

YEAR BOOK

AustralianReds



January, 2018

Issue No. 7



Now with Milking Daughters

JOHVILLE PARK SCAREBEAR

Also Available
SexedULTRA™

ARBSCAREBEAR

Foske x Andersta

BPI 266 /72% **HWI** 219 /63% **TWI** 204 /70%

Overall Type	Cell Count	Dtr Fert	Feed Saved
96/62	120/65	104/44	77/30

2017 December ABV - 66 milking daughters 25 herds

BEAULANDS ABBOTT

Also Available
SexedULTRA™

ARBABBOTT

Tosikko x Fyn Aks

BPI 258 /69% **HWI** 170 /59% **TWI** 240 /66%

Overall Type	Cell Count	Dtr Fert	Feed Saved
100/55	86/65	98/48	18/27

2017 December ABV - 60 milking daughters 22 herds

BEAULANDS RON - ET

ARBRON

Fastrup x Fynaks

BPI 226 /66% **HWI** 154 /57% **TWI** 210 /63%

Overall Type	Cell Count	Dtr Fert	Feed Saved
103/46	138/58	101/48	-26/23

2017 December ABV - 39 milking daughters 17 herds



ARBSCAREBEAR daughter, Eddie & Sharon Kenna, The Sisters, Vic



BEAULANDS ABBOTT



BEAULANDS RON - ET

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AustralianReds

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2018 YEAR BOOK

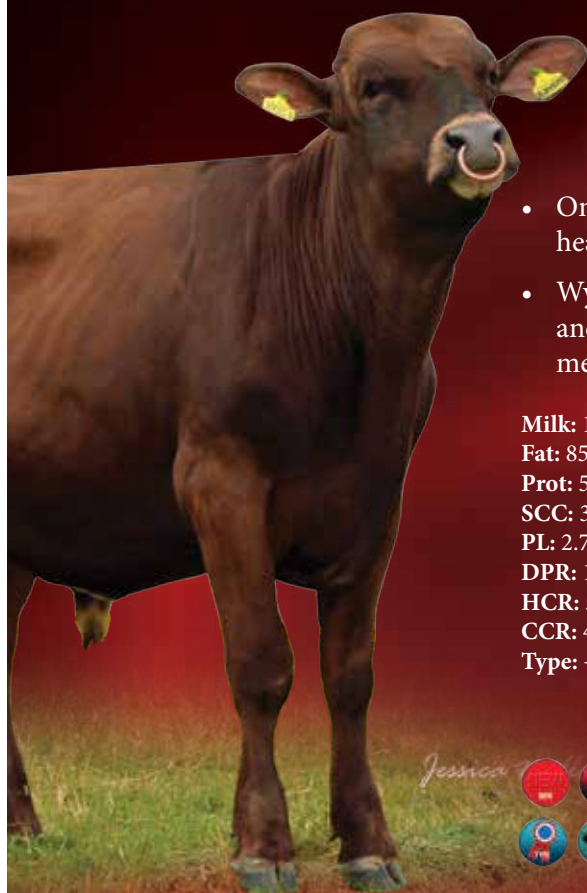
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The editor does not necessarily agree with the opinions expressed in this year book. The editor is in no way responsible for information contained in advertising in this year book.

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WYEVALLEY *Advent*

Sire: VR Cigar x VG87 R Facet x EX91 R Ascona x VG87 R David

- One of the Best All-Round genomic bulls in the breed; production, health traits and one of the highest PTAT Scandinavian Reds ever!!!
- Wyevalley Advent is a great all-rounder with exceptional type, strength and foot angle. He would be the No.1 PTAT bull among the Top 20 net merit Red and Ayrshire bulls available in the US.

