Okehampton, EX20 3RL
07950 036404

Cherrylane

Pascoe
15 Trebarvah Close, Constantine,
Cornwall, TR11 5AQ
01326 340030

Furzelease

J & S Farming
Furzelease Farm, Tisbury Row,
Sailsbury, Wiltshire, SP3 6RZ
01747 870509

Calstone

H Morley
Blackland Farm, Calne, Wilts,
SN11 8PS
01249 816131

Colhayne

Mr & Mrs B S & V J Fry
Colhayne Farm, Shute, Axminster,
Devon, EX13 7QQ
01404 831103

Gear

Mr Pilcher
Gear Farm, Zennor, St Ives,
Cornwall, TR26 3DD
01736 795471



Kingsbrompton

C J & J L M Hutchings & Sons
Kingsbrompton Farm,
Brompton Regis, Dulverton,
Somerset, TA22 9NT
01398 371100

Kingston

P & J House & sons
Tetton Farm, Kingston St.Mary,
Somerset, TA2 8HY
www.kingston-angus.co.uk
01823 451619/07877 243451

Luxtons

Luxton Partners
North Alfordon Farm, Okehampton
Devon, EX20 1RX
07875 246346

MABEC

GG & JM Jenkin & Son
Boderloggan Farm, Wendron,
Helston, Cornwall, TR13 OES
07802 173072

Maplejacks

G & K Quinn
Thong Farm, Wrantage, Taunton,
Somerset, TA3 6DT
01823490718

Rodmead

A W Neish ESQ
Rodmead Farm, Maiden Bradley,
Warminster, Wilts, BA12 7UP
01985 844689

Appletree

S & R Stamp
Bowbridge Farm, Southwick Mark
Highbridge, Somerset, TA94LJ
07974 376435

Sweeters Pocket

R. Sweet
Sweeters Pocket, Fitzroy Road,
Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton
Somerset, TA2 6PL
07803 321762

Techra

A S Haste & Sons
Stoneleigh Farm, Shebear,
Beaworthy, Devon, EX21 5QT
01409281230

Todber Herd

A J Davis
Goat Hill Farm, Goat Hill Lane
South Cheriton, Templecombe
BA8 0BU
07852 111909

Watton

R & J Tully
Waddeton Barton, Brixham,
South Devon, TQ5 0EL
01803 842174

Wiveliscombe

Pulsford
1 langley cross, Wiveliscombe
Taunton, Somerset, TA4 2UG
01984624624



Chairperson: Richard Ashenden

T: 07740 870682

E: rashenden@outlook.com

Secretary: Becca Thomas

T: 07929 982297

E: beccaswaac@hotmail.com



HIGHLAND AREA ABERDEEN ANGUS CLUB

1. LOCHDHU

Euan Forbes
Tomlunquhart, Nairn, IV12 5NY
01667 404231 / 07974 740371
forbesfarm@btinternet.com

2. CULFOICHMORE

Gordon G. McConachie
Culfoich House,
Grantown on Spey, Moray,
PH26 3PN
01807 510201 / 07712672399
gordon@culfoichfarm.com

3. VARIS & LINGIESTON

The Grant Family
Middlefield, Forres, Moray,
IV36 3TN
01309 672862
info@varisaberdeenangus.com

4. CULRAIN

Messrs G & W Henderson
Culrain Mains, Ardgay,
Sutherland, IV24 3DW
01549 421204 / 07833 162167
culrainmains@gmail.com

5. ORRINSIDE

Michael Thomson
Idlewild, 2 Orrinside, Urray,
Muir of Ord, Ross-shire,
IV6 7XA
01997 433 432 / 07810 798 740
jurathomson@hotmail.com

6. THE ARR

Stuart & Muriel Ross
The Arr, Lethen, Nairn,
IV12 5QJ
01667 453380 / 07736 800773
thearrlethen@gmail.com

7. SKITTEN

Messrs B & J MacKay
Skitten Farm, Wick,
Caithness, KW1 4RX
01955 604004 / 07775 606674
benjie.mackay@hotmail.co.uk

8. KILMALLIE

Ewen Campbell
Steall Camaghael, Fort William
Highland, PH33 7NF
01397 698122 / 07908 853881
ewen.campbell72@hotmail.co.uk

9. BALALDIE

Finlay Munro
Balaldie Farm, Fearn
Ross-shire, IV20 1TN
01862 871379 / 07764 212777
mail@balaldie.com

10. SPITTAL SHORE

Alexander J (Hamish) Polson
Rowanfield, Golfcourse Road
Strathpeffer, Ross-shire,
IV14 9AS
01997 421421 / 07974 389635
hamish.polson@btinternet.com

11. WESTER FEARN

E L M Laing
Wester Fearn, Ardgay,
Ross-shire, IV24 3DL
01863 766223 / 07912 731353
gregorlaing22@gmail.com

12. BLACKSMITH

C Smith and A Wilson
The Workshop, Wester Cairnglass,
Ardersier, Inverness, IV2 7QS
07538083338 - Calum
calum.smith0792@gmail.com

13. INKSTACK

Messrs D & M Tait
Inkstack Farm, Barrock
Thurso, Caithness, KW14 8SY
01847 851282 / 07737 278956
tait.inkstack@btinternet.com

14. STRATHGLASS

Strathglass Farms
(per Miss Sheena Thomson)
Mid Crochail, Strathglass
By Beauly, Inverness-shire,
IV4 7NE
01456 415342 / 07801 353819
sheenathomson96@yahoo.co.uk

15. GALCANTRAY

David Walker
Galcantray Farm, Cawdor,
Nairn, IV12 5XS
01667 493335 / 07774 444474
david.walker17@btconnect.com
Callum Innes
07532 133835
cjinnes111@gmail.com

16. SWORDALE

Messrs David & Alexander Watt
Swordale Farm, Bonar Bridge,
Sutherland, IV24 3AP
01863 766308 / 07967 997467
messrs.watt@hotmail.co.uk

17. RADDERY

Ewen & Gill MacGregor
[Firm of TJ & G MacLean]
1 Raddery, Fortrose IV10 8SN
01381 620570 / 07843 248084
gillian.macgregor@btconnect.com

18. STRYPES

Sandy & Meg Anderson
Strypes, Blackhills, Elgin
Moray, IV30 8QU
01343 842413 / 07967 547732
anderson.strypes@gmail.com

19. KILMALUAG

Donald Rankin
Kilmaluag House, Duntulm,
Isle of Skye, IV51 9UQ
01478 612942 / 07919 320810
donaldrankinkilmaluag@gmail.com

20. BALAVILHOUSE

Hannah Heerema
Balavil Estate Office, Kingussie,
Inverness-shire, PH21 1LU
01540 661268
homefarm@balavil.com
gillian.joyce@balavil.com

21. DUNN

Robert J Coghill
Meadowcroft, Dunn, Watten,
Wick, Caithness, KW1 5XN
07831 224525
robertcoghill1949@hotmail.com

22. QUANTERNESS

William Marcus
Quanterness Farm
St. Ola, Orkney, KW15 1TY
01856 879155/07803242899
william@quanterness.com

23. NEWTON-STRUTHERS

A&K Rhind & Son,
Newton of Struthers, Kinloss,
Moray IV36 2UD
07721 386802

24. BALLINDALLOCH

Ballindalloch Home Farms LTD,
Estate Office, Ballindalloch,
Banffshire, AB37 9AX,
01807 500205.
Herd manager: David Johnstone
07554669509

25. ORBLISTON

Firm of A. Shepherd,
Orbliston Farm, Fochabers,
Morayshire, IV32 7IN,
Herd manager: Sam Milne
07813325462
sam.milne@live.co.uk



CHAIRMAN: Sandy Watt T: 07967 997467
E: messrs.watt@hotmail.co.uk

SECRETARY: Gill MacGregor T: 07845 451168
E: gillian.macgregor@btconnect.com



Highland Area Aberdeen-Angus Club

The start of 2021 saw the country back in lockdown, so we held our 44th AGM via Zoom call. We were joined once again by CEO Barrie Turner, who kindly gave us an in-depth report from Council.

We had a change of Chairperson- saying goodbye to Karen Grant, who had guided the Club for an extra year. Our grateful thanks were extended to Karen for all her work. We then welcomed Sandy Watt as the new Chairman to take over the reins.

With high hopes for a normal year ahead, it soon became apparent that this was not the case.

Yet again, our local shows were all cancelled. However, some of the larger shows went ahead, all be it in a very different guise. Highland Club herds enjoyed success at these events.

When the country started to open up again, it was too late to organise a herd competition. There was also some nervousness about hosting a micro tour as covid numbers had started to rise.

On a positive note, the Black Beauty Bonanza is taking place, and our first local show of 2022 has been confirmed, so we fully anticipate it will be all systems go from now on!

The Club plan to visit the Rosemead Herd with the kind permission of Angus Stovold as part of our annual trip. The herd competition and the micro tour will also make their return.

Finally, although we couldn't organise a Club bus, many of our members travelled to the Tonley and Blelack herds to walk through outstanding herds of cattle before their sale at Stirling.

With Tonley having a production sale and Blelack having a dispersal, we witnessed history being made at Stirling Mart.

Many animals have been bought into Highland herds and we wish the new owners every success with their purchases.

There is a lot to look forward to in 2022.



South East England Aberdeen-Angus Club

With Covid restricting our activities, we held our AGM in March last year on zoom, kindly hosted by Barrie. As we had not held any events in 2020, we agreed that all club officers and committee members were to remain in their posts for 2021.

In July, we were able to have a herd walk to John Coultrip's Wingfield herd. It was nice to see this long-established herd of excellent cattle and meet up with other Club members to chat over the tea and barbeque John provided.

In September, we were delighted to welcome William and Karen McLaren to judge our herd competition. They spent four days driving many miles around a large part of Southern England to judge the twelve herd entries.

On a lovely afternoon at the end of October, we visited our Chairman's Hawkley Red Angus herd. After walking around the cattle, we had tea and presented the trophies and prize cards to the winners of the Club herd competition.

CLUB 2021 HERD COMPETITION RESULTS

Judge: William McLaren

Name	Herd Name	Results
SMALL		
Dennis Brenninkmeiger	McClemens	1
Paul Carter	Shefford	2
James Hastie	Sainfoin	3
MEDIUM		
Robert Whitcombe	Hawkley	1
Simon Maiklem	Perrywood	2
Alan & Rob Bishop	Warrenho	3
LARGE		
Angus Stovold	Rosemead	1
Andrew Carter	Standlynch	2
Howard Smith	Bramshaw Hill	3

Best new entrant: Hawkley

Best stock bull: Hawkley Red Tiger T872

Best bull born in 2020: Rosemead January W189

Best cow with 2021 born calf: Rosemead Bright Maid U050

Best heifer calf born 2021: Hawkley Red Rachille X057

Best bull calf born 2021: Warrenho Lord Havana X893

SOUTH EAST OF ENGLAND ABERDEEN-ANGUS CLUB

ADAMS

Mr & Mrs AJ Adams
Vines Farm Estate Office
Cane End, Reading
Berks, RG4 9HG
01189 723 259

ADSTOCK

Miss A Randall
Pear Tree Farm, Adstock
Buckingham, MK18 2JL
01296 714 377

BRAMSHAW HILL

Mr & Mrs H Smith
South Bank, High Street, Fovant
Salisbury, Wilts, SP35 5JL
01722 714 641

CALBOURNE

Mrs VM Jackson
Russett Mead, School Lane
Calbourne, Isle of Wight
PO30 4JD
01983 531 347

CROSSFIELDS

The Bissett Trust
Court Farm, Rag Hill
Aldermaston, RG7 4NT
01189 712 574

DITSWORTHY

Dan Bradbury,
4 Hunter Road,
Southgate, Crawley,
W. Sussex, RH10 6DD
07758 819761

EASTON GREYS

Easton Grey House
Easton Grey
Malmesbury,
Wilts, SN16 0PH
07932 914 302 - Matt Stoker

DUXMORE

Matt Legge
Duxmore Barns,
Downend, Newport,
Isle of Wight, PO30 2JQ
07710 493534
mj1farming@gmail.com

ELLSMEAD

Messrs L Reeves & L Wills
Ells Farm, Brookwood
Ockley, Surrey, RH5 5NH
01306 627 222

FRICKLEY

Mr & Mrs DJ Isaac
Burnt Barns Farm, Frickley Lane
Battle, East Sussex, TN33 9LZ
01424 892 358

FURZELEASE

John Edgley & Sue Poulton
J & S Farming
Furzelease Farm, Tisbury Row,
Sailisbury, Wilts, SP3 6RZ
01747 870509

GLENADE

Michael & John O'Hara
Pinner
Park Farm, George V Av.
Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 4SU
07831 326 453

HARTLEY

Ruth Perry
Longmeadow Farm, Yorkhill,
Ide Hill, Sevenoaks,
Kent, TN14 6HY
07814 160526

HATCHPEN

James Boulton
Hatchpen, Reed
Royston, SG8 8AZ
07969 020 219
james.boulton@randbrothers.
co.uk

HAWKLEY (RED ANGUS)

Mr R Whitcombe
Berry Grove Farm,
Hawley Road, Liss,
Hants, GU33 6JP
07968 182 651
www.hawleyherd.co.uk

INNES

Mr & Mrs J Hadfield
Mellow Farm, Dockenfield
Farnham, Surrey, GU10 4HH
01428 717 815
07501 721 724
james.
hadfield@btconnect .com

KINGWOOD

Mr & Mrs MC Spooner
Honeysuckle Cottage
Kingwood
Henley-on-Thames
Oxon, RG9 5NT
01491 628 637

MARCHANTS

Mr & Mrs J Heagerty
Marchants Farm, Street Lane
Hassocks, Sussex, BN6 8RY
01273 890 616

MCCLEMENS

c/o Angus Stovold
Field Place, Compton Guilford,
Surrey, GU3 1EQ 07768 721 204
info@aberdeenangus.co.uk

MOTTISTONE

Michael Poland
Wroxall Cross Farm,
Wroxall, Isle of Wight,
PO38 3DF
01489 891468

NOIR

Thomas Beadle
Lone Barn Farmhouse Hook
Lane, Puttenham Guildford,
Surrey GU3 1AN
noiraberdeenangus@
gmail.com

 **PERRYWOOD**

J & S Maiklem
Dean Farm, Honeycrook Lane,
Salfords, Redhill, RH1 5JN
01737 761 823

 **POTTAGE**

Richard Mortimore
Home Farm, Tilgate Forest
Lodge, Brighton Road, Pease
Pottage, West Sussex, RH11 9AF
01444 400 391
07768 106 926
www.pottageaberdeen
angus.co.uk

 **REDKITE**

Red Kite Farms Ltd
Southend Farm
Southend, Henley on Thames
Oxon, RG9 6JR
01491 638155
redkitefarms@btconnect.com
www.redkitefarms.com

 **RODMEAD**


Mr A Neish
Rodmead Farm
Maiden Bradley
Warminster, BA12 7UP
07793 810 335

 **ROSEMEAD**

Angus Stovold
Lydling Farm, Shackleford
Godalming, Surrey, GU8 6AP
07768 721 204 - Angus Stovold
07843 020 809 - Tom Beadle
www.aberdeenangus.co.uk

 **RYCOTE**

Messrs BJ Taylor
Rycote Park Farm
Nr Thame, OX9 2PE
07708 486 055 - Per Hugo
Comyn

 **SHEFFORD**

Paul Carter
Allendale Farm
Great Shefford
Berkshire RG17 7DG
01488 648 384

 **STANDLYNCH**

Mr & Mrs AG Carter
Standlynch Farm, Downton
Salisbury, Wilts, SP53 3QU
01722 710 382

 **STARROCK**

Mr & Mrs P Churchill
Starrock Farm, Chipstead
Coulsdon, Surrey, CR5 3QB
01737 556 613

 **STOWE**

R & J Tofield
Littleoaks Farm, Gawcott
Buckingham, MK18 4BU
01280 817 211

 **SUNOAK**

Mr K Booker
Sunoak Farm
Hammer Ponds Road
Horsham, West Sussex
RH13 6PJ
07887 632 456

 **VEXOURE**


Jan Boomaars
Heathdown, The Ridge
Woldingham, Surrey
01883 653 064
www.vexour.com

 **WAREOAK**


Mr & Mrs Hale
Bardon Farm, Ware Park
Ware, Herts, SG12 0LB
01920 462 209

 **WARRENHO**

AE & CR Bishop
Church Farm
Finchampstead
Wokingham, Berks, RG40 4LS
01189 732 232

 **WINGFIELD**

Mr John Coultrip
Wingfield Farm, Eastling
Faversham, Kent, ME13 0BS
01795 890 278

 **WINSLOW**

Mr TW Ives & Sons
Berry Leys Farm
East Claydon Road
Winslow, Bucks, MK18 3ND
01296 712 633



Chairman: Robert Whitcombe - 07968 182 651

Vice Chairman: John O'Hara - 07831 326 453

Hon. Secretary: Mike Spooner - 01491 628 637 - kingwoodangus@aol.com

*For information on club events and members' cattle for sale, visit the
club's website...*

www.seenglandaberdeenangus.com

West Mercia & Wales Aberdeen–Angus Club

In the heart of England and Wales

Chairman Jeremy Price T:01981 500038 E:jeremy@oakchurchfarm.co.uk

Secretary Kathryn Hart T: 07887 654 898 E: kathart.ball@gmail.com Treasurer Angela Robertson T: 01386 462 384

ABBERTON

A & C Sutherland,
Manor Farm, Abberton,
Pershore, Worcester,
WR10 2NR
Tel: 01386 462534



GLASNANT

John & Harriet James
Pant Y Wheel farm,
Llandoverly,
Carmarthenshire.
SA20 OHA
01550 720579
07728233159
glasnant@hotmail.com



OAKCHURCH

Mr and Mrs J Price,
Oakchurch Farm,
StauntononWye,
Hereford, HR4 7NE
Tel: 01981 500038
www.oakchurchfarm.co.uk



ATTWELL

Seafeld Pedigrees Ltd.
(per Michael W Attwell)
Seafeld Farm, Seafeld Lane,
Beoley, Redditch, Wores,
B98 9DB
Tel: 01527 66191



GLYMPTON

Estate Office,
Glympton Farms Ltd,
Glympton, Woodstock,
Oxfordshire, OX20 1AH
Tel: 01993 811443
www.glymptonaberdeenangus.co.uk



PENRHIW

J Thomas & Son,
Penrhiw Farm, Trelewis,
Treharris, South Wales,
CF46 6TA
Tel: 01443 412949
Email: penrhiworganic@gmail.com



AYNHO

A & A McLaren,
The Warren, Croughton,
Brackley, Northants, NN13 5LW
Tel: 01869 810202



GOLDSTONE

Richard Thompson,
Rallics Farm, Lockleywood,
Hinstock, Market Drayton,
Strops, TF9 2LY
Tel: 01630 661261



SALTWAY

Rob Matthews,
Edgiock Farm, Edgiock,
Astwoodbank, Redditch,
Worcester, B96 6JZ
Tel: 01527 894889



DAYLESFORD

c/o Richard Smith,
New Farm, Daylesford,
Moreton in the Marsh,
Glos, GL56 0YD
Tel: 01608 658445



MAVESYN

D M & S A Clift & Son,
Manor Farm Cottage,
Mavesyn Ridware, Rugeley,
Staffs, WS15 3QE
Tel: 01543 491579



TALYFAN

R J Jenkins and Son,
TalYFan Farm,
Ystradowen,
Cowbridge,
Glamorgan, CF71 7SX
Tel: 01446 774036



DARKLANE

N & B Pittams,
Cwmbrook, Llanwern,
nr Becon, Powys, LD3 7UP
Tel: 01874 658255



MELVIEW

Paul & Kirsty Westaway
Gamage Hall Farm,
Dymock, Gloucester,
GL18 2AE
01531 890411
07814 537462
paul@melviewangus.co.uk



WOODSTON

Woodston Manor Partnership,
Woodston Manor,
Tenbury Wells,
Worcester, WR15 8JG
Tel: 01584 881657
Email: emma@woodstonmanor.co.uk



ELMVIEW

St Dials Farm, Monmouth,
NP25 4HY
Tel: 01600 713102
Simon: 07828301302
Email: elmviewherd@googlemail.com




FLEWITT

S J Thomas & family
Clawdd Y Mynach
Monknash,
Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan,
CF71 7QP
Tel: 01656 890015
Email: anya-thomas@hotmail.co.uk



New members always welcome

 Find us on facebook



West Mercia Aberdeen-Angus Club

Last year we said goodbye to one of the critical herds in our region with the Nightingale dispersal in July. However, in September, we had a farm walk at Puddleditch Farm, Berkeley, Gloucestershire, where the Elmview herd is being split into two to start Kathryn off on her new tenant farm.

Nightingale cattle were all well presented and continued their renowned levels of breeding excellence, with all cattle 'well-bred not fed'. Vaughan Farm Ltd from Leominster bought the top price cow at 7,000gns being Nightingale Kristina T936, a second calver by Fordel Parthenon Minotaur with a May born bull calf at foot by Drumhill Lord Hampton. They also purchased Nightingale Princess L582, a 10-year-old regular breeding cow combining American and Canadian blood with a bull calf at foot by Nightingale Madison Boy and back in calf to Drumhill Lord Hampton. At 4,700gns they also secured Nightingale Kristina U985.

The Puddleditch open day focused on regenerative farming, with the farm walk started by Paul Westaway from Melview talking about the breed's suitability.

We also had short talks and demonstrations from a range of companies. For example, Kiwikit demonstrated their electric fence options for setting up mob grazing paddocks. At the same time, Cotswold Seeds explained the herbal ley species and how they have different root structures and offer other aspects to grazing cattle.

Finally, the Farm Carbon Tool kit and George Vets explained some of the simple soil tests you can do if you get your hand in the soil and see what you're working with. The farm walk was followed by a burger (Aberdeen-Angus, of course) and some time around the trade stands.

CLUB MEMBERS...

1. DERWENT

J P, J M & J M Hutchinson
Spikers Hill Farm, West Ayton,
Scarborough, North Yorkshire
YO13 9LB
Tel: 01723 862537
jphutch88.ph@gmail.com

2. FRANCISCAN

Messrs Spilman
Church Farm, Sessay,
Thirsk
YO7 3NB
Tel: 07813 051284
Markspilman7@hotmail.com

3. ALN

Messrs Burrell
Broome Park, Alnwick
Northumberland
NE66 2EQ
Tel: 01665 574344
georgew.burrell@btinternet.com

4. CROOK HILL

Mr W & Mrs M E Taylor
Crook Hill Farm, Stockfield,
Northumberland
NE43 7UX
Tel: 07903 218132

5. TREE BRIDGE

Mr & Mrs D Evans
Tree Bridge Farm, Nunthorpe,
Middlesbrough, Cleveland
TS7 0NS
Tel: 07860 641841
or 01642 723696
david@treebridgefarm.co.uk

6. FOX FOOT

Mr & Mrs P J & A Turnbull
Fox Foot Farm, Coxwold,
York, North Yorkshire
YO61 4AT
Tel: 01347 868236

7. HARTON

Michael J Todd
5 Harton, York
YO60 7NP
Tel: 01904 468712
Mob: 07779 324188
speak2todd@outlook.com
www.hartonangus.com



8. OAK MOOR

Tom Slater
Oak Moor Farm, The Moor
Haxby, York
YO32 2JY
Tel: 01904 764457
Mob: 07563 339979
info@oakmoorangus.co.uk

9. AIREDALE ANGUS

David Isherwood
Airedale Angus, Skipton
BD20 9AB
Tel: 07891 781542
airedaleangus@outlook.com

10. MILLCLOSE

Mr T S & Mrs P A Knox
Mill Close Farm, Patrick Brompton,
Bedale, North Yorkshire
DL8 1JY
Tel: 01677 450257
Mob: 07710 957466
Work Tel: 017488 10042
info@yorkshiredalesmeat.com

11. YEARSLEY

Mr & Mrs TA & P Johnson
Clarence House Farm,
Yearlsey, Brandsby, York,
North Yorkshire
YO61 4SL
Tel: 01347 888665
adrian.901johnson@btinternet.com

12. CRAGG

Miss Juliet Swires
Cragg House Farm, Wilsill, Harrogate,
North Yorkshire, HG3 5EE
Tel: 01423 711745

13. CROOK RISE

G & M A Lawn
None-Go-Bye Farm, Grassington
Road, Skipton, North Yorkshire
BD23 3LB
Tel: 01756 793165

14. SAVILLE

Mr & Mrs S Medley
Hunters Hill Farm,
Nether Silton,
Thirsk, North Yorkshire
YO7 2LL
Tel: 01609 883197
Mob: 07879 664686
savilleangus@btinternet.com

15. UPSALL

Mr & Mrs R E & P M Dickson
Upsall Grange Farm, Nunthorpe,
Middlesbrough
TS7 0PG
Tel: 01642 316423
Mob: 07810 890242
robinedickson@icloud.com

16. WENSLEYDALE

C D Timm
West End Farm,
Appleton Roebuck, York
YO23 7DD
Tel: 01904 744333
Mob: 07742553851
christimml@hotmail.co.uk

17. WINGATE GRANGE

Mr & Mrs W Chrystal
Wingate Grange Farm, Wingate,
County Durham
TS28 5LX
Tel: 07503 982736
chrystalwill@hotmail.com

18. HURRIES

David B Wellock & Wendy P Hoare
Hurries Farm, Otterburn,
Skipton
BD23 4DY
Tel: 01729 830291
david@hurries.plus.com

19. CALTON

Simon & Jane Foster
Newfield Grange,
Calton, Skipton
BD23 4AB
Tel: 01729 830175
Mob: 07763 891 772
newfieldgrange2@gmail.com

20. HALLINGTON

Messrs A & S Lawson
South Farm, Hallington
Newcastle, Northumberland
NE19 2LW
Tel: 01434 672227
Mob: 07701 010294
lawsonpedigrees@aol.com

21. HOUSESTEADS

Kit Acton
Bradley Farm, Bardon Mill,
Hexham, Northumberland
NE47 7AG
Tel: 01434 344261
Mob: 07792 211903
j.acton2@btinternet.com

22. SALTERGATE

B Hardcastle & Sons
Saltergate Hill Farm,
Skipton Road, Killinghall,
Harrogate
HG3 2BU
Richard: 07803 745962
Chris: 07817 097435
mgthardcastle@yahoo.co.uk
currierclose17@gmail.com

23. JACKROCK

Gary Rock & Jack Bircham
Stainton Vale Farm,
Stainton,
Middlesbrough
TS17 9LG
Tel Gary: 07730 562760
Tel Jack: 07545 805547
j_bircham@hotmail.co.uk

24. ELFA

Tim Leather
Hallhill farm
Green Hammerton
York
YO26 8BQ

CHAIRMAN: WILL CHRYSTAL • VICE CHAIRMAN: GARY ROCK • SECRETARY: ASHLEY FENWICK

Tel: 07969 012790 • Email: a.e.fenwick@live.co.uk





North East Aberdeen-Angus Club

Back at the start of 2020, the North East of England Club had many great events planned, including herd visits, competitions and shows. The Northumberland Show even had the club trailer booked. We also had a judge lined up for the herd competition and had received the go-ahead to arrange a club farm visit. Unfortunately, all of this ground to a halt due to Covid-19 and arranging anything in person has proven difficult ever since.

However, online events have been the way forward. We organised an online photography competition, which Keith Jempson kindly agreed to judge. It was great to get members involved in something show related at such an unprecedented time. Thank you to the members who submitted photographs for entry.

Thankfully, Covid restrictions started to ease in 2021 and the Yorkshire Show went ahead. Even though we could not arrange a society tent or have any catering, we were allowed to run the bar, which was a great success. Many thanks to Ron Fenwick for his efforts again running the bar, alongside Will Chrystal and Gary Rock.

The National Show at the Westmorland Show went ahead, allowing us to showcase our newly wrapped club trailer. A huge congratulations to Club members David

and Penny Evans on their win with the overall champion-what a great achievement!

Skipton sale went ahead with a good trade, but unfortunately, the Club calf show was cancelled. Hopefully, this will go ahead next year.

The Aberdeen-Angus Youth Development Programme held its senior conference in the North East of England last year. Wingate Grange Farm was used to hold stock judging, talks on body conformation and discussions with Clevedale vets on pelvic scoring. The whole weekend was a huge success, with a fantastic turnout and great feedback from the members of the YDP. A huge thanks go to Club members Juliet Swires for being a master judge of stock judging and David Evans for holding talks on body conformation.

It was regrettable planned events could not go-ahead last year. However, now that restrictions have been eased, the Club can move on from where we left off and get the ball rolling again with these events.

Our annual AGM is planned to go ahead in November, which will be a fantastic opportunity for members to gather together again and put the plans into action!



Penguin Aberdeen Angus

Senior Stock Bull - Penguin Roland U719 (ET) [Sire: Reich Poker 13p (AI) (IMP)
Dam: Elliot Rosebud H847

Junior Stock Bull

Penguin Gulliver X846 (ET)

Sire: DMM Glock 94E (SS) (IMP)

Dam: Arda Gammer 74E (ET) (IMP)



DMM Glock 94E



DMM Miss Essence 61W
Dam of DMM Glock 94E



Northern Vew
SMW Gustov 3Z
Sire of DMM Glock 94E

Contact Bob or Vanessa

M: 07720 377 520 T: 01952 813 162

E: bobvlane@gmail.com

Windymeadow Farm, Newport Road, Edgmond,
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Evelyn Channing
Scotland
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echanning@savills.com



Andrew Black
North
07967 555 697
ablack@savills.com



Christopher Miles
Central
07967 555 560
cmiles@savills.com



David Cross
South
07967 555 617
dcross@savills.com



10 year plan – Securing the future success of the breed

Over the past 12 months, the Council and staff have developed a ten-year plan for the Society. Cattle breeding has the longest generation interval of any of the farmed animals in the UK. This means the average young bull going forward for sale today has dam genetics that are eight years old and sire genetics that are five years old, meaning breeding decisions take a long time to show results.

As a Society, we are aware of the timescale this takes and to make sure we are acting in the breeder's best interests, we must be looking at least that far in advance.

The ten-year plan has been developed to guide strategy and ensure the Society is fit for the future with two key objectives:

- To protect the integrity of the Herd Book and register animals into it.
- To develop and enhance marketing opportunities for the breed.

HERD BOOK INTEGRITY

Herd Book integrity is critical for a breed society in both a legal and technical standing. Legally, what is stated on an animal's pedigree needs to be verified with the best technology available at the time. Technically, it means performance evaluation is possible as genetic linkages are confirmed.

Our herd book has been active for nearly 160 years, and technology has moved on quite some time since the first hand-written ledgers. Today, we have our online database that is updated daily with pedigree information. To move this to the next stage, over the next 12 months, the Society will be upgrading the ABRI system we use to a new online version. This will give members greater access to their data.

However, we must choose a time that will suit us to do it. The current intention is to begin the move late summer with a few trial breeders, with the entire system being moved over by the end of the year. We will keep members informed as the year progresses.

The other technology we have embraced over the last number of years has been DNA parentage verification. With a pedigree certificate being a legal representation of the genetic base of an animal, the Society has a duty of care to ensure these are correct utilising the best technology available at the time.

OBJECTIVE TWO

has been developed to grow the demand for Aberdeen-Angus cattle, giving the members more opportunities to sell the livestock they have registered under objective one.

Objective one has several strategies underpinning it across the supply chain.

Firstly, to drive the final product's demand, the Society will engage with consumers through a consumer-focused marketing strategy. Whilst this may seem far removed from the management of the herd book, our product is in great demand, and we should do all we can to maintain and grow that demand. Without consumers, our product is a commodity, no different from any other on the retail shelf.

With strong consumer demand, retailers, wholesalers, and processors will demand the product. Demand for the product means demand for Aberdeen-Angus genetics. This is where the Society will engage in a three-pronged strategy:

- Suckler beef herds
- Dairy herds using the Aberdeen-Angus as a terminal sire
- Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus herds.

Suckler beef farmers are a key to realising the ambition of the Council. They are the engine room of the UK beef industry and engaging to best effect with them is a priority. The easy calving, easy fleshing nature of the Aberdeen-Angus is an important consideration for any suckler farmer seeking to make a profit in the world we face today. These attributes also mean lower greenhouse gas emissions, meaning we are producing cattle fit for the future.

Dairy beef is also a key market for Aberdeen-Angus genetics. Whether as a walking bull or as a straw of semen, there are many benefits to the dairy farmer from using Aberdeen-Angus genetics. Like in the suckler industry, easy calving, short gestation and easy fleshing mean more profit for both the dairy farmer and the beef finisher who buys the calves.

Finally, and most importantly, the Society aims to engage with you, the pedigree Aberdeen-Angus breeders who will supply the genetics to satisfy the demand from these markets. Over the next ten years, the Society will embark on a programme of work to consolidate our position as the number one breed in the UK. Conducting targeted research and development across the supply chain, the Society will use the knowledge gained to guide future development. This will also inform the continuing evolution of the ten-year plan, ensuring the Society continues to have a strategy for the future.

The key objective from all this work is to grow the Aberdeen-Angus and Aberdeen-Angus share of UK registrations to 30% of all registrations.

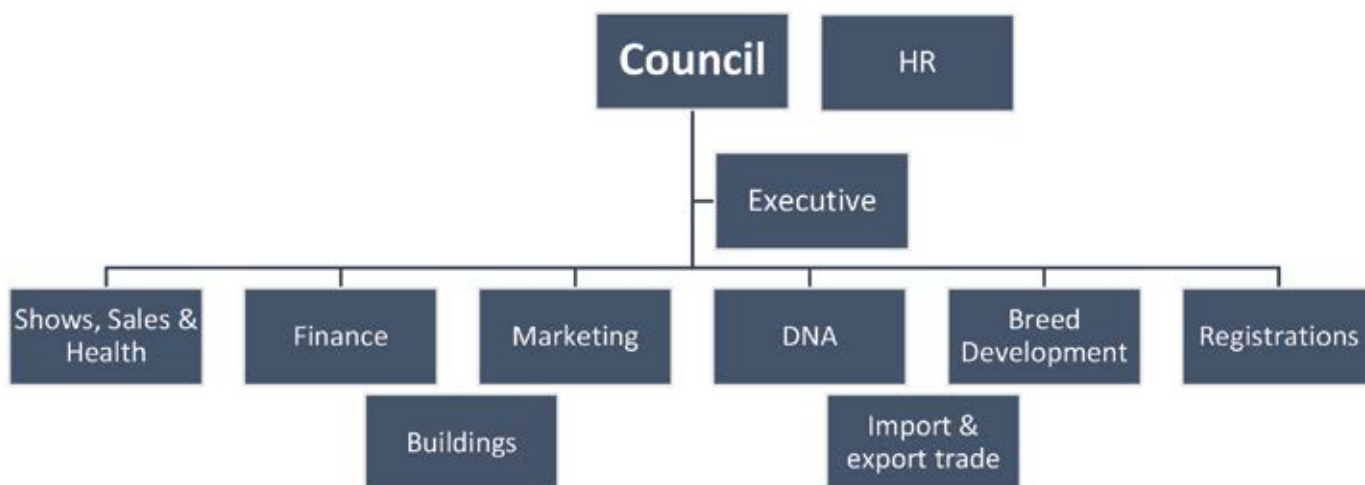
COMMITTEE REORGANISATION

To meet the objectives contained in the ten-year plan, the committee structure of the Society has been reorganised. Some of these committees are short life committees, established to deal with a particular issue and some are longer-term.

Each committee has been given a specific area of responsibility for the Society. Findings and recommendations are reported to Council, where the final decision is made to enact them.

Each committee has a chair responsible for reporting to Council and a relevant staff member from Pedigree House sitting on the committee to ensure a strong connection between Council and staff.

The committee structure is detailed in the graphic below:



COUNCIL

The Council is our governing body with overall responsibility for the Society. Council consists of a President, Vice President, Junior Vice President, Immediate Past President and 13 area representatives from Great Britain. It meets three times a year.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee consists of the Presidents and the chairs of each committee. The Executive Committee serves to gather the thoughts from each committee before Council meetings.

SHOWS, SALES AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chair – Andrew Hodge

The Shows, Sales and Health Committee is responsible for deciding which shows and sales the Society will support in the year and what health standards will apply at the point of sale. They are also responsible for choosing the judges for key Society events.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair – Matthew Currie

The Finance Committee is responsible for the finances of the Society. They set the budgets and meet regularly to manage progress and ensure targets are being met. The Finance Committee is key to ensuring the Society runs smoothly.

MARKETING COMMITTEE

Chair – Chris Wilkinson

The Marketing Committee sets the tone for Society marketing for the year. Their responsibility is to design and sign off on the strategy and content of marketing campaigns in liaison with our PR company, Pinstone Communications. This is not just the marketing of Society sales and Aberdeen-Angus genetics but also engaging across the supply chain to promote Aberdeen-Angus cattle and Aberdeen-Angus beef.

DNA COMMITTEE

Chair – Colin Davidson

The Society uses DNA to protect Herd Book integrity and is currently building a strategy around using the data gathered to offer genomic testing to members. This committee is working with external consultants to build a future DNA strategy for the Society.

BREED DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair – Duncan Morrison

The Breed Development Committee has been formed by amalgamating key elements of the Technical Committee with the Youth Development Committee to pull all of

these under one umbrella. The Breed Development Committee guides the technical direction of the Society and associated performance recording. Breed Development will also look after many of the upcoming projects the Society will be engaging in.

REGISTRATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair – Ian Watson

The Registrations Committee has been tasked with making the registration process simpler and more streamlined. Membership services have suffered due to several issues over the past few years, and this committee aims to improve staff workload and speed up registrations.

IMPORT, EXPORT AND TRADE COMMITTEE

Chair – Robert Whitcombe

Being able to trade genetics internationally is important to many breeders and Brexit continues to present the Society with challenges on this front. This committee is tasked with negotiating the international legislative landscape to maximise the marketplace for our genetics.

HR COMMITTEE

Chair – Neil Wattie

This committee is responsible for managing the Pedigree House staff and acting as a linkage between Council and the team on the ground.

BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Chair – Henk Rennie

Pedigree House is an older building and in need of some maintenance and repair. This committee has been tasked with examining potential options to get the best value for the Society whilst improving the working environment for the staff.

Whilst the pandemic has been difficult for us all, one of the benefits to come from it has been the widespread adoption of online meetings. Our Council is spread from Orkney to Hampshire and from Tyrone to Cambridge, with the office in Perth, quite the logistical challenge for an in-person meeting.

However, Zoom and Microsoft Teams mean meetings can be held on a more regular basis, leading to faster progress on projects, further ensuring your Society is fit for the future.

Working in True Partnership

to Safeguard the Integrity
of Aberdeen Angus Products

As a valued partner to the Aberdeen Angus Cattle Society, we continue to help safeguard Aberdeen Angus products sold to consumers, through accurate and precise DNA based verification.

When the most valuable ingredient in any food is trust, DNA TRACEBACK® helps build and protect that trust.





to Provide Best Choice Tag Solutions.

Providing a reliable and cost effective solution, ALLFLEX® TST (Tissue Sampling Tags) can be supplied for DNA purposes as part of the official pair or as a management tag for retrospective tagging.



 <https://shop.allflex.co.uk/allflex-stockists>



MSD
Animal Health

Rodmead

Aberdeen-Angus



Retained junior herd sire:
RODMEAD PRAGUE W014
Sire: Skail Eric S498
Dam: Brynawelon Prim J530

Prague's dam is also the dam of Rodmead Primero, herd sire at Auchnicrieve, Blelack and Gretnahouse.
Also dam of Rodmead Proper, an ET son of Prim and Blelack Blue Jay based at Rodmead Scotland.
He is being sold at Stirling in February 2022.

AW Neish, Rodmead Farm, Maiden Bradley
Warminster, Wilts. BA12 7HP
Tel: 01985 844689 Email: awn@farmline.com

While the major challenge for Council has been the retention and improvement of core member services such as registrations during the pandemic, we have been looking at ways to improve DNA sampling.

Going forward, DNA sampling will be handled by the Registrations Committee, with the DNA/Genomics Committee focusing on providing genomics to members once things return to normal.

One of the first mentions of genomics was in the January 2006 Aberdeen-Angus Review, when Nigel Otter, then of Merial, wrote on his vision of “cattle breeding in 2020”. Although genomics wasn’t exactly a new science then, it was perhaps the first time many of our members would have been introduced to genomics, or at least its potential.

In the simplest of terms, genomics identifies unique markers within the DNA that relate to specific traits. Best known for now might be the TenderGENE developed by Merial.

There is no doubt performance recording and scanning went a long way towards lifting a veil between the art of feeding and breeding, but questions remain on figures among many breeders. It will always be a vital tool, but it can be challenging to apply between herds.

Genomics can make performance recording better and take a lot of doubt away.

Once the effects of our unique climate have been accounted for, genomics also offers the potential for essential markers on disease resistance, feed efficiency, longevity, eating quality, the list goes on...

The dairy industry, and breeds like the Holstein, lead the world on bovine genomics. Key production traits such as milk production, reproduction, various physical traits and milk quality have all been identified.

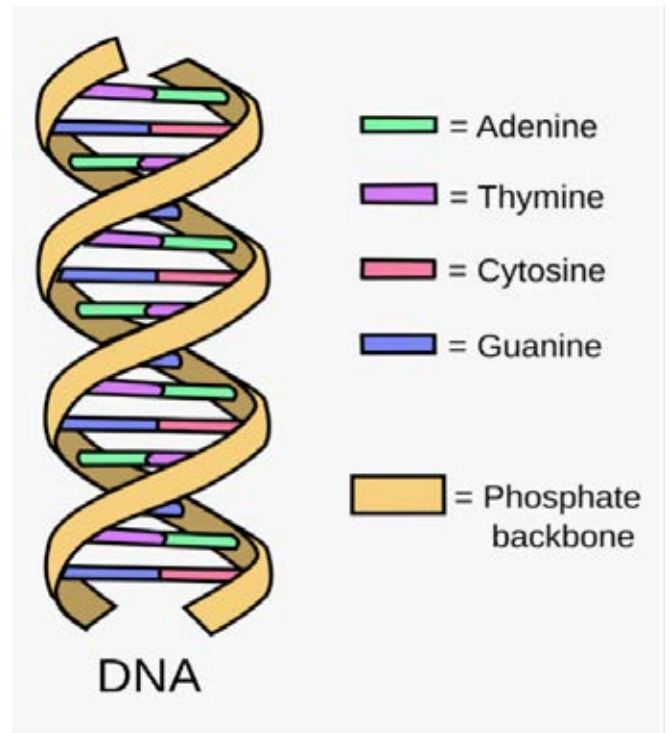
It is no accident the co-Chair of the DNA/Genomics committee is Colin Davidson. At this time of writing, he has been named Beef Innovator of the Year at the British Farming Awards. This is primarily due to his recent work on feed efficiency within his own Skail herd and his recent studies on genomics.