Milk: 1407 Rel%: 37
 Fat: 85kgs 0.14%
 Prot: 56kgs 0.05%
 SCC: 3.07
 PL: 2.7
 DPR: 1.9
 HCR: 5.5
 CCR: 4.4
 Type: +0.6



Dam: Skyhigh Facet Avid

WYEVALLEY *Tango P*

Tangvoll x EX93-3E R Bangkok x R Ascona x VG86 Unna

- No.3 Polled Red on net merit and grazing merit. No.1 on available Red genomic sire in the USA at \$734 net merit!
- Sired by the Norwegian Red elite sire of sons, Tangvoll, Tango is heterozygous polled, he is also an exceptional fertility sire who will sire the moderate stature, powerful crossbred cows.
- Tango's dam is one of the highest classified Scandinavian Reds in the UK.

Milk: 2272 Dtrs: G Herds: G
 Fat: 94kgs +0.01 Prot: 84kgs +0.06 Prot.
 SCC: 2.94 PL: 3.4 DPR: 3.7 HCR: 4.4 CCR: 4.9 Type: +0.40



Dam: Skyhigh Bangkok Andera EX93-3E

Agri-Gene Pty Ltd

123-125 Tone Road, Wangaratta Victoria 3677

Ph: 03 5722 2666 Email: info@agrigene.com.au

www.agrigene.com.au



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2017

2017 started off with a bit of a shake up on the ARDB Board, with two new Board members taking up roles from two retiring members; and a retiring Board member taking up the Secretary role from our long standing and very much loved Joy Waltham. I also stepped into my first year as Chairman. In saying all this, I would like to acknowledge and thank my fellow Board members for their efforts and tireless work this year. Sam Graham heads up the Membership and Promotions Group. He has done a fantastic job this year with the website and in organising the NSW on-farm challenge. Sam has also started the Australian Red Dairy Breed merchandise range and is our information distributor.

Paul Cocksedge is in charge of the Technical and Interbreeds Portfolio. He is doing a great job. After hitting the ground running, he hasn't looked back. Paul is very heavily involved in driving our Aussie Red genomics and he has been working with Holstein Australia on creating some new Cow Awards.

Michael Riggs is the leader of the Finance and Administration Group. Michael has done a great job in getting our finances in order and he has things running very smoothly now. I know things have been very challenging at times, with a lot of changeover, but it now all seems to be very positive.

Graeme Hamilton is our Company Secretary, and I want to thank him for making my job so much easier. The amount of work that he puts in, so that this organisation can run smoothly, is a credit to him.

To Genetics Australia, Viking Genetics and Ausred XB, I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support of the ARDB. Without you we would not be in the position we find ourselves in today. I would like to thank Holstein Australia for their professionalism, as they have been a pleasure to deal with. We look forward to working with you in the future, to improve services to our members.

This year we signed up and became a member of DataGene. The Board nominated Tim Humphris as our ARDB

representative. We may be a small fish in a big pond, but we need to be seen, and we need to have a voice to be able to advance our breed. Our vote and our spot at the table will allow us to do just that.

The road to our genomics has been a slow and frustrating one. We are working hard to make it happen and there are things that we may be able to do to streamline the process, but a lot of the process is just out of our hands. Our on-farm challenge competition goes from strength to strength each year. We did however cop some criticism from people wanting to know why we don't allow other red breeds into the Victorian competition. Well, here's why: As we don't show, this is our main opportunity to showcase our cattle. This is more than a competition for us. Beside the farm walks at our meetings, this is our chance for us to get on the farms of our members and breeders, and although it may not be a long time on each farm, it still gives us a chance to catch up and meet the members and put some faces to names. It's like meeting new friends with similar interests. Over the past few years we have had many new entrants. A lot of these new entrants have now become members. We are working hard to support our members and breeders, and in doing so, increasing our membership base. I will not apologise for that!!

I would like to thank Viking Genetics for their ongoing sponsorship and support of this event; Paul Cocksedge, Brett Davies & Sam Graham for their help in organising and running the event; and a special mention to this year's judge, Don McDonald, who did a fantastic job. The NSW on-farm challenge is run in conjunction with the Illawarra breed and was a great success also. I would like to thank Sam Graham for his organising of the event and to Raymond Parker who did a superb job as the judge this year, with a little help from his wife, Sarah, as the photographer. To Genetics Australia, we thank you for your support and sponsorship of this event.

Greg Goulding
ARDB CHAIRMAN



The interest for our Aussie Reds seems to be growing overseas, as we are getting more and more inquiries about our cattle all the time. I know that export orders are coming through more often for Reds. The problem is having the cattle to supply them.

Michele Hamilton needs a huge thank you and recognition for the massive amount of work that she puts in, not only running our social media, but the work she does with the IRDBF conference, as well as our function photographer.

The 2019 IRDBF conference draws ever closer and Graeme & Michele Hamilton have been working tirelessly in starting to piece it all together, along with event organiser, Kylie Boston.

This year Genetics Australia celebrate their 60th year anniversary, so I would like to congratulate them on a great milestone. In 1993, the first Aussie Red Bull, ARBEcho, was progeny tested by Genetics Australia. This year marks the 25th year of the relationship between the ARDB and Genetics Australia. I congratulate both parties and we look forward to the next 25 years being strong and fruitful.

A very special mention goes to our long time Treasurer, Debbie Hales, and her family, John, Emma & Sara, who are having a battle at the moment. I would like to let her know that we are all thinking of her and we send all our love to aid in a speedy recovery.

On finishing, I would like to wish all of our members and friends of the ARDB all the best for a prosperous 2018.

Regards
Greg Goulding
Chairman
Australian Red Dairy Breed Register

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL RED CONFERENCE

by Michele Hamilton

The conference subcommittee is pleased to report that 2017 has been a good year of consolidation and progress for the 2019 IRDBF conference in Australia. Our Event Organiser Kylie Boston continues to guide us strongly through the planning stages.

We've had some strong industry support via sponsorship, commencing with our naming rights Platinum Sponsor Genetics Australia being announced in February 2017. Next came Dairy Australia firmly backing us as Gold Sponsor. By July 2017 we were able to announce two Tour Day Sponsors in National Herd Development and Viking Genetics. In a show

of rapport, the Illawarra Australia and Australian Ayrshire societies both came on board as Breed Sponsors in August 2017. Sponsorship options remain available for any domestic or international body wishing to bring their name and support to our event.

In September we were able to publish a useful itinerary detailing our locations from start to finish of the eight day journey, and the likely activities for each day. Following on from that, during spring we added various enhancements to the conference website www.irdbf2019.com.au - we now have travel ideas, further information on what we are all about, details of our breed

leadership team and details of our IRDBF board members.

Our conference theme in 2019 will be "Bringing Red Breeds Together". It is vitally important that all red breeds pull together in harmony towards individual and shared success, while maintaining breed uniqueness.

Guest speakers are currently being selected and approached for availability. We can, however, report that we have permission to visit James Mann's amazing dairy operation "Donovans Dairy" which is just a short drive from our conference venue - a 2,200 cow grassland farm, with 116 unit rotary dairy.

The team is also thinking of ways to encourage

farmers from all parts of the world to attend. We think it's more dynamic for farmers to be present in person at the event, interacting with others and able to pose their own questions to the forum. We are also placing heavy emphasis on enticing young farmers to our event, as they are the future of successful red dairy farming and engagement. We want young farmers to build a passion for breeding red dairy cows for the benefit of all. We don't yet have a firm plan on how we will achieve this, but "thinking caps" are being worn often on this subject!

Thanks for your ongoing support to our little committee.

Genomics and Progeny Test Bulls

Our first progeny test bulls selected with genomic data were released in 2017. These bulls from Genetics Australia include ARBMufasa (Andrei x Foske), ARBSurething (Valpas x Foske) and ARBTopdog (Solero x Foske). They were all bred at Mike Green's Waikato Farm Aussie Red Stud. Genomic selection tends to "weed out the stinkers", leaving us more confident that this group of bulls will have a higher average BPI than previous progeny test teams.

What this means for Australian Red Farmers.