The Priestcliffe Report was commissioned with Lucy Andrews Noden. The Council has approved it to be used, along with written and verbal presentations from the world’s leading genomic service providers, to decide on a provider to deliver this vital tool to the membership.

The time for genomics isn’t overdue, but its time is now.

Finlay Munro

Co-chair DNA/Genomics



For information on all Aberdeen-Angus Clubs and wider Society news and updates visit our website and follow us on social media

www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk



STRATHGLASS

ABERDEEN - ANGUS

Bulls and Heifers For Sale - Biobest HI Health member (BVD accredited/Johnes Level 1)



Snow April 2021



Summer Grazing August 2021

The farm is situated in Strathglass, below the hills of Glen Affric, Beauly. It is permanent grassland, the cattle live outside all year round and are wintered on silage.



Strathglass Darroch X004
at 5 months old
(August 2021)



“Enjoying a bit of TLC“



Strathglass Destiny X988
at 5 months old
(August 2021)

Restructure of Committee sees new focus for breed



It's review time again! This year has been hectic, and with Covid restrictions easing, we have been able to meet face to face as a Council for the first time in 18 months. This year has seen a slight restructuring of the Council and the formation of a Breed Development Committee.

Our job is to look at new techniques and technology to implement and improve our overall performance as a Breed Society. There is a particular focus on sustainability and eating quality. The Committee also incorporates the Youth Development Programme (YDP), a particular passion of mine, being a former YDP participant.

The first job of the Committee was to undertake a SWOT analysis of the breed. A comprehensive review of our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. A pretty long and arduous task, but it has certainly been a worthwhile exercise. It helped us identify and prioritise areas within the breed and Society that need to be looked at, and we have set about tackling the low hanging fruit.

One of our first actions was to identify the elite commercial cows in the breed. This had been passed by a previous Council but hasn't yet been implemented. It follows a similar theme to the Pathfinder Angus Programme in the USA and highlights cows within the UK herd that consistently produce superior performance in commercial traits. The parameters cows need to meet to qualify are:

- Less than 780 days to first calving.
- Minimum of four calves born unassisted consecutively.
- An average calving interval of less than 395 days.
- Recorded 200- and 400-day weights.
- Above average calving ease direct (DIR).
- Above breed average milk figure.

The Committee has also been looking again at structural assessment, and it has been suggested cows should be structurally assessed before being eligible for the list. The Aberdeen-Angus cow is required to thrive in various climates and terrains, so foot and leg structures are paramount.

The Committee has also started to draft a Dairy Index. This has been designed to improve collaboration between dairy farmers, calf rearers, finishers and bull breeders. The dairy beef market is growing year on year and is one Aberdeen-Angus are well suited to, so it's essential to satisfy this key market.

The Committee is also investigating docility scoring. With labour shortage a hot topic, we all need cattle that are easy and safe to manage. Farms can be dangerous workplaces, so giving breeders another tool to improve safety is key to a long-term future. Docility is highly heritable, so it is possible to make gains over generations. We will keep you updated as the trial progresses.

We also have a sizeable list of projects to work on over the next few years, so hopefully, the best is yet to come! I am fortunate to be backed by a very knowledgeable and enthusiastic Committee and have Robert Gilchrist as Breed Development Manager, who has been doing a stellar job. We are always open to feedback, so please get in touch if you have any comments or ideas you'd like us to investigate.

Duncan Morrison

Breed Development Committee Chair



Member of BioBest
HiHealth HerdCare
Johnes - Risk level 1

Accredited for BVD
Lepto & IBR

Contact - David Johnstone
t: 07554 669 509 / 01807 500 329
e: davidjohnstone64@hotmail.co.uk



Ballindalloch Home Farms - AB37 9AT

BALLINDALLOCH

ABERDEEN-ANGUS

BALLINDALLOCH EARL N397

- Aberdeen-Angus Interbreed Champion - Nairn Show 2017
- Aberdeen-Angus Champion - Black Isle Show 2017
- Aberdeen-Angus Calf Champion - Nairn, Black Isle, Keith & Grantown Shows 2013
- Aberdeen-Angus Calf Champion Stars of the Future 2013
- Bull Calf Champion Black Beauty - Bonanza 2013

SEMEN AVAILABLE



New herd sire for 2022...
ROSEMEAD JANUARY W189



Marketing Committee report

With the change in the committee structure of the Society, a new Marketing Committee has been formed. The Committee aims to develop communication both 'behind the farm gate' (producers) and 'beyond the farm gate' (the food wider industry) as part of the 10-year plan.

Over the past year, a marketing strategy has been developed, led by the CEO, our marketing and communications public relations provider, Pinstone, and the Marketing Committee. From the outset, we have settled upon a policy of making sure we have evidence to support any statements we make about the breed and the Society. Therefore, the strong linkage with other committees, particularly Breed Development, has been put in place to help gather strong evidence to support what we say to the outside world.

One part of this is the plan to develop a consumer-facing website. This is to be created using students to help with the planning and design, to manage cost and more importantly, make sure it is relevant to a younger audience. In addition, the plan is for the site to include an Ambassadors Club where suppliers and consumers of Aberdeen-Angus beef can meet and form closer ties. This forms part of the strategy to develop the Society's activities to offer much more than the core activities.

Engagement with the major retailers, farm shops, food service and most importantly, consumers are all part of the strategy. This is impossible without engagement across the whole supply chain, including breeders,

farmers, genetics companies, auction marts, processors, retailers and finally, consumers. This is not an easy task but has been achieved through engagement with several key players across the food chain.

As another means of engaging with the next generation, we plan to sponsor a dissertation competition across a range of UK universities with the subjects linked to either carbon and methane or eating quality. We have also attempted to engage with several processors on the latter as we see leaving the EU as a major opportunity to replace the outdated EUROP Grid system with one more aligned to eating quality, playing to the strengths of our breed. But, it has to be said, this will be another slow burner!

We also plan to shoot a series of on-farm videos, both with professionals and farmers filming across pedigree herds and, perhaps more importantly, commercial herds, to demonstrate the Aberdeen-Angus advantage in terms of ease of management and profitability.

Space doesn't permit a very detailed review, but any further suggestions would be very welcome, we have a lot going on but the ambition to do more!

My thanks go to the team at Pedigree House and our media partners at Pinstone, as well as an enthusiastic Marketing Committee membership. Thank you all!

Chris Wilkinson


Committee chair




SCOTLAND
Rodmead
- Angus Neish Esq -

The Definition of a Good Breeding Cow:
— She Clicks With *ANY* Bull.

Introducing progeny of *Brynawelon Prim J530...*
— Dam of proven influential sire Rodmead Primero R746



Rodmead Prim W079
Sire: Rawburn Jackson
Eric P967



Rodmead Proper W078
Sire: Blelack Blue
Jay R631



Herd Sire:
Blelack Dual Mine U913
Purchased Privately in 2019 from
the Massie family

Visitors & Enquiries Welcome

Contact: Neil Caul - 07971 147 774 - neilcaul@btinternet.com

design
MacGregor
PHOTOGRAPHY

Registration Committee report

For the Society's 2021/22 year, a Registration Committee was set up to address the problems and delays with registrations.

Seeking input from Caroline, Fiona and the Committee members, several problem areas have been identified:

1. The problems and subsequent delays were caused by the requirement for older bulls who were originally sire verified on a lower density test to have samples taken and reverified on the high-density test. Some of these sires are now dead, some sold on and difficult to sample, so for whatever reason, samples were slow to come forward for analysis.
2. Breeders with calves born from imported genetics, be that embryos or semen, also experience delays in registration and the issue of their pedigrees. These delays are unacceptable, and many breeders have voiced their concerns.

Parent verification to the standard now required by the Society was not achievable, leading to subsequent delays.

The third major problem is sample quality; with some of the tissue so badly degraded, it is not fit for purpose.

Before DNA testing, around 5% of registrations were problematic and usually quickly resolved.

However, the low-density test raised the level of problem registrations to around 20% and now, since moving to a higher density analysis, this has increased to 40%, which is unacceptable.

To solve their problems, Caisley moved from a powder preservative to a liquid, leading to various problems with samples such as leaking vials, missing caps, but mainly tissue so badly degraded it could not be used. These DNA failures are proving to be the most significant single issue facing the Registrations department.

Testing on a higher density chip requires better quality tissue for analysis. This is being compromised by sample problems and is not helped by the handling and storage systems we breeders have. These systems are unlikely to change, and therefore, the tag quality must improve.

This has led to the Committee deciding to address the problems being caused by sample failure levels, older bulls with no results on file and imported genetics.

Concerning the older bull issue, Council has agreed to accept the DNA results that were valid when the animal was first tested for registration. Therefore, if a level of analysis was the standard at the time of registration, then it will be accepted going forward.

To solve the issues with imported genetics, any animal (or embryo) that has been imported before 1st January 2022

will see their pedigrees being issued as they stand at present, subject to the following conditions:

- The breeder will bear the cost of testing.
- Pedigrees will be issued once a five generation pedigree is validated.
- Any genetics imported after this date will require a DNA profile suitable for use for parent verification on a Weatherbys 50k SNP test.

All calves born from importations after 1st January 2022 will be required to be parent verified to the same standard as currently required by the Society.

While Council makes no apology for DNA sampling and testing to a high level, this is not without problems. Council will continue to work with tag manufacturers, and there are now several suitable tags on the market with varying levels of failure rates. We would ask members to use the tag most suited to their tagging, storing and dispatch systems.

A quick call to the office may save problems in the future.

Failure rates are the biggest problem the Registrations department deals with, and member's help with this will prove invaluable in getting pedigrees issued.

Next on the agenda for the Registration Committee is the appraisal of the ILR Online Registration System. This system will allow members to register animals directly to ABRI. However, the move will not be actioned without a great deal of discussion with the system provider regarding compatibility with our longer-term requirements. We plan to run trial registrations with some members to see how well it works.

It is a system used widely worldwide and would be another step in speeding up the registration system.

The Registration Committee will continue to do everything possible to improve the registrations process and deliver the level of service expected by the membership.

Ian Watson
committee chair



Rulesmains



BLELACK LORD HEARTFORD (STOCK BULL)

Stock bulls for 2021/22

Blelack Lord Heartford

Duncanziemere Judge R170

Rulesmains Lord Harold V174

Blelack Lord Harry V011 (dam, Blelack Lady Heather R633 sold for 19,000gns)

Blelack Prince Camelot W017 (dam, Blelack Princess Carina R508, sold for 26,000gns and sister Blelack Princess Carina U902, sold for 32,000gns)



RULESMAINS PRICELESS V183

Reserve female champion at the Summer National 2021



RULESMAINS ELEGANT X527



*Bulls and heifers
always available for sale*



RULESMAINS POALO V297
Sold privately for five figures



RULESMAINS LORD HUGH V254
Sold 11,500gns Stirling Feb '21



RULESMAINS KAI V226
Sold 11,000gns Stirling Feb '21



Andrew and Emma Hodge, Rulesmains Farm, Duns, Berwickshire, TD11 3SY
Email: rulesmains@outlook.com Andrew: 07889 316106 Emma: 07861 223985
Website: www.rulesmainsangus.com Visitors always welcome





Finance Committee report

In a year that saw the Council and the Society's staff grapple with an ongoing pandemic, it is with some relief the Society appears to be on track for a modest annual surplus [subject to audit].

As I understand it from the veterans of Council, this is considerably better than was first predicted when we were in the grips of Covid-19 last autumn.

Financial markets have seen many asset classes show considerable growth over the pandemic. For those fortunate enough to hold them, which as a charity, the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society did to some extent, thanks to the guidance of our two investment advisory firms, it was and presently remains a pleasing outcome.

This means the Society continues to be on a sound footing as a charity and a vehicle to serve the breed and its members interests in the future.

An updated reporting structure was adopted last year, enabling the finance team to efficiently report matters and allow Council to make necessary decisions with relevant information to hand.

I look forward to reporting at the AGM the final results for 2021. I hope to explain the annual accounts satisfactorily to allow members to pass the likely resolution for their adoption.

We will happily consider any queries and observations our members might have on the Society's finances and financial strategy.

This is my first experience of our Society close up and Council too. I have been amazed by the commitment and passion of the team at Pedigree House, who have, and continue to work relentlessly to overcome the challenges encountered last year. They have supported my integration into the Finance Committee and wider Council.

Although undoubtedly, many more challenges are likely to exist this year, I am sure with sound leadership and member support of our breed, the charity is set on a positive path, so far as the finances are.

Matthew Currie

Finance Committee Chair



**CHEERBROOK
PROFIT V138**

Dam - Fernhill Panny M823
Sire - Rawburn Jackson Eric

SEMEN AVAILABLE

* EU qualified semen available



SECOND ANGUS AMBITIONS SALE ... SUMMER 2022



**MORPHEUS
• ANGUS •**

OWEN TUNNEY: ☎ 07855 822 095 ✉ OWEN.TUNNEY@BTINTERNET.COM 📱 MORPHEUS ABERDEEN ANGUS

Excellent Selection of High Performance Bulls Available Off-Farm, Visitors Welcome

design
MacGregor
PHOTOGRAPHY

Shows and sales Committee report



SHOW SCENE SPRINGS BACK INTO ACTION

It was brilliant to see the gradual return of a few of the shows last year. The Aberdeen-Angus Society had classes at the Royal Highland Showcase, Great Yorkshire, Devon County, Westmorland and Agri-Expo, to name a few.

While the Royal Highland Show was a very different event from normal, it was still great to experience it and well done to the organising team for having the confidence to stage the event.

Although it was not open to the public, it was still an excellent shop window for the breed, given the televised coverage. One of the significant differences was the squad of young judges who were allowed to get into a high-profile judging ring early in their careers. What a great experience for them.

The Westmorland Show must be congratulated on holding our Summer National amidst an almost 'normal' show experience. Nearly 70 head were entered, from as far afield as Aberdeenshire and south of England.

This year's Summer National is scheduled to be held at Royal Norfolk in June and Turriff has agreed to host the event in 2023.

Agri-Expo was a great success, with over 90 heads entered from many exhibitors, including some new exhibitors. A special mention must go to David and Pat Blair, Balmerino, who exhibited an Angus crossbred calf winning the baby beef championship, possibly for the first time ever. Fred, an eight-month-old steer calf, came out on top from the 75 entries in that section. Thank you to all the exhibitors at Agri-Expo for their effort in making it such a success.

The Show and Sale Committee regularly monitors our reports for various events and is in the process of implementing some new processes and getting everyone up to speed. We are aware some reports have been less accurate than expected and are working on this.

The Society held all their regular sales fixtures last year, albeit in alternative formats in some cases. Prices and clearance rates held up with a particularly pleasing October

sale in Stirling, where the average increased by £1,300 for more bulls sold.

It was great to get back to a show and sale format and to see the bulls out in their age classes for the show, as this is an important aspect for purchasers. The overall quality is increasing, which provides an excellent selection for our commercial purchasers.

The breed lost a significant depth of breeding when the Blelack herd was dispersed in October. The atmosphere was electric for this impressive spectacle, when both new and established breeders got stuck into vying to get a piece of this breeding to add to their herds.

While a dispersal is more often than not a bittersweet event, the Massie family will be content that so many of their fellow breeders appreciate their genetics enough to have made the sale such a success.

HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

The Health Committee met twice last year, both by Zoom. This Committee aims to monitor all aspects of herd health and interact with the various industry organisations that impact this.

A significant aspect of our work in the past 12 months has been the proposed changes to the Johne's part of the CHeCS schemes. In conjunction with other breed societies, we objected to the proposed changes because they would be counterproductive in attracting new members and would result in an overall decrease in the level of Johne's testing across the industry.

We felt this would be a negative step, especially for pedigree herds of smaller numbers, because they would be particularly adversely affected. Thus far, we have successfully achieved two delays in the implementation of the new proposed rules. Further consultation will be required on this, and our message to CHeCS has been unequivocal.

In addition to discussing the proposed changes outlined above, we have taken the opportunity to suggest an alternative amendment to the Johne's scheme. The Committee would like to see increased transparency in the information displayed about Johne's, both on sale cards and the website.

In particular, we are asking health schemes to publish the numbers tested (within herds), which failed both on blood and subsequent faeces tests. This will enable potential buyers to assess the risk based on their own situations more accurately. The Committee considers health and efficiency to be the most important factors in pedigree herds going forward.

Andrew Hodge

Committee chair

OLD GLENORT ANGUS



UK 541889 20112-4

Carlhurlie Gentilex S124

Sire: Skail Dido K309

Dam: Carlhurlie Gentile J762



UK 521115 703898

Blelack Dakota U898

Sire: Netherallan Peter Pershore E052

Dam: Oakchurch Darlene E020



UK9 041700 1191-7 (Picture taken at 6 months)

Old Glenort Edwina X917

Sire: Blelack Dakota U898

Dam: Old Glenort Edwina T692



UK9 041700 1203-5 (Picture taken at 5 months)

Old Glenort Kathleen X035

Sire: Blelack Dakota U898

Dam: Old Glenort Kathleen T751



James Porter
028 9260 7333

james@gillhallestate.co.uk
www.gillhallestate.co.uk



UK9 041700 0861-6

Old Glenort Edwina R616

Sire: Cardona Jewel Eric M826
Dam: Old Glenort Edwina J245



UK9 041700 0751-1

Old Glenort Victoria N511

Sire: The Moss Quebec K027
Dam: Old Glenort Victoria G464



UK9 041700 1086-7

Old Glenort Eveline V867

Sire: Carlhurlie Epic P021
Dam: Old Glenort Eveline R863



UK9 041700 0866-4

Old Glenort Evon R664

Sire: The Moss Quebec K027
Dam: Cardona Evon J642

HI-HEALTH MEMBERSHIP
00001

*Bulls For Sale
Privately*



*Visitors
Welcome*

Senior Stock Bulls



BALALDIE
BLACK PANTHER



FORDEL DOGMATIX



BOREWELL KRASH



RAWBURN
RENO

Junior Stock Bulls

TULLYFERGUS TOMAHAWK, BALALDIE BARON, BALALDIE EARL, GREтнаHOUSE BLACKHOLE

Female Lines



HOFF BULL



MISS BJ



IDLEWYLD



HOFF EBONY



BONNY HEATHER



LADY RUTH



TULLYFERGUS BEAUTY



TIDY BEE



EODESTA



EVERGRAZE



PRELUDE



MARGARET PHILIPA



EVENING STAR



EURIVINE



ETRILLA



PROUD PETRA

RESERVE MALE & CHAMPION FEMALE, HAAAC VIRTUAL SHOW 2020

Finlay, James or AnnMarie Munro 01862871379 or 07764 212777
E-mail: mail@balaldie.com Website: www.balaldie.com



NEW CHALLENGES AHEAD FOR THE BEEF INDUSTRY – THE ABERDEEN-ANGUS BREED IS PART OF THE EQUATION

Never has the beef industry faced so many challenges:

- Red tape for climate change due to a poor biased narrative on methane production and net carbon emissions.
- Public concerns on animal welfare.
- An aged European population and steady decline in production and consumption.

Along with this, one must include the impact of the mid to long term revised agricultural policies, both in the European Union (EU) and the UK.

What strategy should the industry embrace to overcome this? Less beef but better beef? Expand overseas high-value markets to sustain its beef production?

Despite Great Britain leaving the EU and the single market altering agriculture dynamics, both economic blocks are preparing policies for the next 5/7 years that are aligned on more sustainable and resilient farming and environmental demands from farmers.

The major difference between the common agricultural policy (CAP) reform and the British Agricultural Transition Plan is the latter is moving away from direct payments. On the other side, Member States are entitled to set strategic plans that include eco-schemes, welfare standards, in addition to adhering to higher environmental requirements set by the EU to maintain subsidies.

This is a major change of paradigm favouring lower farm inputs, using integrated pasture management and soil protection, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and conveying climate change adaptation and mitigating its effects on farming. Apart from the new technologies incorporated in agricultural operations to optimize production, animal selection and breeding genetics are essential for beef production.

The Aberdeen-Angus is the ideal breed as it has been bred to thrive on low input, forage-fed systems. In addition, its genetic pool ticks other boxes such as easy calving, easy fleshing and good carcass finishing. It also demands a premium in many countries under the world-renowned Angus brand.

The breed has experienced tremendous growth in continental Europe in the last decade, including Portugal, Romania, Estonia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Spain and France.

Under this favourable scenario, what does restrain its progression, or indeed other early maturing breeds? The answer to this is the EUROP carcass grading system. This is because it is based on general indicators, such as the category of animal determined by sex (veal, young bulls, steers, heifers, cows, or bulls), its age, conformation score, fat score and hot carcass weight.

The grid was introduced to uniform beef carcasses and to regulate the market, but it only assesses external attributes with no consideration for meat quality. Thus, the heavier, the more muscular and the leanest carcasses will receive the best price. Is this wrong? Not if the eating quality attributes are not a criterion and cereal prices are affordable.

However, consumers have an increasing demand for beef with guaranteed eating quality (e.g. tenderness and flavour). Unfortunately, the EUROP grid will not help meet consumer demands for eating quality.

Marbling is subjectively measured by looking at evenly distributed white flecks of fatty tissue between the muscle fibres. This is pivotal in different beef grading systems, such as the USDA in the United States or the MSA in Australia. Both of these grading systems include carcass yield and a meat and fat colour grid. The latter (i.e. tissue colour) reflects the age at slaughter and the rearing and finishing system.

According to recent scientific studies, the EUROP conformation and fat scores of bovine carcasses are not good indicators of marbling. Unfortunately, this means the European beef industry can't estimate this trait from carcass characteristics.

Several techniques are being tested to estimate carcass composition and marbling scores to help breed societies, producers, and retailers validate a complementary or an alternative grading scheme to the present EUROP system.

Involving early maturing breeders' associations/societies could be the first step, such as the recently established European Aberdeen-Angus Secretariat, to address this topic.

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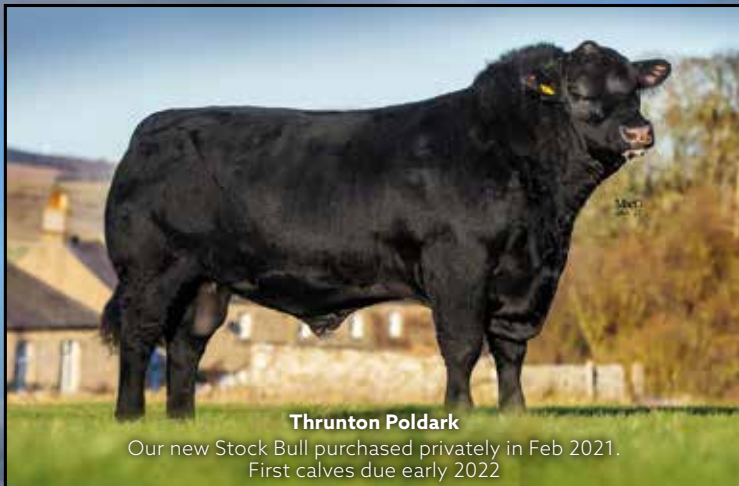
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Tynet Pegasus Breeding very well at Wedderlie

MacG
Sep '17

World Secretariat report

Those attending on behalf of the UK Aberdeen-Angus Society included **Barrie Turner, Chief Executive Officer of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society and Society Junior Vice President, Finlay Munro.**

The following is a digest of the meeting held via Zoom.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2021 World Secretariat was forced to be held virtually on 1 July. It was a truly global event and well attended by representatives from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Columbia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Paraguay, Portugal, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Nadal, America and Peru, with Spain added as a new member during the meeting.

The obvious discussion surrounded the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the scheduled 2021 World Angus Forum, which Angus Australia would have hosted. A wide-ranging, educational, and entertaining event had been eagerly anticipated.

Though it was disappointing it had to be cancelled, Angus Australia still had an event structure in place. Therefore, it was proposed this would be rescheduled to 2025, giving it a good chance of going ahead to a global audience. This, however, would push back the USA hosting the event to 2027, which they were more than happy to do, receiving unanimous approval.

It was also approved the next World Secretariat meeting would take place in the Czech Republic in 2023, either virtually or online. While this was approved unanimously, it was accepted world events may disrupt any attempt at a

tour structure, or a reduced schedule may be appropriate. An online meeting will go ahead regardless.

There then followed a presentation by Kelli Retallick, President of Angus Genetics Inc, on the across country evaluation of both Red and Black Aberdeen-Angus cattle. This work was conducted between America, Canada and Australia. Variation was found between the countries as the effects of the environment have a significant impact on animal performance. However, the correlations between the countries were closer than had been expected, particularly by Australia.

Next on the list for discussion was parent verification, and in particular, parent verification between countries. There is a clear move towards standardisation, but it was also transparent that many countries were at different stages – some using microsatellites and others using SNP's. Progress is further hampered in many countries by their government authorities. Parent verification between countries is a problem faced by all.

Tim Britain, the Secretary-General, advised he wished to progress a new World Secretariat website. The aim is to aid information exchange among members and become a global resource for the worldwide Angus community. Approval was given for this to proceed.

The 2021 meeting of the World Secretariat was brought to a close by Chairman Sam White, with the sincere hope the next one would be a physical meeting in the Czech Republic in 2023.

ROSEMEAD & MCCLEMENS - ELITE HEALTH STATUS

Senior Stock Bull

LOCKERLEY BLACK BOROMIR K173



- Proven Breeder
- Maternal Sire

October 2021 Aberdeen-Angus BREEDPLAN														
Catling	Catling	200	400	600	800	1000	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600
Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score
1.4	1.8	4.8	3.3	4.8	4.2	4.4	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
84%	79%	85%	81%	84%	84%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%

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Sire: Gear Netlad N288 - Exceptional Son



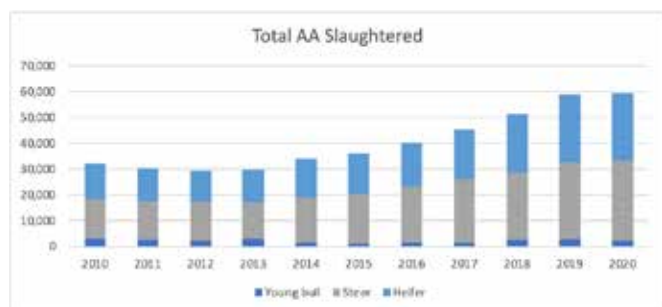
Angus Stovold: 07768 721 204 - Tom Beadle: 07843 020 809

Lydling Farm, Shackleford, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 6AP

10 Years of change in Northern Ireland

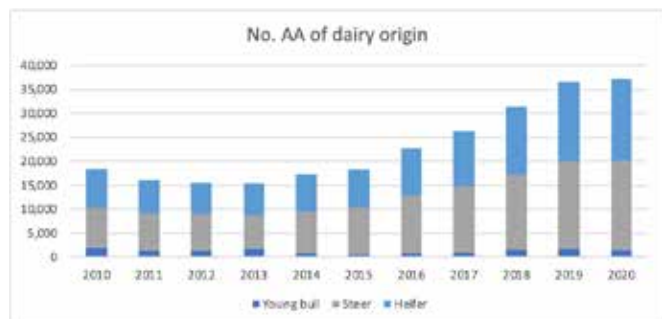
Over the last ten years, Aberdeen-Angus has seen a significant rise in market share in Northern Ireland. Abattoir data shared with the Society by Francis Lively of AFBI (Agri-Food BioSciences Institute) makes for interesting reading.

Firstly, looking at the total number of Aberdeen-Angus cattle slaughtered, we can see a rise of 27,332 (85%) Aberdeen-Angus cattle coming forward over the last ten years, demonstrating the swing towards the breed.

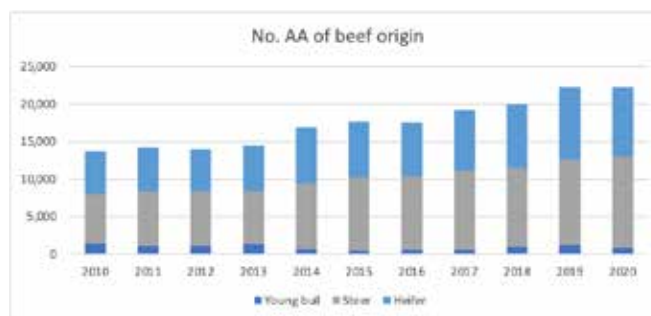


The largest proportion in the swing has come from dairy origin Aberdeen-Angus cattle, doubling over the period. Aberdeen-Angus is growing in popularity with dairy farmers. Easy calving, short gestation and easy fleshing traits are key to making a mark in this market.

The dairy market is growing due to several factors. Firstly, there is significant pressure from milk buyers and retailers for dairy farmers to ensure all calves have a life. This means fewer dairy calves are being euthanized in early life. Couple this with sexed semen giving female replacements, we see more beef calves coming into the marketplace. There is also a swing to Aberdeen-Angus from other breeds due to the calving and fleshing already mentioned.



Beef origin carcasses are also up but by a relatively small proportion (62%) when compared to the dairy rise. However, this is still a significant rise in the number of cattle processed. This has been driven by the premium offered by retailers via their processors.



Not only has Aberdeen-Angus performed well on the numbers forward, it has also performed well on the efficiency scale. In 2010, the weight of the average prime Aberdeen-Angus carcase in Northern Ireland was 310kg. By 2020, this had risen to 329kg, a 7% increase in weight. This is still very much within the retail specification.

It doesn't end there, since 2010, the average prime Aberdeen-Angus animal is now being killed at three quarters of a month younger. All this amounts to a total increase in daily carcase gain of 8% over the last ten years to 0.46kg per day.

In a world where the perception is that the less time a ruminant is on the planet for, the better, an 8% increase in carcase gain leads to a significant reduction in the emissions factors for the animal.



EASTON GREYS ANGUS



NEW HERDSIRE “RULESMAINS POALO V297”

This much admired son of Rawburn Braw Lad, was purchased privately. All females he ran with are successfully in calf and we are looking forward to seeing his progeny in 2022.

Junior Herdsire “Easton Greys Evolution W986” a Boss Hogg son out of one of our top Evora cows N634. He is the 3rd son off N634 used in the herd. Her 2021 son, (a full brother to Evolution) Easton Greys Evander X043 is our top performance 2021 calf and an exciting prospect!

We would like to thank all customers old and new who purchased stock in 2021. Including;
Easton Greys John W982 to Nuthatch and Easton Greys Ferrari W987 to Twynning Ash.
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T655



SIRE

Warrenho Dalmigavie

G237

DAM

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Y279

Junior Stock Bull

AYNHO PANTHER U125

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S010

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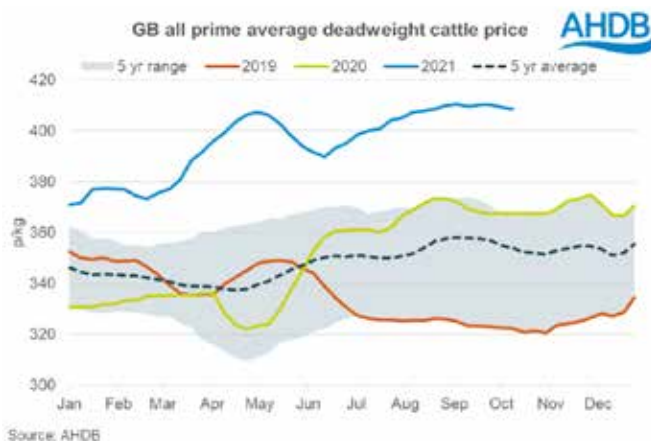
UK herd overview from AHDB

Things have certainly changed a lot over the last 12-18 months. It is almost unbelievable to think at the beginning of 2020, life was relatively “normal”, and COVID-19 was a seemingly distant feature of global news. From a cattle market perspective, the industry was emerging from a period of extremely low farmgate prices, and the media seemed to be awash with negative messaging around beef consumption and climate change. Brexit was at the front of many people’s minds, with the deadline for a deal looming at the end of the year.

PANIC-BUYING AND CARCASE IMBALANCE

Most news took a backseat as COVID-19 arrived on our shores in the spring of 2020. Lockdowns ensued, restaurants and pubs closed their doors and panic buying began in supermarkets. For beef, this caused a period of price pressure. As consumers rushed to stock up on mince to feed their families - at the expense of more premium cuts like steak - carcass values became imbalanced and farmgate prices suffered.

However, the industry responded by calling upon retailers to stock a wider range of cuts and help ease the price pressure. AHDB launched its “Make it Steak” campaign in conjunction with Quality Meat Scotland and Hybu Cig Cymru - Meat Promotion Wales, to encourage consumers to cook steak at home and recreate that restaurant experience. The campaign was successful, adding £9.8m in sales to beef steak in Britain that would not have happened had the campaign not run.



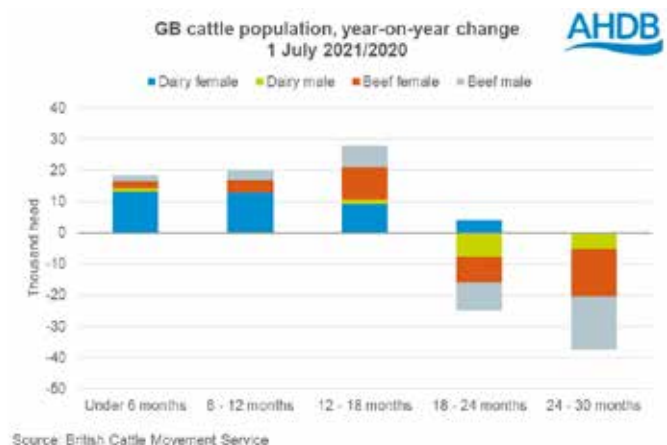
Partly because of this activity, cattle prices rebounded in the summer of 2020, and have stayed elevated ever since. Further lockdowns, social distancing measures and furlough of staff continue to limit offerings from the foodservice sector (e.g. restaurants and pubs), meaning more consumers have turned to buying beef via retail than they did pre-pandemic. Butchers, in particular, saw strong uplift in sales during lockdowns, as consumers preferred

to shop more locally. British beef tends to do well in the retail space and has a strong presence, fortified by recent pledges of several retailers to back 100% British beef. This switch in shopping and consumption behaviour has been one factor behind higher domestic cattle prices over the past year.

TIGHTER CATTLE SUPPLIES SUPPORTING PRICES

Changing demand has not been the only factor supporting farmgate prices recently. Throughout the last 12 months, an ongoing theme in the beef market has been lower numbers of cattle available for slaughter. As part of our work in AHDB’s Market Intelligence function, we regularly monitor the number of cattle in Great Britain via data from the British Cattle Movement Service.

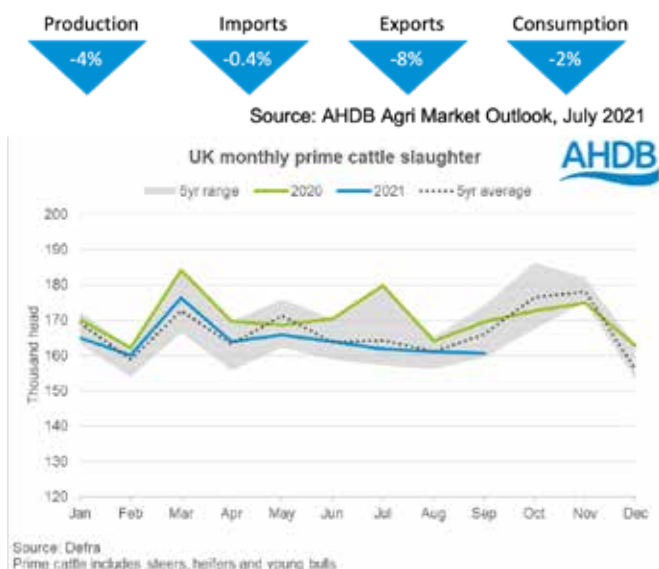
For some time now, this data has been showing lower numbers of cattle in the country year-on-year; particularly cattle aged 12-30 months that would be available for beef production in the short-term. Despite this, UK prime cattle slaughter (steers, heifers and young bulls) rose by 2% in 2020 from the year before to 2.05 million, likely due to the rise in domestic beef demand and higher cattle prices. As a result, 932,000 tonnes of beef was produced in the UK during the year, 2% above 2019 levels. The rise in beef production, while we have fewer cattle on the ground, means supply will have been tightening further, partly explaining continued high prices.



SO, WHAT’S THE OUTLOOK FOR UK BEEF?

Twice a year (typically in January and July) we produce our Agri-Market Outlook. This series of analyses brings together data on production, trade and consumption for each of our sectors into comprehensive market overviews with short-term forecasts. We also include analysis on farm inputs, and typically a longer-term outlook that discusses cross-sector issues, like farm support changes, trade and the environment. If you would like to read our latest edition of the Agri-Market Outlook, head to our website, ahdb.org.uk/agri-market-outlook.

Beef market outlook: key figures (2021 vs 2020)



Following lower production, lower overall consumption and lower quantities of beef traded internationally compared to a year ago, tighter cattle supplies are expected to limit slaughter and production into the first quarter of 2022. However, higher numbers of youngstock are expected to contribute to slightly higher production in 2022 overall. Ongoing contraction in dairy and suckler cow numbers is expected to continue in 2022, which could act as a limiter for future growth in beef production.

The dairy herd plays an important part in the UK beef sector, a part that is likely to keep growing. Data shows that dairy producers are using more beef semen in inseminations to add value to calves, so we expect to see more (and improving) beef cattle coming from the dairy herd. The suckler herd is expected to continue to play a critical role in high quality beef production, and be a crucial source of genetics.

Looking at recent data on beef calf registrations, the trend of declining registrations of continental breeds and rise in native registrations has continued. Aberdeen-Angus - and in particular Angus cross - have shown robust growth in registrations over the last 10 years, with both types, combined, making up 23% of total beef calf registrations in 2020.



DEMAND FOR BEEF

From a demand point of view, consumers have shown signs of getting back to some normality. We expect that less beef will be sold via retail as more people dine away from home, but the amount of beef eaten in restaurants and pubs is still expected to track well below pre-pandemic levels for some time. Hence, overall beef consumption is forecast to fall compared to 2020, but remain above pre-pandemic levels. These trends are expected to continue into 2022, as demand moves away from retail and back towards eating-out. As this happens, it will be important for domestic prices that foodservice outlets back British beef.

International trade of beef is expected to remain subdued. This is due to pandemic-induced disruption to demand domestically and in the EU, logistical and administrative challenges post-Brexit, and lower production forecasts for the UK and Ireland.

It remains to be seen how effectively COVID-19 will be managed going into the winter-time, and whether we see any further lockdowns. Thinking further ahead, other crucial elements of uncertainty come in the form of phasing out of direct farm subsidy, and uptake and success of new Environmental Land Management (ELM) schemes.

HERE TO HELP

At AHDB, we want to help businesses be as prepared as possible for the challenges that may lie ahead. We have lots of tools and resources available on our website to support you through this transition period, including our new Farm Business Review service. To find out more, head to our website (ahdb.org.uk/farm-business-review) or speak to one of our team at farmbusinessreview@ahdb.org.uk.

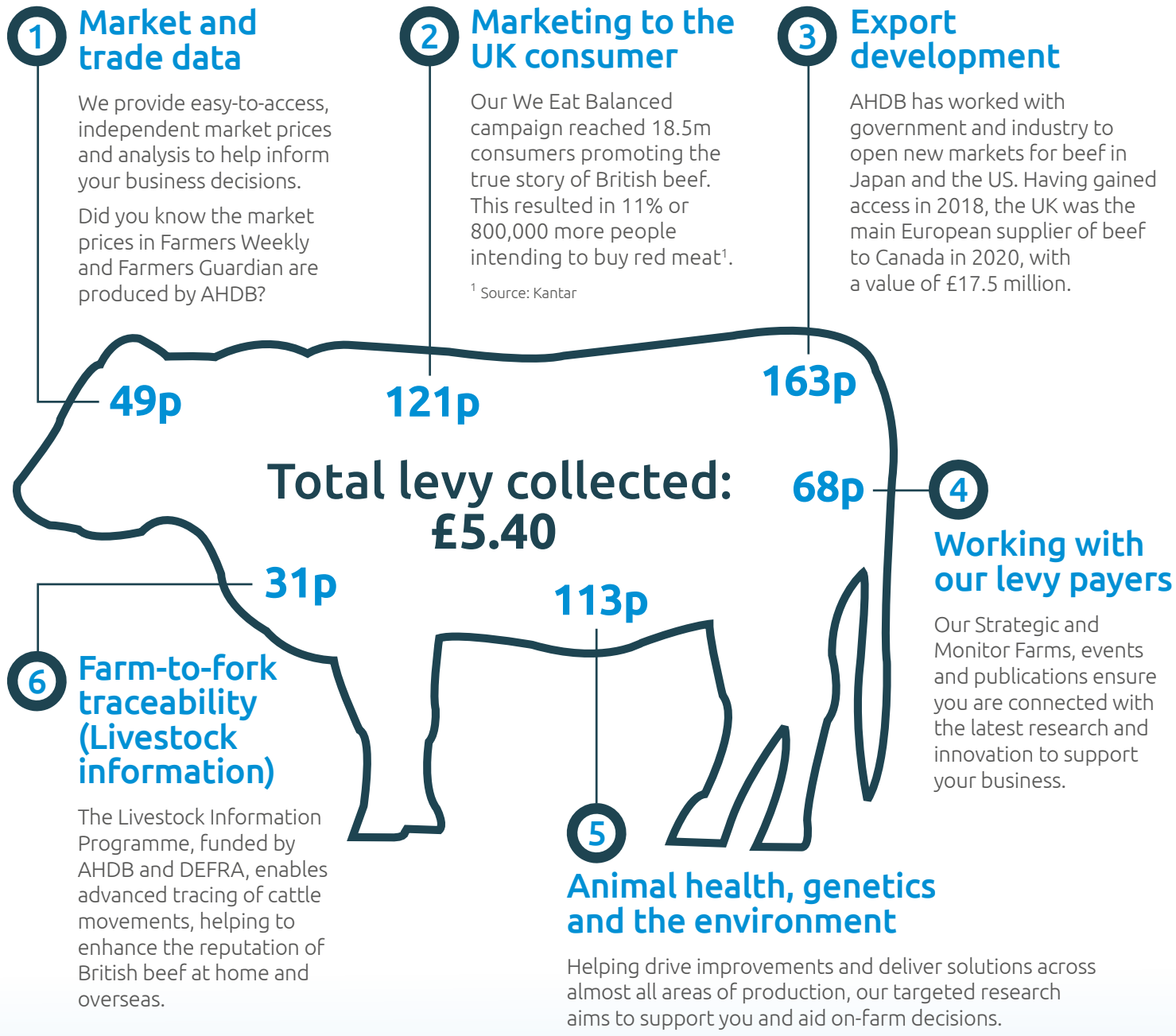
Hannah Clarke

AHDB Market Intelligence Analyst - Livestock



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Do you know how much levy you pay to the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board and what it is spent on? We're committed to being open and transparent about how your levy is invested so you can see how it makes a difference to your business.