You can have greater confidence in using our progeny test bulls. These Progeny Test bulls are best used as a "team", as individual



DAM OF ARBTOPDOG

proofs will vary when these bulls graduate with daughter proofs. If all Australian Farmers with an interest in breeding and herd recording red cows can use each of

these bulls in 2018, it will allow them to quickly graduate with daughter proofs of higher reliability. Thanks again to everyone who has participated in our progeny test program in

the past, and we look forward to working with many more breeders into the future as we all help grow our breed.

GIPPSLAND FARMERS

PASSIONATE ABOUT A HEALTHY HERD

Adam Waltham, together with his parents, George and Joy, are passionate about milking healthy cows. This Gippsland farming family are 10km north of Traralgon at Glengarry, on 100 effective milking hectares of dry land, with an additional 40 hectares on an adjoining block. They run 170 milking cows, all their younger stock, and make hay or silage on these properties. The Waltham family have consistently been named amongst the top 100 herds for the lowest BMCC in Australia. They may have a few months where they have one to two clinical cases of mastitis, but it is rarely a problem. While they won't readily admit it, their herd is also above national benchmarks for other indicators of herd health. Their fertility focus report shows that their strictly single-seasonal Autumn calving herd has a 90% in calf rate. This is a figure they have maintained over the past 15 years. This is achieved by using 100% AI and Adam does all the AI himself. During the past few calving seasons Adam reports that they have assisted less than 8% of births.

Their medium sized Aussie Red cows are also efficient producers in their low input system. They are fed 1.1 tonne of pellets/cow/year, and their peak production is 2.25kg milk solids/cow/day. Their veterinary bill is low compared to other herds in the area, and Adam has not had a case of LDA or "twisted stomach" in the time that he has been share farming with his parents. Monitoring and recording the health of the herd is important to the Waltham family, and while the figures demonstrate their good management, they are quick to praise their Aussie Red cows who they believe make the job easier for them. "We were very interested in the ease of calving of the Aussie Reds, and it sets them up for a healthy lactation and ability to go back in calf," said Joy. "We have also found them to be very quiet, I used to say they are painfully quiet, as you get a sore hand smacking them on the rear to get them to move! They are just low maintenance cows that are easy to manage."





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Norway

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THEY SAID IT.....REFLECTIONS FROM 2000 WORLD RED CONFERENCE IN AUSTRALIA



KEVIN BEARD, Geneticist ADHIS

The most important feature of the conference for me was the strong commitment shown by red cow breeders to total merit (or profit) indexes in so many countries. The indexes presented were tailored to the needs and cost structure of each country and were well accepted and used extensively in breeding programs. It leaves me confidence in the proposed move in Australia towards a total merit index that adds functional traits to the production traits already included in the Australian Selection Index

ROBERT POOLE, Executive Officer, ADHIS

What impressed me about the breeders of red cattle is their focus on profitability and commercial outcomes from the cows. They are open to new ideas that might enhance their breed and the conference, canvassed many issues from around the world.

BERNIE HARFORD, Chief Executive, Genetics Australia

The IRCC provided a tremendous forum for international and Australian red cattle interests. The exchange of views exposed a clear common commitment - the development of red cattle as a profitable cow meeting the demands of modern dairy farming.

HERD'S VISITED ON 2000 CONFERENCE.

Williams, Meningie, SA
Hamiltons, Mt Gambier, SA
Donovans, Mt Gambier, SA
Thompson/Moroney, Eskdale, Vic
Rhodes, Eskdale, Vic
Henry's, Katunga, Vic
Andersons, Katunga, Vic
Raleigh, Timboon, Vic
Grahams, Nowra, NSW
Coles, Gympie, Qld
Bath, Fish Creek, Qld
Johnstone, Kenilworth, Qld

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Australia	Norway	New Zealand	Finland
Sweden	USA	Germany	Lithuania
Denmark	Zimbabwe	Holland	

COUNTDOWN MILK QUALITY AWARDS 2017

Congratulations to the following Aussie red members who were among Australia's top 100 suppliers for low

bulk milk cell count: Tim Taylor, the Priebbenow and the Waltham families! Also congratulations to some other

mixed Aussie Red Herds including the Lebrocq, Griffin and Grieve Families. Job well done!