AHDB income 2021/22

AHDB collects £5.40 per head of cattle (excluding calves). This is made up of a producer (£4.05) and slaughter (£1.35) levy.

Additional non-levy income, e.g. grants and funding, offers extra value for levy payers on your investment.

The figures are based on the 2021/22 Business Plan with overheads allocated on a pro-rata or estimated resource basis. Prior year financial statements are published in our Annual Report and Accounts available at: ahdb.org.uk

For further information, visit ahdb.org.uk/beef-lamb



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An Osprey calf at 3 weeks old. Interest in this calf and other Osprey calves has exceeded expectations.

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Comlongon Julius Eric T085

Sire: Gretnahouse Blacksmith L500

Dam: Dalcrest Joylady Erica L221.

Female and Reserve Champion at Angus National Show 2018.

JUNIOR STOCK BULL:

Wedderlie Osprey VO11

Sire: Blelack Pontius R599

Dam: Wedderlie Oskansa N813

Osprey's first calves are tremendous, very exciting and full of promise.

We wish to particularly thank the Tilson's for their recent purchase of an Oakmoor Angus bull for their superb Wedderlie herd.

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MacG
Feb '17

It's all about the beef

The aim for every beef farmer, whether you are a suckler producer, calf rearer or finisher, is to produce a product that meets the end user's demand.

For the consumer, it is all about the eating experience. That means the product must be tender, juicy, have flavour and be the correct portion size. It also must be consistent.

UK retailer research indicates if a consumer has a negative experience eating beef, it will be six weeks before they purchase beef again. These results were against a backdrop of declining beef consumption within the EU, compared to pork and chicken alternatives.

That is why, regardless of what stage in the beef supply chain you are, your focus must be on that end meat product. It really is all about the beef!

RETAILER DEMANDS

As you move down the supply chain from the consumer, other demands must be met.

For the retailers and wholesalers, carcass grade and balance, weight, portion size and yield are all important. Although the largest volume of meat sold from the carcass is minced, in value, it only contributes about £780/head¹ to the overall retail value of the entire carcass meat.

At the other end of the scale, there is the fillet which, although only 2% of the volume, makes up around £200/head of the retail value (see figure 1).

So, for the retailer, if we can breed animals with a longer steak bone and a smaller back-end, which fortunately the Angus is bred to do compared to some of the continental breeds, we will be maximising the most from the product and our returns.

BEEF PRODUCER DEMANDS

The main aims of beef finishers are the carcass yield, weight and grade, daily liveweight gain (DLWG), feed efficiency, and animal health. And for the commercial suckler producer, it's all of the above plus attributes such as fertility, efficiency off the grass, calving ease and longevity.

A lot of the traits can be determined by genetics. However, how well those traits are expressed depends on the management.

As pressure mounts from climate change lobbyists to reduce meat consumption, it has never been more important as an industry to make sure what we are producing meets the following demands:

- Provides the best eating experience
- Meets target specifications
- Is produced efficiently

Speaking to the end-user is a must, and if it is not something you do, please make it your New Year's resolution to do it. Your end-user is the person buying your product. If you are a beef finisher, that's the abattoir or butcher. If you are a suckler producer, it's the grower or finisher. If you are selling breeding stock, then it is your commercial farmer using your progeny.

Without this invaluable feedback throughout the supply chain, we cannot accurately produce beef animals fit for the future. In addition, communication between all parties is necessary to help inform the management of the animals, from the genetics used to the nutrition.

MAINTAINING THE BREED REPUTATION

For centuries Aberdeen-Angus has been the leading beef brand globally famed for its unrivalled growth rates, easy fleshing, ability to finish off grass and produce top meat-eating quality. However, in today's society, the efficiency of the product and its low carbon footprint are also essential.

To uphold this reputation, we mustn't take our finger off the pulse. This is where new technology such as genomics can help.

The Irish Cattle breeders Federation (ICBF) has now produced meat-eating quality (MEQ) proofs for beef AI sires². The new proofs are a world-first in terms of multi-breed genomic evaluations for meat-eating quality traits. While clear breed differences exist, with the Aberdeen-Angus ranking as the top breed for meat-eating quality, of crucial importance is the variability in meat-eating quality that exists within breeds (see figure 2).

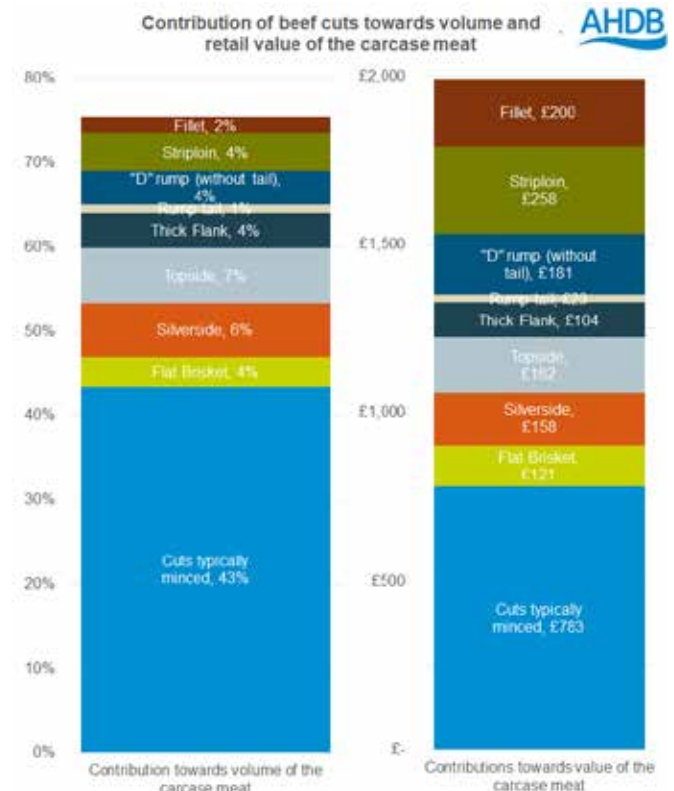
The average expected rating for each trait is 80% (i.e., 80% of progeny are expected to have satisfactory tenderness, flavour or juicy score), with sires higher than this expected to produce progeny with superior meat-eating quality for the relevant trait.

The ICBF says 16% of the differences within breeds in meat tenderness is due to genetic variations. While genetics influence the meat quality, quite a lot of it is also determined by the management.

CLOSING REMARKS

As the Basic Payment Scheme draws to a close over the next four years, I'm optimistic our members will be best placed to survive and thrive. After all, we have one of the most efficient breeds that can produce quality meat off grass with a low carbon footprint. However, although our brand reputation may be unrivalled, we must uphold it by gathering feedback from the end-user and continue producing a product they want and love. It's all about beef, that's fit for the future.

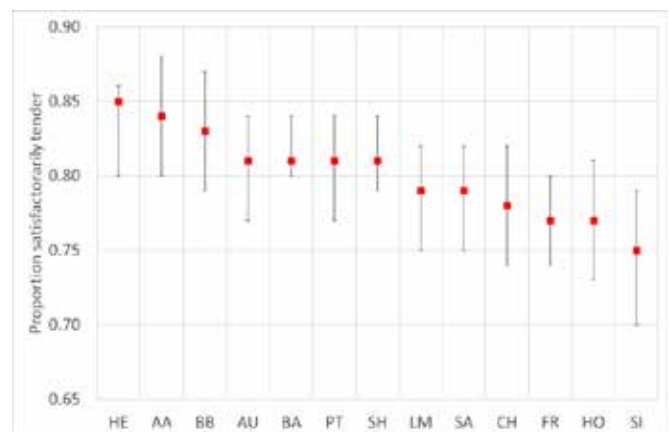
Figure 1: Contribution of beef cuts towards volume and retail value of the carcass meat



Retail prices are as of the week ending 11 April 2020. Source: AHDB. The remaining 25% of the carcass is drip loss, fat and bone. These also do have some value.

Source: AHDB, April 2020

Figure 2: Comparison of 'meat-eating' tenderness genetic merit for AI bulls of different breeds



Source: ICBF, data based on September 2020 evaluation

References

- AHDB <https://ahdb.org.uk/news/how-much-is-each-cut-of-beef-worth-towards-the-total-retail-value-of-the-carcass-meat>
- ICBF, September 2020, <https://www.icbf.com/?p=16558>



Stock Sires

SHADWELL EVOLUTION T003

This bull has done a tremendous job for us.

His calves are uniform in type, easily fleshed and balanced.

His first sons will be available Spring 2022.



OAKCHURCH DESTROYER V362

Full of breed character with a beautiful temperament.

First calves look to have their sire's style and power at only a few months old.



Calves by EVOLUTION



SHADWELL BLUE SMOKE X258



SHADWELL ELANDIA X264



SHADWELL BLUE BELLE X267



Some of the girls that make the herd

SHADWELL BLACKBIRD T976



SHADWELL PAM T941



SHADWELL EVORA R841



SHADWELL FRANCES N651



SHADWELL BLACKBIRD P759



SHADWELL BLUE BELLE P755



SHADWELL EVORA U055



SHADWELL KATHLEEN L532



SHADWELL LADY HEATHER R806



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Science in to on-farm practice

Farm vet, Gavin Tait juggles farming, a pedigree Aberdeen-Angus herd and family life with work as AB Europe's hands-on lead managing its InVitro embryo Production (IVP) system.

His entry into the breed started when he attended Stirling bull sales in 2006 with his father. He says: "I'd always fancied a few pedigree cows, and my father, Robert and I went to Stirling to buy a bull in 2006 for our 120-cow commercial suckler herd. We didn't come home with a bull; however, we did buy a few females - both in calf with calves at foot." From here, the Raethorn herd was established.

"My objective continues, as for the last 15 years, for consistency amongst the herd - efficient maternal cattle with good feet, legs and udders, a 650-750kg moderate-sized cow with calving ease, ability to calve at two and an essential quiet temperament.

"I'm aiming to breed quality cattle which I perceive the market needs; I'm always trying to work three to five years ahead, selecting genetics which will fit future farming systems," he explains. "Whilst in the long term I'd like to sell to the pedigree sector, I'm finding a significant demand for bulls from commercial producers all at the farm gate. They buy bulls, frequently with the option in mind to breed their own females."

Raethorn's initial foundation lines came predominantly from Cheeklaw, Wedderlie and Kitewood. To widen the gene pool, Gavin introduced genetics from Canada and Australia. I initially invested in many female lines, but some have come to the forefront, including the Gammer Eulannes, Diamond Mists, Edwinas, Bluebirds, Flowers and Frances families. Acquiring a good cow and putting her into an IVP programme that produces embryos from unfertilised eggs is a fantastic way to rapidly multiply up the female line in a shorter time frame than conventional methods.

"Collections can be performed every two weeks, and IVP is more consistent than flushing. The process is relatively non-invasive and requires just four hormone injections. It is possible to collect from heifers as young as seven months and pregnant donors up to 12 weeks of

gestation, and I like the fact breeders can tailor the sire to the quantity and quality of eggs collected on one day. For example, one straw can be used to cover all the eggs from five cows, or 30 eggs from one cow can be split three ways to three different sires."

The 'day job' with AB Europe has provided Gavin first-hand with the tools to help build up Raethorn and experiment with different sires. "More importantly, the job has also enabled me to do what I really enjoy - working with pedigree breeders from the major beef breeds; whilst it's taken time to build the business, we receive a lot of positive feedback, particularly when IVP offspring from our system excel in the show and sales rings.

"For me, the real satisfaction comes from building up relationships of trust from achieving good results. For example, I'm seeing cows come to our livery, which have previously been flushed numerous times to achieve zero embryos switch to our IVP system and make excellent productive donors."

Gavin qualified over two decades ago and practiced as a mixed vet for 10 years whilst running the family's three farms. After further training and taking some interest in ET, he set up his own business and shortly afterwards, in 2012, was invited to join AB Europe.

2015 marked a tipping point where the Tait family agreed a succession plan; Gavin took on Thorneydykes, at Westruther, one of the three family farms, whilst he also took the lead to develop and launch IVP into the UK marketplace for AB Europe, an exciting position he regarded as a fantastic opportunity.

"It came as a huge opportunity to develop something cutting edge, whilst providing me with the flexibility to combine with farming - turning a marginal unit in to a business, and family home, and a livery for IVP donors."

Nowadays, Andrew Park and John Connell work with Gavin at Westruther. Clive Knox manages another unit for up to 150 recipients at Humebyres, Kelso. Last but by no means least, Gavin's wife, Julia, helps to manage both the farm and breeding business." Yes, life is busy, it's a challenge, but one I wouldn't swap for any other."



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How a Shetland farmer is achieving outwintering success by careful breeding and grazing

Transport costs of £1,500 per artic load to the Shetland Isles makes the use of home-grown forage a key aim for beef farmer Jamie Leslie of Scholland Farm, breeding cows suitable for grazing outside for nine months of the year.

Jamie and his family run a herd of 90 Aberdeen-Angus suckler cows alongside a flock of 1,000 April lambing ewes across 350 hectares.

Cattle are either kept for breeding or finished on farm to supply Sound Butchers in Lerwick. Lambs are finished while the grass is available or sold as stores.

Over the last few years, Jamie has been using budgeting software Farmax to plan and model the farm. Winter housing was identified as one of the main drains on costs, leading Jamie to minimise the time cattle spend inside.

The spring calving herd is now only housed for six to eight weeks at calving, spending the remainder of the year outside grazing or being fed conserved forage.

BREEDING THE RIGHT COW

Jamie is proud that he can run his herd outside on a farm so far north for nine months of the year.

To enable this, a strict selection policy is in place for breeding stock. Bulls are selected for positive fat and intra muscular fat (IMF) with a lower mature cow weight to give a cow that is easy fleshing, with a decent level of IMF, and not too big.

The herd has also been selected for fertility, with replacement heifers given six weeks with the bull and mature cows nine weeks.

Calving starts in March, with Jamie aware he is calving too early in relation to grass growth in Shetland. However, with his wish to supply the butcher year-round, calving at this point gives him the ability to have 15 – 16-month-old grass-finished steers available from July the following year.

GRASS MANAGEMENT

After calving, the cows and calves are turned out onto sand dunes in early April, where they graze until in-by grass growth starts, usually in the first week of May. Through May, Jamie runs the cows on a rotational grazing system.

Ewes and lambs are also brought into the rotation at the beginning of June and grazed on a leader-follower system with the cows. This means the ewes graze each paddock for two days, giving them the best grass and driving their lactation. The cows and calves follow the sheep by grazing the remainder of the grass over the following two days. Jamie says: "We've found this system to be worth 2kg per lamb at weaning and it has no ill affect on the cows."

This system remains in place until early August when the lambs are weaned. From then on, the cows and calves are on a rotation by themselves, with the lambs on silage aftermaths and the ewes on rough grazing.

OUTWINTERING BENEFITS

This means the calves have access to better quality grazing as they start to transition from their mother's milk to a complete grass diet. They stay on this rotation until weaning in mid-October.

At weaning, cows move to grass that has been deferred over the summer and will stay out until early February. First calvers and in calf heifers also have access to hay and silage.

By outwintering the cows, Jamie has calculated he is saving £98 per cow, with winter cost control being pivotal to the cattle making a profit.

Jamie's selection for positive fat means cows are around condition score 4 at weaning time. This gives them a reserve over winter.

Calves are weaned and split into steer and heifer groups, with the heifers housed and the steers outwintered. Weaning weights averaged 277kg this year (2021), with no creep.

Heifers are fed grass silage and 1.5 – 2kg of home-grown barley, depending on silage analysis until late February, when they are transitioned to silage only. This helps their gut adapt, ready for turnout.

Steers are outwintered on fodder beet and good grass silage. Last winter saw them growing at 0.6kg a day. However, with a few tweaks, Jamie is targeting 0.75kg a day this winter.

Fodder beet is a crop that is a relatively new crop to Scholland Fam. Being a light land farm with pure sand, Jamie has successfully directly drilled fodder beet into sprayed off grassland with a Moore Unidrill. One-third of the field is in Italian Ryegrass, hopefully reducing the amount of silage required and further reducing wintering costs.

The cost of outwintering is half the cost of feeding barley and silage. This is before taking into account machinery, labour and shed costs.

While a 0.75kg a day growth rate may not seem exciting to most, Jamie finds this sets the calves up to perform the following summer. The key with winter is to grow frame. In 2021, some yearling steers were housed, and the remainder had come from beet. Once they were all back out to grass, those that had wintered on beet peaked at a 1.98kg/day growth rate in June and July, 0.5kg a day higher than the housed steers. As Jamie says, "A bite of good green grass is great!"

MARKETING OF MEAT

With growth rates like this and the butcher targeting a 310kg carcass, Jamie can get the first of his steers away in July around 16 months old. Calves are then marketed from grass through until October, when grass quality starts to drop. However, cattle growth rates at this time of year are still running at around 1.1 – 1.2kg a day.

Jamie's relationship with Sound Butchers in Lerwick is relatively new. The butcher shop is supplied with an average of two to three cattle per week throughout the year. Cattle are drawn at home on a semi regular basis with three – four weeks of cattle earmarked at each weighing to save having to handle and stress the cattle too often. The abattoir is a 25-mile journey across the island and it runs for one to two days per week.

After the carcasses have hung for two weeks, they are broken down into primals and the high-value cuts are aged on the bone for a further two weeks before making their way to the butcher's shop. While 310kg is the target, the butcher will accept a range of between 290kg and 330kg, with the key focus of putting a decent thickness sirloin steak into the shop at £7.

At the current demand rate from the butcher, Jamie cannot supply all from his herd and buys in more cattle to fill the gaps. This year, 40 Aberdeen- Angus stores were purchased from Willie Harcus at Quanterness in Orkney for Jamie to finish. He will also add some out of the store ring in Lerwick market.

- 350 HA UNIT
- 90 HA OF DUNES
- 15 HA OF ARABLE CROPPING
- 22 HA OF FORAGE CROPS
- REMAINDER IN GRASS
- 90 ABERDEEN-ANGUS SUCKLER COWS
- 1,000 LLEYN, ROMNEY AND TEXEL EWES

THE FUTURE IS FOLIAR

Since 2018, Jamie has been running on-farm trials looking at crop nutrition and reducing overall nitrogen rates on the farm through foliar feeding of crops instead of granular nitrogen.

Foliar feeding is different from existing liquid fertiliser practices. It doesn't need to enter the soil, make its way to the root, be assimilated into the plant, and finally reach the leaf where it needs to work. Instead, a liquid fertiliser and humate blend is sprayed onto the plant at either end of the day, and the plant draws the nutrients in through the leaf. Due to the direct nature of entry to the plant, the nutrients are used more effectively. Trial data across Europe shows a nitrogen response rate of between double and quadruple over granular fertiliser, depending on the crop and conditions, with the nitrogen being into the plant within an hour.

After honing the system over the last three years, Jamie has found a formula working for him. He currently dissolves 80kg of Yara Amidas in a 200-litre barrel of water and adds a humate carbon source to the mix. This is then diluted with water to give a sufficient mix to spray across 4 hectares (10 acres) at a time with 8kg of nitrogen per hectare. However, due to the previously mentioned response rate, this is like spreading around 250kg of the Amidas granules on the soil surface.

To date, Jamie has trialled the system with grass, spring barley and fodder beet, all with success. So far, he has grown an 8 tonne per hectare crop of spring barley using only 55kg per hectare of nitrogen, a near halving of the farm standard of 100kg per hectare.

This season on the grassland, he aims to grow two cuts of silage using 1500 gallons/acre of slurry coupled with two foliar nitrogen applications per cut. This should see nitrogen use reduced by 25% for silage.

Grazed grass will also get the same application rate. Trials using foliar nitrogen have shown a 28% increase in the energy yield per hectare and a 34% increase in crude protein in tissue samples.

He says the secret to success is to go little and often. Each application is only adding 8kg per hectare of nitrogen, but the response is to be seen. However, while the use of the solid product is being reduced, Jamie believes he will continue to use some, as the lower volume applications with the foliar feeding mean a lot more work if he is to achieve the same result.

The intention is to find a sweet spot between the two product types to target a 25% reduction in nitrogen fertiliser rates across the farm next year and reduce further in the years to come.



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Thank you to all purchasers at our first ever production sale. We were delighted with how it went, breaking a personal female record for the Tonley herd

Tonley Princess V676
 Sold for 20,000gns
 to A & J Adam, Newhouse



Tonley Rosalind US81
 Sold for 14,000gns & her bull calf **Tonley Ronald X800** sold for 7000gns, both going to Brailes Livestock

Tonley Elma N961
 Sold for 3500gns to the Blacksmith herd. Her bull calf **Tonley Elma X805** sold for 5500gns to Hallington, Saville & Thrunton herds. Elma's half sister held our previous female sale record



Tonley Ester N920 & her heifer calf **Tonley Ester X811** sold for a combined total of 7800gns



Tonley Ester W786



Tonley King Pato X812



Overall Calf Champion @ AgriExpo '21

Overall Champion @ AgriExpo '21 & Reserve Senior Champion @ Stars of The Future '21

Angus genetics the secret to farming without support

Utilising the easy fleshing nature of Aberdeen-Angus genetics is one of the main profit drivers at Upper Lanham Farm in Hampshire.

Home to Philip Tickner and his family, the 445ha (1,100 acre) mixed farm fattens around 800 native cattle a year, mostly Aberdeen-Angus.

The farm aims to return a profit without subsidies. This has enabled them to invest the extra money from support payments in infrastructure around the farm.

Philip says: "This means as we now move into a post-EU world with lower levels of support, the business is at a position where it can stand on its own two feet without support for the foreseeable future."

Their formula for success centres on finishing mostly Aberdeen-Angus cross dairy calves, mainly on rough grazing. Around two-thirds of the cattle are Aberdeen-Angus cross dairy calves sourced locally, with the remainder being suckler bred yearlings.

The number of cattle finished has reduced due to fewer dairy farms operating in the local area in recent years. Philip is also finding the price of suckler bred stores does not always leave enough margin for him to turn a profit.

Dairy calves are sourced at around 12 weeks old once they have been weaned. This means they receive calves that are ready to start growing.

Calves are drawn in both spring and autumn to keep a semi-level supply profile throughout the year. However, autumn born calves are not strong enough to go to grass into winter, so they come home and are introduced to a total mixed ration (TMR) of grass silage, straw, barley, rapeseed meal and straw for their first winter.

Spring born calves go straight to grass due to the better weather. Cattle are then grazed for the summer.

Cattle are marketed through Farm Mark, with the majority heading to Dunbia at Cardington in Bedfordshire. Suckler bred steer carcasses generally achieve 370 – 380 kg while dairy bred are nearer 350 – 360kg. Due to most being dairy bred, grading would average O+4L. While this does not deliver the same carcass value as an E or U grade, the cattle don't cost as much to buy and better fit the required retail specification.

Heifers generally average nearer 320kg. One issue they face is that they can go fat too early, reducing potential carcass weights. However, grazing them out gives them time to grow to a better potential.

Philip rents around 202ha (500 acres) of poorer grassland alongside his own 40ha (100 acres) of rough grazing around the farm. While the grass quality from this land and management type is not the greatest, this is reflected in Philip's rents.

However, Aberdeen-Angus genetics are ideally suited to make the most from the poorer grazing by turning it into high-quality protein. With native thrift and easy fleshing nature, they cope well with growing on poorer quality grass.

Weather permitting, Philip targets a three-month winter for the cattle to minimise costs. In recent years he has outwintered batches of cattle on stubble turnips. Some of the yearling Aberdeen-Angus cross dairy cattle graze these crops through the first half of winter, along with silage or hay and straw. This leads to a significant reduction in wintering costs.

By outwintering, Philip aims to maximise the compensatory gain for the cattle once they return to grass the following spring. While they are losing out on growth through the winter, the increased growth rates from cheap, high-quality spring grass make up for it.

The suckler bred yearlings are purchased from several longer-term local suppliers, with most being herds of between 20 and 40 cows. To take advantage of what the Aberdeen-Angus has to offer him, Philip has encouraged his suppliers to use Aberdeen-Angus bulls over a number of years. He can see this coming through now as many of the calves are at least three-quarters Aberdeen-Angus.

Some cattle are killed from grass as they come ready, but again, due to the grassland's poorer nature, most need to go on to a TMR to get the required fat cover. The TMR consists of homegrown rolled barley and maize silage. This provides a good starchy mix that puts a decent fat cover on in a relatively short time before the cattle are sent for slaughter.

FARM FACTS

- Fattening around 800 native cattle a year
- 445ha (1,100 acres). This is split into 162ha (400 acres) of arable, 40.5ha (100 acres) of contract farmed arable, and the remained owned and rented grassland.
- A lot of the grassland is rough grazing due to farming in a dense arable area.

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 Paragon Advanced Breeding

Accelerating herd improvement using ET and IVF

A guide to advanced breeding techniques from Paragon Advanced Breeding, one of the UK's leading bovine Embryo Transfer and IVF companies.

Veterinary science is continually advancing and offers farmers the ability to improve herd genetics more rapidly.

There are two highly effective techniques: Multiple ovulation embryo transfer (MOET) and in vitro fertilisation (IVF).

The advanced breeding revolution started in the 1980s when MOET, or 'flushing', became established as a technique.

Now the best IVF teams are accelerating herd improvement further, giving farmers the ability to reproduce high value genetics and desirable traits even more rapidly.

Selected female donors are now able to produce many more offspring each year, and use of the best sires ensures the genetic quality of the calves born.

MOET

This is a tried and trusted technique used by many farmers since it became established in the 1980s.

The donor cow is given numerous injections of follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) to encourage the ovulation of multiple eggs and is then inseminated, usually by AI, or by natural service.

Seven days after service, the embryos are flushed from the cow through a catheter inserted into each horn of the uterus, under epidural anaesthesia. Any viable embryos recovered can be transferred directly into recipient cows, or frozen for future use. This is typically carried out on farm.

Frozen embryos can produce calves even after decades of storage in liquid nitrogen.

At Paragon, on average around five transferrable embryos are produced per collection. The average pregnancy rate with fresh MOET embryos is 60-70%, and 50-60% for frozen.

IVF

Paragon was at the forefront of pioneering cattle IVF in the UK in the nineties, and has made the service available in the last 10 years.

Initially, IVF was used on problem breeders but today it is a mainstream tool for both beef and dairy herd improvement.

To obtain the best results, the donor is given low levels of Follicle Stimulating Hormone following the removal of any large follicles (fluid-filled structures in the ovary containing early-stage eggs which are known as oocytes).

This process of removing large follicles is called dominant follicle removal (DFR) and allows the next wave of oocytes to develop as a group with the same level of development, rather than trying to work with one or two advanced oocytes, and a number of degenerating ones. At Paragon we find this method of stimulating donors with FSH produces more, and better quality, embryos, with better pregnancy success, than a non-stimulated collection.

Once the new wave of oocytes has come forward, the developmentally-competent ones are collected in a procedure known as ovum pick-up (OPU).

OPU is undertaken by carefully inserting a needle into each follicle in turn, guided by ultrasound, through the vaginal wall, to recover the oocytes. This is done under standing epidural, and is complete within around 10 minutes.

The recovered oocytes are incubated overnight before being fertilised and cultured for a week. After seven days the resultant embryos can then be transferred fresh into recipients or frozen for future use.

Paragon uses dedicated facilities for IVF to achieve the highest success rates. They have specially designed temperature-controlled collection facilities to maximise oocyte competence, as early-stage eggs are sensitive to temperature changes. They also have a laboratory manned by highly experienced staff, solely devoted to IVF embryo production and research for future developments.

Success rates have improved as the technique has been perfected in the UK and Paragon's experienced IVF team is now averaging six embryos per collection. In some cases, results can be very much higher. Recently, the team produced 45 grade one embryos from a single collection from a quality cow, fertilised by three different sires, giving the farmer many options to improve his own herd as well as to sell desirable genetics.

Oocytes can be collected from heifers as young as seven months of age. The embryos produced from these can be transferred into older animals, with those calves born before the genetic mother has her own calf on the ground. Collections can also be made from animals in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. IVF also allows a farmer to use different sires on oocytes from a single collection where appropriate, and collections can be undertaken fortnightly.

IVF can also be useful for some problem breeders where flushing has been unsuccessful, for example those with blocked oviducts, or which respond well to stimulation, but produce unfertilised ova.

Transferring IVF embryos fresh, rather than freezing them, gets the best results. The conception rate for frozen IVF embryos is around 45-50%, rising to approximately 55-60% with fresh transfers.

Fresh transfers require forward planning, so that production of embryos from the donor cow and readiness of recipient animals are coordinated. Recipients need the embryo to be implanted seven days post-heat.

Preparations for recipients include selecting suitable animals, feeding and management, and synchronisation of their reproductive cycles. Close scrutiny of recipient animals for standing heat, and the exact timing of oestrus is critical to achieve good results.

Paragon Advanced Breeding is based at Newbiggin near Penrith, Cumbria.

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Angus becomes successful part of Marshall family's beef enterprise

Kenneth and Moira Marshall and their daughters, Christine, Julie and Shona, run a 450 head suckler cow herd and 1,000 ewe flock on their 1,012ha (2,500 acre) farm in Aberdeenshire. Over the years, the herd has been run as a fully commercial herd with mainly Simmental breeding alongside the introduction of the Luining within the past four to five years.

The family established an Aberdeen-Angus herd in 2020, purchasing 40 foundation females from the Simpson Family's Parbroath herd in Fife. They made a trip to see Geordie Soutar MBE and purchased Dunlouse Newman as their first stock bull to go along with them. In 2021 a further 60 heifers were purchased to grow the herd further. Some again came from Parbroath, with the remainder coming from the Guest family's Drumphin herd in Perthshire. They also purchased a further three bulls, this time all from HW Angus.

Now at 100 Aberdeen-Angus, including a few pedigree registered cattle, they tick the family's business boxes. Ease of management has been a key, and in February last year, they calved their first 40 heifers with 0% assistance required. Using both the Aberdeen-Angus and Luining bulls on their 24-month heifers provides easier calving and allows the heifers to continue growing beyond two years old whilst rearing their first calf with no checks.

Due to the large number of cows calving each year, heifers are calved inside in February/March, with the mature

cows calving outside in April and May, leading to far easier management.

The longer-term plan for the herd is to head towards easier kept cattle with low maintenance, good vigour, easy fleshing and good weaning weight percentages.

Shona says: "We focus on cows with good maternal attributes, including great milking ability. We are aiming to have our calves at a finishing 300kg carcass weight.

"With cereal and fertiliser prices on a steep rise, the less concentrates and more natural home-grown feed, the better for us as a business. Our annual costings displayed that we can feed three native cows to every two Simmental as we have seen feeding costs being a third less for our native bred animals," she adds.

In addition, using the world's renowned premier beef breed for retailing in their newly expanded farm shop was a big win for them. There is a strong and growing demand for high-quality output and the brand commands a premium price.

"Due to promoting our home-reared meat in the shop, we are now developing a butchery counter, so by February this year, everything will be prepared on site. Our hope would be for all our Aberdeen-Angus calves to be marketed through the butchery to allow us to sell directly to our end consumers instead of selling to large scale retailers through large scale processors," she says.

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Management, genetics and nutrition all play their part in sustainable pedigree units

When it comes to turning out top quality stock, genetics, management and nutrition are all required in equal measures.

Aberdeen-Angus stockmen and women are some of the best in the business, well respected for their expert stockmanship and ability to turn out exceptional stock for both shows and sales. Couple that with a pool of increasing quality genetics to choose from, it just leaves the nutrition. This is where we at Harbro come in.

Anyone can get cattle fat. You just give them more starch.

However, to do the animals justice, we need to look beyond big, fat cattle in the sale ring and think about supplying prospective buyers with what they are really searching for; fit and healthy animals which are efficient, fertile and will last.

There is no silver bullet to improving on-farm environmental credentials and sometimes we can be inclined to think 'what's in it for me?' when asked to make changes – it is human nature! It is well accepted that any improvement which is positive environmentally, also has a positive effect on enterprise profitability, which is the ultimate goal whether producing commercial or pedigree stock.

As an example of an easy way to improve environmental credentials and profitability simultaneously, consider calf creep feeding:

As soon as a calf starts to grow, feed efficiency begins to reduce, simply because a bigger body size results in higher maintenance requirements. For example, a calf is likely to need only 90kg concentrate to gain 30kg liveweight, while an older animal could eat 280kg concentrate to gain the same 30kg.

This means we should take advantage of this inbuilt high feed efficiency, to maximise liveweight gain early and minimise cost per kilo gain. This will improve calf quality, weaning weights and overall enterprise profitability.

As well as increasing feed efficiency, creep feeding improves rumen development. This sets them up for life, whether joining the breeding herd or being fed in preparation for shows and sales.

There are four factors which should be considered when feeding pedigree animals:

1. Health - fundamentally, animals need to be healthy if they are to perform and maximise their genetic potential.
2. Immunity. A robust immune system ensures animals fight infection and repair damaged tissue
3. Fertility. Male and females must be fed to promote fertility and prolificacy. Infertility is a waste of animals and resources
4. Longevity. Rearing replacements has a financial and environmental impact, therefore animals need to last a long time

Last year, we launched the Stockman's Choice range of pedigree cattle feed, which holds health, immunity, fertility and longevity as core values to promote sustainability and profitability. The range is quickly growing in popularity and we were delighted to see so many customers doing exceptionally well at shows and sales this year.

The range was developed by combining years of experience in the pedigree world with technology and innovation. It was informed by working closely with our nutritional partners, leading producers as well as academic institutions, including Glasgow Vet School to ensure both a holistic view as well as the quality of our advice.

Stockman's Choice was formulated using a carefully selected range of sustainably sourced, quality raw materials with key additives included to promote feed efficiency, health and performance. To give you a flavour, key additives include:

- Rumitech, which is a Carbon Trust assured additive proven to reduce methane emissions, while also increasing feed conversion ratio. A trial carried out with young bulls fed Rumitech, showed an increase in loin eye muscle area.
- Rumi Defence, which has antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties. It enhances immunity and improves the function of vital organs such as the liver, which is undoubtedly under pressure with performance expected of these animals.
- Maxammon, which is an alkaline grain treatment, meaning pH and protein level of the cereal have been increased, allowing higher cereal inclusion more safely. Improving rumen health also reduces the risk of acidosis and laminitis.

The final piece which pulls the range together, is the advice and support which comes from our team. We have a pedigree team with a vast range of experience on hand to tailor nutrition plans to meet performance targets, to allow stock to be turned out to the highest standards.

We would love to speak to you about how a Stockman's Choice nutrition plan would complement your management and genetics. Please get in touch.

Wishing all Aberdeen-Angus breeders a successful and sustainable 2022!

Jill Hunter – Harbro Beef & Sheep Nutritionist



Aberdeen-Angus, the perfect tool for a rotational system



With three generations working on the same family farm, there are bound to be some differing opinions. However, at Woodside farm in Morayshire, there is one thing they agree entirely on - Aberdeen-Angus cattle. Having tested the water with other breeds over the years, Andrew Rhind and his family chose the famous black breed to support their growing business in a seven-year rotational system.

The benefits of a native breed such as Aberdeen-Angus are numerous, but the one trait which struck a chord with the Rhind family was the ease with which the cattle adapt to any environment.

“One of the main benefits of the Aberdeen-Angus breed is that they are keen to flesh, on a mostly grass diet,” says Andrew, who’s family have farmed for over 100 years, running 140 head of cattle with followers.

“Grass is, after all, one of the cheapest sources of food for our cattle. Plus, you’re in control of the cost of your input, which is the easiest way to keep your herd profitable.”

But why did they turn to the Aberdeen-Angus breed in the first place, when they began their farming venture in the late seventies? “Seed potatoes are our farm’s primary enterprise, and we’re doing other projects as well as cattle, so we needed something that was easy care and looks after itself.”

For the Rhind’s, the cows are part of the bigger circular structure of the farm, even when housed.

“We grow barley, so we have straw for housing, and we use the manure to spread onto the fields, which protects our soil structure. It’s all about making sure each component of the farm works in unison to benefit one another. Nothing is grown, reared or produced for the sake of it.”

SEVEN-YEAR ROTATION

Andrew explains there is a strict seven-year cropping rotation, comprising of potatoes and grass lays.

“Every seven years, we put down potatoes, then it’s down on grass for three years of that seven. Young grass is vital

for young cattle to thrive, which is one of the main reasons we operate the seven-year system. The benefits for the rest of the farm are endless.”

The herd are turned out at the end of April once the weather is fine and the grass has a good hold.

“We try to keep our young cattle on fresh, good grass that’s growing all the time. With a cow and calf to the acre, the fields are split in two, with one half grazing and the other silage, cut in early June, then left to regrow. The cattle spend their time going back and forth between sides, fertilising and compounding the soil structure as they go.

“Followers are run at three to four per acre on clean, first-year grass, then moved onto the silage fields after the first cut. We’ve found this method also improves herd health exponentially and reduces the need for wormers. Once a calf comes off its mother, it’s wormed once more, then it will never see a wormer again,” he notes.

“Ours is not an intensive grazing system – we’re not shifting everyone every three days. It’s more like every 10 days, and we include a lot of clover, which establishes quickly even in a hard year. This is a great source of nutrients and protein for the cattle and enables them to flesh up on grass rather than relying on extra cereals, which would ultimately increase the feed bill.”

PROTECTING THE SOIL INTEGRITY

“We’re not a hill farm, like others where native breeds are grazed. A lot of folk think we’re mad for doing it, but we see the benefits of our system year in, year out. The cattle may not make the same profit per acre like a crop of seed potatoes do, but you can’t take away the benefits to the soil and improvement in the quality of what we grow because of them. Their inclusion in the rotation ensures we can take away a maximum profit per acre growing seed potatoes.

“We’re trying, to an extent, to bring back the old ways of farming,” says Andrew. “We’re letting the earthworms do their part and trying to use manure to fertilise as much of the acreage as we can, letting nature work its magic.

“I don’t think you have to do anything spectacular to improve nature. What you must do is look after your soil, give it a better body, so when you go to plough it up, you’ve got a better root structure to ensure it lasts for the next three years.”

He reiterates there is a strong emphasis and focus on putting health and vigour back into our soils.

“This is key in the seed potato business, with PCN and disease build-up prevalent. Through growing vegetables and potatoes with de-stoners, harvesters and big heavy trailers, it’s death on the structure of your soil, so three years of a cow compressing the ground with its hooves and naturally fertilising, is giving the soil back what we’ve taken out for four years. We’re giving everything a chance.

“Some say that grass seed is very expensive – it’s not expensive in comparison to wormers and antibiotics. You turn Aberdeen-Angus out on fresh grass and they feed themselves.”

THE FARM SHOP – KEEPING IT LOCAL

In the heart of the Rhind’s family farm is the farm shop, designed to put customers right in the action.

“When customers are walking around, they’re part of the experience”, says Andrew. “They can see the cattle – the mothers and their calves, so they can understand what it’s all about and what the cattle have done for the environment.

“We don’t sell into the wholesale market, as we prefer to sell the entire beast, not pick and choose our cuts. By finishing our cattle on grass and ensuring the entire slaughter process stays local, we are not only reducing the carbon footprint of our meat, but also educating those who purchase it about the benefits of shopping local.”



FARM STATS

- 140 breeding cattle and all followers
- 89ha (220-acre) seed potatoes
- 50.6ha (125-acre) winter rye
- 222.6ha (550-acre) spring crops
- 24ha (60-acre) winter wheat
- 103ha (255-acre) grass split between cows and small scale AD Plant
- 20ha (50-acre) fallow grass which is baled and fed to the cows in the backend when the grass starts to tale off
- A farm shop opened in 1977 with a coffee shop and play area, added on in 2006
- 200kw AD Plant 200kw produces enough electricity for the farm and some to sell

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Strong Angus performance sees Welsh farmer go ‘all black’

Farming 162ha (400 acres) between 1300 and 1500 feet above sea level, David Burles and his daughter Melissa say Aberdeen-Angus fits the bill for them at Gelligoediog Farm near Blackwood in Gwent.

Around 40 years ago, David established a commercial suckler herd of mixed breeds on what would have traditionally been a sheep-only farm. Over time, the herd has evolved, but the real turning point came when they purchased an Aberdeen-Angus bull from the Thomas's Penrhiw herd.

They were surprised with how easily calves were born, coupled with their early vigour once they were born. Not just that, the calves were hardy and went on to perform well on the hill, coming in with decent weaning weights.

As the market demanded more Aberdeen-Angus calves, the family decided to have Aberdeen-Angus sires and Aberdeen-Angus dams. Two visits to the James family's Glasnant herd saw them come home with 15 cows and in-calf heifers. Through retaining heifers, the family now has 25 pure Aberdeen-Angus cows with a longer-term vision of growing to perhaps 35 cows.

Wanting to grow the quantity of beef produced from the farm, David has now moved into rearing dairy beef calves. And with his existing experience of Aberdeen-Angus genetics, there is only one choice of sire. "The Aberdeen-Angus calves are as tough as can be and are doing ever so well. We tried other dairy crosses but have not had any success," he says.

Calves are sourced from a housed dairy herd that calves all year round. This gives the business a constant supply of calves and means they have a regular cash flow with cattle sold frequently.

Calves arrive at around a week old, and the family takes them through the milk phase before weaning them and starting to grow them out. In autumn, they look at the cattle running on the unit, and if calves are strong enough, they are outwintered. This leads to a cost-saving for the business and means that come the following spring, when the calves go back to good grass, growth rates take advantage of compensatory gain.

Calves are sold around 15-17 months old through Monmouthshire Livestock Auctioneers at Raglan. They have also sold a couple of the pedigree bulls through Raglan.

David notes that he is the only Aberdeen-Angus producer in his area; his neighbours have Welsh Black, Hereford and British Blue cattle. "I am so proud of my Aberdeen-Angus cows and they get the roadside fields, so everyone can see them as they come into the farm!"

With a good few years breeding behind them now, they are looking to perhaps bring some of the male calves out as bulls. Two were kept entire last year and David comments one is "quite exceptional". They will see how they develop over time.



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Rugby star swaps boots for wellies as he sets up Aberdeen-Angus herd



Irish rugby star Rory Best has swapped his rugby boots for wellies as he retires from the sport to focus on his herd of Aberdeen-Angus. The Society spoke to him about his plans for the 'all black' herd.

In 2009, a bad neck injury sustained from rugby saw British Lion, Irish and Ulster rugby star Rory Best focus on a 'plan B' for his career, turning his attention to the beef herd on his family's farm in Poyntzpass, Co. Armagh.

At the time, the 486ha (1,200 acre) predominately arable farm was home to a herd of pedigree Simmental cows, which he crossed with a British Blue bull.

However, with Rory's attention turning to cow efficiency and making premiums from the beef they produced, they decided to set up an Aberdeen-Angus herd.

Angus stock bull Logie Lustre is Loughans herd patriarch, purchased from Stirling in 2007. Two cows were bought from Dungannon in 2009, followed by an additional five heifers at Goulding Aberdeen Angus production sale in the same year.