Australian Red Dairy Breed Leaders for Fertility

The Australian Red Breed Group (coded UU) are the leading group of bulls to genetically improve the fertility in your

herd. As all red breed bulls are compared on the same base in Australia, the UU group are clearly breed leaders in this

trait. (Data supplied by Datagene, Dec 2017. Note the average red bull is 100 with one standard deviation of 4.6)

Australian Red (UU)	102.3
Ayrshire (AA)	97.2
Illawarra (II)	95.5

TOP 25 BPI AUSSIE RED HERDS

NAME	TOWN	P CODE	BPI	BPI RANK	CURRENT COWS	HWI	HWI RANK	TWI	TWI RANK	ASI	ASI RANK
GRAHAM, RW & BC	NUMBAA	2540	107	1	629	85	1	104	1	65	2
GREEN FAMILY TRUST	MOUNT SCHANK	5291	95	2	293	74	2	90	2	59	3
LEPPIN T & L (JT)	BENA	3946	87	3	427	70	4	81	3	47	5
RALEIGH JAN (MF5)	TIMBOON	3268	86	4	241	72	3	78	6	43	6
VAGG GJ&SE & COCKSEGE PS	LEONGATHA SOUTH	3953	84	5	49	60	7	80	4	70	1
TAYLOR TA	BRUCKNELL	3268	81	6	69	68	5	79	5	39	8
WALTHAM GV & JL	GLENGARRY	3854	78	7	186	63	6	71	7	43	6
HAMILTONS RUN (MOFW5)SP	MT GAMBIER EAST	5291	76	8	368	60	7	70	8	50	4
GOULDING FARMING TRUST (EASYD)	COHUNA	3568	68	9	239	59	9	62	9	29	11
SNOWDON SG	TYERS	3844	63	10	175	50	12	57	10	38	9
RIGGS, M	COOROY	4563	63	10	218	54	10	55	11	27	13
COULTHART, GR, LS, MA &RM	NUMBAA	2540	58	12	101	52	11	55	11	18	17
MILLS G & A	TONGALA	3621	47	13	42	44	13	46	13	8	26
HARRISON, K	KILCOY	4515	46	14	56	34	14	40	14	34	10
PHELAN T, B & L	DELORAINIE	7304	39	15	73	28	16	34	17	28	12
GLENVIEW DAIRY PTY LTD	MALANDA	4885	37	16	124	33	15	36	15	12	23
MAJESTA DAIRIES-WRIGHT (EMAIL DIF)	MENINGIE	5264	32	17	137	24	19	29	20	22	14
LINDBERG DH SM	BUSSELTON	6280	32	17	36	26	18	31	19	18	17
BLASCHE, T & S	FAIRYHILL N.S.W	2470	31	19	211	27	17	35	16	10	24
HILLEND PARTNERS	MILLBROOK	3352	27	20	40	22	20	25	22	13	21
BLACKWOOD FAMILY FARMS	VIA GYMPIE	4570	27	20	169	21	21	26	21	18	17
CHELMONTE FARMING	BRYMAROO	4403	26	22	48	20	24	24	24	15	20
HUMPHRIS TB & LJ (EMAIL)	TONGALA	3621	25	23	71	20	24	25	22	13	21
LITTLE JR & SL / MARTIN D & A	KORUMBURRA	3950	24	24	31	21	21	21	26	8	26
COCHRANE P/L, REG	PYREE VIA NOWRA	2540	24	24	49	21	21	33	18	9	25

AUSTRALIAN COW OF THE YEAR WINNER

WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 3643 EXC 91 (x3)

Owner: Mike Green

Sire: Dragomir

Princess 3643 is a cow that stands out in presence and on paperwork, without receiving any extra attention in our large herd.

She scored 91 points as a 9 year old on her last classification, along with one of her 7 year old daughters (sired by J Valon) who also classified EXC 91 (X2).