The Loughans herd is now home to 60 spring calving pedigree Aberdeen-Angus females and two Highland cows, with their biggest market coming from the supply of Angus bulls onto dairy farms. Out of the 18-20 bulls they have for sale a year, most would be sold onto dairy farms.

Heifers not retained (about ten kept a year) are sold to local suckler herds, and any progeny not making the breeding grade are finished and sold to Dunbia, averaging 600kg liveweight (270-300kg deadweight) at 14-16 months old.

BREEDING FOCUS

Breeding suitable stock for their market is paramount, with EBVs very much at the heart of their decisions. They want easy calving, easy fleshing animals that can grow at least 1kgs a day at grass.

They focus on positive EBVs for calving ease (minimum +0.5), with minimum 400- and 600-day growth rate EBVs being at least +80 and +100 respectively, a milk EBV of +15. Producing an eye muscle of the right size (minimum EBV of +5) is also essential, so they are not focussing on extreme animals.

Performance recording is paramount as Rory strives to produce what the market wants and be efficient. Every

calf is weighed at birth and then every 100 days. He says: "It's becoming increasingly important we try and find the most efficient animals in the herd from both a business and environmental point of view.

"If we can get calves to grow as quickly as possible from less food, this is a quick win for the environment as they get off the farm faster and are producing less methane.

"We aim to wean calves at half the bodyweight of their dam at 6-7 months old," he adds.

All cows and heifers are EID tagged, aiding data recording. The plan is to use the Beef Sensehub EID system to monitor breeding activity with the possibility of health monitoring in the future.

The Best's opted for the Angus as a breed due to the meat premiums and the increasing demand for the progeny from the dairy side.

To grow the herd and inject the best genetics they can into their stock, they have been using AI.

Some of the prominent sires include Rawburn Jumbo Eric, Gear Blue Moon and Netherton Americano. The conception rates are averaging about 50% from AI after being synchronised, aiming for all stock to calve down in March and April.

MANAGEMENT

Getting the most from grass is vital for Rory. Out of the 486ha they own, about 80.9ha (200 acres) are for grazing. Stock are rotationally grazed throughout the spring, summer and early autumn with the aim to turn out by St. Patrick's Day, just after calving, and graze until Halloween.

Before housing in the autumn, calves are creep fed in the field, making the weaning process easier. Cows are moved indoors slightly earlier than calves, and once inside, all stock are fed a TMR of straw, silage and some concentrates. Rory adds: "This year, we are pulling the cows back a bit as they have been a bit too fit approaching calving. We generally don't have any problems with calving, assisting maybe one or two a year."

FARM FACTS

- 60 Aberdeen-Angus cows and two Highland cows.
- 486ha, 80.9ha of which is grassland and the remainder arable.
- Rory manages the cattle with his dad, John. Brother Simon, works on the arable side.
- Selling breeding bulls to dairy farmers, heifers to suckler herds and non-breeding stock are finished and sold to Dunbia.
- Named Arable Farm of the Year at the 2021 Farmers Weekly Awards.

Henry Duncan: 077200 76591

Thomas Peters: 077119 95420



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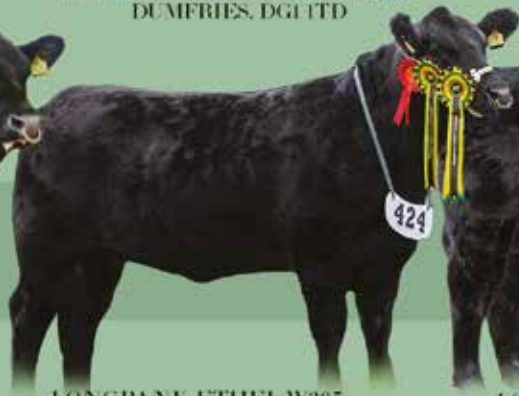
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Aberdeen Angus in Lincolnshire

Photo courtesy of Peter Baumber



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Farm manager refines beef system to secure its future

Since Farm Manager Hugo Comyn came to the 162ha (400 acres) Rycote Park Farm in Thame, Oxfordshire, in 2005, he set about refining the system to breed a cow that could utilise grass and ease management.

The herd of 90 breeding cows, of which 20 are native Aberdeen-Angus, was initially founded in 2001 with a draw of Glenbervie cows, with a smaller herd of Aberdeen-Angus started in 2008 with the purchase of an in-calf heifer from the Spooner herd.

Since Hugo's intervention, the focus has been on running a profitable business by breeding healthy cows, not feeding concentrates and making the most of grass. The herd is now certified all-grass-fed (by AGW).

When Hugo joined, John's was a problem, highlighted when the herd was signed on to a health plan. The decision was taken at the time to cull hard, with 15% of the herd removed.

In conjunction with improving health, the business also wanted to find cows working for a living, not piggybacking the creep feeder. As a result of selective breeding, the farm has not fed concentrates for over 12 years, enabling them to pick the best replacements for the system.

The herd's breeding policy expects a cow to:

- Have her first calf unaided at 24-months-old. Recently, Hugo has started to pelvic measure replacement heifers to maximise easy calving. Cow fertility is one of Hugo's key profit drivers.
- Get back in calf.
- Rear a calf with a growth rate over 1kg a day up to housing in November.
- Be long-living (10 years+).
- Thrive on a grass-based diet.
- Have a good temperament.
- Produce calves with a good birth weight, eye muscle area and growth rate.

Hugo says: "The type of cow we are breeding is fertile, easy calving, low maintenance, easy fleshing and can thrive on medium quality grass. They are never going to be the biggest cows or the fastest-growing ones in the breed, but they will be sustainably functional."

The agricultural industry is witnessing significant changes with the removal of the single farm payments and drive to net-zero. Hugo hopes he is breeding a herd that is more suited to a less energy-intensive farming system.

Hugo believes we will have to justify the impacts of livestock farming to the general public in the future. "It will be key to highlight the positive impact grazing animals can bring to the environment through carbon sequestration and improved biodiversity," he says.

Being an all-grass system, grassland management is key. "Through the use of rotational grazing, I try to keep a grazing wedge 6 to 7 weeks ahead of myself, so I can keep grazing for as long as possible. I am an advocate of high-density grazing over a short period, with a long recovery period."

An intensive shoot on the Estate means the grass can only be rotationally grazed until the start of the shooting season, when cattle are then set stocked. Supplementary silage is fed when required throughout winter.

Each year, the herd retains three or four young bulls. These are either used at home or sold to others for breeding. For a calf to earn a pedigree certificate at Rycote Park, it has to:

- Weigh less than 40 kg at birth (34 to 36kg being optimal).
- Be born unassisted.
- Grow on the dam at 1.2kg per day plus and look masculine.

"If I have to do more than dip a navel and stick some tags in, black marks get handed out," he adds.

FARM FACTS

- Farm area 162ha (80.9ha at Rycote Park, with the remainder, rented locally).
- Herd of 20 pedigree Aberdeen-Angus.
- Most rented ground is Higher Level Stewardship grassland.
- Grass growth is a challenge due to dry conditions (600mm of rain a year).
- Herd 100% grass-fed.



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Willie McLaren - Netherton



A VERY PERSONAL VIEW ON TWO CENTURIES OF CHANGE

Known to many people across the globe, Willie McLaren has been a part of the Aberdeen-Angus world for more than 80 years; his whole life from the age of six, when he had his Aberdeen-Angus scrapbook taken off him at school and went on strike until he had it returned!

His life both personal and business, has completely revolved around Aberdeen-Angus Cattle and for

many years his contacts around the globe have told him that he needs to document his life in Aberdeen-Angus in some way and preserve the processes and changes, good and bad that have influenced his breeding decisions over such a long period.

He has seen it all – big cattle through to small cattle through to big cattle again, and in this presentation, he maps his journey over the 80 years that he has

been involved. It's a personal documentation of the breeders, bulls and females, that in Willie's eyes have been key to influence the breeding decisions he made when developing and improving the world renowned Netherton Herd.

This is not a history, there are plenty of examples of that, although the lead into the years where he became very involved in Aberdeen-Angus, and the Society is a marvellous reference to the very beginnings of the breed, and is an excellent reference for anyone to use.

Willie also encompassed some help with this in the forms of three well known Aberdeen-Angus veterans, John Elliot Snr (Rawburn), former Breed Secretary Bob Anderson and Eddie Gillanders, former Assistant Breed Secretary and Editor of the Review for some 40 years, whose knowledge and inputs make this a fascinating resource and also, just to make sure the facts are correct!

This presentation is available through the Society and has a price tag of £15, with a generous donation to Willie's favoured charity from each copy sold, the Aberdeen-Angus Youth Development Programme.



The Presentation is held on a black leather and chrome USB stick in a presentation box and signed copies are available!

£15

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You can receive yours by ordering through the office by Emailing

robert@aberdeen-angus.co.uk

Aberdeen-Angus families quick guide

Official Initial(s) for Naming	Naming Rules	Annuity	Foundation Cow
A	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (A). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Annuity	Annuity 10975
B	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (B) but not the word (Black). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Bluebell of Easter Tulloch	Bluebell of Easter Tulloch 1027
Black	Animal must be named beginning with the word (BLACK). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Blackbird	Blackbird of Corskie 1704
C	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (C). A second name may be used beginning with any initial except (B).	Coquette	Coquette 1417
C.B.	Animal must be named two words beginning with the initials (C. B.). No other names may be added.	Cherry Blossom	Craigie 2nd of Strichen 5544
D	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (D). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Daffodil Duchess	Duchess of Westertown 927
E	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (E). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Erica	Erica 843
F	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (F). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Fanny of Kinnaird	Fanny of Kinnaird 330
G	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (G). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Gammer	Duchess of Hillhead 29616
H	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (H). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Heather Blossom	Heather Bell of Rothiemay 816
I	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (I).. A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Isabella of Morlich	Isabella of Morlich 2077
J	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (J). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Jilt	Jilt 973
J. Eric(a)	Animal must be named two words first name must begin with the initial (J) the second must be (ERIC) for males and (ERICA) for females. No other names may be added.	Juana Erica	Juana Erica 36285
K	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (K). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Kindness Pride	Kindness of Ballinalloch 1412
L	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (L). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Lucy of Portlethen	Lucy of Portlethen 287
Lord / Lady E	Animal must be named two words first name must be (LORD) for males and (LADY) for females. Second name must begin with the initial (E). No other names may be added.	Lady Elizabeth of The Manor	Lady Elizabeth of The Manor 7407

Official Initial(s) for Naming	Naming Rules	Annuity	Foundation Cow
Lord / Lady H	Animal must be named two words first name must be (LORD) for males and (LADY) for females. Second name must begin with the initial (H). No other names may be added.	Lady Haddo	Lady Haddo 2161
Lord / Lady I	Animal must be named two words first name must be (LORD) for males and (LADY) for females. Second name must begin with the initial (I). No other names may be added.	Lady Ida	Lady Ida 1021
Lord / Lady J	Animal must be named two words first name must be (LORD) for males and (LADY) for females. Second name must begin with the initial (J). No other names may be added.	Lady Jane of Blessington	Lady Jane of Blessington 5889
Lord / Lady M	Animal must be named two words first name must be (LORD) for males and (LADY) for females. Second name must begin with the initial (M). No other names may be added.	Lady of the Manor	Lady Mary of The Manor 9027
Lord / Lady T	Animal must be named two words first name must be (LORD) for males and (LADY) for females. Second name must begin with the initial (T). No other names may be added.	Lady Tawse	Lady Tawse 18265
M	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (M). A second name may be used beginning with any initial except (B) or (P).	Mayflower of Easter Tulloch	Mayflower of Easter Tulloch 3519
M.B.	Animal must be named two words beginning with the initials (M. B.). No other names may be added.	Miss Burgess	Miss Burgess 1198
M.P.	Animal must be named two words beginning with the initials (M. P.). No other names may be added.	Mabel Pride	Mabel 1801
N	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (N). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Norah of Lissadell	Nora of Lissadell 33788
P	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (P). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Pride of Aberdeen	Pride of Aberdeen 581
Q	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (Q). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Queen Mother	Queen Mother 348
R	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (R). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Ruth of Tillyfour	Ruth of Tillyfour 1169
S	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (S). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Stumpie	Stumpie 2297
V	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (V). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Vine Tillyfour	Vine of Tillyfour 1167
W	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (W). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Witch of Endor	Witch of Endor 2nd 6092 and Witch of Endor 3rd
Z	Animal must be named beginning with the initial (Z). A second name may be used beginning with any initial.	Zara	Zara 1228

N.B. ALL RED CALVES MUST HAVE 'RED' AFTER THE HERD NAME PREFIX AND BEFORE THE CALF NAME.



Premiums Paid For Prime Aberdeen Angus Cattle

For More Information
Contact

● **Foyle Gloucester**

Barry Evans

barrye@foylefoodgroup.com

+44 (0) 159482 9906

● **Foyle Campsie**

Robert King

robertk@foylefoodgroup.com

+44 (0) 28 7186 3271

● **Foyle Melton Mowbray**

Nathan Whites

nathanw@foylefoodgroup.com

+44 (0) 15098 81583

● **Foyle Omagh**

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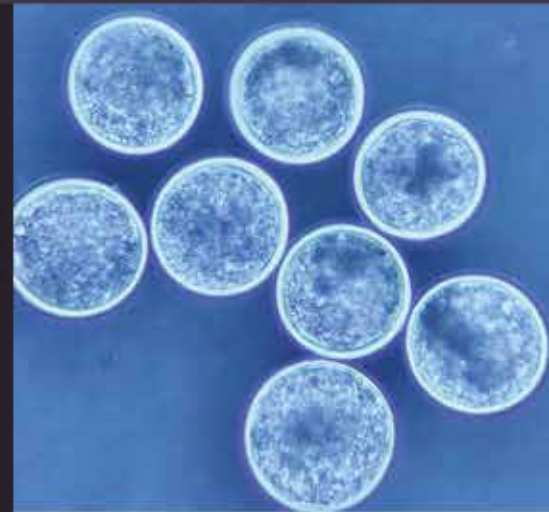
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Johne's and Neospora... a 21st century solution to loss of herd genetics

A diagnosis of Johne's or Neospora in a cow or heifer can be devastating as it often means the end of her breeding career. Tyndale Vets have been boarding these animals and producing disease free embryos by IVF for several years with great success. This article looks at practical control measures for these important diseases and suggests an option for infected animals.

JOHNE'S DISEASE

Johne's is probably the most challenging disease of cattle to control. Animals are infected many years before they test positive and can be infectious to other animals while still testing negative.

The cause is a hardy bacterium called *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *Paratuberculosis*, or thankfully MAP for short. The vast majority of affected animals became infected under six months of age. Any test for the disease at this stage will likely be negative. The bacteria lodge themselves in the small intestine and take up permanent residence within the cells of the calf. At this stage, the animal is clinically well, but at some time, often years later, the bacteria begin to shed themselves in the faeces allowing infection of other young animals. The infected cow will also produce antibodies that will yield a positive Johne's blood test result. Shedding and becoming antibody test positive unfortunately do not occur at the same time, meaning in an infected herd, you do not necessarily know which animals are shedding and which are not. However, removing antibody positive animals significantly reduces the amount of MAP in the environment, reducing the likelihood of new infections.

To make matters worse, the stress of calving and lactation makes the disease's progression to the shedding stage more likely. Calving also now means that there are multiple disease susceptible calves around making the whole situation worse. Many infected dams will infect their own calf and infection becomes almost a certainty once the dam is antibody positive. Remember, though, this calf will be infected but will remain antibody negative for several years. Antibody positive dams will likely be shedding much more than antibody negative ones, and they become a risk to calves other than their own, especially when calving indoors.

Practical control measures in a suckler herd are more limited than in dairy herds as the calves will nearly always be running with their dams and often a bull as well. Several control schemes are available and a good place to start looking at these is the CHECS website (www.CHECS.co.uk) which is an industry led, not for profit organisation for cattle disease control.

Fundamentally, all schemes work towards the same end goal. They identify the positive animals, enabling them to be removed from the portion of the herd with calves present. Retaining daughters from a positive animal for breeding purposes simply keeps, and indeed magnifies, the problem within the herd for future years.

The good news is infected cows and heifers produce clean embryos from both conventional and IVF embryo production processes. Whilst these animals are blood positive, but clinically well, success in embryo production is within the normal range. Sadly, once an animal is clinically unwell, results are poor.

At Tyndale Vets, we have a dedicated shed for blood positive Johne's animals. Bedding is separated for spreading onto arable land and contact with clean stock is avoided. These cows and heifers have successfully produced disease-free embryos for transfer back to the herd of origin, thus maintaining valuable genetic lines that might otherwise be lost. In addition, we can produce embryos using a variety of bulls to increase breeding options and this can be an opportunity to introduce new lines instead.

NEOSPORA DISEASE

Neospora is the main infectious cause of pregnancy loss in cattle, often between five and seven months gestation. Remarkably it was only discovered as recently as the 1980s. The cause is a protozoan that is closely related to *Toxoplasma*, a similar disease of sheep. Both parasites have two hosts in their lifecycles. In the case of Neospora, it has to go from cow to dog and back again. Cows rarely infect other cows; however dogs can infect other dogs. The only exception is via the placenta, where an infected dam will almost inevitably infect her unborn calf.

Reproductive losses are from reabsorption, abortion, stillbirth and weak calves, depending on the age of the affected foetus.

Many surveys have shown that most herds have at least one positive animal and in some cases, up to half the animals are affected, although this is a worst-case.

There are two main routes of infection:

1. Infection of the unborn calf via its dam-most common route of infection for a calf.
2. Cattle eating feed contaminated with infected dog faeces-less common route of infection but an important mechanism for the introduction into the herd.

Dogs are largely unaffected by the disease, remaining well even when infected. They become infected by eating raw meat or other infected material, such as raw food waste or cleansings from the calving yard. The infected dog may or may not be yours. Public footpaths used by dog walkers cross many farms. The role of foxes is unknown and they may be involved; no one is sure. The infected dog excretes infectious oocysts for some time after infection until it becomes immune. It then stops shedding. It is not known how many times a dog can be infected, but it is probably more than once.

Control of Neospora is easier than Johne's and involves only three main aspects:

1. Identify affected cows and don't keep their heifer calves for breeding. Previous heifer calves from affected animals are probably affected and they also should not be used to breed replacements for the herd. Affected heifers often have some reproductive problem.
2. Avoid dog faeces contaminating cattle feed.
3. Avoid dogs becoming infected by only feeding cooked meat and avoiding scavenging of cleansings.

2021 registration guidelines for Great Britain & N Ireland

Registration guidelines changed slightly as of January 2021. All calves – both male and female – must be intimated or registered within 60 days of birth. After intimation breeders have up until the calves are six months of age to register them for the standard fee which is £25 + VAT. After that, the fee will increase to £50 + VAT up until 12 months. From there, the usual late fees will apply. All registered calves must also have a DNA tissue sample lodged with Aberdeen-Angus Office. The registration fee for male calves will also include the SNPS DNA profile and MYOSTATIN status. This will also allow Sire Verification where the Sire also has a SNPS profile.

Please see below for a recap on how registrations work with the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society.

Calves should be registered / intimated with the Society using the online facility via our website www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk. From the home page click on ONLINE DATABASE and then MEMBER ON-LINE REGISTRY. Please contact the office for a password to access this – email emily@aberdeen-angus.co.uk. Alternatively, if you are unable to access the website please contact the office and ask us to send you paper registration forms and a guide to the fees when submitting registrations to us manually.

MALE CALVES

- Male Calves should be intimated to the Society within 60 days of birth – they can also be registered if you wish at this point.
- Intimated calves are only notified to the Society and should not be given a name and no fee is paid.
- Male Calves should then be registered
- 0 - 6 months – fee £25 + VAT or
- 6 - 12 months- fee £50 + VAT
- Late fees will be applied to registrations submitted after 12 months.
- Registration fees for male calves will include the 50K SNPS/MYOSTATIN profile.
- This will also be Sire Verified only if the SIRE has a SNPS profile.
- DNA tissue samples should have been submitted to the office by the time of registration.
- Tissue samples held in storage will be accessed and tested when the registration is submitted to the Society.

FEMALE CALVES

- Female calves should be intimated to the Society within 60 days of birth. They can also be registered at this point if you wish.
- Intimated calves are only notified to the Society and should not be given a name and no fee is paid.
- Female calves should then be registered
- 0 - 6 months – fee £25 + VAT or
- 6 -12 months – fee £50 + VAT
- Late fees will be applied to registrations submitted after this date.
- Female calves must all have a DNA tissue sample submitted to the office for storage before a Certificate of Pedigree is issued. It is helpful if these samples are submitted as quickly as possible.
- Breeders are encouraged to request DNA/MYO testing of female calves at birth as well.
- Fee for 50K SNPS test is £20 + VAT
- Female calves twinned with a male can be intimated and then registered late by payment of the late fee once they are proven to be in calf.

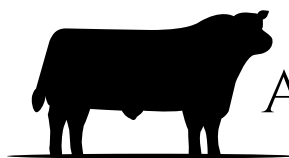
Tissue Samples should be submitted ASAP to DNA SAMPLES PEDIGREE HOUSE 6 KINGS PLACE PERTH PH2 8AD

- All Registered sires must have a sire verified DNA profile on file with the Society. Sires used since 2014 must also have a MYOSTATIN status on file.
- The breeder must own the dam of all registered calves. We will require a Service Certificate signed by the owner for any bulls that have been loaned or hired. We will require a valid date of service when using an AI bull. Et CALVES are the exception – where ownership of the parents may not lie with the breeder.
- All embryo calves will be DNA tested and fully parentage verified. Please check when you are flushing a female that she has been DNA profiled. We will not register ET calves if the dam has not been DNA profiled.
- The name of each registered calf must be prefixed by the HERD NAME of its breeder. After that the breeder must adhere to the system of family names – please see the ABERDEEN-ANGUS FAMILIES QUICK GUIDE for more details. As a rule of thumb all calves should be named with the same letter as the mother's name. If the calf is red the word RED should be included at the beginning of the individual name. All names should also include a suffix with the year letter and the last three digits of the tag number. No other letters or numbers are permitted.

YEAR LETTER

2021 – X 2022 – Y 2023 – Z

Please contact Caroline or Fiona in the Registrations Department if you need further information. We are always happy to help.



THE
ABERDEEN-ANGUS
 CATTLE SOCIETY

Youth Development Programme REGISTRATION FORM



Date of Application:

Candidate details: Please print clearly:

Surname: First Name:

Address:

..... Post Code:

Telephone: Email:

Date of Birth:

Gender: Male Female Registered Disabled tick if appropriate

Candidate Signature

Please complete this form and return to:

Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society, Pedigree House, 6 King's Place, Perth PH2 8AD

Email: ydp@aberdeen-angus.co.uk

YDP workshop dates for 2022



Mid-February

YDP Senior Conference, Northern Ireland.

Sunday 15th May

Southern Workshop, Velour herd, Chiddingstone, Edenbridge TN8 7BB.

Saturday 28th May

Hamish Slater, Deveron herd, Denhead farms, Dunlugas, Turriff, Aberdeenshire AB53 4NR.

Sunday 29th May

Andrew and Emma Hodge, Rulemains herd, Rulemains, Duns, Berwickshire TS11 3SY.

Sunday 3rd July

Allan Rennie, Mosston Muir Herd, New House, Mosston Muir farm, Guthrie, by Forfar, Angus DD8 2TX.

23rd -24th September

YDP Final, hosted by the Dick Family at Westerton Farm, Farm Road, Cowie, Stirling FK7 7BJ.

18th – 20th November

YDP Senior Conference, Staffordshire.



YDP round up

In the absence of our usual workshops due to Covid restrictions, the Youth Development Programme decided to develop two new projects for our YDP members. The first project adopted an interactive approach whereby members volunteered to host the YDP Instagram page for the week. This enabled all our followers to learn more about our members and see how they spend their week at work and home. This was a great success ensuring none of us felt isolated or bored and was a good insight into the responsibilities many of our members have at work and farming at home, plus the diversity of occupations, roles and family life. It was an honour, education and pleasure, and I would like to thank all the young people who took the time to share their lives with us.

Our second project was a new competition to make our participants use 'their little grey cells'. The Cattle and Land Management (CALM) Competition tested our senior and intermediate members. They had to develop a scenario for Pastures New Farm, including building a business plan, budgeting, stocking and managing arable and grassland. They also had to consider environmental practices, identify revenue streams, the land's topography, and available spend. Judge Robert Gilchrist had the difficult task of assessing which showed the most innovative and practical approaches to this assignment.

Sponsors supported this new competition well, and we must take this opportunity to thank Rawburn and Shadwell for donating embryos, Netherton/HW, Glympton, Wedderlie and Tofts for donating semen plus UK Sires and Bull Bank for their support.

The junior section was the Marketing and Promotion (MAP) Competition asking our young members to design a brochure to help promote a herd of cattle or farm. The winning design received 100 printed copies of their brochure, plus an Amazon voucher.



CATTLE AND LAND MANAGEMENT COMPETITION RESULTS

Seniors: CALM

- 1st James Logan
- 2nd Rhiannon Thorp
- 3rd Andy Butt
- 4th Lizzie Harding
- 5th Anna Wilson
- 6th Maddie Clarke

Intermediates: CALM

- 1st Hannah Haistead
- 2nd Grace Denning

JUNIORS: MAP

- 1st Ellie Leslie

YDP CATTLE AND LAND MANAGEMENT COMPETITION 2022

We will be running the competition again this year, with each age group having their own section under the CALM Competition.

YDP – OUR AIM

Aberdeen-Angus YDP will host webinars and zoom meetings during the winter/spring months. Content will be themed to assist with the CALM Competition subject matters. This will include:

- Cash flow templates.
- AHDB – butchery/cutting down a carcass.
- Beef supply chain, from farm to consumer.
- Marketing and branding.
- Understanding what can be learned from the abattoir to improve breeding/feeding and grading.
- General Zoom group catch ups for discussions and ideas.

Tina Russell

YDP National Co-Ordinator

YDP Senior Conference - Newcastle



Our senior members had been waiting a good while before they could all meet together again to learn more about suckler cow production, share practices and ideas, plus have some fun with like-minded friends. So, the weekend in Newcastle, with excursions into County Durham, was welcome and well-attended. Last year we added far more value to their time away from their farms and work by offering recognised certification in vital areas of the industry for the first time.

Once everyone had arrived at the Crowne Plaza, Newcastle, introductions were made and first on the agenda on Friday afternoon was obtaining a legally recognised Certificate of Competence for the Welfare of Animals in Transport (WATO).

As of January 2008, anyone transporting livestock or poultry in connection with economic activity and over 65km will need to hold a Certificate of Competence to conform to GB rules on animal welfare.

This allows transportation of animals on domestic journeys under eight hours within the UK. This workshop included training and testing, followed up with the Certificate of Competence, ensuring they comply with GB rules on animal welfare. This was professionally delivered by NFU County Advisors Laurie, Charlotte and Anna.

In the evening, we enjoyed an informal interactive session delivered by our Breed Development Chairman, Duncan Morrison, which led to some fascinating ideas for the future of the Angus breed. This was followed by a feedback session from Robert Gilchrist, Breed Development Manager, who had been our CALM competition judge. Members who had taken part in the competition benefited from Robert's comments, and this led nicely into the details of our 2022 CALM competition, which for the seniors will be to establish a box scheme/ farm shop, either in practice or theory. Finally, to round off

the evening, YDP Chairman Will Chrystal announced a new initiative supported by the Aberdeen-Angus Council to develop a YDP Council, which was well-received by all the seniors at the Conference. Later that evening, everyone enjoyed the YDP dinner at the hotel.

Saturday morning saw the start of a new day and a new project. Andrew Barber of Cleveland Vets delivered the second of the weekend's Certificates of Competence for The Responsible Use of Medicines. This provided theoretical and practical guidance for our participants, adding yet another string to their bows.

Andrew followed this very informative training with an introduction and discussion on the pros and cons of pelvic measurement. We then headed to Wingate Farm, where Andrew demonstrated pelvic scoring.

Next, we welcomed David Evans of the Treebridge herd, who led a demonstration and discussion on body condition scoring with the help of some Wingate herd cows.

Will Chrystal then treated our members to a tour of Wingate Grange Farm. The weather was kind to us all day, but it was somewhat bracing but dry on the hill.

We finished off the day with Juliet Swires as our master judge in a stock judging session. Everyone gave their reasons to the whole group in the most professional manner, and it was clear we have a great number of future judges within the society.

Following such a full-on programme, it was time to relax and enjoy our host city of Newcastle. Luckily, we had our own tour guide, Will Chrystal, to show us the sights and sounds of this vibrant city.

Tina Russell
National Co-ordinator
Youth Development Programme

Pandemic sees launch of two home-based competitions for YDP members

2 020 was a different year due to the pandemic and the associated lockdowns, meaning the Youth Development Programme (YDP) could not come together and compete in the same manner as they have previously done.

However, that didn't stop the YDP from launching two competitions that could be completed at home- the Marketing and Promotion (MAP) and Cattle and Land Management (CALM) competitions.

MAP

The Juniors took part in the MAP competition. This required them to design a brochure or leaflet for shows and sales to publicise a herd or farm that incorporates Aberdeen-Angus cattle.

The winner was Ellie Leslie of Scholland Farm in Shetland. Ellie's leaflet promotes the family's Aberdeen-Angus beef that is retailed locally.

"My name is Ellie Leslie and I am 12 years old. I recently won a competition in which you had to design a leaflet about an Aberdeen-Angus herd. I chose our own herd of 90 suckler cows.

We rotationally graze our cows which is good for the environment and the grass. We sell our beef to Sound Butchers in Lerwick, Shetland, which is not far from where we live. We also own around 1,000 sheep, three chickens, soon pigs (again) and bees."





BARNSVIEW

ABERDEEN ANGUS

.....

SEMEN FOR SALE

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Promising young bulls for sale
sired by
Oakchurch Duster M109

.....

CONTACT

Chrissie Davidson
07704 878 339

Glen Thomson
07871 544 400

Email: chrissie_d@btinternet.com

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Thank you to everyone who continues to support our little herd, with a special mention for Billy Andrew, Oaklea



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bTB ACCREDITATION

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Photo thanks to Inkstack Aberdeen Angus

ALL THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

The cattle team at Biobest provide services to Aberdeen Angus herds throughout the UK and Ireland. We welcome enquiries from new and established breeders

www.hihealthherdcare.co.uk

CALM

Intermediates and seniors took part in CALM. Participants were tasked with preparing a business plan for a family on setting up and managing a 202ha (500-acre) mixed farm in the Scottish Borders with a range of buildings and a small amount of livestock machinery.

Participants had to incorporate Aberdeen-Angus cattle in their plans along with the following:

- Produce a business plan for the next three years
- Show cash flow projections for the three years
- Demonstrate the gross margin for the livestock enterprise
- Seek out and identify market and revenue streams
- Introduce environmental practices to work towards a zero carbon footprint
- Consider the annual health programmes for the livestock on the farm and costs
- Show a projected draft farm diary for April 2021 – April 2022
- Show evidence of quotations or statements of fact of expected expenditure.

CALM Competition Winners

Seniors

1st	James Logan
2nd	Rhiannon Thorp
3rd	Andy Butt

Intermediates

1st	Hannah Halstead
2nd	Grace Denning

JUDGE'S COMMENT

The competition judge was our new Breed Development Manager, Robert Gilchrist. Commenting on the entries, he said:

"The CALM competition was a great initiative for the YDP, giving them an insight into the sort of decisions and preparations that would need to be taken at a business management level.

Entries were well prepared with a range of ideas on display. In the seniors, James took bold, unconventional steps to maximise the returns. His first action on the farm was to sell all machinery and ancillary equipment to make more capital available to buy more cattle and concentrate solely on a grazing cattle enterprise utilising Aberdeen-Angus genetics.

The cash projections from the proposed enterprise were very impressive with realistic expectations. James had also used Farmax budgeting software to back up his proposed business plan with evidence.

For the intermediates that entered, this was a challenging competition with a task that is pitched at a second-and third-year degree level student. However, those who entered put a great deal of effort in and judging was a difficult task. Hannah came out on top with a good practical farm business plan, coupled with well-researched information."

JAMES LOGAN – SENIOR WINNER

"My CALM entry was modelled using Farmax. I based it on a low input, forage-based system with minimal reliance on fertiliser and machinery, which we practice at home at Pirntaton. We run 120 Aberdeen-Angus x sucklers, 1,650 ewes and 350 red hinds. Upon completion of university at Harper Adams this year, I plan on helping to restart the Galawater Angus herd with the two embryos I won from Netherpton/HW along with the others we have in the tank at home. I intend to use the bursary to travel to New Zealand, further educate myself on this low input system that the Aberdeen-Angus thrives in, and bring some genetics home with me."

HANNAH – INTERMEDIATE WINNER

"When I entered the intermediate section of the CALM competition, I never imagined I would be receiving a call from Tina saying I had won it.

From when I was a little girl until I was 14, I wouldn't go near my father's cattle. YDP has led me to my own Hanbrook herd with an embryo, Hanbrook Duke Warwick, John Elliot kindly gifted me.

Unfortunately, Covid-19 changed things and meant missing days of white coats and black cows in white halters. As an alternative, CALM brought a lot of interesting units, from productively stocking and managing a farm with Aberdeen-Angus to making a three-year cash flow projection. The competition and YDP have set me up for my current level 3 diploma in Agriculture and life in general and has made me realise how proud we all should be of each other and our farming industry."

For more information on the YDP visit and how you can get involved www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/youth-development/



I NEED YOUR HELP

SEARCHING FOR THE FOLLOWING
SCOTTISH ABERDEEN-ANGUS REVIEWS.

I need the following from the old series:

Volumes: 1,3,15,18,21,22,23,31,34,37,38.

From the new series:

Volumes: 1,3,4,5,6,7,9

If you have any of these in your inventory
I would be pleased to pay you for them.

I would also be interested in any of your Scottish
Aberdeen-Angus Sale Catalogs or other Scottish
Aberdeen-Angus Memorabilia you have.

These items will be displayed at the American Angus
Hall of Fame in Smithville, MO, USA, the home of the largest
collection of Angus history anywhere in the world.

Contact: Tom Burke at the American Angus Hall of Fame, PO Box 660,
Smithville, MO 64089. angshall@angushall.com (816) 532-0811.

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5 delicious recipes using Aberdeen-Angus beef

Aberdeen-Angus beef is one breed that most fine diners can't get enough of. Often favoured as the cattle of choice for many farmers due to their easy-to-handle nature, Aberdeen-Angus is a premium quality breed with an amazing texture and taste. We hope you enjoy these recipes!



ABERDEEN-ANGUS STEAK AND CHIPS

Ingredients

- 1 Aberdeen-Angus steak, whatever the cut it will be good!
- 2 potatoes
- Salt, pepper and olive oil for seasoning

Method

Season your steak with salt, pepper and oil and rub all over. Place in a pan on a medium heat and cook for around 3 minutes on each side for medium to rare steak or a little longer if you like it well done. For the chips, peel and cut up about 1-2 large potatoes per person (depending on how hungry you are) and gently fry in vegetable oil until they become deliciously crisp.



CLASSIC ABERDEEN-ANGUS BEEF STEW

Ingredients

- 100g diced Aberdeen-Angus beef skirt or steak
- 3 carrots (chopped)
- 2 celery stalks (chopped)
- 3 parsnips (chopped)
- 1 onion (diced)
- 300ml beef stock
- 1 tbsp tomato purée
- 1 glass of red wine
- Squeeze of honey

Method

Many love to make their stew in a slow cooker, but if you don't have one of these just a large casserole pan will do. Place your casserole on the heat and cut up your Aberdeen-Angus beef skirt or steak into chunks. Toss in seasoned flour and gently fry until they are a light brown colour. Remove from the pan and add in the onions, celery, carrots and parsnips with garlic. Brown all of these together, and add the red wine, beef stock, a squeeze of honey and tomato purée, stir, bring to the boil and cover. Cook in the oven for 4 hours at 150 C, stirring once. Remove and serve with mashed potatoes or dumplings.



CLASSIC ABERDEEN-ANGUS BURGER AND SALAD

Ingredients

- 100g minced Aberdeen-Angus beef
- 1 onion (diced)
- 1 egg
- Salt, pepper and oil to season
- Burger buns, salad and condiments to serve

Method

Mix Aberdeen-Angus mince with the chopped onion, salt, pepper and one egg together in a bowl. Create patties by rolling the mince into a ball and flattening down. Place in a frying pan with a little vegetable oil and fry on each side for approximately 3 minutes. Once cooked all the way through, serve your burger in a bun with grated cheese and a spoon of fried onions for a truly great taste you can't find anywhere else.



ABERDEEN-ANGUS STEAK PIE

Ingredients

- 150g Aberdeen-Angus Steak
- 2 tbsp flour
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 garlic clove
- 250ml stock
- Dash of Scottish ale

Method

To create this delicious filling, toss your chunks of Aberdeen-Angus steak in seasoned flour and brown. Add in one chopped onion, a clove of fresh garlic, stock and a dash of Scottish ale. Allow the mix to stew on the heat for approximately 30 minutes on a low heat, or if you have the time place in the oven for 3 hours at 150 C. Once cooked, transfer to an ovenproof dish, top with your pastry and voilà! A proper pie that everyone will enjoy.



ROAST BEEF

Ingredients

- 1 Aberdeen-Angus joint
- 1 onion (roughly chopped)
- 2 carrots (roughly chopped)
- Salt, pepper, garlic and olive oil to season

Method

For the best roast beef method, season the joint with salt, pepper, olive oil and garlic and rub all over. Place in a roasting tin on top of sliced carrots and onions and roast in the oven for approximately 1 hour at 190 C for the perfect medium finish. A classic Aberdeen-Angus recipe that anyone can make.

2021 photo gallery





Nostalgia – A look back in time

For centuries, the Aberdeen-Angus breed has been celebrated as the world's leader in the cattle breeding industry, famed for its top quality output and manageable cattle. We delve into the archives and look at some of the memories and relationships forged through the breed worldwide.



In 1962, the Queen and Prince Philip paid a special visit, while on a tour of the Borders of Scotland, to the well-known Haymount Aberdeen-Angus herd, near Kelso, owned by Messrs J and W Arnott. On the left of Prince Philip is John L Arnott with his son William on the Queen's right.



At the 1984 Dairy Event at Stoneleigh, four Aberdeen-Angus cross Friesian steers carried off the coveted Trehane Trophy in the interbreed beef group competition. Raised by Alistair Hastings, Beoch, Stanraer and brought out by Society President George Cormack of the Ashley herd. Left to right, George Cormack, Willie Robertson, Willie McGregor, Bob Anderson.



Dave and Willie McLaren and Dave Smith with the triumphant Aberdeen-Angus team, which won the coveted Burke Trophy for the best pair at the 1996 Royal Show with the cow Netherton Estona O5 and the breed champion bull Mushroom Friar Fergus.



The Aberdeen-Angus team that won the Burke Trophy at the 1967 Royal Show were from McRobert Farms. Uniquely a father and daughter team of Newhouse Jewdax Eric and Bamexma of Douneside. At the halters Henry Durward and Bert Rugg.



Frank Revely, Church Farm, Myton-on-Swale, Yorks (left) and Dennis Moss, Glebe Farm, Gotham, Notts, fill the Yorkshire Post Trophy to celebrate the breed's success in the interbreed competition at the Great Yorkshire Show 1976. Church Farm and Curzon herds provided the winning group. Notably, with two teams entered, the other Aberdeen-Angus team, all supplied by Mrs Walker's Newark herd from Ayrshire, took second place.



Argentinian Judge at Perth in 1968. Sr Carlos Duggan with the champion Newhouse Edwin Elrick, sold 6,000gns to the Candacraig herd, Strathdon, Aberdeenshire.



The scene at the packed auction ring at Perth in February 1960, with the reserve junior champion Newhouse Jubilee Eric from R M Adam selling for a then-record of 27,000gns.



The interclub competition was a popular event at the Royal and Highland shows, sponsored by The Famous Grouse. Pictured is the 1982 winning team from the Central Scotland Club at the Highland, followed by the South West of Scotland, North East Scotland, Borders, North East of England.



The Perthshire farm of "Fatstock King" David B Sinclair at Abernyte, Inchtute, was the venue of the Society's Field Day in 1969. Surrounded by a magnificent array of championship trophies, rosettes and prize cards won by Abernyte cattle, Mr Sinclair makes his opening remarks.



The October Show and Sale at Perth was initially mainly a sale for females. Pictured in 1958, Mr Thomas Adam Snr, Lower Greenyards, Bannockburn, Stirlingshire, judging a class of heifers. A total of 313 females were sold.

EASTFIELD

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***ELEVATE OF EASTFIELD SOLD PERTH 1959 to the USA FOR 25,000gns
A further half share sold in USA for a further 25,000***

*We purchased Linton Gilbertines Elgin for 25,000gns in 2019 – 60 years later,
but you can't buy a farm for that price nowadays!*

We have calves by Wedderlie Osman T594 and Linton Gilbertines Elgin T189

*Ewan Brewis 01573 430224 / 07836 349190
Iain McGillivray 01573 430213 / 07768 022463
Lempitlaw, Kelso, Scottish Borders TD5 8BN*

Thanks to all who purchased stock at our 2020 reduction sale



The 1963 Aberdeen-Angus team, which was runner-up for the Farming News interbreed trophy at the Royal Highland Show. Predanza of Haymount (13,000gns at the 1960 sale), Joy Erica of Gaidrew, Roma of Ballindalloch, proud Debbie of Westdrums.



Professor Herman R Purdy of Pennsylvania State University Judging a class at Perth in 1959. His supreme champion was Elevate of Eastfield making the top price of 25,000gns to the USA.



Thomas A Rea, Glarryford, Ballymena, Co Antrim with his two-year-old heifer Cashelboy Unit. Supreme champion at the Royal Ulster Show 1985.



From 100 years ago. The 1921 Smithfield champion Julian of Basildon. Bred and exhibited by Major J A Morrison, Basildon Park, Reading. Records show his age as two years, 11 months, one week, six days and his weight as 17cwts, 2qrs, 12lbs.



Walking to the McDonald and Fraser Market in Perth for the Bull Sales in February 1946. Three young bulls from the Aclurya herd of J D Waddell, Clury, Grantown on Spey. Led by Andrew Rugg, John Rugg, Mr Furness. At that time, bulls arrived by special trains. From the south at a loading bay in Caledonian Road, from the north at the North Goods yard (now a retail park).

Obituaries

DONALD BIGGAR



Last February, the sudden death of Donald Biggar, Aberdeen-Angus breeder and leading figure in the Scottish agricultural industry, came as a great shock to his many friends in the agricultural industry throughout the UK.

Donald was the sixth generation of the Biggar family to farm at Chapelton, Castle Douglas, where following the death of his father, James Biggar, he continued to run highly successful prize-winning herds of Galloway, Beef Shorthorn and Hereford cattle until the herds were wiped out by foot-and-mouth disease in 2000.

The loss of generations of breeding was a bitter blow. Still, Donald immediately set about rebuilding his pedigree beef enterprise from scratch, re-establishing the Beef Shorthorn herd and establishing a new Aberdeen-Angus herd to replace the Galloways and Herefords, both largely on imports from Canada.

His move into Aberdeen-Angus was soon rewarded when in 2007, he sold a first prize bull, Chapelton Eventer E809, by the American sire, Ankonian Elixir 100, at the Perth bull sales for the second top price of 23,000gns in a joint purchase by the Rosemount and Glenbervie herds.

Away from the farm, Mr Biggar's diplomacy and leadership skills saw him play a leading role in many agricultural organisations. He was a former president of the Dumfries and Galloway area of NFU Scotland, former chair of the Royal Smithfield Club, organisers of the now defunct Royal Smithfield Show in London, a director of WCF Ltd (formerly West Cumberland Farmers), vice-chair of Scotland's rural college, SRUC, and chair of the Scottish meat promotional body, Quality Meat Scotland, where he was heavily involved in the levy body's transition from a private to a public body accountable to the Scottish Government.

His was also the voice of reason and diplomacy when feelings and tempers were running high during protests in 1996/97 at Stranraer about Irish beef cattle imports undermining the Scottish beef industry. As a result, the

award of the OBE for services to Scottish agriculture was fully merited.

"His skills at chairing a meeting were legendary and his ability to let everyone have their say, sum up the whole discussion and arrive at a decision were a joy to behold," said local NFUS secretary, Michael Coutts.

Mr Biggar is survived by his wife, Emma, sons Jamie and Duncan, and daughter, Rachel.

ALASDAIR HOUSTON



Leading Scottish businessman, entrepreneur and pedigree cattle breeder, Alasdair Houston, lost a three-year battle with cancer last June, shortly after being presented with the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland's prestigious Sir William Young Award for his exceptional contribution to cattle breeding.

With extensive tourist and hotel interests around Gretna Green on the Scotland/England border, the Houston family originally made their name in cattle breeding with Simmental and Charolais herds. Alasdair took over from his father in 1985, but the two herds had to be culled in 2001 under the foot and mouth disease control plan, although the herds themselves had not been diagnosed with the disease.

The Charolais herd was rebuilt from scratch primarily by sourcing the same bloodlines from other herds, and they decided to move into Aberdeen-Angus. Both herds have been highly successful, with the bull Gretnahouse Blacksmith L500 particularly successful in both the Gretnahouse and Haymount herds.

Bulls from the herd have sold for up to 15,000gns, 13,000gns and 10,000gns (three times), all into pedigree herds and the herd has twice held the record price at Carlisle, first at 8,000gns and then at 12,000gns, again to pedigree herds.

The Blacksmith name is significant as the Houston family company, Gretnagreen Ltd, owns the old blacksmith shop in Gretna Green, including the anvil, which has been famous for generations as the venue for weddings of eloped couples. Around 10% of all weddings in Scotland

take place in Gretna and the village attracts more than 800,000 visitors a year from all over the world.

Mr Houston has been the driving force behind the development of Gretna as a tourist attraction, primarily centred around the wedding folklore, and the family company now owns three hotels in the village as well as retail shops at Gretna M74 services.

The company employs over 300 people locally and last year won the Queen's Award for International Trade.

Mr Houston was awarded an MBE for services to tourism around 10 years ago and was a deputy Lord Lieutenant of Dumfries-shire and a past chairman of the British Charolais Cattle Society. He is survived by his wife, Lucy, and children, Tara and Rafe.

JIM JACK



The Aberdeen-Angus breed in Northern Ireland has lost one of its most loyal and enthusiastic supporters with the death of a former president, Jim Jack, owner with his wife, May, of the Strule herd at Cavanaleck, Fivemiletown, Co Tyrone.

Mr and Mrs Jack were always to be found at breed events in both Ireland and Scotland – including the Perth/Stirling bull sales and the Royal Highland Show – and further afield at breed World Forums worldwide. However, they never aspired themselves to the glory of the show ring.

They were content to enjoy their 80-cow herd, which was run very much on commercial lines on their 142ha (350 acre) all-grass farm, keeping only the best ten bull calves entire each year for private sale and the best ten heifer calves as replacements, with the rest finished as pure Aberdeen-Angus beef.

The couple founded their Strule herd when they acquired a farm nearer to May's parents, who farmed Cavanaleck. But they didn't return to live permanently on the farm until 1991, when Jim retired as head of the dairy section of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, where he served for 37 years as a highly respected civil servant.

Living 70 miles away in Belfast during the week and on the farm only at weekends, the Jack's opted for Aberdeen-Angus as they needed cattle which were primarily able to look after themselves with the minimum of supervision, with easy calving and easy fleshing.

Very few females have been bought over the years, although Jim did splash out at the North East of Scotland Aberdeen-Angus Club's Heritage Sale in 1995 when, along with the late Bill Armstrong, he paid 6,000gns for a Skail cow which went on to make her mark in the herd.

Stock bulls have included a former Perth junior champion, Ashely Jewgal Eric, and the first Canadian-bred bull to come to Northern Ireland, Nightingale Governor Tanmore, to inject more size into the herd. Three Netherton bulls followed this and, more recently, two bulls bred by neighbour Alan Cheney, including Lana Black Transformer, which was named the best stock bull in Northern Ireland in the Northern Ireland Aberdeen-Angus Club's annual competition.

Mr Jack judged most of the major shows and sales in the UK and Ireland, including the Perth bull sales, Royal Highland and Royal Shows and the long-gone Royal Dublin Show. He is a former president of the Irish Aberdeen-Angus Association and the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society and served both organisations faithfully over many years.

He was also instrumental almost 20 years ago in getting the marketing group Aberdeen-Angus Quality Beef Ltd off the ground to supply Aberdeen-Angus beef to Tesco in Northern Ireland.

Along with May, he attended four Aberdeen-Angus World Forums in Scotland, Canada (twice) and Australia.



THE SOCIETY
ENCOURAGES
BREEDERS TO
JOIN A CHECS
ACCREDITED
HEALTH SCHEME.

Sales Entry Criteria

All members should use this guide when entering cattle into any official Society sale, ensuring that all the necessary steps are taken to maximise your opportunities in the sale rings.

HERD HEALTH DECLARATION AND PEN CARDS

Members should complete a Herd Health Declaration Form and include this at the time of entry, or alternatively forward this directly to the Society. Herd Health Declaration Forms can be found at www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/resources/show-and-sales-resources. All cattle entered for official Society sales must have a completed Health Declaration Pen Card displayed above the animal, copies of which are available from the CHeCS Approved Health Scheme of which you are required to be a member.

MINIMUM HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: BVD/JOHNES

If your entries are from a BVD-accredited herd they must be vaccinated with an approved vaccine no more than 12 months prior to the date of the sale. If your entries are from a herd which is not BVD-accredited, then the individual animals which have entered must be tested free of BVD and vaccinated no more than three months prior to the date of the sale.

JOHNES RISK LEVELS 1-5

Level 1	This is directly equivalent to the previous CHeCS Accredited status. Level 1 status is associated with the lowest risk when buying in stock. Health plan required.
Level 2	Level 2 status herds have had one or two clear consecutive herd tests. Health plan required.
Level 3	Level 3 status herds have reactors identified at the annual herd test, but these are no more than 3% of the animals tested. Health plan required.
Level 4	Herds with Level 4 status have reactors identified at the annual herd test, and these amount to more than 3% of the animals tested. Health plan required.
Level 5	Any herd that is not carrying out the required testing or does not have a suitable health plan in place automatically falls into this category. Level 5 status is considered to be the greatest risk with respect to Johnes when buying in stock. Note: level 5 animals are not eligible for official sales.

The Society encourages members to join all CHeCS accreditation schemes to give buyers added confidence.

DNA

All males and led females should be sire verified and myostatin-tested in line with Society requirements. More information on these requirements can be found at:

www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/sire-verified-aberdeen-angus

Breedplan EBVs are important to buyers, so please ensure animals are scanned for the data to be displayed in the catalogue. Members should contact the Registrations department as early as possible with the tag numbers of animals being entered for sale. It is vital that we arrange DNA/Myostatin testing in plenty of time. Occasionally we may require a repeat sample if the original tissue sample does not work, therefore it is vital that you give us ample time to ensure we have results back prior to the sale.

If your bull has not been sire verified or Myostatin status confirmed prior to the official catalogue going to print, the bull will be removed from the catalogue and not be passed for sale.

INSPECTIONS

Following arrival at the sale premises, all cattle are subject to an official veterinary inspection. To avoid disappointment of having cattle rejected, please use the guide below before consigning cattle to the sale:

- Ensure the dentition is correct - teeth must make contact with the dental pad of the upper jaw. Animals found to have undershot or overshot jaws will be rejected.
- Testicles (size, shape, consistency) will be evaluated and measured and must attain the following minimum measurements of 30cm at 12 months, 32cm at 18 months and 34cm 24 months.
- Make sure all animals are free from scurs.
- No white markings in front of navel.

If the vet considers any animal to be carrying a heritable genetic or phenotypic condition which in their opinion is detrimental to the integrity of the breed, then the animal will be debarred from the sale and no progeny registered.



CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

Check that all animals are free from Warts (particular attention should be paid to the sheath and scrotal area of bulls), Ringworm, Mange and 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.

PERFORMANCE RECORDED HERDS

For your entries to have their latest EBV information in the catalogue they will require to have a Birth Weight, a 200-Day Weight, a 400-Day Weight, a Check Weight and will need to have been scanned. From Stirling October sale 2020 all cattle entered for Stirling sales must be performance recorded through Breedplan.

WEIGHT FOR AGE

We have a lot of data now on bull sales and the type of bull that meet buyers' expectations. With the usual caveats on locomotion, conformation and breed character, bulls really need the genetic capability to grow and flesh out well if they are to catch the buyer's eye. Data would indicate that bulls which fail to achieve a daily live weight gain (DLWG) of 1.4kg/day from birth to date of sale are historically more difficult to sell.

.....
All animals MUST have their LOT NUMBER LABEL applied at the time of the inspection.
Failure to attend for inspection in the time slot identified by the auctioneers and Society will automatically debar an animal from the show and sale.
.....

SOCIETY SALE AUCTIONEERS

Aberdeen and Northern Marts
01467 623700

Dungannon Farmers Mart
028 8772 2727

Harrison and Hetherington
01228 406230

McCartneys 01905 769770

CCM Skipton 01756 792375

United Auctions 01786 473055

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CHECS APPROVED HEALTH SCHEME PROVIDERS

AFBI Cattle Health Scheme
www.afbini.gov.uk/articles/afbi-cattle-health-scheme
028 90 255689

HiHealth Herdcare
www.biobest.co.uk/hi-health-herdcare-cattle-health-scheme.html
0131 440 2628

SAC Premium Cattle Health Scheme
www.sruc.ac.uk/info/120112/premium_cattle_health_scheme
01835 822456

For all sale dates: www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/events
Please note: if for any reason you are unsure about anything please contact the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society, your Council representative or your vet.



For Sale

- Bulls forward Stirling February 2022
- 2 Year old and yearling bulls available Spring 2022
- Heifers
- Embryos & Semen
- BVD & Johnes accredited, vaccinated for IBR & Lepto



CARDONA JEWEL ERIC V105
Top Priced Bull - Stirling May 2021

Herd Sires



STOUHPHILL MR PERONI T188



RULESMAN KAI V226



J Robert Galloway

Robbie.Galloway@Scotbeef.com +44 (0) 7785 371 129
Cardona, Farm Doune, Stirlingshire, Scotland, FK16 6AX

Ewen McRobert

Ewen.McRobert@scotbeef.com : +44 (0) 7834 030 264
Cardona Cottage, Doune, Stirlingshire, Scotland, FK16 6AX

Fees and Charges (UK) - from November 1st 2021

- Membership Subscription (Life): £750
- Membership Subscription (Annual): £30
- Junior Membership (Annual): £15
- Herd Name Copyright Fee: £10

Herd Book Registration – late entries (see Bye-Law 6 (b))

- Herd Book Registration (including EU) – Males: Up to 6 months of age and intimated within 27 days £25 if submitted on-line. £30 if submitted on a paper form.
- From 6 months to 12 months of age £50 fixed fee.
- Any registrations of male calves being processed for animals over 12 months of age will be subject to the charges in the table below.

Herd Book Registration (including EU) – Females: Up to 6 months of age and intimated within 27 days £25 if submitted online. £30 if submitted on a paper form.

- From 6 months to 12 months of age £50 fixed fee.
- Any registrations of female calves being processed for animals over 12 months of age will be subject to the charges in the table below.

Animals required to be registered if older than 12 months will be subject to the following late fee penalties.

Age	Registration fee	Late fee	Total
1-2 years	£25	£150	£175
2-3 years	£25	£250	£275
3-4 years	£25	£350	£375
4-5 years	£25	£450	£475

No animal over 5 years of age will be registered or accepted into the herdbook

- Junior members, until the year in which they are 18 years of age, are entitled to one free registration each year.
- For both males and females intimated within 60 days of birth registered after 6 months of age but before 12 months of age a late fee of £50.00 will be charged.
- For both males and females intimated within 60 days of birth registered after 12 months of age but before 12 months of age a late fee of £150.00 will be charged.

Change of Ownership Fee for Members: £25

- Change of Ownership Fee for non-Members: £35

Overseas Purchases – Registration

- Males: £50
- Females: £25

Notification of E. T. Flush – (Home): Nil

Notification of E. T. Flush – (Imports): Nil

Additional Fee for Calves got by A.I: Nil

Additional Fee for Calves got by E.T. – (Home): Nil

Additional Fee for Calves got by E.T. – (Imports): Nil

Overseas Sales – Export Certificate / Zootechnical Certificate

- Males: £25*
- Females: £25*
- Semen: £25*

- Embryos : £25.00
- Duplicate/Amended Certificate of Pedigree: £5*
- Extended Pedigree Certificate: £30*
- Retrieval and distribution of a DNA profile £8.00* per profile retrieved
- Copies of Herd Book: As advised at time of ordering
- Semen Royalty Brokerage Scheme - Commission collected on royalties: 20%

*Denotes Non-Members fees are doubled
All of the above fees and charges are subject to VAT which is not included in the figures quoted.

DNA CHARGES

CALF	SAMPLE TYPE	TEST	CHARGE
2020/2021 REGISTERED MALE CALF	TISSUE	50K SNPS + MYOSTATIN (NT821 F94L) SIRE VERIFIED IF SIRE HAS VALID SNPS PROFILE	£20 PAID BY THE SOCIETY
FEMALE CALF AT BIRTH (OPTIONAL)	TISSUE	50K SNPS + MYOSTATIN	£20 CHARGED TO MEMBER
INTIMATED CALF (OPTIONAL)	TISSUE	50K SNPS + MYOSTATIN	£20 CHARGED TO MEMBER
FIRST TIME CALVING FEMALE New testing from July 2020	TISSUE	50K SNPS + MYOSTATIN (NT821+F94L) SIRE VERIFICATION IF A VALID SNP PROFILE IS AVAILABLE	£20.00 PAID BY THE SOCIETY
STOCK BULL (ALL STOCK BULLS MUST BE SIRE VERIFIED/SNPS TESTED/MYOSTATIN TESTED)	TISSUE	50K SNPS + MYOSTATIN (NTL821+ F94L) + SIRE VERIFICATION (IF SIRE HAS VALID SNPS PROFILE)	£20 CHARGED TO MEMBER

NOTES

- Tissue Samples are preferred – any hair sample submitted cannot be stored and we will charge for testing.
- First calving females – we will test the tissue sample we already have on file.
- Stock Bulls – where the Sire has not been tested on SNPS we will have to test the calf again on Microsatellite for the Sire verification. This will be done at the Society's cost only for the FIRST CALVING FEMALES.
- 2019 -2020 male calves will be profile only if the Sire has not been tested on SNPS. Sire Verification on Microsatellite will be invoiced.
- Breeders should check that any stock bulls have been tested on SNPS – Calves can be sire verified then without extra testing.
- Lab requests will be sent automatically when the registration is processed. Tests for FIRST CALVING FEMALES will be requested when their first calf is registered.
- Members will get an email with a list of tests requested.
- Results take a minimum of 4 weeks to come back from the lab.
- Members will get another email when the results are uploaded to the database.
- All charges exclude VAT.



Aberdeen-Angus remains top of the bill

The demand for Aberdeen-Angus sired commercial cattle shows no abating in the rearing calf, suckled calf and store cattle rings operated by Harrison & Hetherington across Northern England and Southern Scotland.

With most of the big retailers now offering Aberdeen-Angus beef, this premium product is now readily available to the masses, resulting in demand soaring.

It is no wonder trade for all classes of Angus cattle has remained strong, as feeders react to the noises from the major processors under pressure to fulfill demanding contracts.

While the popularity of spring calving suckler herds has traditionally created seasonal supply issues, the surge in Aberdeen-Angus sired calves from the dairy herd has helped to flatten the supply curve. There is no doubt there has been a surge in demand for Aberdeen-Angus semen

and bulls to cover dairy herds alongside the increased use of sexed semen.

One noticeable difference in the last ten years is in the quality of the Angus cattle emanating from the dairy herd. There is no doubt the Angus bull is doing the job as Angus cross dairy beef is hitting the spec time after time, in weight, grade and finish. Growth rates have improved as well as ease of fleshing, ticking all the boxes as we strive for performance and efficiency.

Scott Donaldson
Managing Director
Harrison & Hetherington Ltd



Under the Hammer- Round-up from United Auctions

As the pandemic continued to affect all aspects of trading in our auction marts throughout 2021, the Stirling Bull Sales in February continued as 'strictly business'.

Despite restrictions continuing for most of the year, the Aberdeen-Angus breed continues to strengthen year on year. In February, 66 Aberdeen-Angus bulls sold to average £6,499 with an 86% clearance and a rise of £679 on 2020. This proved to buyers and sellers a live event provides the best medium to secure top prices.

A live May Stirling Bull Sale returned with Raymond Kennedy, David Brown and I incorporating a pre-sale parade. Aberdeen-Angus, one of Britain's top breeds, proved popular with an 81% clearance and a rise of £300 on last year's private selling average.

We finally reintroduced pre-sale shows at the October Stirling Bull Sales with its designation as 'trade-only'. Facemasks continued to be mandatory, but it was fantastic to walk in the yard and ring and feel a real sale-day buzz, which had been missing in the last 18 months.

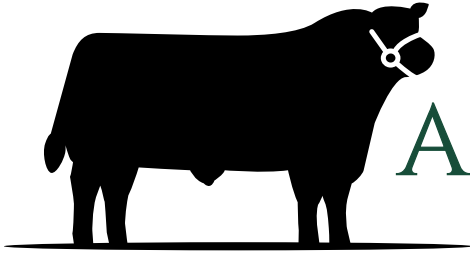
The judging provided the focal point for the breed, with the

ringside witnessing a superb show of cattle with the Massie family on top. The traditional Monday sale saw buyers from the UK and Islands buying new genetics for their commercial herds with many bulls on offer to suit pedigree herds. Averages were up £1,362 with a 24,000gns top.

I have witnessed some fantastic sales, but the October 2021 female sale will live long in the memory. Starting from the production sale of the Tonley herd, which saw a top of 20,000gns, to the last lot from the famous Blelack herd dispersal, no one left the ringside. An auctioneering masterclass from Raymond saw the Agricultural Centre and breed records smashed with the top price of the day, a combined 62,000gns for a cow and calf.

The breed enjoys premium prices in our commercial store ring, and I can only see this increasing over the coming years.

John Roberts
Group Director, United Auctions



THE IRISH ABERDEEN-ANGUS ASSOCIATION

New Association

The Irish Aberdeen Angus Association was granted their licence to operate a herd book in late 2020 and this year has been one of many positive developments for the Association. As of November 2021, permissions to register cattle in 14 EU member states has been secured.

Direct debit payments and online calf registrations have been rolled out to Irish members. The Association is funding the cost to genotype and myostatin gene test all 2021 born males. The aim of this genomic registration is to ensure that every bull calf registered is the correct breed, has the correct sire and dam and has their myostatin gene status established before their pedigree certificate is issued. This has significantly cut down on administrative duties and gives breeders and bull buyers increased confidence in the animals the sell and purchase alike.

A lot of work has gone into the set up of the EU section of the herd book to ensure the same service is offered to the overseas members and an online herd book facility is being developed in the interim.

BANDON SALE: THURSDAY APRIL 8th

The Munster Aberdeen-Angus Club hosted its annual high health status sale of pedigree Aberdeen-Angus bulls at Bandon mart on April 8th with a record clearance of bulls recorded on the day, with just one single bull present on the day failing to reach his reserve in the sales ring. The high clearance was a welcome boost for the Munster Aberdeen-Angus Club after the near total cancellation of its annual calendar of activities in 2020 due to Covid-19. The Munster club must also be commended for their hard work in re-establishing the sale for 2021 despite the lingering uncertainty of the Covid-19 situation nationally.

The sale leader came from the Ashview Aberdeen-Angus Herd of William & Billy Fitzgerald, Beanfield, Youghal, Co Cork who sold Ashview Lord Hamlet V408 for the day's top price of €3200. This September 2019 born bull was sired by three-time All-Ireland Aberdeen-Angus champion, Rosemead Karona J957 and was out of Mogeely Lady Hazel R398 who was a daughter of Coneyisland Legend E112.

Another September 2019 born bull from Ashview, Ashview Derry V405 sold for €2550 to cap a successful outing to Bandon for the Fitzgerald family.

Tim & Bryan O' Halloran, Templemartin, Bandon, Cork claimed the next two highest prices of the sale, with Briarhill Piper V978 (sired by HW Farghal T516) and Briarhill Perez V979 (sired by Sallowglen Jamie T771) selling for €2900 and €2850 respectively. Three bulls from the Briarhill Aberdeen-Angus herd sold on the day with young breeder, Bryan being a familiar face to many on the pedigree circuit, having won the senior section of the YDP finals in 2019.

Ned & James Boyce, Creggane House, Creggane, Charleville, Co Limerick also sold three bulls on the day, with one of the three making €2500 to round out the principal prices achieved in the sales ring.

Overall there was 92% clearance of bulls on the day (a club record for Bandon), which is testament to the strong and lively demand for Aberdeen-Angus bulls of all ages in the region.

CASHEL SALE: THURSDAY APRIL 22nd

The inaugural pedigree bull sale for the Irish Aberdeen-Angus Association at Cashel surpassed all expectations with the new venue proving to be a massive hit with buyers with a 100% clearance recorded on the day.

Demand was such that some buyers were forced to queue for quite some time before they could even be admitted into the mart to see the bulls, with bids coming through quick and fast for all bulls once the sale began. It is always a big undertaking to launch a new sale onto the Spring circuit and newly appointed General Manger, Felicity McGrath and her hard working team of council members and office staff (as well as the very helpful and professional staff and committee at Cashel Mart) deserve huge credit for getting the new sale off the ground in such a spectacular fashion. It is also worth noting that this sale was also the first official sale of the newly formed stand-alone Irish Aberdeen-Angus Association and the prices and clearance achieved on this occasion should certainly stand the freshly minted Irish Aberdeen-Angus Association in good stead for the future.

Leading the field on the day to take the top call of the sale was Sheemore Peadar W576 from Paddy Farrell, Ballinwing, Leitrim, Co Leitrim who sold for the day's best price of €3150. This 14 month old bull is a son of the homebred stock bull, Sheemore Peter P520 and is out of an Aynho Rossiter Eric B125 sired dam. This bull also boasts a 4 star terminal index and goes back to Netherton Americano M703, Bohey Jasper and Coneysland Legend E112.

One of the youngest bulls in the sale, the 12 month old Goulding Emaonn W142 from Matthew & Rita Goulding, Kilmore, Ballyduff, Tralee, Co Kerry took the joint second highest price of the sale, selling for €3050. This yearling bull had barely reached his 1st birthday (turning 12 months old exactly one week prior to the day of the sale) and is sired by newly acquired stock bull, Richhill Blackrock U921 who is a son of Weeton King Lear R452 and goes back to Netherallan Peter Pershore E052 and Netherton Archie J501.

The Goulding Aberdeen-Angus Herd also sold Goulding Picasso W126 (a son of Linton Gilbertines Preacher S088) for €2800 and Goulding Eamonn W130 (a son of the homebred Goulding Profitabull) for €2600. Remarkably, both of these bulls were also aged just 12 months, which is testament to the incredible demand for bulls on the day as young yearling bulls sold so freely.

Also matching the day's second highest price of €3050 was Liss Minter W948 from John & Sean McEnroe, Liss, Oldcastle, Co Meath. This 14 month old bull is a son of 2019 All-Ireland Aberdeen-Angus champion, Mogeely Dreamer T534 who is one of several stock bulls in use at Liss presently. This 5 star terminal index bull was well below the breed average on calving with a calving figure of just 1.1% for cows, as well as 5 star indices on a range of key performance indicators.

The Liss Aberdeen-Angus Herd also sold Liss Mirtini W969 (a son of Liss Darl R561) for €2950, Liss Mylee W957 (a son of Gigginstown Rolls Royce) for €2900, Liss Main Man W981 (a son of Fordel Ben Maree R219) for €2900 and Liss Mr Boyce W992 (a son of Liss Darl R561) for €2900. In total, the Liss Aberdeen-Angus Herd achieved a truly impressive average of €2800 for 7 bulls, all aged between 12 and 13 months.

As well as the incredible 100% clearance rate, the sale also settled at an average of just under €2700 which would be impressive in any terms, but all the more so considering all of the bulls were aged between 12-14 months and when the age of the bulls is reconciled against that high of an average price, the first sale at Cashel will surely go down as one of the best Aberdeen-Angus sales of the year.



Top priced bull,
Sheemore Peadar W576

Male
Champion Liss
Masterstroke
W013 sire
by Mogeely
Dreamer T534.
Sold for €3300.



Female
Champion,
Lisnafanna Ellen
W053, sired by
HW Farghal

NENAGH SALE: THURSDAY, APRIL 29TH

The Nenagh sale on Thursday April 29th saw 10 of the 18 bulls on offer go to new homes. The majority of the bulls sold went to repeat customers of the Nenagh sale over the years with many commenting on the wide selection of bulls on offer to suit dairy, commercial and pedigree breeders.

The bulls averaged €2545 with John McEnroes LISS MARTIN W951 topping the sale at €3000 - son of the renowned show champion Mogeely Dreamer T534 and a homebred dam by Carrington Park Time On B7. This February 2020 bull has joined the pedigree Gigginstown Aberdeen Angus herd in Co. Westmeath.

Not far behind at €2850 was HW Farghal son KNOCKMOUNTAGH TERRY W910 from Eamon McKiernan. This April 2020 born bull is off a Friarstown Ideal Pete home bred dam and headed off to his new home in Laois. LISS BILLY W949 exchanged hands for €2750. This February 2020 bull is a son of Cheeklaw Emrys T586 and out of a dam sired by Carton Roe David.

The first bull into the ring, April 2019 born CRANN MOR ALADDIN V003 sold for €2550. A son of Luddenmore Earl S276, the stock bull at Crann Mor Aberdeen Angus, who boasts a pedigree of Nightingale Proud Jake G405 and Aynho Rossiter Eric B125. There was much admiration for the bull LAWSONSFORD PRINCE JUSTIN V448 and he was sold for €2500. This September 2019 bull is a son of the 1964 born A.I. bull Justin 13 of Hillsgrove. He was led away by his delighted owner for a short trip to his new home in Nenagh.

TEMPLEQUAIN MASTER W102 bred by Martin Costigan was knocked down at €2500. A stylish and powerful young bull born in January 2020 his pedigree has a strong sire stack of Liss Brendan P465, Mogeely Joe H979 and Luddenmore Fionn G441 to name but a few. Frank McKiernans DRUMCROW PARTYBOY W804 also traded hands for €2500 and made his way to Borrisokane to his new home. A son of homebred stock bull Drumcrow Prosecco T714 who is bred back to Netherton Americano M703 and Coldstream Genetic Trend 80F, he is also out of a cow with well known bulls Lissard Mark and Flowerhill Prince in her back breeding.

Liss Martin W951
sold for €3000



PREMIER SHOW & SALE: NOVEMBER 13TH, CARRICK ON SHANNON

The Premier show and sale took place in Carrick on Shannon on November 13th with 33 heifers and 16 bulls catalogued. Heifers averaged €2600. Top price went to Richie Lombard, Co. Kerry for Dulague Red Ellie V260 who sold for €3600. Liss Maylot W987 from John McEnroe, Co. Meath sold for €3350. John Brady, Co. Cavan achieved €3000 for his champion female and Tommy Beirne, Co. Leitrim also sold his heifer Drumbeera Betsey V257 for €3000.

Bull trade was slower averaging €3400. The champion bull, Liss Masterstroke W013, belonging to John McEnroe, Liss, Co. Meath sold for €3300. Reserve champion male, Drumbeera Mondello W266, belonging to Tommy Beirne was sold for €3500.

The female champion went to John Brady for his September 2020 born heifer Lisnafanna Ellen W053, a daughter of HW Farghal. She sold for €3000.

Reserve female champion went to the November 2020 born daughter of Netherton Mr. Brazilian, Molloy Lady Harper W312. She sold for €2350

The champion male went to the youngest bull in the catalogue, the October 2020 born Liss Masterstroke W013, a son of the reigning All Ireland champion, Mogeely Dreamer T534. He sold for €3300

Reserve champion male was tapped out as Tommy and Patrick Beirnes Drumbeera Mondello W266, a son of their stock bull Caulry Nationwide and a Luddenmore Fionn cow. He sold for €3500

MEMBERS SALES

2021 was a busy year for our members, many of whom organised production sales throughout the year, some taking place on their own farms and others being hosted in local marts. The Covid-19 pandemic saw the introduction of online streaming and bidding services for sales in marts across the country.

This is a welcome technological advancement for the industry as it enabled busy farmers to purchase bulls and heifers at the click of a button. Congratulations to the Coachman, Gigginstown, Clontead, Lisduff, Tara, Goulding, Legane and Corridan herds on their successful sales.

All Ireland Herds Competitions 2021

As the Covid-19 pandemic put paid on agricultural shows for another summer, the Association took the decision to run the regional clubs herd competitions and to culminate the competition into an All Ireland final for small, medium and large herds. Each of the three clubs, Munster, Connaught/Leinster and South Leinster, chose judges to adjudicate over the regional competitions. With over 50 herds entering the competition it was a great success especially for those who missed the buzz of summer shows.

Father and son team, Tommy and Patrick Beirne from Gortvagh, Co. Leitrim took on the task of judging the Munster clubs entries. The Beirne men are very familiar faces on the show and sale scenes for the breed. Their bull calf, Drumbeera Everest U241, a son of herd stock sire, Caulry Nationwide and boasts Aynho Rossiter Eric B125, Rawburn Transformer, Rawburn Edge J983 and Cheeklaw Eirwyn D165 in his pedigree, dominated the summer show scene in 2019.

The South Leinster section was judged by Albert de Cogan from Co. Cork who, along with his wife Jennifer, are no strangers to the show ring and taking the top accolades with their Mogeely herd which was established in 1984. Albert is a renowned stock man who has judged cattle internationally at the highest standard. Mogeely also features heavily in many herds as Albert bred Mogeely Joe H979 who stood in Dovea AI and became a firm favourite with pedigree breeders. The Mogeely Joe son, Mogeely Evitas N265, also made the cut for AI.

Taking on the Connaught/Leinster judging responsibilities was Cathy O'Hara from Co. Antrim. Cathy is well known to breeders for her Innisfayle herd and she also works as the secretary of the highly regarded Northern Ireland Aberdeen Angus club.

Judge	CONNAUGHT/LEINSTER Cathy O Hara	MUNSTER Tommy and Patrick Beirne	SOUTH LEINSTER Albert de Cogan
Small Herd: 1st	John Brady, Co. Cavan, Lisnafanna Herd	Enda Kearney, Co. Clare, Jadam Herd	Louis J Byrne, Co. Wicklow, Castledarragh Herd
Small Herd: 2nd	Barry Smith, Co. Cavan, Lawsons Ford Herd	Henry Dudley, Co. Tipperary, Killea Herd	Josephine Byrne and Dermot Lynch, Co. Wicklow, Tomriland Herd
Small Herd: 3rd	Angela Armstrong McFadden & Marie McFadden, Co. Meath, Crerogue Herd	Jim Kingston, Co. Cork, Heathfield Herd	Gordon Hall, Co. Wexford, Emerald Herd
Medium Herd: 1st	Bernard Kerins, Co. Sligo, Kerins Herd	Eustace & Deirdre Burke, Co. Cork, Clontead Herd	Louis A. Byrne, Tomriland Herd
Medium Herd: 2nd	Michael Smith, Co. Cavan, Lawsons Ford Herd	Donagh & Jane McCarthy, Co. Limerick, Lemonfield Herd	Edna and Reg Rothwell, Co. Wexford, Slaney Herd
Medium Herd 3rd:	Richard Craig, Co. Donegal,	John & Catherine Tait, Co. Cork, Stormborn Herd	Maurice O Flaherty, Co. Kildare, Prusselstown Herd Westellen Herd
Large Herd: 1st	Malachy Tighe, Co. Meath, Tara Herd	Albert de Cogan, Co. Cork, Mogeely Herd	Ann and Michael Murphy, Co. Wexford, Foundry Herd
Large Herd: 2nd	John and Sean McEnroe, Co. Meath, Liss Herd	Matt & Rita Goulding, Co. Kerry, Goulding Herd	Jim Forristal, Co. Wexford, Curraheen Herd
Large Herd: 3rd	Leo McEnroe, Co. Cavan, Lisduff Herd	Oliver Haugh, Co. Clare, Feenagh Herd	
Stock bull	Malachy Tighe: Luddenmore Earl S276	Edward Dudley, Co. Tipperary, Drumkielvey Stud	Ann and Michael Murphy, Liss Manly V862
Cow family	John and Sean McEnroe: Liss Minree	Sheila O'Brien, Carraig Dubh Matilda	Louis A Byrne, Co. Wicklow, Tomriland Precious Belles
Bull Calf born from 01.09.2020 to 31.12.2020	John Brady, Lisnafanna Ed W052	John Tait, Westellen Manhattan W885	Maurice O Flaherty, Co. Kildare, Prusselstown Lord Happy W153
Heifer Calf born from 01.09.2020 to 31.12.2020	Malachy Tighe, Tara Lexy W748	Albert de Cogan, Mogeely Lady Jane W722	Jim Forristal, Co. Wexford, Curraheen Lkya W160
Bull calf born after 01.01.2021	John Brady, Lisnafanna Ross X056		Edna Rothwell, Co. Wexford, Slaney Lord Hazlet X196
Heifer calf born after 01.01.2021	Mick Culkeen, Co. Galway, Blackfield Blackbird X612		Josephine Byrne & Dermot Lynch, Tomriland Esmerica X400

Once the winners of the regional competitions were decided, the 3 judges were rotated to adjudicate the All Ireland Small, Medium and Large herds section. Cathy O'Hara took on the task of judging the All Ireland Large herds section, Albert de Cogan visited the finalists of the Small herds section and Tommy and Patrick Beirne deliberated on the Medium herds finalists. With it being no easy task, the All Ireland winners were announced as:

All Ireland Small Herd – John Bradys LISNAFANNA herd (will receive the Bartle McEnroe Memorial trophy)

All Ireland Medium Herd – Eustace & Deirdre Burkes CLONTEAD herd (will receive the Eustace Burke Snr. Memorial trophy)

All Ireland Large Herd – Malachy Tighes TARA herd (will receive the Jim Jack Memorial trophy)

When restrictions from Covid-19 ease an event will be held to present the prizes for the regional and All Ireland competition winners.

MacG
FEB 21

Flying demand for Angus bulls as early Stirling sale tops 15,000gns with averages up on the year

Covid restrictions didn't dampen spirits at the first major sale of Aberdeen-Angus Bulls of the year at Stirling on Saturday 20 February, when 66 bulls went under the hammer, selling to a top price of 15,000gns.

Demand was certainly up on the year with eight bulls making five-figure sums and averages up £679 compared to 2020 at £6,499, with an 86% clearance rate.

Buyers could bid ringside and via an online bidding facility with the bulls paraded online before the sale.

Galcantray Jedi Eric V287, a May 2019 born bull from the Galcantray herd, Cawdor, Nairn, led the way with the day's high price. He is the first son of JAC Just Eric N026, a MAC Elvis K085 (ET) sired bull bought privately from Robert McNeil's Kincardine Castle herd before the dispersal. The dam, Galcantray Jilly Erica N615 by Carhurlie Dekka H684, goes back to a Findhorn cow that was also bought at a herd dispersal.

Galcantray Jedi Eric V287 sold in a two-way split to Northern Ireland breeder, Jonathan Doyle, buying for this Drumhill herd and Neil and Graeme Massie, Blelack, Dinnet, Aboyne.

The second top price was a 12,000gns bid for Alistair Clark and Sons' April 2019 born bull Duncanziemere Jetstream V322. He is sired by Carruthers Grenadier R797, a male champion at the Royal Highland Show 2019, and is out of one of the best breeding cows in the herd, Duncanziemere Jill S183. Jetstream sold to Aberdeenshire breeders Neil and Mark Wattie, Mains of Tonley.

Andrew Hodge and daughter Emma, Rulesmains, had a cracking sale with one bull selling at 11,500gns and another at 11,000gns, both sired by Rawburn Braw Lad R041. At 11,500gns was the April 2019 born bull, Rulesmains Lord Hugh V245, which was snapped up by J King, South Hill of Dripps. Following closely behind at 11,000gns was Rulesmains Kai V226, also an April 2019 born bull, which sold to J Robert Galloway, Cardona, Perthshire.

Next up selling for 11,000gns was Idvies Frank V892, an April 2019 born bull by homebred bull Idvies Kaiser S784 out of homebred cow Idvies France N606. Idvies Frank V892 sold to Balgay Farm, Perthshire.

Selling for 10,500gns was Stouphill Major Primus V267 from Northumberland breeder, Dallas Allen. The Rawburn Estonian S383 son sold to W Manning, Direnanean Farm, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.

Full ET brothers from the Gordon herd both sold for 10,000gns, sired by Netherallan Peter Pershore E052 out of Belhaven Pole Star H070. First up was Gordon Picasso V448

(ET), which sold to Aberdeenshire breeder WAL Lawson, Scotsmill, Alford. Following closely behind was Gordon Phoenix V451 (ET), which sold to GM Mitchell and Son Hilton of Carslogie, Cupar, Fife.

Females

A small contingent of females were forward on the day selling to a top of 3,200gns for McCornick Duchess V641, a Skaill Dino P099 daughter. She headed home with S and J Fisher, Cleuchead Farm, Roxburghshire. The three females on offer averaged £2,940.

Money Makers



15,000gns- Sale leader was Galcantray Jedi Eric V287, from the Galcantray herd, Cawdor, Nairn. He sold to in a two-way split to Northern Ireland breeder, Jonathan Doyle, and Neil and Graeme Massie, Blelack, Dinnet, Aboyne.



12,000gns - Duncanziemere Jetstream V322 from Alistair Clark and Sons and selling to Neil and Mark Wattie, Mains of Tonley.



11,500gns - Rulesmains Lord Hugh V245 from Andrew Hodge and daughter Emma, Rulesmains, selling to by J King, South Hill of Dripps.



11,000gns - Idvies Frank V892 selling to Balgay Farm, Perthshire.



11,000gns- Rulesmains Kai V226 from Andrew Hodge and daughter Emma, Rulesmains, selling to J Robert Galloway, Cardona, Perthshire.



10,500gns - Stouphill Major Primus V267 from Northumberland breeder, Dallas Allen selling to W Manning, Direnanean Farm, Blairgowrie, Perthshire.



10,000gns - Gordon Picasso V448 from the Gordon herd selling to WAL Lawson, Scotsmill, Alford.



10,000gns - Gordon Phoenix V451 from the Gordon herd selling to GM Mitchell and Son Hilton of Carslogie, Cupar, Fife.



9,000gns - Newhouse Express V782 sold to J Herdman, Edlingham, Alnwick.

Pedigree and commercial buyer demand sees top price of 7,200gns at Stirling's May sale

Demand was high for quality bulls at the May sale in Stirling when it realised a high of 7,200gns. Averages were up on the year by £299.50 at £5,245 accompanied by an 81% clearance rate.

Trade was strong for all ages of bulls and those with good figures with demand coming from both pedigree and commercial buyers.

Leading the day with a top price of 7,200gns was Cardona Jewel Eric V105 from the herd of Robbie Galloway. Sired by Rawburn Boss M554 and out of Cardona Jeweliot Erica S002, he sold to W Mitchell and Sons, Hazelside, Douglas.

Next in the money at 7,000gns was Weeton Equinox V528 from Messrs R and C Rettie. This embryo son of Netherallan Peter Pershore E052 and Blelack Eyrie G197 was snapped up by G M Mitchell and Son, Hilton of Carslogie, Cupar, Fife.

The Tonley herd of Neil A Wattie took home 6,500gns for their home bred entry Tonley Pokemon V657 sired by Tonley Pató N938 out of Tonley Princess N970. He had a long trek back to his new home with buyer Messrs Thomas from Powys, Wales.

A hat trick of bulls went on to sell for 5,800gns. First in the money was Galcantry Dunkirk V241 from David Walkers'

Galcantry herd. He sold to Liam Muir, Orkney. Next, S and S Medley sold Saville Mr Boss Man V175 to local buyers Messrs Greers, Kinross. The last bid at this price was an entry from Caroline Orr with Keirsbeath Pathfinder V565. He sold to the MacKay's in Newton Stewart.

Messrs R and C Rettie were in the money again when Retties Rocky V077 sold for 5,500gns to the Scottish Bull Stud at Knocknagael. Also at this money was an entry from Mrs June Barclay's Hareston herd with Hareston Elijah V294. He found favour and a new home with R Inglis and Son from Aberdour, Fife.

An entry from John Steels' Westdrums herd Westdrums Everest V202 realised a winning bid of 5,200gns from G T and S Coghill. He heads to a new home in Orkney.

Two lots realised 5,000gns, with the first coming from another entry from Neil Wattie's Tonley herd. Tonley Alfie heads to pastures new with Messrs Smith from Dalry near Ayr. Also at this money was Donald Rankin Esq with Kilmaluig Leonardo V278 and selling to Messrs Semple, Campbelltown.

A further 11 lots realised prices from 3,800gns to 4,500gns.

Money Makers



7,200gns - Making the day's top price at the Stirling bull sale in May was Cardona Jewel Eric V105 from the herd of Robbie Galloway.



7,000gns - Weeton Equinox V528 from Messrs R and C Rettie.



6,500gns - Tonley Pokemon V657 from the Tonley herd of Neil A Wattie.



5,800gns - Galcantry Dunkirk V241 from David Walkers' Galcantry herd.