Princess 3643 has never given us any trouble and has never been treated for anything. She has produced over 61,000 litres to date, with excellent components of 3.7% protein and 4.7% protein. This year she is our 3rd highest PI cow with a PI of 128, and over her 7 lactations she has an average PI of 113.

Her dam (sired by Arblawrence) left here at 12 years of age, and I wish I had more like Princess 3643, as she just doesn't seem to age!



AUSTRALIAN COW OF THE YEAR

RUNNER UP

Ibina will be eleven years old by January 2018 and this paddock shot was taken 2 months ago.

Ibina's sire is VESTDELTA and maternal grandsire is FYNAKS. Together they are probably the greatest longevity bulls that we have used in Australia in our breed. It's no surprise that Ibina has calved nine times within eight years and all within a month of her birth date each year, including one set of Freemartin twins. She has only had one heifer calf, born February 2017, sired by German Angler bull RUCILLO.

In Ibina's early years she went completely unnoticed because she is the perfect invisible cow. We began to take notice of her before her classification as her statistics climbed up and up. She was classified VG89 on her seventh



lactation as an eight year old. Her highest scoring trait were udder texture and median suspensory ligament.

Ibina's current breeding values are BPI 196; TWI 180; and HWI 149. Ibina's

lifetime production as at 3/10/17 was 91,572 litres; 3,251kg protein; and 2,622kg butterfat. Her average lifetime PI is 110. Impressively, she has never been treated for clinical mastitis. Ibina is the dam

of Genetics Australia bull ARBINCA.

Ibina is our favourite because she has no vices and just keeps on giving and giving into the milk vat every day of her lactations.

EX 90 PLUS



**WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS
3758 EX 91**

**WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA
3760 EX 90**



**WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA
3776 EX 90**

**Beaulands Bangkok Scarlet
Ex 91**



**FAIRY VALE 641
BLUEBERRY Ex 90**

Paco Dragomir Anna Ex 90



EX 90 PLUS CLUB

CLASSN SCORE	ANIMAL ID	NAME	SIRE	OWNER
91	14463	BOSGOWAN PRIMULA 413	FYNCENT	MIKE GREEN
90	21324	BOSGOWAN BELLE 102	ODABEST	MIKE GREEN
90	21334	BOSGOWAN PRIMULA 440B	BJURIST	MIKE GREEN
90	21368	BOSGOWAN PRIMULA 437	PETERSLUND	MIKE GREEN
90	21754	BOSGOWAN PRINCESS 496	HEDAKER	MIKE GREEN
90	22249	BOSGOWAN PRINCESS 505	SKOLE	MIKE GREEN
90	23185	BEAULANDS LENS HAZEL 2	KLENS	RW & BC GRAHAM
91	23234	BEAULANDS BANGKOK SCARLET	BANGKOK	RW & BC GRAHAM
92	24337	WAIKATO FARM GREEN 3719	HEDAKER	MIKE GREEN
90	24341	WAIKATO FARM MAUREEN 6735	BOTANS	MIKE GREEN
92	24360	WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 3581	SYDFREM	MIKE GREEN
90	24370	WAIKATO FARM PRICESS 3617	GGWODKA	MIKE GREEN
90	24371	WAIKATO FARM PRICESS 3619	SYDFREM	MIKE GREEN
91	24373	WAIKATO FARM PRICESS 3623	GGDRAGOMIR	MIKE GREEN
92	24375	WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 3628	IRISHMAN	MIKE GREEN
90	24387	WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 3669	ARBBOWDOWN	MIKE GREEN
91	24406	WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 3643	GGDRAGOMIR	MIKE GREEN
91	24426	WAIKATO FARM ALLY 3732	SYDFREM	MIKE GREEN
90	24707	WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 3760	R DAVID	MIKE GREEN
91	24727	WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 3758	J VALON	MIKE GREEN
90	25219	WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 3776	LARSGARD	MIKE GREEN
90	25227	WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 3615	GGWODKA	MIKE GREEN
90	25259	WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 3638	ORRARYD	MIKE GREEN
90	25501	WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 3821	GGDRAGOMIR	MIKE GREEN
91	25808	WAIKATO FARM IRMA 3699	NZGNIGELO	MIKE GREEN
90	25932	PACO DRAGOMIR ANNA	GGDRAGOMIR	PAUL COCKSEGE
90	26696	FAIRY VALE 641 BLUEBERRY	ARBHILLY	T & S BLASCHE