5,800gns - Keirsbeath Pathfinder V565 from Caroline Orr.



Blelack dispersal dominates October's Stirling sale

The October bull sale at Stirling was dominated by the Blelack herd of Neil and Graeme Massie when after 50 years in the breed, they hung up their halter and ended on a high after claiming the Champion rosettes and the sale top price.

BLELACK HERD DISPERSAL

The Blelack herd has been at the forefront of the breed both nationally and internationally. Neil sourced sires from North America in the '80s and '90s, making the herd one of the most successful in the breed's history.

Highly experienced breeder and Judge David Murray from the Wolflaw herd, Forfar, took to the ring as the Societies nominated judge to put the cattle and exhibitors through their paces.

Catching the judge's eye to claim the champion rosette and the day's top bid was Blelack Prince Cartier W035, who sold for 24,000gns to the renowned Idvies herd of Alistair and Graeme Fraser at Forfar.

The reserve champion was awarded to Blelack Kasper W044, who sold for 11,000gns to D Strachan and Sons, East Shawtonhill Farm, Lanarkshire.

The Massie family claimed four of the five top prices in a sale that ended with 42 animals sold and a 68% clearance

rate averaging £6,413. This was up on last year's average by £1,362.

Demand was undoubtedly strong for the Blelack females on offer, with a top price of 32,000gns achieved for Blelack Princess Carina U902 and her heifer calf Blelack Toplass X137 attaining 30,000gns and creating a new breed record price for a heifer calf. This saw the keenest bidding battle of the day, with both consignments going to the same home at Foxhill Farm, prompting a round of applause from the ring when the hammer dropped. The Foxhill herd also secured the top price heifer Blelack Evora W014 for 16,000gns.

Cows with calves at foot saw 26 outfits averaging £6,344 with a top price of 10,000gns achieved by three different lots. Blelack Erica U937 with her heifer calf Blelack Erica X136 sold to the Middletons for their Burnfour herd. The Websters of the Wood Moss herd purchased Blelack Evora U911 with Blelack Egotist X151 and the Calcotts purchased Blelack Beautiful Lady X150 with Blelack Eyrie W067 at foot.

Forty-eight cows sold in split lots to their progeny and averaged £9,115. Bull calves from these split lots averaged £4,592 with a top call of 14,000gns for Blelack Dark Magic X124 (ET). Kevin McOscar acquired him for his Island Farm herd. Heifer calves from the split lots averaged £6,656.



AUCHINCRIEVE EXODUS U285

Senior Stock Sire

Sire of Edition, Shared with the Carruthers Herd

DUNCANZIEMERE EDITION X429

Sired by Exodus & being retained as a stock sire

Pictured at 16 months old



DUNCANZIEMERE SPORTSMAN W357


Junior Stock bull. Full brother to the Winter National Champion 2019.

Pictured at 14 months old

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~ Thank You & Best of Luck to all our 2021 Customers... ~

TONLEY PRODUCTION SALE

In conjunction with the Blelack sale, Neil and Mark Wattie offered a production sale of females, cow and calf units and heifers for sale. The sale topped at a high of 20,000gns for the in-calf heifer Tonley Princess V676 going to the Adam family at Newhouse of Glamis.

Five heifers averaged £2,856. Cows either on their own or split from their calves in the ring averaged £3,925 and saw a top of 14,000gns for Tonley Rosebud U581 selling to Brailes Livestock, with her bull calf Tonley Ronald X800 going the same way for 7,000gns. Bull calves averaged £3,525.

Heifer calves saw six individual lots reaching a peak at 4,500gns for Tonley Ester X811 being knocked down to Donald Rankin of Kilmaluag and averaging £2,800. Cows with calves at foot averaged £5,502.

STIRLING BULL TOP PRICES

Outside of the dispersal and production sales, trade was strong for the bulls on offer. Selling for 10,500gns was Gordon Eton W533 from the Brooke Estate. He sold to the Lindsays at Baldovie.

The Cairnton herd of Ken and Margaret Howie took home 8,000gns for their bull, Cairnton Emperor W452, heading home with Northern Irish breeder Robin Lamb from Armagh.

Three bulls from the Kingholm stable of Matthew Currie; Kingholm Result W280, Kingholm Pickup Man W284 and Kingholm Rostrum W265, attained 7,800, 6,000 and 5,000gns, respectively.

Two consignments exchanged hands at 7,500gns. The first at this money was Harestone Dominator W367 from the Barclays and selling to the Innes family at Dunscroft, Huntly. Next was Retties Prophet W116 selling to Liam Muir, Orkney.



Junior champion and reserve.



Senior champion and reserve.



Intermediate champion and reserve.



Judge David Murray and Barry Turner.



Group of 3 winners Blelack.



Champion and reserve female.



Female group of 3.

MacGregor

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Senior champion scoops top price of 7,500gns at Carlisle Spring show and sale

A fine show of Aberdeen-Angus bulls and females at Carlisle in May resulted in an 85% clearance rate with 52 bulls finding new homes and realising a top price of 7,500gns and females selling to 5,800gns.

Alistair Houston led the day with a top price of 7,500gns for his senior champion Gretna House Eiger V147 selling to Messrs Weir, Stow, Galashiels, Selkirkshire.

Next in the money at 6,500gns was the day's overall champion and junior champion of the show Auchincrieve Excalibur W553 from the Auchincrieve herd of Charles McCombie. He went home with Messrs Rutherford, Whitfield, Hexham, Northumberland.

Neil Wattie's Tonley herd was next up with Tonley Equaliser V662. He changed hands at 6,000gns and headed across the border with Messrs Mactier and Son, Mochrum, Newton Stewart, Wigtownshire.

Also selling at 6,000gns was an entry from Martin McCornick, with the winning bid coming from Adrian and Penny Johnston of the Yearsley herd, Brandsby near York.

Charles McCombie was back in the money when his bull Auchincrieve Elbow W598 realised 5,800gns selling to Messrs Bell, Kirkton, Hawick, Roxburghshire.

Thrunton Pegasus V296 consigned by J H C Campbell and Sons, exchanged hands at 5,200gns selling to Grants Pro-Agri Ltd, Easingwold, Yorkshire.

Auchincrieve Egor W548 from Charles McCombie was the pick of the bunch for JCB Farms Ltd, Farley, Oakamoor, Staffordshire, where the brisk bidding concluded at 5,200gns.

At the same money was Crook-Hill-Dicky-Double-W041 from the Taylors Crook Hill herd and selling to an undisclosed buyer.

FEMALES

Female trade got off to a flying start and remained on a high with a 100% clearance for the 16 females on offer. Leading the trade at 5,800gns was Dr William and Mrs Margaret Taylor, with Liley Bella L103. She is an ET daughter of SAV Nett Worth 4200 and Prairielane 297E Band 3110. She sold with her bull calf at foot which is by Rawburn Makka Pakka.

From the same vendor came Rawburn Duchess Windsor, N770, a daughter of Rawburn Elmer J921 and Rawburn Duchess Windsor J950 with a bull calf at foot sired by Quaker Hill Dead Center. The outfit sold to Messrs Tennant, Lanarkshire.

A 2020 maiden heifer from Martin R McCornick was next in the money with McCornick Duchess W677. She is a homebred daughter of Skaili Dino P099 and is a heifer with a considerable show pedigree. She found appeal at 3,600gns with new owners Messrs Burgess, New Abbey, Dumfries.

Another daughter of Skaili Dino was hot on its heels, with Duchess S264 being the dam of this heifer. Brisk bidding took this heifer born in 2020 to 3,500gns selling to Messrs Halhead, Hillam, Lancaster.

Recognition of the McCornick's breeding carried on when McCornicks Evening Star W673 sired by McCornicks Kerry's Boy S215 and its dam McCornicks Evening Star T405 sold for 3,200gns to Messrs Murphy, Banteer, County Cork.

Last on the role of honour of leading female prices was another McCornick entry with McCornick Nelita W697. Sired by McCornick Evade R168 and out of McCornick Nelita P026, this heifer sold for 3,100gns to Messrs Picken from Kirkcudbright in Dumfries and Galloway.

Averages 52 bulls, £4,163.65; 16 females, £3,018.75.



Senior champion Gretna House Eiger V147 sold for 7,500gns to Messrs Weir, Stow, Galashiels, Selkirkshire.



6,500gns Overall champion and junior champion Auchincrieve Excalibur W553 from the Auchincrieve herd of Charles McCombie.



6,000gns Tonley Equaliser V662 from Neil Wattie's Tonley herd.

Worcester sales



A TOP PRICE OF 4,700GNS AT THE SPRING WORCESTER SALE:

A top price of 4,700gns was reached at the Worcester Spring sale of Aberdeen-Angus bulls and females on Saturday 3rd April 2021. A total of 11 bulls sold to a strong average of more than £3400, both bulls and females were in strong demand at the sale. The sale was held under strict COVID-19 restrictions where all attendees wore face coverings and adhered to the 2m social distancing regulations

Sale topper Warrenho Rambo V810 an April 2019 born bull who is a Hallington Wizard P445 son and out of homebred cow Warrenho Rachel L385. Rambo is a full brother to the multi award winning Warrenho Ronaldo T685 who sold for £5,000 to the Netherlands and also a full brother to Warrenho Raymondo U737 who sold to the Bankier herd in Glasgow. Rambo's sire Hallington Wizard P445 was purchased for £10,000 and has bred exceptionally well for the Warrenho herd. Rambo sold for 4,700gns to GD Swerling & Sons, Bucks.

Next best at 4,300gns was Tree Bridge Ethan V789 a May 2019 born bull by homebred sire Tree Bridge Phevor S627 (ET) and out of homebred cow Tree Bridge Ethe T646 from D & P Evans. Ethan was purchased by S & R Stamp, Mark Highbridge.

Selling for 3,600gns was Rotherwick Boysey V246 from Thomas Foster. Boysey is by the well recognised sire Warrenho Dalmigavie G237 and out of a purchased cow JAC Beauty N013 (ET), Boysey was purchased by Morris & Sons, Shropshire.

Back to the Tree Bridge team with Tree Bridge Jaunt V777 an April 2019 born bull by homebred bull Tree Bridge Portsmouth S630 and out of homebred cow Tree Bridge Jena S680, Jaunt sold for 3,500gns and was bought by top price buyer, GD Swerling & Sons, Bucks.

Back to the Warrenho stable with Warrenho Blackmagic V821 who is another Hallington Wizard P445 son and out of homebred cow Warrenho Blackbird P496 (ET), Blackmagic is a full brother to Warrenho Blackmagic S648 who sold to the Glympton herd where he is breeding exceptionally well. Blackmagic sold for 3,500gns to A Allcock, Stoke on Trent.

Following closely behind selling for 3,400gns was Westwilder Royal Lex V736 a 2019 October born bull by Netherton Black Wizard P810 (ET) and out of homebred cow Westwilder Royal Lady S477, Royal Lex was purchased by GR Needham, West Midlands.

Next up selling for 3000gns was Morpheus Lumberjack W063 a 2020 January born bull by Blelack Entertainer L797 (ET) and out of Haughton Lola R151 (ET), Lumberjack was purchased by TC Williams, Cowbridge.

Other leading prices...

Rotherwick Klown W264 – 2,700gns

Rotherwick Rodney V243 – 2,500gns

Rotherwick IMP W264 – 2000gns

In the female section 3 cows with calves at foot sold to a top of 4200gns to average £4079.25 and 8 heifers selling to a top price of 2300gns to average £1823.85.

Topping the female section at 2,300gns was an in calf heifer from Messers P C Stovold & Son, Rosemead Jessica V135 a April 2019 born heifer who is in calf to Rosemead Jack Eric V093 who is recognised at Rosemead as the best son of Gear Netlad N288. Jessica is by homebred sire Rosemead Earl Samson T866 and out of homebred cow Rosemead Jessica T898. Jessica comes from an award winning family with her grandsire being National Champion in 2017 and dam was South of England Champion in 2018. Jessica was purchased by T C Williams, Cowbridge.

Other leading prices in the female section...

Oakchurch Donna U323 (ET) & calf at foot Oakchurch Donna X419 – 3,780gns

Oakchurch Donna U325 (ET) & calf at foot Oakchurch Dynamon X426 – 3,675gns

Oakchurch Delila U342 (ET) & calf at foot Oakchurch Domino W403 – 4,200gns

Rosemead Black Petal W201 – 1800gns

Rosemead Bella Maid W220 – 2000gns

Warrenho production sale prices...

Warrenho Karama V790 – 1650gns

Warrenho Edwina V817 – 1600gns

Warrenho Jody W868 – 1250gns

Warrenho Juliet Erica W870 – 1600gns

Warrenho Emerald W871 – 1700gns

NIGHTINGALE HERD DISPERSAL SALE

A packed auction ring reflecting the reputation of the choice of breeding that had been adopted by the Late Willie Robertson and family over the years. There was a good few interested parties turned up to view the cattle on the Friday evening before the sale and Angela was in attendance to furnish the buyers with answers to any questions that they may have had on the herd. The Cattle were all immaculately prepared for the sale by Richard Edwards and his team, and they all looked extremely well.

I was party to a conversation with one person viewing who asked Angela, "go on tell me which one is your very best cow" and the answer was simply "I can't single any one out as they are all very good"

Viewing on the Saturday morning before the sale signalled that there was a lot of interest both locally and from further afield with a busy market and Café and a general enthusiastic buzz as the lifting of restrictions allowed a certain normality to return to proceedings.

The auction started at 11.00am on the Saturday with Clive Roads on the gavel with Cow and calf units first through the ring and seeing an average of £4162.50 for the 21 lots on offer. Top of the Shop was Lot number 18, Nightingale Kristina T936 a 2017 Cow sired by Fordel Parthenon Minotaur L486 with her male calf at foot Nightingale Kooper X083 sired by stock bull Drumhill Lord Hampton who was lot 5 in the sale and a powerhouse of a bull. She realised £7,350.00 at the fall of the hammer and went to Peter Vaughan, Vaughan Farms Ltd staying local at Leominster. A further 6 lots of Cow and calf units realised over 5000gns being dispersed to buyers both existing and new to our breed which was very encouraging from a Society perspective.

A further 5 lots of Cows in calf followed hot on the heels of the Cow and calf units and realised an average of £2478.00 with brisk bidding again from around the ring, cows not in calf of which there were four lots realising an average of £1903.00.

Served Heifers forward 5 lots were led by Nightingale Precious Princess W047 a heifer by Drumhill Lord Hampton and PD in calf to Nightingale Kristmas a bull with was to be sold later in proceedings and was available to view attracted strong interest and the hammer dropped at £3225.00 and is destined to return to the herd of her sire of J Doyle at Cookstown in Northern Ireland.

The served Heifers averaged £2349.00 where buyers were investing in stock with plenty of life left in front of them. Maiden Heifers were again a strong trade averaging £2089.50 for the five which were on offer Lot 41 Nightingale Pride Jean W059 a 2020 born Heifer again by Stock sire

Drumhill Lord Hampton topping the group at £2872.00 and a further investment of the Doyle's from Northern Ireland in the young stock on offer to enhance their herd.

Three Stock Bulls averaged £4480.00, leading the way and staying in the family was lot 34 Nightingale Kristmas, V030, a Netherallan Peter Pershore son, out of Kincarie Cassandra D012 and staying local within the Abberton herd of A&C Sutherland, Pershore, Worcestershire at £5880.00 with hot on his heels lot 19 Nightingale Kurt, A son of Bosullow Elmark, again out of Kincarie Cassandra D012 attaining £5250.00 at the fall of the gavel and heading to H&E Powell from Powys.

Three Junior bulls met with a strong trade with two of the three on offer going home with James Waight, from Pewsey in Wiltshire with Nightingale Eric W052 leading the way at £4305.00 and a sound investment in some of the very latest breeding from the Nightingale herd.

The Semen and Embryo trade as always quietened the ring down a bit but still not a mass Exodus and with very obviously strong interest, the Auctioneers were on the phones taking absentee bids. Semen on offer peaked at £33.00 going to D&P Evans. Tree bridge farm for 30 straws of MVBL Lancer semen.

Embryos from many different high-profile mating's were up and down but the high was 320 Gns reached twice by the same buyer The Firm of CR Munro and our Junior Vice President, Finlay Munro making his mark on the sale with further well considered investments in the Balaldie herd from Tain in Ross shire in its direction of breeding.

It was great to have the opportunity to be able to attend in person and see so many of the people that I have not seen for such a long time as I am sure it was as good for them to see each other so normality returns! Many thanks to Chris Wilkinson who took time out to come to the sale and represent the Council.

A sad day when a herd disperses but it was felt by the family that following the passing of Willie that the time was right, and they can be safe in the knowledge of the fact that the legacy that Willie left by his inspirational approach to breeding Aberdeen Angus for some 60 years lives on in Pedigree herds today with the gene pool spread into many different locations.

As always, the Society wishes all purchasers all the very best with their investments and for their new and continued interest in the Aberdeen Angus breed and brand, you are now and hopefully will continue to make investments in the future of the beef industry.

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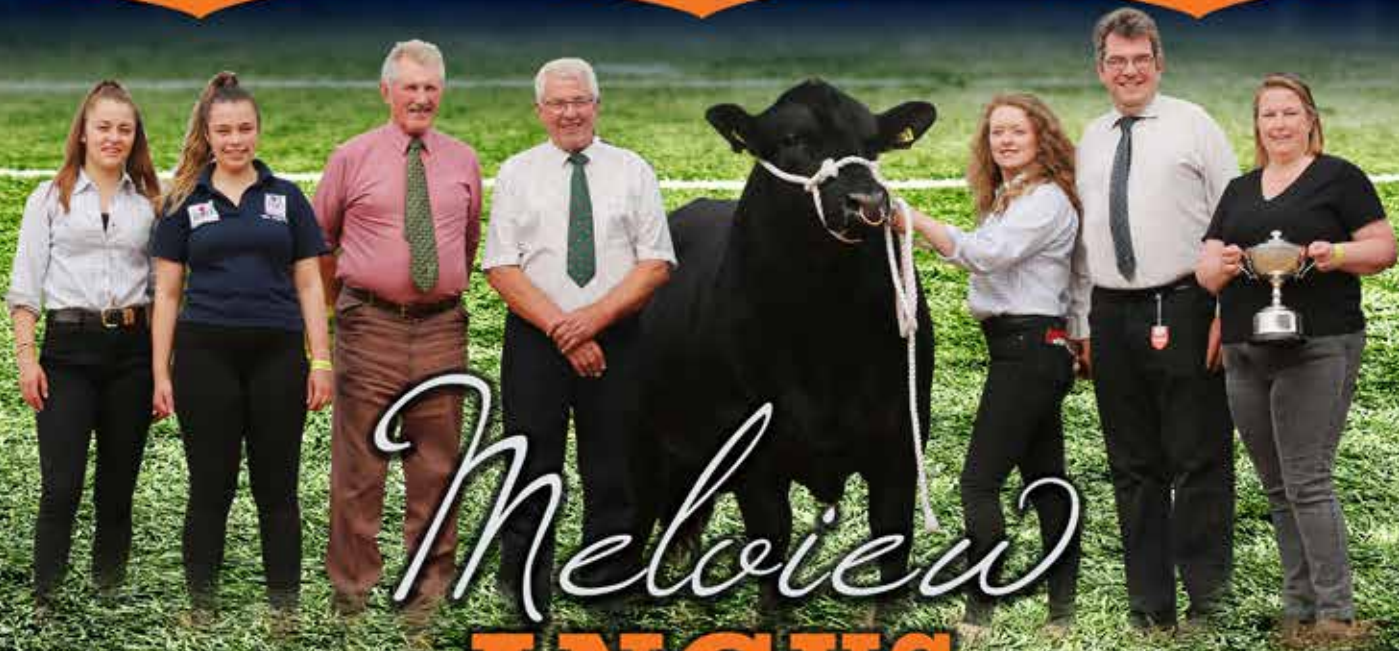


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Romeo leads Melton Mowbray Multibreed sale with 3,600gns top price

A small but quality offering of Aberdeen-Angus bulls realised a high of 3,600gns at the Melton Mowbray Market Multibreed sale on 27 March. Four bulls found new homes to average £3,150 with a 66% clearance.

The top price on the day was a September 2019 born bull, Wensleydale Romeo V143, from Christopher D Timm. Romeo is a Blelack Ensign L796 (ET) son and out of a homebred cow Wensleydale Rosado R037. Romeo was purchased by L J Stamper, Salome Lodge, Huntingdon.

WENSLEYDALE ROMEO V143

Following closely behind were two bulls from David and Penny Evans of Tree Bridge Aberdeen-Angus, which both sold for 3,000gns. First up was Tree Bridge Eastleigh V762, an April 2019 born bull by homebred bull Tree Bridge Portsmouth S630 and out of homebred cow Tree Bridge Estella S600. Eastleigh was purchased by R C Turnbull, Foxfoot Hay Farm, York. Next up was Tree Bridge Poplar V772, also an April 2019 born bull. Poplar is by Gear

Firecracka V772 and out of homebred cow Tree Bridge Polly Pride R534. Poplar was purchased by M Light, Venn Barton, Devon.

Selling for 2,400gns was Park Wall Empire W044, a 2020 February born bull from Mr B K and Mrs J C M Musk. He was purchased by Chandler Farms, Melton Mowbray.



Wensleydale Romeo sold for the day's top price of 3,600gns.

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The 4,000gns joint top price pen from for the local Airedale herd at Skipton Auction Mart's sale of pedigree Aberdeen-Angus females.

Angus females popular at annual CCM Skipton breed fixture

The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society's fourth annual autumn sale of pedigree females at Skipton Auction Mart on Wednesday 10th November had an excellent clearance rate for a catalogue entry of 36 head comprising mainly young cows coming with their second to fourth calves.

The fixture again featured the annual production sale on behalf of the local Airedale herd of South Craven father and son breeders David and Josh Isherwood of Lane Bridge Farm, Kildwick, and quality was once more in evidence among the 21 head on offer.

It was Airedale Kitt U552 that took the first joint lead price of 4,000gns. By Airedale Lord Perseus out of The Moss Kitt, this excellent young March 2018 third calver sold in calf to Airedale Rockonboy. She found a new home in Wales with D E and R Rowbotham, Ystrad Meurig in Ceredigion.

The second at 4,000gns was from the highly respected Kinannie family, the 2017-born Airedale Kinannie T541, by Weeton Ephos. She was scanned carrying her second calf to Weeton Black Battleship and headed north of the border when claimed by I and A Burgess, Dumfries.

Also within the sale was a single March 2019-born young bull, Airedale Mr Essential V615, by Airedale Kasper and a stylish grandson of Weeton Lord Horatio, again out of a Horatio-sired dam. The solid stock bull used on 2020

autumn calvers made 3,700gns when again heading north with Annan's Andrew Ewing.

The Isherwoods had four further 3,000gns-plus sales in their consignment. They run Isherwoods Butchers in Kirkgate, Silsden, where Aberdeen-Angus meat from their Airedale herd remains in popular demand.

Leading price from the collective entry belonged to Adrian and Penny Johnson's Yearsley herd, who claimed 2,600gns for the 2016-born Copperbridge Lady Ruth S002. She is bred by Weald Moor Farms and is a daughter of Rawburn Elysium, scanned in-calf to Black Hawk. She became a further Burgess buy.

Making 2,400gns from the same home was another 2016 Copperbridge Lady Ruth, this S061, out of Wall Lady Ruth by Cardona Potter, sold in-calf to McCormick Pathfinder. This went home with Mr Ewing.

So, too, did another from John Walsh and family, who run the Buckhurst herd at Walmersley, near Bury. Buckhurst Elluma T211, a May 2017 daughter of Blelack Entertainer out of a home-bred Lady Croft Bold Lad dam, sold carrying her second calf to Rolex and topped their run at 2,600gns.

Leading prices and average were: Aberdeen Angus heifers to 1,800gns (av £1,785), cows in-calf to 4,000gns (av £2,713), cow and calf to 1,300gns (£1,365).

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Top price at 5,100gns was Birches Dellboy V916 exhibited by Sam Matchett, Portadown.

Lively trade for Aberdeen-Angus bulls as Birches leads Dungannon entry at 5,100gns

Dungannon Farmers Mart witnessed a strong demand for Aberdeen-Angus bulls at two annual breed sales last year, with a high of 5,100gns and 5,200gns achieved in February and April, respectively.

In February, bulls attracted a steady trade and reached a ceiling of 5,100gns with the 12 lots on offer achieving a 92% clearance, averaging £3,613 per head – an increase of £446 on the same period last year.

Topping trade was the twenty-month-old Birches Bellboy V916 TSI+27 SRI+35 bred by the Matchett family from Portadown, who were 2020 winners of the NI Aberdeen-Angus Club's best large herd award.

Bellboy is sired by the herd's former stock bull Cheeklaw Emlyn P480 – All-Ireland champion and reserve breed champion at Balmoral Show in 2017 and out of the Carrigroe Fred daughter Birches Bell S216. The buyer was Meadow Brook Farm, Newtownstewart, County Tyrone.

The day's second-highest price, 4,800gns, was paid to Jonathan and Lisa Doyle, Cookstown, for the 21-month-old Drumhill Lord Highway V271. He caught the eye of Robin Boyd, who was bidding on behalf of AI Services (NI) Ltd. Sired by stock bull Wedderlie Tarquin L383, this one was bred from the Bleblack Prince Consort A286 daughter Drumhill Lady Heather P366.

Drumhill Lord Highway V271 is in the breed's top 5% for milk+19, top 10% for terminal sire index +43, and top 25% for self-replacing index +51 and eye muscle area +4.6.

The next best at 4,300gns was the twenty-month-old Glen Cowie Royal Senator V634 brought out by Gary Hanna on behalf of Iain Colville, Newtownards. He was sired by Bleblack Evolution R454 ET, and is bred from foundation female Ardoyne Royal Lavender N231. He joins a suckler herd based at Castle Dobbs near Carrickfergus.



Drumhill Lord Highway V271 bred by Jonathan and Lisa Doyle, Cookstown, sold to AI Services Ltd for 4,800gns



Sale leader at 5,200gns was Bessiebell Lord Thatcher V072 from Jack Smyth, Newtownstewart.

April native breed sale

At Dungannon's Native Breeds sale in April, prices soared to a top of 5,200gns, and following a complete clearance, auctioneer Trevor Wylie confirmed 12 bulls changed hands to level at £3,447 per head.

Claiming the day's highest bid of 5,200gns was Bessiebell Lord Thatcher V072 bred by Jack Smyth from Newtownstewart, County Tyrone. This eighteen-month-old bull is sired by Linton Gilbertines Preacher S088 and is the first calf bred from the multi-award-winning Bova Lord Blackwood H175 daughter, Drumbeera Lady Thatcher T226. He was secured by the two-cow Bessiebell prefix for €4,500.

The second-highest price of the day, 4,100gns, was paid to Alan and Naomi Morrison, Maguiresbrige, County Fermanagh, for the June 2019 Drummeer Lord Thor V334 TSI+32 SRI+41. Sired by Wedderlie Blackbox J935 and out of the home-bred Nightingale Eldorado G381 daughter Drummeer Lady Tara N407, he sold to Riddell and Timothy Murphy, Derrynoose, County Armagh.

The Morrison partnership also realised 3,000gns for the April 2019 Drummeer Bateman V286 TSI+29 SRI+37. Another by Wedderlie Blackbox J935, his dam is the Blelack Evermore J231 daughter Drummeer Beauty P573.

The January 2020 born Ballyvaston Emperor W112 bred by Christopher Strain, Downpatrick, County Down, sold to dairy farmer David Todd, Dungannon, County Tyrone, for 3,700gns. Sired by Linton Gilbertines Preacher S088, he is out of the home-bred Ballyvaston Eve T041, a daughter of the noted three-times all-Ireland champion Rosemead Karona J957.

The next best at 3,400gns was Lurgaboy Armani V363, consigned by Joe Conlon from Markethill, County Armagh. Born in September 2019, he is sired by Friarstown Evolver N274 and is bred from the Haymount Wurz F676 daughter Penguin Anne K427. The buyers were Messrs D and W Dunbar from Newtownstewart.



Drummeer Bateman V286 sold at 4,100gns for Alan and Naomi Morrison, Maguiresbrige.

A lifetime's work and a lifetime's passion..

What a reward for my father Neil to see so many friends and so many new breeders show such appreciation of a lifetime's work and make the Blelack dispersal such an incredible day.

A special thanks goes to my mum who put up with dad and I bickering for the last 40 years, my son Jack who

has been a great help on the farm for the last couple of years. Hayley, Jacks'

twin sister, who always shows the bulls so beautifully and my niece Gabby who, along with Nicola Howie, got the cattle ready for the sale.

A huge thank you to all the bidders and buyers and may the cattle bring you much joy and success

Graeme Massie



Stirling, October 2021. Left to right - Gabby at the halter with Blelack Bright Lad; Hayley with the reserve supreme and junior champion, Blelack Kasper; Jack with the supreme and intermediate champion, Blelack Prince Cartier

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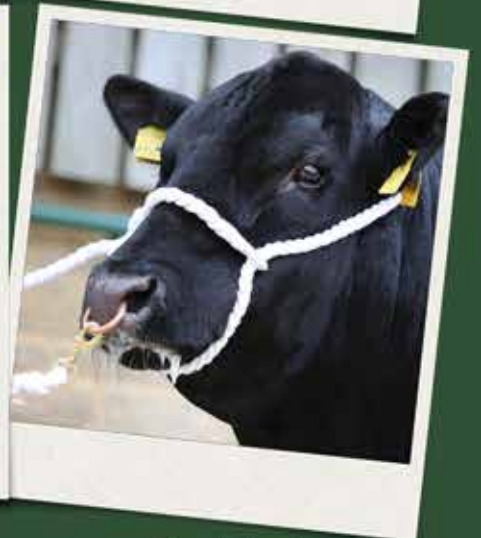
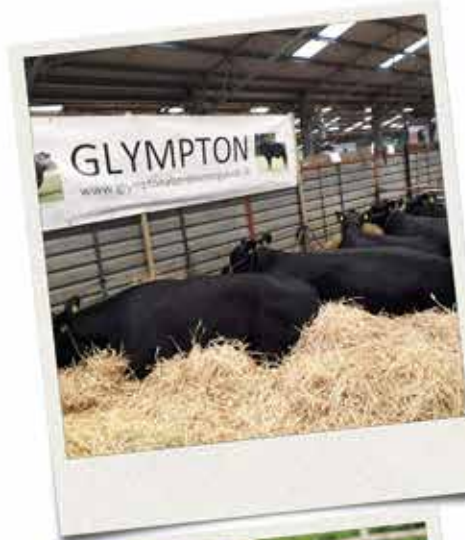
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Youngstock shine through at Stars of the Future Show

More than 60 Aberdeen-Angus entries were forward for the 11th Stars of the Future Show at United Auctions, Stirling, in November (13th), where the judge of the day was David Johnstone, of the Ballindalloch Estate.

His senior champion on the day came from Jamie Rettie with his August 2020 heifer Retties Lady Ruth W148. She is the daughter of Rawburn Transformer and out Wall Lady Ruth E397. Native interbreed judge John Morton went on to put her up as native senior champion.

Standing reserve to her from the Wattie family was their November 2020 heifer Tonley Ester W786 sired by Tonley Kasper U512 and out of Tonley Ester S255. She also took the pairs competition with her herd mate Tonley King Paco X812.

Junior champion was from the Alford family with Oak Moor Kingston X574. Sired by Duncanziemere Edwin J311 and out of Oak Moor Katya R295, he went on to stand native junior champion.

Standing reserve to him was the Rettie family with their February 2021 heifer calf Retties Eveline X168. She is sired by Retties Lark Royal U025 and out of Hillfoots Evelena N252.



Retties Lady Ruth W148.



Tonley Ester.



Oak Moor Kingston X574.



Retties Eveline X168.



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Spending fever hits elite female sale at Carlisle as it tops 29,000gns with Retties Lady Ruth

The inaugural Angus Fever Sale took place on Friday 19th November 2021 at Borderway Mart, Carlisle, where 20 lots of elite champion Angus from 13 consignors sold to a top price of 29,000gns (£30,450) and averaged a whopping £7,806.75 with a 95% clearance rate.

The top price of 29,000gns was paid for Retties Lady Ruth W148 from Jamie Rettie, Perth, Scotland. This female was reserve champion at the Aberdeen-Angus Winter National at Agri Expo in October and went on to be crowned senior Aberdeen-Angus champion and senior native champion at Stars of the Future. She was the first Retties Lady Ruth ever to be offered for auction and was knocked down to Brailes Livestock.

The second-highest price of the day was paid for Gordon Rosebud V457 from the Trustees of the late Gordon Brooke. Rosebud V457 is the only daughter of Musgrave Sky High and Cudlobe Rosebud 99W registered in the UK herdbook. With a full brother retained at Rawburn, she carries fantastic performance figures, including a +1.5 for intramuscular fat (IMF) – one of the highest females in the UK. Scanned in-calf to Nichols Expectation, she sold for 13,000gns (£13,650) to J and E Logan, Galawater Aberdeen-Angus, Galashiels, Scotland.

The next highest price was paid for Rawburn Elegy V876 from John Elliot Esq. A daughter of feed efficiency giant Nichols Expectation C370, she was his first daughter ever offered for sale at public auction. She is one of the highest indexed females to ever sell in the UK with a Terminal Index of +64 and Self Replacing Index of +80. Scanned safely in-calf to Rawburn Jumbo Eric T627, she realised 11,000gns (£11,550) and sold to Firm of G Gray, Ettrick Aberdeen-Aberdeen Angus, Selkirk, Scotland.

The lead lot from Catherine McLaren was the 2013-born Netherton Blackbird N779. This Ranui W Impact 672 daughter has been part of the Netherton donor team for several years and has had embryos sold to Rawburn and exported globally. She is also a daughter of former Summer and Winter National champion female Netherton Blackbird K544. Scanned back in calf to HW Evander S051, she sold for 9,000gns (£9,450) to Vaughan Farms Ltd, Leominster, Herefordshire.

Blackbird's May 2021 bull calf Netherton Black Rain X970 sold immediately after her. Sired by feed efficiency sire Rawburn Bannockburn and carrying 14 traits in the top 30% of the breed, he was knocked down to Genus Breeding for 6,500gns (£6,825).

Also realising the 9,000gns was Idvies Pinky Petal V866 from Messrs F J Fraser and Son of Idvies Aberdeen-Angus. Sired by the 15,000gns Thrunton Panther and out of a daughter of the £30,000 Rawburn Rommel, she shares the same maternal grand dam as Idvies Pink Peugeot. Scanned in-calf to former Stirling champion Idvies Ferrari, she was sold for 9,000gns (£9,450) to B and I Mitchell, Glasgow, Scotland.

INAUGURAL HW ANGUS MATRON SALE

H & H Borderway Mart hosted the first HW Angus matron sale on the same day, seeing females sell to 9,500gns for the August 2016 cow HW Blackbird S182 with her male calf at foot HW Black Bentley X510 by HW Evander S051. The buyer was John James for his Glasnant herd in Wales.

The next highest price with a calf at foot went to HW Gammer Eulanne T452, who sold with her HW Evander S051 sired bull calf HW Gumbo X479, at 5,800gns.

The highest price for a cow was 8,000gns for HW Karama T532 (ET), an April 2017 cow sired by Rawburn Boss M554. She was closely followed by HW Annie R488 and HW Madame Pride S632 (ET), going for 7,000gns each.



HW Blackbird S182 with her male calf at foot sold for 9,500gns.

Tonley herd storms Black Beauty Bonanza show scooping two Championship awards

Aberdeen-Angus breeders turned out in force for the North East Aberdeen-Angus Club's Black Beauty Bonanza, which for the first time was held at the end of November as part of Aberdeen and Northern Marts' Aberdeen Christmas Classic at Thainstone Centre, Inverurie.

Twenty-five exhibitors from Orkney to the Borders turned out with a total entry of almost 90 calves and yearlings, parading before judge Graham Massie, Blelack, Dinnet.

Graham has exhibited cattle from his renowned Blelack herd at every Black Beauty since the show started in 1996 but was able to accept the invitation to judge following the record-breaking dispersal of the Blelack herd at Stirling in October.

It was a great day for father-and-son, Neil and Mark Wattie, Mains of Tonley, Alford, who carried off two of the four championship awards. First was with their yearling heifer, Tonley Ester W712, a 20-month-old daughter of the home-bred, Tonley Kasper U512, and secondly with the bull calf championship with the nine-month-old Tonley King Paco X812, by Kasper's sire, Tonley Jester Eric S318.

The reserve yearling heifer championship went to the 14-month-old Harestone Red Black Ruby W500, from June Barclay, Harestone, Banchory, who has recently started an Aberdeen-Angus herd to challenge husband Neils' highly successful Charolais herd.

Robbie Galloway, managing director of leading Aberdeen-Angus beef processors, Scotbeef, took the reserve bull calf championship with the 17-month-old Cardona Jeweliot Eric X309, by Stouphill Mr Peroni, from his Cardona herd at Doune.

It was also a successful day for Charles McCombie, owner of the old established Auchincrieve herd at Rothiemay, whose three first prize winners included the heifer calf champion, Auchincrieve Lady Image X675, a January-born daughter of Tonley Jester Eric S318. The herd also won the coveted Auchincrieve Trophy, presented by Charles' mother, Elizabeth McCombie, in memory of her late husband, for the best pair of Aberdeen-Angus calves.

A March-born daughter of the home-bred Newton Muchalls Theo, Newton Jill Erica X090, from Ray Gardiner, Newton Smiddy, Skene, stood reserve for the heifer calf championship.

Show sponsors, Ballindalloch Highland Estate on Speyside, owners of the oldest Aberdeen-Angus herd in the country going back to 1860, were runners up for the Auchincrieve Trophy, their duo including the yearling bull champion, the 20-month-old Ballindalloch Gaffer W600, by Ardoyne Munro Prince K191.

This bull was just pipped for the yearling bull championship by the 15-month-old Retties Lord Edwin W150, by Duncanziemere Edwin J311, from top show couple Richard and Carol Rettie, Methven, Perth.

The best pair of yearlings award went to A J R Farms, Milton of Collieston, Ellon, and the reserve to Club Chairman Hugh Thomson, and his wife, Cara, of Tynet, Buckie.





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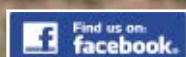
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- Bull**, born on or between 1 April and 31 July 2021.
- Bull Calf**, born on or between 1 August and 31 December 2021.
- Bull Calf**, born in 2022.
- Female**, born on or before 31 December 2018. Dry and due to calve in 2022 without calf at foot.
- Female**, born on or before 31 December 2018 with natural calf at foot.
- Female**, born on or between 1 January and 31 December 2019 with natural calf at foot.
- Female**, born in 2020.
- Female**, born in 2020 with first natural calf at foot.
- Heifer**, born on or between 1 January and 31 March 2021.
- Heifer**, born on or between 1 April and 31 July 2021.
- Heifer Calf**, born on or between 1 August and 31 December 2021.
- Heifer Calf**, born in 2022.

CHAMPIONSHIP & SPECIAL PRIZES

- Championship Rosette & Card and Reserve Championship Rosette & Card** for the Best Aberdeen Angus Cow or Heifer.
- NATIONAL SUMMER SHOW TROPHY - CRIDLAN TROPHY**, presented to the best placed female with natural calf at foot.
- Championship Rosette & Card and Reserve Championship Rosette & Card** for the Best Aberdeen Angus Bull.
- NATIONAL SUMMER SHOW TROPHY - PERPETUAL SILVER CHALLENGE TROPHY**, presented to the Best Aberdeen Angus Bull. This trophy is presented by kind permission of RASE, formerly presented at the Royal Show.

Junior Champion, Special Rosette and Reserve Special Rosette for the best Junior Heifer or Bull born on or after 1st January 2021. The winner will go forward to the Interbreed Native Junior Championship on Thursday.

NATIONAL SUMMER SHOW TROPHY - NIGHTINGALE TROPHY - Presented to Yearling/Junior Champion.

Best of Breed Sash, Rosette & Card & £50 and Reserve Best of Breed Rosette & Card & £25. A Rosette & Sash will be given by the Aberdeen Angus Cattle Society. **The BOVRIL Perpetual Challenge Cup (B37)**, presented by Messrs. Bovril Ltd. for the Best Aberdeen Angus of either sex.

NATIONAL SUMMER SHOW TROPHY - THE CERTIFIED ABERDEEN-ANGUS BEEF TROPHY & £1000 for the Champion Animal and £500 for the Reserve Champion Animal. Prize money to be paid by the Aberdeen-Angus Society following the show.

NATIONAL SUMMER SHOW TROPHY - THE DUCHESS R35 MEMORIAL TROPHY - Presented by Jerusalem Angus for the Supreme Champion Animal.

£30, Norfolk Special Rosette & Card and Reserve Norfolk Special Rosette & Card for the Best Animal in the Aberdeen Angus classes, bred and exhibited by a breeder whose herd is based at premises within the County of Norfolk.

Best of Breed Group of Three Rosette & Card and Reserve Best of Breed Group of Three Rosette & Card for the best group owned and bred by the exhibitor and drawn from the above classes.

NATIONAL SUMMER SHOW TROPHY - NETHERTON TROPHY, presented to the best group of 3 owned and bred by the exhibitor and drawn from the above classes. This trophy is presented by kind permission of RASE, formerly presented at the Royal Show.



Females steal the show at Balmoral

A fantastic show, with a tremendous championship line-up and great breed representatives were how English judge David Evans described the Aberdeen-Angus entry at the 152nd Balmoral Show.

Mr Evans, who owns the 75-cow Tree Bridge Herd based at Middlesbrough, Cleveland, awarded the female and supreme overall championship ribbons to the junior cow Woodvale Miss Annie U436. She is bred and exhibited by the Armour family – Alwyn, Carol, Lee, Craig and Adam from Dromara, County Down.

She also beat off stiff competition in the interbreed championships to win the LMC supreme champion of champions award.

Born in November 2018 and sired by the herd's stock bull Oak Moor Mr Paul S311, her dam is the home-bred Woodvale Miss Annie N611. The champion was shown in the ring alongside her December-born Oak Moor Lord Ivanho U419 daughter; and is in-calf, due in February 2022, to Woodvale Lord Juggernaut.

"This is a beautiful young cow and a great example of what the breed needs. She is feminine, has great conformation, and exceptional breed character," said Mr Evans, who recently won the Aberdeen-Angus Summer National at the 222nd Westmorland Show with a five-year-old cow.



Woodvale Miss Annie U436 scooped the female and supreme overall champion ribbons shown alongside her December-born daughter Oak Moor Lord Ivanho U419.

Claiming the reserve championship award was the reserve female prize winner Crew Blackbird W892 exhibited by Allen Shortt and Jack Smyth from County Tyrone. Born in January 2020, she is sired by Linton Gilbertines Preacher S088 and is bred from Isauld Blackbird S611.

Mr Evans added: "The reserve champion is another exceptional female, with great breed type, good structure, and sound mobility."