AUSTRALIAN RED DAIRY BREED'S HEALTHY COMEBACK

Article supplied courtesy of Weekly Times

THE Australian Red Dairy Breed is enjoying a resurgence in popularity off the back of its strong health characteristics and a decline in demand for Holstein export heifers, according to a director of the breed society.

NSW Aussie Red breeder and Australian Red Dairy Breed director Sam Graham said interest in the breed had increased following a plateau during the years of strong Holstein export returns.

Last financial year semen sales of Aussie Reds increased from 48,210 to 58,512 straws, according to the National Herd Improvement Association of Australia annual semen market survey — seen by The Weekly Times last month —

and released at International Dairy Week at Tatura this week.

Mr Graham said a decline in demand and prices in the export heifer market had led some farmers back to the Aussie Red breed, while others found economic benefits with the health traits, for example, good calf rates, low cell counts, longevity and good feet and legs: “Some have come back because they are sick of pulling Holstein calves out of Holstein heifers,” he said.

The breed hosted an annual general meeting in Warrnambool last week, which also included three farm tours of local breeders.

Aussie Reds are the third-largest dairy breed — by population — in

Australia, according to Mr Graham.

Dairy Australia farm business management program manager Neil Lane showed the meeting examples of where herds with well-bred Aussie Red cows were close to the top of the industry in terms of profitability.

“Well-bred red cattle compare equally with other breeds,” he said.

Mr Lane used two farms as examples comparing the financial and physical metrics with Dairy Base data, which includes Victorian Dairy Farm Monitor data as well as NSW Dairy Farm Monitor results.

THE TOP SIX FOR 2017

The past year certainly was a big improvement over 2016 in most areas of the dairying sector. Although you could not say conditions are ideal and there still is a way to go in most areas, at least the weather was much kinder in most parts, helping to keep the cost of production down.

Viking recorded a strong year for 2017 in the area of sales and has turned out to be a record year for the company since opening in 2010.

The top six for the year were a mix of proven and genomic sires. The uptake of the use of Viking red Genomics has increased yearly and in 2017 was 48% of our sales.

No. 1 V Foske - still going strong and regains his title as Number One Proven BPI Sire, luckily we still have good stocks of Foske (even though he has passed away) which should carry us well into 2018.

No. 2 VR Hjusticia - very popular once again. He has been a great sire for use over maiden heifers for genuine calving ease and breeders like the way they are growing out.

No. 3 VR Niki - sold out very quickly as his supply was limited because the bull is dead. He was a great choice to use over V Foske as his teats were one and a half

deviations longer and his legs complimented V Foske lines as well.

No. 4 VR Freeze - offered some good outcross lines and his strong production and health profile made him a popular choice.

No. 5 VR Firmino - is a lovely all round sire with a proof that would suit most joinings and his semen fertility was at a high level.

No. 6 VR Donato - has a great all round proof and rounded out the top six sellers, calving ease and good semen fertility is also a feature of VR Donato.

NEW REDS FOR 2018

VR Hattrick (Proven) - Hattrick was imported in 2017 but will first appear in our 2018 catalogue. He is a great production bull, sired by R Haslev whose proof keeps on increasing here as more daughters are added. Hattrick will be a good choice over cows that are a bit short and need their udder depth improved. Hattrick is also more angular with flatter bone and will be a great sire to use over cows that you feel are too coarse and need more milk.