The male championship ribbons went to the senior bull Stouphill Eligh U217 owned by barrister Iain Colville, who established his Newtownards-based herd in 2014. Born in April 2018, this bull was a first prize winner at the 2019 Royal Highland Show and was purchased at Stirling for 7,500gns as a stock bull for Mr Colville's 22-cow Glen Cowie Herd.

"This is a strong bull with good breed character and conformation. He has great length and moved well considering his size and weight," said Mr Evans.

Runner-up for the male championship title was the junior bull Loughans Moaning W591, bred by former Ulster and Ireland rugby captain Rory Best and father John from Poyntpass. Sired by Rawburn Jagger Eric R094, this one is out of the home-bred dam Loughans Mertile T305 – one of 60 pedigree cows in the herd.



The male championship ribbons went to the senior bull Stouphill Eligh U217.

The breed also had success when Woodvale Miss Annie U436 joining forces with the senior bull Stouphill Eligh U217, owned by Iain Colville, to win the M&S interbreed beef pairs championship. The winning duo were then joined by Iain Colville's senior heifer Glen Cowie Blackbird Special V704, to secure the Linden Foods native interbreed group championship.

Results from the judging ring...

Specials

The Aberdeen Angus Perpetual Challenge Cup for the supreme champion: Alwyn and Carol Armour and Sons. Reserve: Alan Shortt and Jack Smyth.

Award for the junior champion: Alan Shortt and Jack Smyth.

WJ Carson Memorial Perpetual Challenge Cup for exhibitor-bred champion: Alwyn and Carol Armour and Sons.

JD Templeton Memorial Perpetual Challenge Trophy for the best yearling bull: John and Rory Best.

Drumlister Trophy for the best animal of opposite sex to the champion: Iain Colville.

Tyrone Crystal Award for the best pair of heifers: Iain Colville. Reserve: Fintan Keown.



Runner-up for the male championship title was the junior bull Loughans Moaning W591.



Worldwide genetics selected to breed world class cattle

Our home bred cattle are born and raised outdoors. They are forage fed at home and on neighbouring conservation land. Our aim is to produce breed moderate framed cattle with high genetic merit in the top 10% of EBVs for the breed.



Wildfell Perseus T099, senior stock bull



Te Mania Berkley B1 (AI) (IMP)



Te Mania Legend L646 (AI) (IMP)



Te Mania Nebo N424 (AI) (IMP)

We have a great selection of young bulls for sale.

Our stock bulls are:

Wildfell Perseus T099
Wildfell Prince W326
Wildfell Emporer V229
Wildfell Magic Brave U124

Our other AI sires are:

Tuwharetoa Regent D145 (AI) (IMP)
Quaker Hill Blindside SGR (AI) (IMP)
Quaker Hill Westcoast QHF (AI) (IMP)

MacG
OCT 21

Tonley heifer scoops breed champion at Borderway Agri Expo

MORE than 12,000 visitors attended this year's Borderway Agri Expo in Carlisle on October 29th, where some of the best British livestock were on show, including a large contingent of Aberdeen-Angus cattle.

More than 100 entries were forward for the breeds Winter National show, with the judge for the day, Matthew Stoker, herd manager for the Easton Greys herd, heading the long distance from Wiltshire.

Catching the judge's eye was an entry from the Wattie family, the November 2020 heifer Tonley Ester W786 who was crowned breed champion. She is sired by Tonley Kasper U512, who sold for 11,000gns at the February 2020 Stirling Bull Sale and is out of Tonley Ester S255.

Standing reserve to her was Retties Lady Ruth W148 (ET) from Jamie Rettie. She is an August 2020 born daughter of Rawburn Transformer and out Wall Lady Ruth E397.

Male champion was from the Wylies Brailes herd. Brailes Finnegan W143 is an August 2020 bull by Duncanziemere Editor P112 (ET) and out of Gretnahouse Fleur R758.

Calf champion was from the Wattie Family with Tonley King Paco X812, a May 2021 bull by Tonley Jester Eric S318 and out of Wall Kind Pride L004.

Aberdeen-Angus also shone through outside of the Winter National, when the Aberdeen-Angus cross steer, bred and exhibited by D and P Blair of Balmerino in Fife, won the baby beef supreme champion at Agri Expo. This is an award that has never previously been won by a native breed.



Breed champion Tonley Ester W786.



Reserve champion Retties Lady Ruth W148.



Male champion Brailes Finnegan W143.



Calf champion Tonley King Paco X812.

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Taking the male and overall breed champion was H W Black Banjo V739, from Melview Farming of Dymock in Gloucestershire.

Banjo plays a tune at Devon County!

Devon County Show was one of the first shows to go ahead in 2021, with a strong consignment of Aberdeen-Angus animals paraded to the 25,000 members of the visiting public.

The Angus sections were judged by James Playfair-Hannay, with four herds fighting it out for the big prizes.

Taking male and overall breed champion was H W Black Banjo V739, on his first-ever show outing, having been purchased privately during the pandemic by Melview Farming of Dymock in Gloucestershire. This young bull is a son of Rawburn Boss Hogg N630 from the renowned Blackbird cow family.

Taking female champion and reserve breed champion was Angus Neish's heifer Rodmead Primrose W971. According to the judge, this stunning heifer by Blelack Blue Jay R631 led a super show of modern Angus females. Reserve female champion was Melview Kitkat V318, a two-year-old heifer with a heifer calf at foot.

The Angus breed did incredibly well in the interbreed classes, with Melview Farming winning the interbreed group of three and Banjo taking honourable mention in the native championship. In addition, Angus Neish scooped the reserve champion in both the interbreed junior championships with Primrose in the heifers and Rodmead Prague W014 (the reserve male breed champion) in the bulls.

For information on all Aberdeen-Angus Clubs and wider Society news and updates visit our website and follow us on social media

www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk



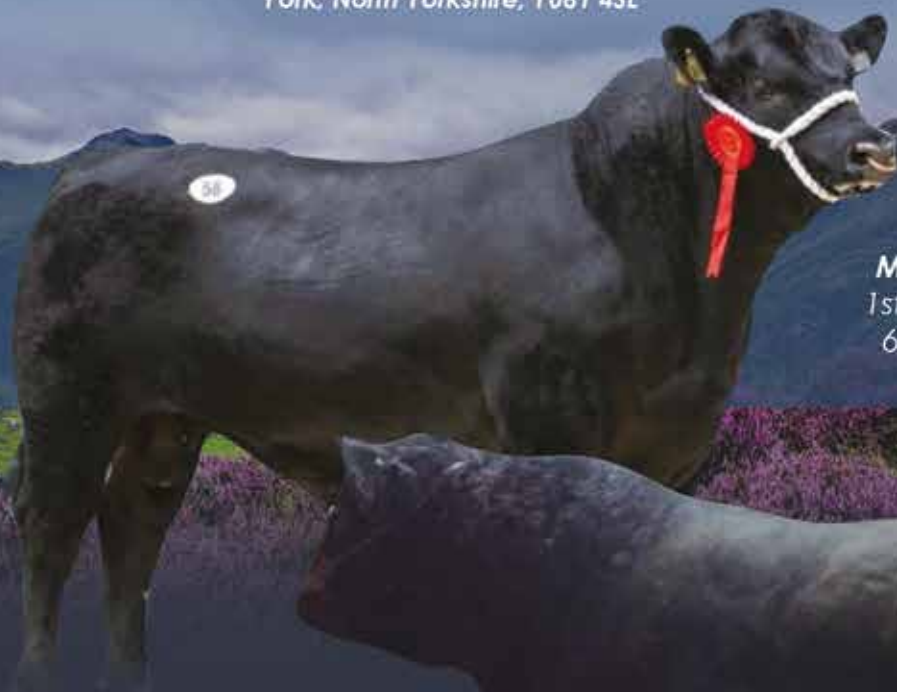
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6000gns, Carlisle May'21



NATIVE ANGUS BULL!

Champagne Crake Baron R466
Semen Available



STOCK SIRE!

McCornick Pathfinder U465

Overall Champion and purchased
for 7500gns, Stirling Feb'20

REDUCTION SALE
NOVEMBER 2022

Everything over 2 years old sells!

Quality stock parade at Highland Showcase

The crowds may not have donned the showground in Edinburgh due to Covid-19 restrictions, but that did not deter a quality consignment of stock turning up to parade in the show ring at the Highland Showcase last summer.

Andrew Adam of Newhouse was the judge and a firm favourite in his eyes was March 2019-born Weeton Blackbird V519, who he tapped out as his champion. She is a daughter of Rawburn Boss hogg from Richard Hassal and Rachel Wylie of Brailes Livestock. She was prepared and shown by Carol Rettie.

Reserve breed champion went to Kilmaluig Lord Blackbeauty W228. A son of Water End Payton and Blelack Lady Blackcap S406 from the Skye breeder Donald Rankin and prepared and shown by Richard Rettie.

The champion and reserve went on to win the interbreed pairs competition, which was judged by all the individual breed judges in a panel format for the Highland Showcase 2021 and vindicated the choice of Andrew Adam for his two champions.

Results

Junior female born on or after 20th June 2019

- 1st Rulesmains Karen W320 – Rulesmains, Duns
- 2nd Balavilhouse Rosie W889 – Balavil Estate Services, Inverness-shire
- 3rd Balavilhouse Rosie W886 – Balavil Estate Services, Inverness-shire
- 4th Barnsview Portree W275 – Barnsview Aberdeen Angus, Perthshire

Senior female born on or before 19th June 2019

- 1st Weeton Blackbird V519 – Brailes Livestock, Moreton-in-Marsh
- 2nd Logie Pride R585 – AJR Farms, Aberdeenshire
- 3rd Brailes Miss Ellie U036 – Brailes Livestock, Moreton-in-Marsh
- 4th Barnsview Patricia V269 – Barnsview Aberdeen Angus, Perthshire

Junior bull born on or after 20th June 2019

- 1st Kilmaluig Lord Black Beauty W288 – Donald Rankin, Isle of Skye
- 2nd Rulesmains Excalibur W338 – Rulesmains, Duns
- 3rd Cairnton Emperor W452 – Cairnton Farm, Aberdeenshire
- 4th Retties Prophet W116 – R & C Rettie, Perth

Senior bull born on or before 19th June 2019

- 1st Blelack Prince Cornelius S661 – AJR Farms, Aberdeenshire
- 2nd Cairnton Black Captain V443 – Cairnton Farm, Aberdeenshire

Best female

Weeton Blackbird V519 – Brailes Livestock, Moreton-in-Marsh

Best male

Kilmaluig Lord Black Beauty W288 – Donald Rankin, Isle of Skye

Overall champion

Weeton Blackbird V519 – Brailes Livestock, Moreton-in-Marsh

Overall reserve champion

Kilmaluig Lord Black Beauty W288 – Donald Rankin, Isle of Skye



Weeton Blackbird V519 was crowned the champion.



The champion and reserve went on to win the interbreed pairs competition which was judged by all the individual breed judges in a panel format for the Highland Showcase 2021 and vindicated the choice of Andrew Adam for his two champions.

Morrison

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CARRUTHERS EDD W081

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HEIFER CALF CHAMPION AT THE WINTER NATIONAL
SHOW '21
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CARRUTHERS GOLDSMITH W061

JUNIOR CHAMPION AT THE GREAT YORKSHIRE
SHOW '21

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Excellent example of breed scoops champion title at Westmorland Show

The 222nd Westmorland County Show played host to our National Summer Show. Judging in the sunshine was ably taken care of by James Playfair-Hannay of the Tofts herd putting the animals and exhibitors through their paces.

Champion on the day was Tree Bridge Polly Perkins from David and Penny Evans. She is a 2016 born daughter of Oakchurch Evor N123.

She had earlier taken the female championship, with Andrew Hodge's Rulesmains Princess V183 in reserve. David and Penny Evans were delighted with their win, describing Tree Bridge Polly Perkins as always the bridesmaid and never the bride. The duo enjoyed one of their most successful days on the show and sale circuit taking home the lion's share of the spoils that were up for grabs on the day.

Standing reserve was Richard and Carol Rettie's September 2020 born bull Retties Lord Edwin W150, a son of Duncanziemere Edwin J311 and out of Wall Lady Ruth E397. In

the judge's words, the animal typified the type of animal the market was looking for in size, length and locomotion. The judge predicted the bull to be one to watch in the future.

Yearling champion was awarded to the April-born Retties Prophet W116. He is a son of Gretnahouse Blackpot P685.

Reserve was the heifer champion, Longbank Ethel W305, from the Duncan family. Ethel is a March 2020 born daughter of Duncanziemere Jupiter S175.

Commenting on the show, Mr Playfair-Hannay said: "After the difficulty of lockdown and the pandemic, it was lovely to see so many exhibitors coming forward to support the breed. The champion was a great example of a suckler cow. The bull champion is something to look out for in the future."

The Society was grateful to Tesco and The Foyle Food Group for their generous sponsorship of the event. Both companies presented the championship trophies to David and Penny.



Judge James Playfair-Hannay.



Overall champion and reserve.



Retties Lord Edwin W150.



Retties Prophet W116.



Tree Bridge Polly Perkins interbreed champion.



Tree Bridge Polly Perkins, Cheerbrook Profit, Weeton Blackbird, Rulesmains Priceless.



Tree Bridge Polly Perkins.



Treebridge Polly Perkins and Cheerbrook Profit interbreed Pairs.



Yearling champion Retties Prophet W116 and Reserve yearling champion Longbank Ethel W305.

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STOCK BULLS

**DUNCANZIEMERE
JASON
T223**

Intermediate Champion
Stirling October 2018



**BLELACK LORD
BLACKTHORN
S825**

Purchased privately
from Shadwell



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Females grab top spots at Great Yorkshire Show

After a long break owing to the pandemic, the Great Yorkshire Show for 2021 opened its doors to a limited public attendance over four days.

The judge for the 2021 Aberdeen-Angus classes was Neil Wattie from the Tonley herd in Aberdeenshire, who cast his expert eye over the entries for the year. He named his champion as Weeton Blackbird V519 from R Hassell and R Wyllie, Brailes Livestock, for their entry shown by Carol Rettie.

Reserve overall champion on a day where the females stole the show was an entry from the Allen Family from Stouphill near Alnwick in Northumberland, with Stouphill Lady Rose. She is an impressive cow and calf unit and was put through her paces by Dallas Allen on the day.

Results of the classes

Class 17 – Bull Born before 1st Jan 2020

1st Mr D Rankin – Blelack Equator V976

Class 18 – Bull Born in 2020 between 1st January and 31st March

1st- Mr D Rankin – Kilmaluag Lord Blackbeaty W288

Class 19 – Bull born on or after 1st April 2020

1st- Mr J G Graham – Carruthers Goldsmith
2nd R and C Rettie – Retties Prophet W116
3rd- Miss J H Swires – Cragg Lord Lysandor W172

Class 20 – Cow in milk or in calf born before 1st January 2019

1st W D Allen – Stouphill Lady Rose
2nd M and M Alford – Eastfield Patricia
3rd Mrs J L Denning – Temple Rosebud
4th R Hassell and R Wyllie – Cheeklaw Black Beth T597

Class 21 – Heifer Born in 2019

1st R Hassell and R Wyllie – Weeton Blackbird V519
2nd D W Allen – Stouphill Ella
3rd Mr R J Ashworth – Blackrodian Evita
4th Mr S I Burgess – Carruthers Georgie

Class 22 – Heifer Born in 2020 on or between 1st January and 31st March

1st H Heerema – Balavilhouse Miss Bangle W886

Class 23 – Heifer Born in 2020 on or after 1st April

1st H Heerema – Balavilhouse Rosie W889
2nd Mr R J Ashworth – Stonylane Evita

The male championship was a close-run thing with Blelack Equator V976 from the stable of Mr Donald Rankin and Carruthers Goldsmith the widely admired Junior bull entry from Donald Graham shown by son Jack, taking the honours champion and reserve, respectively.

As a sequel victory to the Devon County Show young handler's competition victory, member Grace Denning, from the renowned Temple herd, came out completely on top taking first place in her age group section and going through to the final and taking the Great Yorkshire Show young handler title for 2021.



Overall breed champion R Hassell and R Wyllie, Brailes Livestock, with their entry Weeton Blackbird V519 shown by Carol Rettie.



Stouphill Lady Rose from the Allen family, Northumberland, took reserve overall champion with Stouphill Lady Rose.



Judge Neil Wattie from the Tonley herd in Aberdeenshire.

Bye - Laws (1st November 2021)

1. Entries for the Herd Book will only be accepted from members of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society.

2. Entries of stock which belonged to a deceased member will only be accepted from his representatives provided such entries are made prior to 1st January following the date of death.

3. A calf shall only be accepted for entry in the Herd Book if its sire and dam have been entered in the Herd Book, it has been ear-tagged according to current EU identification regulations and a Deoxy Ribonucleic Acid (DNA) profile of the service sire has been lodged with the Society. Furthermore, from 1st January 2019, all pedigree bull calves eligible for entry into the Herd Book must have a DNA sample taken, sent to and received by the Society for sire verification where a valid SNPs profile is available for its sire, and Myostatin tested before such calves can be registered. From the 1st of July 2020 all first calving heifers entering the herd will be tested from a sample held by the Society, 50 k SNPs profiled, Myostatin tested, and sire verified where a valid SNP profile is available for its sire. The method of collection of the said DNA sample will be prescribed by the Council of the Society from time to time. The Society will occasionally request to carry out tests on samples out with the normal protocols of registration and pre-official Society sales. For the avoidance of doubt, upon sale, the title to the DNA sample transfers with the ownership of the animal and permission to test will be sought from the owner. The cost of such tests will be borne by the owner. In the event that permission is not granted, the Society reserves the right to take action to limit any potential negative impact (such as identifying carriers of any genetic defects as defined on the Society's website at www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk) on the Herd Book.

4. Notwithstanding Bye-law 3, imported animals may be entered in the Herd Book provided they are entered in the Herd Book of the country of origin and that there are supplied such certificates and other documents as the Council of the Society may from time to time prescribe (see Guidance Note at end of Bye-law 22). Imported animals entered in the Herd Book will carry the identifying letters IMP and the pedigrees and all relative details, including information on sires of calves imported in utero, will appear at the end of the Herd Book.

5. The breeder of an animal is the owner of the dam at the date of calving or in the case of a calf got by Embryo Transplant, the owner of the recipient cow.

6. All calves must be ear-tagged according to current EU identification regulations by time of intimation and intimated to the Secretary according to the following rules: -

a). To enter calves in the Herd Book, breeders must intimate them within 60 days either on-line or on the appropriate form which should be obtained in advance from the Society (see also para. 6(b)). All relevant certificates (see para. 13) and fees (inc. VAT) MUST accompany registration forms.

Bull calves intimated within 60 days of birth can be registered up to 6 months of age from the date of birth of the calf for the standard fee.

Heifer calves intimated within 60 days of birth can be registered up to 6 months age from the date of birth of the calf and will be subject to the standard fee. A full list of fees and charges is available on the website at www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk.

b.) All cases of dead-born calves or of calves which for any reason are not to be entered in the Herd Book must be intimated to the Secretary on the appropriate form. Such intimations must be made within 60 days of the date of birth. Late registration of calves, for which full details, including ID Number, have been so intimated, may be accepted on payment of the appropriate late entry fee and subject to a DNA profile of the animal along with its sire and dam being lodged with the Society. Later registration of heifer calves which were twinned with a bull and for which full details, including ID number, have been so intimated, will be accepted when she is proven to be in calf on payment of the appropriate late entry fee.

c). Registrations, Intimations or Fees which are incomplete or incorrect when received, will result in all documents being returned to the breeder with an explanation. They must be completed/corrected and resubmitted within a further fourteen days. Failure to respond will result in the registration/s not being accepted

d). While the foregoing rules are designed to apply primarily to home-bred animals, they will also apply where appropriate to imported animals.

7. An animal shall only be entered in the Herd Book by its breeder, or in the case of an imported animal, by its owner

8. Animals entered in the Herd Book under separate ownership by husbands and wives or other family partnerships may be made under the same Herd Name but for all other purposes, such as group prizes at Shows and Sales, they will be considered as being in separate ownerships. Animals entered in the Herd Book by the same owner from different holdings can carry the same Herd Name.

9. Animals showing excessive white markings should not be entered in the Herd Book, and if entered, may be removed from the Herd Book on the instructions of the Council of the Society: (for guidance - normally, white markings are acceptable on females only on the underline behind the navel and on males only on underline behind the preputial orifice and up to and including the scrotum).

10. a). Animals showing scurs, whether fixed or moveable, or traces of scurs, will not be accepted for entry in the Herd Book, and if entered unknowingly, may be removed from the Herd Book on the instructions of the Council of the Society.

b). Animals exhibiting double muscling characteristics (muscular hypertrophy) will not be accepted for entry in the Herd Book, and if entered unknowingly, may be removed from the Herd Book on the instructions of the Council of the Society. (See guidance note at end of Bye Laws) If required, the proof of double muscling shall be a combination of visual appearance (phenotype) and scientific gene testing. Such proof shall be instituted by the Council, who shall appoint a veterinary surgeon and a Council member, who is also a member of the Society's panel of judges, to inspect the animal. If both agree that the animal phenotypically shows double muscling characteristics, the Council shall arrange with the owner of the animal to test for the deleted version of the myostatin gene. If the result of such test is that the animal is homozygous for the gene, the animal shall be considered to be double muscled. Costs of such proof shall be borne by the Society.

Guidance Note re Bye Law 10(b) Double Muscling Characteristics:

1. Increased development of the hindquarter, accentuated in appearance by a groove between the major muscles and a rounded ham appearance.

2. Thick, open shoulders.

3. An unusually wide, stretched stance with the front and hind legs extended, generally creating a swayback appearance.

4. Lean, trim appearance often with a cylindrical middle and tucked up flank.

5. Fine bone.

6. Short tail.

7. Small testes.

8. Tail set forward on top of rump.

11. Recessive Genetic Defects. Animals identified as being carriers of Class 1 genetic defects as listed on the Society's website at www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk will be ineligible for registration. Any registered animals which are subsequently identified as carriers of such genes will have their carrier status clearly identified on their pedigree certificate. Progeny of such animals will require to have their carrier status determined and identified accordingly.

Class 1 genetic defects: Arthrogryposis Multiplex (AM) or Curly Calf Syndrome; Dwarfism; Fawn Calf Syndrome; Mannosidosis; Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH); Osteopetrosis (marble bone disease); Syndactyl (mule foot). Any member who knowingly enters false information in relation to an animal's identity, age or other performance related data will be subject to actions as determined in Article 15 and 15(a) of the Articles of Association of The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society.

Status of Currently Registered Females and Bulls

a) As used herein, the word "currently" in the phrase "currently registered" shall mean that date on which laboratories approved by the Society began to provide a commercial DNA test for the mutation to the membership. With respect to Skeletal Muscle Hypertrophy, that date was 1st January 2012.

b) All currently registered females and bulls with the impacted genetics in their pedigrees shall remain registered. In other words, their registrations will not be revoked, cancelled, or suspended.

c) All currently registered females and bulls with the impacted genetics in their pedigrees that are tested and determined to be carriers of the mutation shall remain registered.

II. Resulting Progeny of Carrier Females and Bulls All resulting progeny of currently registered carrier females or carrier bulls may be registered without submitting to testing. Notwithstanding such registration, the Society shall place or electronically display a notation on each Aberdeen-Angus Pedigree, or any other pedigree displayed electronically.

III. Currently Registered Animals Determined to be Affected by the Mutation Any animals identified as being homozygous for the mutation, shall therefore be considered to be affected by the defect, and are not eligible for registration under Byelaw 10©.

If a registered animal is discovered to be affected by the defect, its registration shall be considered null and void, and the Certificate of Registration must be returned to the Society for cancellation.

12. A.I. REGULATIONS General (applicable to all regulations)

a) A Herd Prefix will constitute one ownership.

(b) Any bull from which semen is drawn for A.I. usage must have a Sire verified DNA profile lodged with the Society.

c) From the first of January 2022 any bull from which semen is drawn will be subject to parentage verification confirmed by a DNA profile lodged with the Society.

d) All calves got by A.I. and registered with the Society will be designated "got by A.I." in the Herd Book.

e) An insemination certificate signed by a qualified inseminator or Veterinary Surgeon must be retained by the breeder and be available for inspection by the Society for a period of two years following the insemination.

f) Sales of Semen - If an owner of a bull or of semen (where ownership of semen is separate from that of the bull) notifies the Society that the bull is a royalty bull, or the semen is from a royalty bull, as the case may be, then in order to register a calf got by semen from that bull the appropriate royalty fee must accompany the registration form. If an owner (of bull or semen) does not notify the Society that the bull is a royalty bull it will be assumed that the requirements of this paragraph are dispensed with.

The Society is not accepting any further Royalty sires from the 1st of April 2020 and will cease the semen Royalty collection service for existing Royalty sires on the 1st of November 2025.

g) Import of Semen Subject to the provisions of the relative preceding paragraphs, progeny got by imported semen may be entered in the Herd Book if the donor bull is or could have been entered in the Herd Book in terms of Bye-Law 4. Providing sole ownership of the semen rights in this country can be verified to the satisfaction of the Society, this will be considered one ownership for the purposes of these A.I. regulations. All imports of semen must be accompanied by a Zootechnical Certificate issued from the keeper of the herd book as approved in the list of accepted associations held by the EU, in the country of origin. A list of these authorities can be found here: -

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02006D0139-20080601&from=EN>

h) Strict legislation is in place surrounding collection of AI and the subsequent sale and use of the collections. For avoidance of doubt the following three categories are recognised by the society.

a) Unlicensed Premises approval: (On farm collected non export approved) An unlicensed premises approval is valid for three months only. The animal must undergo a single series of tests in an unlicensed premise. The animal must be licensed within 28 days of sampling. Semen collected from an animal at an unlicensed premise is eligible for GB, excluding Northern Ireland, trade and may be eligible for export to certain countries outside the EU.

b) Domestic Centre approval: (Non-Export Approved) In order to collect at a domestic centre, the animal will undergo a single series of tests in an unlicensed premise before being authorised to move to a domestic centre. The animal must be licensed within 28 days of sampling. Semen collected from an animal in a Domestic Centre is eligible for GB excluding Northern Ireland trade and may be eligible for export to certain countries outside the EU.

c) EU Centre approval: (Export Approved including Northern Ireland) The animal will undergo a first series of tests in an unlicensed premise before being moved to centre quarantine. The second series of tests will be carried out in centre quarantine before being authorised to move to the Collection Centre. The animal must have moved to the Centre Quarantine within 28 days of undergoing the first series of tests. Semen collected at an EU Centre is eligible for intra-Union trade, Domestic trade and may be eligible for export to countries outside the EU.

Contravention of the legislation is considered a serious risk to animal health and as such any animal submitted for registration from semen collected from category (a) and (b) above outside the territory of Scotland, England and Wales will not be registered by the Society.

13. Embryo Transplant Regulations Registrations of calves got by Embryo Transplants will be accepted subject to the following conditions:

a) All other byelaws regarding Herd Book Registrations must be complied with.

b) The breeder must inform the Society in writing beforehand of the intention to carry out each specific embryo transplant and return to the Society along with the relevant fees and within the times fixed by the Society duly completed certificates (on forms to be approved by the Society) as to the identity of all animals concerned, the pregnancy testing of the recipient cow and the sire verified DNA profiling of the bull, donor cow and, when requested, a parentage verified DNA profile of the resultant calf/calves within three months of such request. If the Council of the Society is not satisfied with any such certificates, the resultant calf will not be eligible for entry in the Herd Book.

c) Calves got by embryo transplant and registered with the Society will be designated "got by ET" in the Herd Book.

14. In cases where the breeder of an animal is not the owner of its sire, it is necessary for the breeder to either:

a) Comply with para. 11© and, where appropriate, 11(d) or

b) Obtain a completed Hire or Loan Certificate and forward with registration form.

15. Cloning Any animal which is born as a direct result of cloning technology will not be eligible for entry into the Herd Book. Whilst it is acknowledged that cloned animals are entered into Herd Books of overseas societies, such animals will not be eligible for transfer into the Society's Herd Book. Progeny from such animals whether resulting from natural service, A.I. or E.T. will be eligible for entry into the Herd Book and their pedigree certificate marked accordingly.

16. All animals entered in the Herd Book must be named in accordance with the following rules:

a) No names likely to prove misleading to the public shall be admitted into the Herd Book.

b) Breeders, prior to making their first entries in the Herd Book, must apply to Council for the copyright of a Herd Name. A Herd Name copyright is the property of the member only during the period of his membership. The name of each registered animal must be prefixed by the Herd Name of its breeder unless otherwise authorised by Council.

c) Each animal belongs to the family of its dam and must be given an individual name in accordance with the practice of naming for that family. The initial letter of such an individual name must be one of the approved initial letters of its family as listed in the Herd Book and must not exceed two words. Where an animal is red in colour, the additional word "Red" must be included at the beginning of the individual name.

d) All names will include as a suffix a year letter followed by the last three NUMERICS of the animal's official ear tag number. No other lineage numbers will be permitted. Year letters indicate the calving seasons which date from January 1st to December 31st. Year 1st January 2014, to 31st December 2015 Year Letter P. Year 1st January 2015, to 31st December 2015 Year Letter R and so on. (I, O and Q will not be used).

e) The total number of characters (including spaces) in an animal's name must not exceed forty. (f) Once an animal has been entered in the Herd Book under a certain name, no change shall be made in that name thereafter. The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society is committed to equal and fair treatment of breeders and will enter into the breeding book animals of the same breed line or cross that are eligible for entry under the Society's breed criteria without discrimination on account of their country of origin.

17. All Changes of Ownership of Aberdeen-Angus cattle must be intimated by the purchaser if such cattle are to be subsequently used for pedigree breeding, in accordance with the following rules: - (a) The seller shall comply with the procedures detailed in © below if he is selling Aberdeen-Angus cattle for pedigree breeding purposes at a public or private sale. Where it is not indicated at the time of sale that such cattle are being sold for pedigree breeding purposes, it shall be at the discretion of the seller whether or not he subsequently authorises their use for pedigree breeding by complying with the Change of Ownership procedures detailed in (c) below. (b) Non-Members may register Changes of Ownership. (c) To register Changes of Ownership of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, the purchaser shall complete the Certificate of Transfer portion on the reverse side of the Certificate of Pedigree, which he shall obtain from the seller as detailed hereinafter. Such Changes in Ownership shall be countersigned by the immediate preceding owner except where the animal is sold by public auction at a sale for which a catalogue has been published and submitted to the Secretary in which it is clearly indicated that such animal is being sold for pedigree breeding purposes, in which case the catalogue lot number and the name and date of the sale shall be inserted in the place provided for the signature of the seller.

The following procedure shall be adopted:-

(i) A Private Sale. The seller shall hand the Certificate of Pedigree to the purchaser at the time of sale. The purchaser shall complete the Certificate of Transfer portion and send it to the Secretary with the appropriate fee.

(ii) A Public Sale. The seller shall lodge the Certificate of Pedigree with the Auctioneers as a condition of entry for the sale. The Auctioneers will deliver the Certificate to the Society who shall record the Change of Ownership and forward the Certificate to the purchaser, on receipt of the appropriate fee. The term "Public Sale" in (ii) above refers to a sale at a public auction for which a catalogue has been published and submitted to the Secretary.

18. Herd Records shall be kept, containing the following minimum details relating to each animal in the herd:- Name, Herd Book Number, Date of Birth, Name and Herd Book Number of Sire, Name and Herd Book Number of Dam. Details, if applicable, of when and where purchased, of when and to whom sold, or date of death. These records shall be available for inspection at all times by officials of the Society.

19. Council shall have power to instruct a DNA profiling test to be made at any time of any animal entered in the Herd Book and to have the entry in the Herd Book cancelled (it being a condition of acceptance of an entry that the information supplied is accurate) if said test reveals the entry to

be inaccurate, in which event the cost of the said test shall be paid by the Member who instructed the Herd Book entry but if the said test confirms the Herd Book entry to be correct, the cost of the said test shall be met by the Society.

20. All fees must be paid with the forms to which they refer. No registrations will be accepted unless all other fees and current membership subscriptions have been paid.

21. The Council shall be at liberty to include reports made to them by any official of the Society or officer of the Department of Agriculture (or appropriate body) in Scotland, England & Wales, Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland among the sources of information as to any suspected failure by a breeder in the observance of any of the Byelaws heretofore.

22. Animals showing excessive white markings or scurs (or traces of scurs) should not be exhibited in the pure-bred section of any Show.

23. If a herd is advertised and sold as a dispersal, the Herd name may not be used thereafter for entries into the Herd Book without permission of the Council.

(Guidance Note re Byelaw 4) The following are the documents currently required to register transfers in the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society Herd Book from an overseas Society.

Breeders are strongly advised to obtain and lodge with the Society all documents before shipment, as the UK Customs authorities require that imported pedigree cattle be registered with this Society, or the animals will be classified for duty purposes on arrival.

a) A Five Generation Certificate of Pedigree certified as correct by the Society which registered the bull.

b) A Certificate of Approval for Export from the overseas Society stating that so far as is known the pedigree of the animal is free from, and the animal itself is not a possible carrier of, any genetic defects.

c) A DNA profile Certificate

d) A satisfactory DNA profiled parentage verification. If, for a bona fide reason, this is not possible, the Society with which the animal is registered must supply a certificate of explanation.

Cows and Heifers

As above and, if in calf, service details from the overseas Society, a Certified Four Generation Pedigree Certificate and a sire verified DNA profile certificate for the service sire.

Embryos

a) A Four Generation Certificate of Pedigree of both sire and dam with a Certificate from the overseas Society that it approves of both sire and dam and that their pedigrees are free from any known genetic defects.

b) A sire verified DNA profile certificate for both sire and dam.

c) Certificates from owner of cow if natural service used, or by A.I. technician if A.I. used, certifying dates of service, tattoo ID number of cow, name and number of bull.

d) Certificates from ET unit making collection, certifying date of collection, tattoo ID number of cow, number of viable embryos recovered, number of embryos frozen for export and their reference number.

The relevant Society forms and requirements relating to implantation, pregnancy testing and registration will apply.

Where relevant, Byelaw 12 (a) to (d) will apply.

SUPPLEMENTARY REGISTER REGULATIONS

The owner of a female ("the base female") which is not registered in the Herd Book may have the female progeny of such female upgraded to a standard acceptable for registration in the Herd Book subject to the following rules:-

The base female and her daughters and grand-daughters shall be entered in a Supplementary Register and only the great grand-daughters of the base female shall be eligible for registration in the Herd Book.

(ii) The base female may be of no known origin, but if so, must be polled, of an obvious beef type, physically correct in all respects, mainly black - defined as allowing some white, but not excessive white, below the underline and only a small amount of white elsewhere. Alternatively, if certified by its breeder as being by or out of a named registered Aberdeen-Angus, must be polled, of obvious beef type and physically correct in all respects.

(iii) The base female and her daughters and grand-daughters must be approved by a Society-appointed inspector before acceptance into the Supplementary Register and the daughters and grand-daughters must be sired by a bull which is registered in the Herd Book. The great-grand daughters of the base female will likewise require to be approved before registration in the Herd Book and must also be sired by a bull which is registered in the Herd Book. A member aggrieved by the decision of the Society-appointed inspector may appeal against the decision to a Committee of not less than three members of the Society appointed by the Council of the Society. The decision of such committee shall be final and whether or not the appeal is successful, all costs

of the appeal shall be paid by the appellant.

(iv) Registration will only be accepted from fully paid-up members of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society.

(v) Members intending to register females in the Supplementary Register must intimate their intention to the Secretary at least six months before their initial base female is due to calf. Participants will be responsible for all inspectors' fees at cost and an entrance fee will be payable for each female registered. The entrance fee will not be less than that payable to register females in the Herd Book.

Base Female (X)

(vi) Must be 15 months or over at time of inspection and double-tagged with an EU style ID number or tattooed with a number allocated by the Secretary.

1st Generation Female (Y)

(vii) To be ear-tagged according to current EU identification regulations and registered with the appropriate fee within two months of the date of birth. Colour to be breed standard, polled and physically correct. To be inspected between 12 and 18 months of age and prior to mating. Failure to pass inspection will result in de-registration or reverting to stage X.

2nd Generation Female (Z)

(viii) As para. (vii). 3rd Generation Female (Herd Book) (ix) As para. (viii). To be identified in Herd Book with (S) after the individual name.

(x) All male calves from females in the supplementary register must be steered and births intimated within two months of the date of birth.

OFFICIAL SALE RULES

All Aberdeen-Angus animals exposed for sale held under the auspices of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society, hereinafter called "the Society", shall be sold subject to and in accordance with the following rules:

(1) The consignor must be a member of the Society. All animals must be ear-tagged according to current EU identification regulations. In the case of imported animals, they must have been registered in the Herd Book of the country of origin and entered in the Society's Herd Book.

(2) Should any dispute arise as to the identification in the Society's Herd Book of any animal exposed for sale or as to the pedigree of any such animal, such dispute should be referred to the Council of the Society or such sub-committee as the Council may appoint as arbiters and their decision shall be final.

(3) The Council of the Society may, prior to any sale, nominate and appoint a Panel to inspect the animals forward at the sale, in order to ascertain that such animals are fit for inclusion in the sale. The members so appointed shall, in consultation with the Auctioneers, be the sole judges as to whether or not the animals may be included in the sale and shall have the power to debar from the sale any animal which they consider is not of a fit standard. No consignor will have any claim for damages in respect of any animal which is rejected under this rule.

N.B. All animals (except in the case of bona fide dispersals) may be subject to pre-sale inspections by the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society in order to establish identity and to provide a minimum standard. Such inspections, however, do not imply any liability or warranty by The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society for animals sold, such liability remains the responsibility of the vendor. Animals are sold with all patent defects and any subsequent claim is against the vendor and not The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

(1) All entries are subject to the Society's male and female warranties.

(2) From Stirling October sale 2020 all cattle entered must be performance recorded through Breedplan.

(3) From January 2022 it will be a requirement that all entries will be performance recorded bulls through Breedplan for all sales under the auspices of the society.

(3) Members who enter cattle for Sale in the Catalogue and who do not present their animals will be subject to such fines as determined by the Society's official auctioneers from time to time. Reasonable grounds for withdrawal will, if accepted, eliminate the member from such a fine.

(4) Animals entered in the Catalogue must be offered for sale through the ring unless rejected by the Stewards or the Society-appointed Panel of Inspectors.

(4) Prize money will be forfeit on any prize-winning animal which is not sold in the official Pedigree Sale.

(5) Any Female which has been used as a donor for Ovum Transplant purposes must be declared.

(6) Any Female which has had a Caesarean operation must be declared.

(7) Retention of ova must be declared.

(8) Bull semen retention must be declared.

(9) The appointed Stewards have been instructed to reject any animal which is not controllable by normal means at any time whilst in the Show and Sale premises. Exhibitors are responsible for their cattle throughout the Show and Sale period of the breed.

(10) All cattle presented may be subject to inspection for identity, veterinary approval suitable standard, and weighing and measuring by officers appointed by the Society prior to the event at a time to be advertised.

(11) Any doubt on identity will automatically debar an animal from the show and sale. If the vet considers the animal to be carrying a heritable genetic or phenotypic condition which in his opinion is detrimental to the integrity of the breed then that animal will automatically be debarred from the Show and Sale and the Society will not register any progeny from that animal.

(12) As from January 2011 cattle entered for all official Society sales centres must come from herds which are BVD accredited, in which case, such animals will require to be BVD vaccinated within twelve months prior to the date of the sale. If the animals entered are not BVD accredited herds then they will require to be tested for BVD antigen and vaccinated against BVD prior to the sale. Furthermore, all cattle entered must come from herds which are annually testing for Johnes disease in a CHECS Approved Health Scheme or from Johnes accredited herds.

(13) The use of drugs is totally banned, as undernoted:-

1) Preparation for Sale.

Any drug which would affect weight for age, conformation, or growth of hair.

2) Presentation for Sale.

Any drug which would affect soundness or temperament at inspection, judging or Auction Sale. The Society reserves the absolute right to take blood samples from any animal presented at Shows and Sales, and to have the sample independently analysed at a certified laboratory. If any unauthorised drugs have been used, or treatment given without Veterinary certification having been provided, or without a declaration having been made to the Auctioneers, the exhibitor will be reported to the Council of the Breed Society. In any event, the offending entry will be banned from the Show/Sale.

(14) Access to parents for DNA profiling (affecting animals not DNA profiled in proof of parentage). The Vendor must provide access to the purchaser to prove the parentage of any sale animal by DNA profiling provided:-

1) that the request is made in writing to the Society Office within one calendar month of the date of the Sale.

2) that the tests are carried out at the Purchaser's expense.

3) that the sire and dam are alive, and the vendor has access to the parents if they are not in his ownership.

(15) Animals affected by contagious diseases i.e. warts, mange, ringworm, etc, will not be accepted for sale unless accompanied by a Veterinary Certificate indicating that treatment has been given and the condition is no longer contagious.

(16)

(a) All bulls must have a nose-ring.

(b) Certificates of Pedigree must accompany each entry.

(17) White markings must not be disguised.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

A. SALE

(1) All animals exposed for sale must be bona fide property of the vendors at the time of the sale and free of all liens, charges and encumbrances.

(2) The highest bidder shall be declared the purchaser (subject to Rule A.

(3) The auctioneers reserve the right to refuse any bid without giving a reason for doing so. All cattle will be sold in guineas.

(3) The vendor has the right to fix a reserve price and to announce such price before, during or at the conclusion of the bidding. The right to bid by or on behalf of the vendor in terms of the current Sale of Goods Act is expressly reserved. The vendor, or his duly authorised representative, must be with the auctioneer at the sale of the catalogued animal to accept or reject the final bid.

(4) Each animal forward at the sale must be exposed for sale by auction before any private sale shall be permitted or recognised by the Auctioneers.

(5) Immediately after the sale of an animal the price thereof shall be paid by the purchaser in cash to the Auctioneers. On the price being paid the purchaser shall receive from the Auctioneers a written removal order and shall at his own expense remove the animal within one day of the sale or within such period as may be laid down by the Auctioneers at the commencement of

the Sale. No animal shall be removed without the Auctioneers' written removal order and any animal so removed shall be recovered by the Auctioneers summarily without any further warrant.

(6) In the event of any purchaser not paying for and not removing the animal purchased in compliance with Rule A. (5) hereof the Auctioneers in their sole discretion may, without the consent of the vendor, either

(a) sue the purchaser either in their own name or in the name of the vendor for the price and interest there-on at the rate of 2% per annum above current Bank of Scotland Base Rate, and for the keep of, and other expense incurred by them in connection with such animal or

(b) re-sell the animal either publicly or privately and on behalf of the vendor recover from the defaulting purchaser the deficiency (if any) attending such re-sale and interest thereon as aforesaid together with the keep and all other expenses. The defaulting purchaser shall have no right to object to the action taken by the auctioneers. In the event of there being any surplus after paying interest, keep and other expenses as aforesaid, such surplus shall be paid to the defaulting purchaser.

(7) Immediately after the purchase of each animal is declared, the risk of the animal shall pass to the purchaser, but until the price is paid the right of property shall not pass and delivery of the animal may be suspended.

(8) In the case of animals sold privately within the premises of the auctioneers the risk and the passing of the property thereof shall be governed by the bargain made between the parties and Rule A(7) shall not apply thereto. Animals withdrawn from the auction may be sold by private treaty on the auction premises. Private sales will be held to the vendors' guarantees of fertility and must be put through the Official Auction record by the appointed Auctioneers.

(9) No undertaking by the Auctioneers or their servants to take charge of any animal after the sale or to forward it to its destination shall be held to impose upon the Auctioneers any legal obligation or invalidate any of these rules.

(10) No liability whatsoever is undertaken by the Auctioneers for the accuracy or otherwise of the statements appearing in the catalogue or made at the sale. The vendor is responsible for such statements and for any error, omission or misstatement.

(11) (a) If a bull from which semen has been stored is offered for sale, it must be stated in the catalogue (and if different circumstances have arisen since the catalogue was printed, the correct and up-to-date circumstances must be announced from the Auctioneer's rostrum at time of sale) whether the semen so stored is to pass with the ownership of the bull or whether it is to be retained by the vendor. If it is retained by the vendor, then he must declare if he is reserving the right to sell or gift such semen for pedigree and/or commercial use. If such declaration fails to be made it will be assumed that any semen retained is for the vendor's own use only and cannot be sold or gifted for pedigree or commercial use.

(b) If a female in calf to a royalty bull is offered for sale, it must be stated in the catalogue (and if different circumstances have arisen since the catalogue was printed, the correct and up-to-date circumstances must be announced from the Auctioneer's rostrum at time of sale) whether the payment of the royalty for the subsequent registration of the unborn calf will be the responsibility of the vendor or the vendee. If such declaration fails to be made it will be assumed that payment of the royalty will be the responsibility of the vendor.

(12) If a female is offered for sale as being in-calf and/or with calf at foot, it is the responsibility of the vendor to ensure that a sire verified DNA profile of the service sire/s is lodged with the Society before the date of sale. If a calf at foot is not registered at time of sale, subject to current herd book registration by laws, the vendor must state if registration is permissible at the expense of the purchaser.

(13) If a female offered for sale through a Society auction has been used as an embryo donor the fact that she has been flushed must be stated in the catalogue along with the number of embryos collected, complete with their sire/sires up to the time of the donor being offered for sale. Within the contract for sale of the female, the Seller must expressly state the number of embryos which they intend to retain for use within their own herd (if any) and the number of embryos which they intend to retain for resale purposes (if any).

(14) In the event of a female carrying a transferred embryo being offered for sale, the number of embryos collected at the same time as that carried by the female entered for sale must be stated in the catalogue.

(15) Apart from the Bull and Female breeding warranties printed in the catalogue or others specifically given by the vendor in the catalogue or made at the sale, animals are sold subject to their condition and to all faults, excepting the case of animals suffering from total or partial blindness.

(16) Should any animal be sold subject to passing tests or re-tests, full details of those must be declared by the vendor to the Auctioneers prior to sale. The bargain shall not be deemed to be concluded until the result of such tests/ re-tests are notified to the Auctioneers.

(17) No Rosettes or Sashes won at other Shows or Tests to be affixed to Show animals. B.

B. COMMISSION

(1) The Auctioneers shall charge and deduct commission of 6.5p per £1.05 (1.5p of which shall be paid by them to the Society) from the price of all animals sold, including those which may be sold privately in their premises at the time of the sale.

(2) The Auctioneers shall be entitled to charge against the vendor one percent on the price bid or £25 per animal whichever is the greater on all animals put through the sale ring and withdrawn.

(3) The Auctioneers shall not be entitled to charge commission on animals sold which fail a re-test (Sale Rule A 15), but shall be entitled to make a charge against the owner of £25 per animal in respect of cataloguing, etc.

C. GENERAL

(1) Without prejudice to the foregoing rules, it is hereby expressly declared that the vendor by selling and the purchaser by purchasing any animal shall be bound by the above rules notwithstanding the terms of any statutory enactment or custom of trade to the contrary.

(2) The Auctioneer is Judge of the Sale, to whom all disputes and differences of any kind which may arise at and in relation to the Auction, either between vendors and bidders or among the bidders themselves, shall be referred and his decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

(3) Any dispute as to any matter for the settlement of which no provision is made in these rules shall be referred to an Arbitrator or Arbitrators to be appointed, failing agreement between or amongst the parties, by the Auctioneers. The decision of the Arbitrators so appointed shall be final and binding on all parties to the dispute. Any Arbitration under this Clause shall be subject to the provision of the Arbitration Act for the time being in force in Scotland if the sale was in Scotland or in England if the sale was in England and shall be deemed to be a reference to Arbitration thereunder.

(4) In the foregoing rules, the word "animal" shall be held to include dam and calf when sold together.

BREEDING WARRANTIES At auction sales, other than dispersals, held under the auspices of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society, the Bull Breeding Warranty of The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society will apply. Full information is available from the Society on 01738 622477.

FEES & CHARGES current information available online at www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk

Dispute resolution/rules of procedure

The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society is committed to equal and fair treatment of breeders and non-discrimination between breeders based on their country of origin.

Council reserves the right to check selected herds. The owner will be given 48 hours oral notice of the visit by the Inspector. An owner with a genuine reason is allowed an extra 24 hours for the inspection, otherwise an owner cannot refuse admission to the Inspector unless in the most exceptional circumstances. The society also has a system in place for random inspecting of herds and data where every 100th calf registered triggers an inspection requirement

If a Breeder refuses to co-operate in allowing an inspection for up to 3 weeks, all calves in the herd under 3 months of age (at the time of the first notification) could be banned from all Society run events for life and the herd banned from all Society events for two years and no herd book certificates will be printed for that herd until an inspection takes place at the breeder's expense.

When an Inspector on inspection finds that any of the rules of the society have been compromised a letter will be sent to the breeder within 20 working days of the inspection. Upon receipt of such written notification, which shall act as initial evidence of breach of the rules, the breeder shall have an agreed period of time including the date of the receipt of the written notification to make written submissions to the Society's representative and/or to produce any evidence in writing in support of any explanation that the breeder might wish to submit in defence of the initial findings purporting to a breach of any rule.

Should no such written submissions or evidence in writing aforesaid be made by the breeder within a period of five working days, then the initial finding of the Inspector shall be final and the Society's Council Representative shall submit the Inspector's findings to the Council of the Society at their next meeting and they shall proceed to impose the sanctions as set out hereunder.

(i) Should the breeder make a written submission and/or produce any evidence in writing in support of any explanation that he/she might wish to submit in defence of the breach of any rule, within the agreed period, to the Society's representative / CEO appealing the Inspector's report, then such written submissions and/or written evidence together with the Inspector's report will be submitted to Council.

(ii) The matter shall be initially considered by Council to determine as to whether the initial findings of the Inspectors report have been fully and satisfactorily rebutted and/or answered and/or explained by the Breeders written submissions and/or written evidence. Should they find that they have

then the breeder shall be informed in writing and the matter ends.

(iii) Should the Council not so find then the breeder shall be given an agreed period of time, minimum of fifteen working days' notice of time, place and date for the hearing of an Appeal before the Council or a sub-committee of at least 3 members of council (appointed by council) which shall be an Oral Hearing.

(iv) The breeder has the opportunity prior of the assigned hearing date the breeder shall outline in writing the basis of his appeal, a list of witnesses intended to give evidence and a summary of their oral evidence and a copy of any Veterinary or other expert report upon which the breeder intends to rely. Failure to comply with this aspect of the Rule, in whole or in part shall leave the Council or their representatives with the discretion to allow or not to allow such undisclosed evidence to be allowed or not allowed at the hearing.

(v) In the hearing of the appeal, which shall be in private, the rules of natural justice shall apply. There shall be no right to be legally represented by solicitor or barrister. The breeder may however nominate at least seven working days prior to the assigned date of the hearing another member of the society, a family member, a representative of a farm representative organisation, Agricultural Consultant or veterinary surgeon to represent him/her. The case against the breeder shall be made by the Inspector. Evidence shall not be taken under Oath or affirmation. The appeal hearing shall be chaired by the president or Chair of Technical Committee and otherwise if either of the above are unable to attend by a member of council (or sub-committee thereof) nominated by the chairman. The council (or sub-committee) hearing the appeal shall operate by simple majority and the chairman of the hearing shall have a casting vote. The decision of the council (or sub-committee) which shall be in writing may be reserved or given on the day of the hearing and shall be final.

In the operation of this procedure, there should be a rebuttable presumption that the findings of the Inspector on his inspection, regarding the age, weight, sex, tag number and all other such findings in the Inspector's initial report shall be correct and accurate.

For the purposes of this procedure all written notifications from the society to the member/breeder shall be by ordinary pre-paid certified post which shall be deemed to be received by the member/breeder in the ordinary course of post and all written notifications from the member/breeder to the society shall be by prepaid registered post addressed to the Society's registered office.

Append Breeding Programme as appendix (1)

Breeding programme for the breed Aberdeen-Angus - Bye Law Appendix (1)

The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society

6 Kings Place, Perth, Perthshire, Scotland, PH2 8AD

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1. Properties and definition of the breed and objectives of the breeding programme

Aims of the breeding programme

The main aims of the breeding programme are the preservation and improvement of the breed, Aberdeen-Angus.

2. Breed characteristics and essential traits

2.1 Breed Characteristics

Colour: Plain red or black.

Horn status: The breed is genetically polled.

Body: Angus cattle have medium-frames and show an elongated body with a deep rib. Shoulders and back are broad and well-muscled but not double muscled.

Their pelvis is long, broad and slightly inclined. The shape of the leg musculing is deep and broad with good peculiarity of the inner leg with no signs of double musculing.

Aberdeen-Angus cattle have a light, short head with fine bone structure, the correctness of the limbs as outlined below and short, solid claws that equips them for less favourable conditions. Tight-fitting udders with short, and an even gait allow the cows to enjoy a long life.



Typical Aberdeen-Angus Head



Typical Aberdeen-Angus Female



Typical Aberdeen-Angus Bull in red and black



The defined colours of the breed description are absolutely binding. Any white pigments are prohibited and are allowed only on the abdominal line behind the navel to the udder, for bulls behind the prepuce. Any animals found to have any signs of white markings are deregistered and culled from the herd.

The definitions of the breed description are to be applied unconditionally in the exterior assessment. Emphasis is directed to the frame of the animal whether male or female.



Illustration of Rear leg assessment

Illustration of foreleg assessment

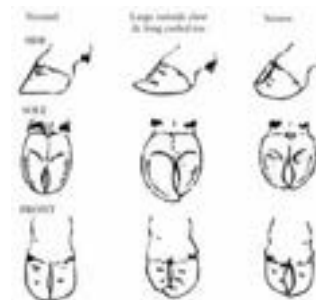


Illustration of Hoof correctness

Key data for adult bulls and cows:

	bulls	cows
sacral height, cm	135 - 160	130 - 150
weight, kg	1.000 - 1500	600 - 900

Undesirable characteristics:

- Large and low-lying udders or supernumerary teats
- Any deviation from the genetic hornless such as scurs
- White fleck outside the abdominal line, at or in front of the navel of female animals
- White fleck outside the abdominal line, at or in front of the preputium of male animals.
- Double musculing (body and legs)

2.2 Essential traits

Due to their calm character and excellent temperament the handling of the animals is made much easier. With their deep rib and trunk, they are well suited to pasture-based beef production which is appreciated worldwide by the Aberdeen - Angus Breed. The breed performs well in poor pasture conditions with animals thriving in these marginal environments. Due to the early maturity of Aberdeen-Angus cattle the breed is ideal for the first service of one year and three months onwards. The first calving takes place without any issues at the age of two years and the female animals reach their final weight in most cases after the third calving. The good milk yield of the cows allows a long suckling period of up to 9 months with good weaning weights of the calves. The above average capacity for roughage, the easy handling and the good performances of the mastremonte justify the high profitability of the Aberdeen - Angus breed.

Aberdeen - Angus cows are good mothers with high milk yield for suckling, combined with regular calving, short gestation and live-born calves, ensure the very best economic option and lead a long and productive life.

It is very desirable that there are no double muscle characteristics expressed within the breed as this tends to be detrimental to eating quality and easy fleshing with soft tender meat.

With good expression of the valuable cuts on the carcass the animals show a clear genetic superiority in the characteristic's tenderness and marbling of the meat a trait that is well documented worldwide.

The structure of the animal is selected to make sure that the animals are structurally capable of leading a long and productive working life. A programme of Linear assessment scoring is available to our members, but this is not compulsory.

3. Geographic area and size of the breeding population

The geographical area of the breeding programme extends to the United Kingdom

The herd book inventory includes all registered breeding animals of all member farms of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society.

Currently (Effective 31.12.2019 Volume 144) 6834 herd book bulls were added to the herd and 10576 herd book females were added to the herd of 2600 breeders are registered. The society annually registers 17410 animals as Pedigree.

The current estimate of the breeding population of pure Aberdeen-Angus cattle within the UK is 38500

4. Identifying breeding animals

4.1 Recording on farms

The entries in the herd book are carried out by the Society based on the data transmitted by the breeders.

Each breeder completes an Intimation form for the breeding animals of his stock as the basis for the entry in the herd book. It contains all the essential details of the animal concerned, including its parentage and all data.

This breeding documentation must be kept up to date and flawless. The breeder is solely responsible for the correctness of the information and no other agency or contractor can be held liable for mistakes that are found.

The following information must be included:

- The identification number of the animal - this includes the full details of the country of birth followed by the animal's individual ID number. It is desirable for animals to be double tagged, as per the image below. In the event of a tag being lost then the animal becomes anonymous and could be subject to mistaken identity



- Birth date of the breeding animal
- Gender of the breeding animal
- Declaration of parents and grandparents
- Animals pedigree name
- Mating and insemination data
 - Declaration of name and ear tag number of stock bull
 - Insemination bulls: declaration of name and tag number
 - Gestation days
- Calf data/birth data
 - Declaration of calf date or birth date, gender tag number of the calf
 - Declaration stillbirths
- a sample of tissue or hair to facilitate a sire verification test and establish any presence of deletion of myostatin genes. (see 4.3 – sire verification for details on methods of sampling).
- for breeding animals that have arisen from Embryo Transplant (ET), the following additional records are required:
 - The characteristics of the genetic parents, the recipient animal and the embryo
 - The date of implantation
 - Dates of collection and transfer of the embryo
- Data to genetic features and hereditary defects
- Documentation of anomalies and phenotypic malformations

4.2 Identity protection/parentage identification

Approved methods

To verify parentage, procedures based on DNA-microsatellites and blood typing or a method based on Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNP) typing are permitted, provided that the minimum standards set by the International Society for Animal Genetics (ISAG) are complied with.

4.3 Measures for Pedigree Protection

Sire Verification

The Society undertakes sire verification and carries out myostatin testing on all bull calves registered.

The methods of sampling are by two methods and breeders are welcome to choose which method is the most appropriate for their system. The recognised methods are:

- a) Tissue sample retrieved through a recognised DNA sample approved ear tag. A small sample of ear tissue is taken at tagging with the animal's identity included on the sample tube that is integrated within the ear tag. These samples are submitted to a DNA provider for a SNP profile to be generated.
- b) A Hair sample can be retrieved by pulling hairs from the tail switch and the sample taken is recommended to have 50 – 60 hairs with visible hair roots attached to provide sufficient material to run a SNP profile. The sample should then be sealed in a plastic bag and submitted to a DNA provider for a profile to be generated.

The information generated forms a SNP profile and is given an ID number which is stored by the Society as a reference for that animal. The reference is noted on pedigree certificates and Zootechnical certificates which are generated by the society (see note 11 for further information on zootechnical certificates).

Any animals who cannot be parentage verified by DNA sampling are automatically deregistered from the herd book. Any bulls who are tested and are returned as double Myostatin carriers are also deregistered.

Insemination/Mating with different bulls within one heat period

If on testing no match can be made to the SNP profile, then these are run against up to five alternative sire suggestions. If there is no result following that investigation the animal is deregistered from the herd book.

Gestation length

The paternal ancestry is only considered to be secure if through a single mating. Should the gestation length be shorter or longer than 265 to 305 days, from the recorded mating date, a sire verification test will confirm the sire in any case of doubt.

Routine and occasion-related verification of parentage

If a member does not fulfil their obligation to check the parentage or if the lineage proves to be false, another 2 animals of the year will be examined. If they do not have a proven, the entire year is checked for paternal descent. The costs of these additional tests are borne by the breeder; the same applies in the case that the parentage proves to be false.

Any animals who fail to be parentage verified will be removed from the herd book.

The Society or the appointed technical committee is at any time entitled to carry out further measures for the examination of the parentage verification with the aid of recognized procedures according to No. 5.5, if the present parentage is due to

- Disagreements in the documentation submitted by the breeder
- Delayed calf notifications
- Other substantiated cases of doubt on the accuracy of the information

If the parentage cannot be confirmed, the affected animals would be immediately removed from the herd book and the registration and pedigree cancelled.

5. System for recording pedigrees

5.1 Entry in the main section

The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society herd book is listed in alphabetical order by breeder. All animals in the ownership of the breeder are listed below their name and prefixed by their herd name. The animals are further divided by Males registered and Females registered in the list by age oldest first. Each animal is identified by its unique tag number and its name.

To qualify for entry into the main section of the herd book, an animal shall be:

- Descended from parents and grandparents that are registered in the main section of the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society herd book or an equivalent herd book for the breed, Aberdeen-Angus;
- Identified at birth in accordance with Union animal health law; and
- Have a pedigree established in accordance with the rules set out in this breeding programme.

Additionally, in the herd book, bulls are entered at the request of the breeders anytime from birth, if all requirements for the association recognition according to No. 6.1 are fulfilled and the relevant fees paid.

5.2 Herd book enrolment

Management of the herd book

The management of the herd book takes place according to the rules laid down in the Articles of Association and Bye Laws of the society which are issued annually to all members. These are available at:

<https://www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/ArticlesofAssociation.pdf>

<https://www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Bye-Laws-Text-2016-Nov-2016-updated-16th-Jan-2018.pdf>

5.3 Content of the herd book

For entry into the herd book the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society must have recorded the following information for each registered breeding animal:

- a) Name and address of the breeder, and where applicable, the owner if different from the breeder;
- b) Birth date and birth country of the breeding animal;
- c) Gender of the breeding animal;
- d) Ear tag number of the pedigree animal, its parents and grandparents;
- e) For breeding animals resulting from embryo transfer: genetic parents and their DNA-microsatellites or blood groups or other Society approved methods of ancestry security according to No. 5.5;

f) For breeding animals whose semen are to be used for artificial insemination: their DNA-microsatellites or blood groups or other association-approved methods of ancestry security according to No. 5.5;

g) A zootechnical certificate will be issued which will state the pedigree of the animal with the lineage traced back to grandparents at a minimum. The certificate will include the following information:

- a) Birth notification and ear tag of the offspring;
- b) Genetic characteristics and hereditary defects of the animal itself;
- c) all results of the performance tests known to the association, including the date and the latest breeding value estimation; and
- d) the date of issue of the certificate.

Changes are made by authorised persons only and will be documented.

Herd book data from animals that are entered in an equivalent herd book of the breed and whose data are required for the registration of the offspring at the Society will be taken after presentation of a valid zootechnical certificate.

For animals of members who have ceased their membership or have been excluded, their animals will not be entered into the herd book.

5.4 Herd book classification

The herd book for the Aberdeen-Angus is published annually, the list of breeders is in alphabetical order by family name and the list of registered animals for that year is listed separately, males and females by age for the year. We have codes to differentiate animals got by Artificial Insemination (AI) and Embryo Transplant (ET). Any animal in the herd book which has been derived by either technology is signified in the name line by the wording (Got by AI) or (Got by ET)

The assignment of the breeding animals to a department or class is explained in section 5 and takes place at the time of registration, taking into consideration the parentage and performance. The Main herdbook is divided into sections for ease of use, UK breeders and overseas breeders. The supplementary register is also split into two sections as explained in Section 8 of the breeding programme

5.5 (Data and deadlines for notification)

Each member/breeder is obliged to report all calving of cows kept in the herd book and thus the calves including stillbirths.

Birth notifications

Birth notifications must be reported to the Society, completely and correctly, after notification of calf in accordance with the Articles of Association and the Bye Laws and be notified to the Society no later than 60 days after birth.

The birth announcement must contain the following information:

- ear tag of the calf (except stillbirths);
- breed, gender and birth date;
- level of assistance at calving on a score of 1-6, one being no assistance and 6 being Caesarean section;
- birth weight;
- ear tag or insemination number of the sire and ear tag of the dam;
- insemination data or mating data;
- name and address of the owner.

Mating data

At the latest, with the birth announcement, the mating data must be reported to the Society. Owner inventory Artificial Insemination (AI) are obliged to report data of all performed inseminations to the Society.

When buying-in semen from AI companies out with the UK the breeding certificate for the semen must be presented.

Deadlines

Deadlines for the transmission/notification of data to the breeding association through the owner

Type	Deadline
Birth notification (intimation)	Up to 60 days from birth
Registration thereafter	Up to 6 months late fee applies
Mating data (natural mating or AI)	With birth notification

All additional data which are relevant for the management of the herd book must be entered.

Performance test data

A deadline for submission to the Society must be observed see No 5.5.

Accesses/Leavings

A deadline for transmission to the Society must be observed.

Exceeding the deadlines

If deadlines regarding birth registration and insemination data are exceeded or the notifications are made incorrectly, a parentage check can be ordered by the Society to validate the information. Late fees and fines are applied to late entry of data.

Details of the financial penalties can be found here:

<https://www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/A-A-fees-and-charges-UK.pdf> £ Sterling fees

<https://www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Fees-and-Charges-EUROS-January-2019.pdf>

Herd book entry of purchased breeding animals

For entry of purchased breeding animals into the breeding book, a valid zootechnical certificate of the delivering breed society, at which the animal was last registered must be presented with the transfer of ownership documentation.

For pregnant animals, an "in calf" confirmation must be given (can be noted on the zootechnical certificate) as well as documents, from which the identity of the animal used for mating, should be stated.

Entry of breeding animals from embryo transfer

Animals arising from embryo transfer will in principle not be entered in the main section of the breeding book until the zootechnical certificate of the embryo and the result of the parental test has been made available and entry requirements met.

The Society identifies the offspring of embryo transplant animals in the herd book and on pedigree certificates by entering the letters (ET) to differentiate these animals from this of natural mating. The parentage test is performed as the normal procedure for high density SNP testing. With the entry into the breeding book each calf originating from embryo transfer gets the note ET. After the parentage verification check the final pedigree certificate will be issued and the animal will enter the herd book.

Herd book entry of imported animals and germinal products

Any animal or germinal product imported into the UK must be accompanied by the appropriate health certification and a zootechnical certificate. On receipt of the documentation, the animal or germinal product will be entered into the main section of the herd book, if they meet the herd book entry requirements, with a suffix after the Identification number (IMP) denoting "import".

6. Selection and breeding objectives of the breeding Programme

6.1 Objectives of the breeding Programme:

Cattle are bred to meet the economic requirements of the suckler herd farms and the crossbreeding with Aberdeen- Angus bulls in dairy farms who seek short gestation period and easy calving traits from the breed. Breeding progress is aimed at, through performance testing and the application of Estimated Breeding Values (EBV), aiding selection. The aim is to speed up improvement and assist in targeted selection.

Pedigree breeders use and cross family pure bred lines and use genetics in the form of Semen or Embryos to bring in new blood to their herds and make improvements to their own herd performance and keep family lines open.

6.2 Selection

Society recognition of young bulls

For entry to the herd book, young bulls are admitted under the following criteria:

- Their parents and grandparents are registered in the herd book or equivalent herd book.
- A DNA sample of tissue or hair is available and whose paternal ancestry is via a society recognised ancestry procedure.
- The presence of the Myostatin variant gene F94L or nt821 and no more than a single version carrier of one or either of the two variants.
- Any double carriers of the Myostatin gene are not eligible to be registered and would be debarred from entering the herd book;
- The bulls are declared non carriers of any genetic defects outlined in the breeding programme.

Old bulls

- Bulls are admitted to the herd book, and they are admitted for life with performance factors of the progeny being added to their Estimated Breeding Value (EBV) continually to monitor their performance over the future generations.

Female animals

- The exterior evaluation of the cows according to No. 7.2 is usually carried out after the first calving and reviewed over her lifetime the result of the latest evaluation is valid.
- Also admitted are females imported from abroad which fulfil the other conditions for the exterior evaluation and whose 200 or 400-day weight has been established.
- Females imported into the herd book may be subject to exterior assessment

Stock bulls imported from out with the UK are subject to the same rules of entering the herd book along with performance testing and validated data from the county of origin. They must also be accompanied with a completed zootechnical certificate from an approved breed society from their country of origin.

7. Performance testing

7.1. Performance tests

The performance tests are carried out by the subsidiary of the Society Pedigree Cattle Services in association with Agricultural Business Research Institute (ABRI) the Globally recognised performance recording authority. The performance test data can be recorded as follows: -

1. Through trained staff or representatives of the Society
2. The herd owner submits data that can be randomly audited by independent agents
3. Combination of 1 and 2 above

If an owner control is conducted on weighing, the owner must notify the Society of the planned task and the Society may elect to have an auditor in attendance, but all performance data is verified at Scanning by an independent contractor.

7.2 Exterior/Exterior assessment

The desired frame should be considered in the exterior assessment according to the breed description in No. 1 of this document. The range of frame size is important as depending on the territory that the cattle are to be kept will govern the frame size that will work for the breeder.

The exterior assessment is carried out according to the uniform regulations and the assessment system of the National Bovine Data Centre. Points are awarded for the type of characteristics displayed by the animal and the animal is graded on its final score over the traits against the breed classification. The description of the scoring system that is used and delivered by independent assessors is below.



The age of the animal must be taken into consideration when assigning classification score and composite box breakdown. This is a service available through the society and is not compulsory for members to subscribe to.

7.3 Growth performance test in the field

In suckler cow herds the birthweight, 200, 400- and 600-day weight, and slaughter weight where appropriate are taken into account in the performance data. The birth weight is required to determine the calculation of daily gain. Animals are scanned to ascertain Rib Eye measurements and area and marbling levels are considered. Weights at scanning are also recorded and the weights are compared to owner inputs and corrected to the last age at weighing

7.4 Growth performance test on station

We have embarked with Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) on a number of options including a test batch of 800 Aberdeen-Angus steers through a test station to establish feed efficiency traits and to be able to evaluate these meaningfully we need to continue with this until we reach a group of 1800 results to complete the Programme. This is an ongoing project looking at Feed Efficiency in the herd

7.5 Fertility

Fertility of individual animals is recorded and Birth weight, is recorded along with information on assistance given to the cow during birth this is carried through to the calving interval each year for the animal and it is given an EBV according to this information of performance.

If the birth weight is given it must be recorded and not estimated using either a scale or a weighing tape as provided by the Society with instructions for that purpose.

7.6 Verification

The Society has a policy of random inspections of herds to verify data submitted by owners in the form of every one hundredth calf registered triggers an inspection. The National Milk Records staff as independents check weigh animals look for signs of calving intervention equipment and evidence on the farm and in the herd of Caesarean procedures having taken place. A further DNA sample is taken on inspection of a test group for verification against the owner sample submission.

Performance test data

A deadline for submission to the association must be observed see No 5

Accesses/Leavings

A deadline for transmission to the Society must be observed.

7.7 Implementation of the breed evaluation

All data collected during performance of the breeding programme and performance testing are to be provided by the members of the Society and published for access by the membership. The results of the testing are available on the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society Website and are incorporated in the breed evaluation figures. The link to the section for animal enquiries is here.

<http://abri.une.edu.au/online/cgi-bin/i4.dll?1=3E37202F&2=2431&3=56&5=2B3C2B3C3A>

ABRI Australia is the contracted provider of software to measure and assist breed evaluation for the Aberdeen-Angus Breed by the Society. A monthly update of the EBV figures is run and the values for each animal that is performance recorded is updated.

The latest results of breed evaluation are entered onto the Society web site and available to view but are not included in the herd book.

7.8 Breed evaluation EBV Terminal Index (Meat Traits)

The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society, in consultation with ABRI, undertake a breed evaluation aided by the Best Linear Unbiased Prediction (BLUP). The relative breeding value of meat (EBV) is formed from the partial values of daily increase maternal, daily increase, four hundredth day weight and the muscling is scanned independently and corrected back to 400th day for consistency and comparison.

Breeding values on individual animals are available to all at the Society website shown starting from an accuracy percentage of 30% being relevant.

<http://abri.une.edu.au/online/cgi-bin/i4.dll?1=3E37202F&2=2431&3=56&5=2B3C2B3C3A>

(To find the pedigree and breeding values enter the animal's name or identification number to search for an individual animal.)

7.9 Breed evaluation Agricultural Breeding Research Institute (ABRI)

Estimated Breeding Values (EBV)

The estimated breeding value (EBV) is calculated by a worldwide accepted Programme taking the phenotypic data sets collected by our members and a prediction is made as to the likely performance using data from parents, grandparent and siblings. This data is then run to be updated on a monthly basis against the worldwide database and then through calculation corrected for country specific performance parameters.

This resource is used extensively by breeders to improve and make effective improvements on performance parameters within their herds.

7.10 Genetic specialties and hereditary defects

The Society sets the mandatory list of genetic defects for the Aberdeen-Angus breed.

Class 1 genetic defects: Arthrogyposis Multiplex (AM) or Curly Calf Syndrome; Dwarfism; Fawn Calf Syndrome; Mannosidosis; Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH); Osteopetrosis (marble bone disease); and Syndactyly (mule foot). Any presence found of any of the class one defects will result in the animal being de-registered and removed from the herd book. Any resultant progeny will not be registered or entered into the herd book.

The list of genetic defects is part of the breeding programme. The procedure for the detection of genetic defects is based on scientifically approved principles and is not limited to certain groups. All animals in the herd book are subject to this rule. The results of tests carried out for genetic defects are declared on pedigree certificates and indicated on the zootechnical certificate.

7.11 Genetic specialties

Genetic specialties have no negative impact on the health or well-being of the carriers. All animals of the Aberdeen-Angus bred are exclusively genetically polled. For the Aberdeen-Angus breed, no other genetic

peculiarities are currently known other than the Myostatin Variant presence which is associated with double muscling affecting meat quality and texture. This Gene does not affect the health and wellbeing of the animals.

7.12 Hereditary defects

For the breed Angus there are currently no genetic defects known that are

Pure Bred Cross No	3	4	5
Percentage Aberdeen-Angus	87.5	93.75	96.9

Herd Book Section	Supplementary Appendix A	Supplementary Appendix B	Main Section
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characterised by their animal welfare relevance and/or economic importance in breeding and are considered accordingly in the breeding programme.

8. Supplementary sections of Herd Book

There is a supplementary section of the herd book that allows producers to grade up animals, as set out below.

There is an established procedure to ensure that any breeder wishing to grade up animals must follow to ensure that the results of the grading up programme are eligible to be entered into the main section of the herd book. Base stock must be inspected by a member of the Aberdeen-Angus Council.

Cattle from the grading up process are entered into the supplementary register after the third cross with a registered pedigree bull given the process that is followed and regular herd inspections by Society representatives. The percentages of Aberdeen-Angus in the generations would be as outlined in the table below.

Any resultant bulls from the grading up process after the 3rd Cross can be registered as Pedigree as terminal sires for commercial use only and no progeny of the bulls from the programme can be used for pure bred breeding as no calves will be registered at any time.

9. Outsourcing to third parties

Through our subsidiary Pedigree Cattle Services our members are offered performance recording and performance evaluation to enhance selection tools through a software programme provided by ABRI, an Australian based specialist in Best Linear Unbiased Prediction tools. Breedplan promotes enhanced improved performance when making choices on animals for an individual member breeding programme.

<http://breedplan.une.edu.au/>

Weatherby's scientific are a specialist in the field of pedigree verification and is one of our providers who offer both parentage verification services, and when required the facility to collect genetic information to be incorporated into our Genomic Programme on higher density SNP tests going forward.

<http://weatherbysscientific.com>

Identigen are our second supplier of parentage verification and genomic information gathering who are very involved with the retailers in brand protection. We work with this company to assist in protecting the Aberdeen-Angus brand and badge of quality from being compromised and assist in ensuring that our customers get premium authentic Aberdeen-Angus Beef.

<https://identigen.com/en/>

Implementation of technical tasks within the breeding programme

Features / Type of implementation	Implementation through
1. Recording of the growth performance	Representative of the Society, or owner
2. Exterior assessment	Representative of the Society
3. Acquisition of fertility data	Owner of the cow
4. Acquisition of calving data	Owner of the cow
5. Acquisition of genetic specialties and hereditary defects	The acquisition of genetic specialties and hereditary defects takes places through the Society. The member is obliged to provide the association all test documents known for the management of the herd book.
6. Other commissions	-
7. Implementation of breeding value estimation	Pedigree Cattle Services Robert@breedplan.co.uk
8. Management of the breeding book	Yvonne Buchanan - Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society caroline@aberdeen-angus.co.uk
9. Lab test (identity check, genetic specialties...)	Identigen Ltd Contact - Anton Hoffland Wetherbys Scientific Contact - Romy Morrin- Odonnell Registrations Department AACs Caroline@aberdeen-angus.co.uk Emily@aberdeen-angus.co.uk Fiona@aberdeen-angus.co.uk
Chief Executive Officer	Barrie@aberdeen-angus.co.uk

10. Regulations for animals from which breeding material is obtained

Breeding material may only be obtained from purebred breeding animals by approved semen companies or by approved ET-facilities.

Bulls collected for Artificial Insemination must be registered in the herd book or the herd book of an approved breeding body within the EU or a third country

For female animals from which ova or embryos are obtained, it is necessary to

- a DNA analysis or the result of another equivalent procedure according to No. 8.1 for verifying the identity of the offspring
- a result of the meat performance test if available
- a current zootechnical certificate is available.

11. Issuance of zootechnical certificates for purebred breeding animals

The issue of zootechnical certificates for purebred breeding animals is in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 and Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/717.

The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society has developed its zootechnical certificate to conform with the regulations. An example of the certificate is below within section 11.2.

11.1 Registration confirmations for animals

If the female animal was registered in the herd book of the breed before 01.01.2015, no zootechnical certificate is created unless this animal is sold or moved to another herd book.

The entry into the herd book is life-long unless it is subsequently found to be a carrier of any defects that would debar the animal from being there.

11.2 Zootechnical certificates for breeding material

The issuing of zootechnical certificates for breeding material (ova, embryos and semen) is carried out in accordance with (EU) 2016/1012 and (EU) 2017/717 directives. These are issued by the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society.

Breeding material is accompanied by a zootechnical certificate, issued by the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society. A zootechnical certificate will include a written record of the pedigree of the animal with the lineage traced back to grandparents at a minimum.



- with delivery of breeding material to other EU member states/ contracting states / third countries;
- with delivery to other breeding material companies outside the UK;
- with delivery of embryos to animal owners; and with delivery of semen to animal owners if required by them

The breeding certificate for semen and ova consists of:

1. Part A – copy of the breeding certificate of the donor animal issued by the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society;
2. Part B – Breeding certificate for the breeding material according to the exemplary (EU) 2017/717 issued by the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society;
3. The embryo breeding certificate consist of the copies of the breeding certificates for the donor animals issued by the Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society (parts A and B) and part C with the details for the embryo.

12. Dispute resolution/rules of procedure

The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society is committed to equal and fair treatment of breeders and will enter into the breeding book animals of the same breed line or cross that are eligible for entry under the Society's breed criteria without discrimination on account of their country of origin.

Council reserves the right to check selected herds. The owner will be given 48 hours oral notice of the visit by the Inspector. An owner with a genuine reason is allowed an extra 24 hours for the inspection, otherwise an owner cannot refuse admission to the Inspector unless in the most exceptional circumstances. The society also has a system in place for random inspecting of herds and data where every 100th calf registered triggers an inspection requirement

If a Breeder refuses to co-operate in allowing an inspection for up to 3 weeks, all calves in the herd under 3 months of age (at the time of the first notification) could be banned from all Society run events for life and the herd banned from all Society events for two years and no herd book certificates will be printed for that herd until an inspection takes place at the breeder's expense.

When an Inspector on inspection finds that any of the rules of the society have been compromised a letter will be sent to the breeder within 20 working days of the inspection. Upon receipt of such written notification, which shall act as initial evidence of breach of the rules, the breeder shall have an agreed period of time including the date of the receipt of the written notification to make written submissions to the Society's representative and/or to produce any evidence in writing in support of any explanation that the breeder might wish to submit in defence of the initial findings purporting to a breach of any rule.

Should no such written submissions or evidence in writing aforesaid be made by the breeder within a period of five working days, then the initial finding of the Inspector shall be final and the Society's Council Representative shall submit the Inspector's findings to the Council of the Society at their next meeting and they shall proceed to impose the sanctions as set out hereunder.

(vi) Should the breeder make a written submission and/or produce any evidence in writing in support of any explanation that he/she might wish to submit in defence of the breach of any rule, within the agreed period, to the Society's representative / CEO appealing the Inspector's report, then such written submissions and/or written evidence together with the Inspector's report will be submitted to Council.

(vii) The matter shall be initially considered by Council to determine as to whether the initial findings of the Inspectors report have been fully and satisfactorily rebutted and/or answered and/or explained by the Breeders written submissions and/or written evidence. Should they find that they have then the breeder shall be informed in writing and the matter ends.

(viii) Should the Council not so find then the breeder shall be given an agreed period of time, minimum of fifteen working days' notice of time, place and date for the hearing of an Appeal before the Council or a sub-committee of at least 3 members of council (appointed by council) which shall be an Oral Hearing.

(ix) The breeder has the opportunity prior of the assigned hearing date the breeder shall outline in writing the basis of his appeal, a list of witnesses intended to give evidence and a summary of their oral evidence and a copy of any Veterinary or other expert report upon which the breeder intends to rely. Failure to comply with this aspect of the Rule, in whole or in part shall leave the Council or their representatives with the discretion to allow or not to allow such undisclosed evidence to be allowed or not allowed at the hearing.

(x) In the hearing of the appeal, which shall be in private, the rules of natural justice shall apply. There shall be no right to be legally represented by solicitor or barrister. The breeder may however nominate at least seven working days prior to the assigned date of the hearing another member of the society, a family member, a representative of a farm representative organisation, Agricultural Consultant or veterinary surgeon to represent him/her. The case against the breeder shall be made by the Inspector. Evidence shall not be taken under Oath or affirmation. The appeal hearing shall be chaired by the president or Chair of Technical Committee and otherwise if either of the above are unable to attend by a member of council (or sub-committee thereof) nominated by the chairman. The council (or sub-committee) hearing the appeal shall operate by simple majority and the chairman of the hearing shall have a casting vote. The decision of the council (or sub-committee) which shall be in writing may be reserved or given on the day of the hearing and shall be final.

In the operation of this procedure, there should be a rebuttable presumption that the findings of the Inspector on his inspection, regarding the age, weight, sex, tag number and all other such findings in the Inspector's initial report shall be correct and accurate.

For the purposes of this procedure all written notifications from the society to the member/breeder shall be by ordinary pre-paid certified post which shall be deemed to be received by the member/breeder in the ordinary course of post and all written notifications from the member/breeder to the society shall be by prepaid registered post addressed to the Society's registered office.

Newton of Idvies
By Forfar, Angus
DD8 2QP

FJ FRASER & SON EST. 1960
IDVIES
ABERDEEN-ANGUS

Idvies 
Aberdeen
Angus Herd



IDVIES PROUD ICON V907

Sired by Idvies Kaiser
Selling to the McLaren Family, Muirhouses,
Kirriemuir for 7800gns - February '21



IDVIES PARADISE V939

Sired by Idvies Pink Peugeot
Selling to the Brown Family, Drumdow, Tumberry for
6000gns - October '21



IDVIES MASTER BANBURY V898

Sired by Idvies Pink Peugeot
Selling to the Duke of Fife (Elsick
Estate) for 6000gns February '21



IDVIES ERMINE W925

Female Champion Stirling October '21
Selling to The Middleton Family, Mains of
Balfour, Fettercairn



IDVIES PINKY PETAL V866

Selling in-calf to Idvies Ferrari at the
Angus Fever Sale, Carlisle
for 9000gns to B & I Mitchell, Glasgow

CURRENT HERD SIRES @ IDVIES...

**IDVIES
FERRARI
S752**

Intermediate
& Supreme
Champion
- Stirling
February '18
Sire:
Gretnahouse
Prince Cool
N623
Dam: Idvies
Flora K489



**THRUNTON
PANTHER
S922**

1st in Class
Purchased
Stirling
February '18
for 15,000gns
Sire:
Hallington
Edition M362
Dam:
Thrunton
Paradise M414



NEW HERD SIRES @ IDVIES...



BLEACK PRINCE CARTIER W035

Intermediate & Supreme Champion
Stirling, October '21. Purchased for 24,000gns. Sire:
Bleack Dual Mine U913
Dam: Bleack Princess Caroline T867 who went
on to sell for 28,000gns at the Bleack dispersal



RAWBURN LANG SYNE V931

Purchased for a five-figure sum
Sire: Hallington Picasso M348
Dam: Houghton Laura LO26, Female
Champion at the Royal Highland Show
2014, also the Dam of Moncur Laura
purchased by Idvies for 22,000gns

Alastair S Fraser - 01307 818 313 / 07764 532 193 - Graeme S Fraser - 01307 819 141 / 07712 829 840

Email: enquiries@idvies-aberdeenangus.co.uk



PEDIGREE HOUSE

T: 01738 622477

Robert Gilchrist, Acting CEO and Breed Development Manager

Direct Dial: 01738 448345

E: robert@aberdeen-angus.co.uk

Laura Stewart, Office Manager

Direct Dial: 01738 448343

E: laura@aberdeen-angus.co.uk

REGISTRATIONS & DNA

Caroline Ford

Direct Dial: 01738 448341

E: caroline@aberdeen-angus.co.uk

Fiona Flood

Direct Dial: 01738 448342

E: fiona@aberdeen-angus.co.uk

ACCOUNTS

Angela Cumming, Finance department

Direct Dial: 01738 448344

E: angela@aberdeen-angus.co.uk

SOCIETY SHOWS & SALES, WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA & STOCK FOR SALE

Emily Simpson

Direct Dial: 01738 448340

E: emily@aberdeen-angus.co.uk

BREEDPLAN AND PEDIGREE CATTLE SERVICES

Barbara Webster

Direct Dial: 01738 448346

E: barbara@breedplan.co.uk

Helena Stewart

Direct Dial: 01738 448347

E: helena@breedplan.co.uk