VR Fenton (Proven) - R Fastrup x Gunnarstorp x Orraryd. VR Fenton is a new proven sire that has nice production along with a good health profile. His Sire is R Fastrup and the grand dam is by Orraryd. Both of these Sires have done a super job in Australia in the past and should not present too many problems as far as inbreeding goes with the more current lines like V Foske. VR Fenton is a calving ease sire and can be used over maiden heifers with confidence.



VR Fenton



VR Fenton Daughter

VR Fimbe (Proven)

- R Facet x R Festival x Micmac. VR Fimbe also joins our proven team with a strong proof consisting of 2774 daughters. Fimbe also presents outcross opportunities to the Foske lines which is another bonus. VR Fimbe has ideal rump angle at 90 (91 is breed optimum) as the breed average of 100 is a little more sloped than the desired angle. Fimbe has fantastic

daughter survival at 123 which is almost two and a half deviations longer life than average or 78 days longer productive life. Fimbe calves are larger than average, so avoid using him on maiden heifers. To put his calving index into perspective he is the same as the popular old sire, A Tosikko, who left larger calves but generally not too many problems used over cows.



© Elly Geverink

VR Fimbe



Alex Arkink

VR Fimbe Daughter

VR Viktor - VR Vimur x Pell-pers x R Fastrup. VR Viktor is a great sire to maintain a well-balanced medium sized

cow. Udders are super but he is one deviation less for shorter teats (8mm or 0.8cm). This is not a big movement

in teat length but worth considering if you are joining cows with teat length you feel is already a bit short. Production

is at a premium and the health profile is nice also. Viktor's Sire, Vimur, is a son of S Valpas who is getting very strong reviews here now and offers an opportunity to use some of his lines if you have not already done so.

VR Faresin - VR Feton x S Valpas x Orkko. Faresin should be a great choice for those looking for a slightly shorter statured cow but still having plenty of strength through the frame, rumps angle is ideal and production and health are strong. Udders are very good with ligament being the strongest feature of his udder rating. Faresin also has a good caving ease rating and his sire, VR Feton was also a genuine calving ease sire.

VR Henrik PP - VR Hel P x S Valpas x Peterslund. Henrik PP is of course a fully polled sire and will transmit 100% polled genes to his progeny. It is very hard to get a full polled sire that measures up and I feel that Henrik PP has stepped up to the plate very nicely. Production is very good. Fertility and Udder health are also good along with milkability

and temperament. Also overall type and udders are good for a specialist sire like this as well. **VR Fabu** - VR Faabeli x Buckarby x S Signal. VR Fabu is a lovely young red sire who will leave a medium to slightly smaller stature cow with good strength, rump angle is close to ideal and his health profile is superb. Fabu holds milk production and increases components. A very easy to use sire for most situations as udders are also good along with milking speed and temperament.

VR Filur - VR Fonseca x VR Uudin x R Fastrup. VR Filur is a lovely young red sire with a little larger frame than average, similar to V Foske. Udder ratings are very good, even though he is a little softer for ligament, his fore udder and front teat placement and udder depth are very good which is what you look for when this rating is lower. Rear teat placement is good, as we are generally now seeking sires that are below 100 for this trait. Higher production and nice scores for temperament and milking speed are also a feature of VR Filur.



Alex Arkink

VR Fabu

ON FARM CHALLENGE

VICTORIA 2017 RESULTS

Class 1 2 year old Crossbred

No.	SIRE	OWNER
1st	Foske	B & B Davies.
2nd	ARBNick	Will Colbert & M Douglas
3rd	ARBRon	Iddles Family



Class 2 3 years and over Crossbred

No.	SIRE	OWNER
1st	Ullimulli	B & B Davies
2nd	S Adam	O Simpson
3rd	Andersta	D & L Hoey



Class 3 2 year old Red

No.	SIRE	OWNER
1st	VFoske	T & L Humphris
2nd	Uudin	O Simpson
3rd	Foske	B & B Davies



Class 4 3 and 4 years old Red

No.	SIRE	OWNER
1st	Cigar	D & A Martin
2nd	Gibson	T, L & N Leppin
3rd	Ullimulli	Owen Simpson



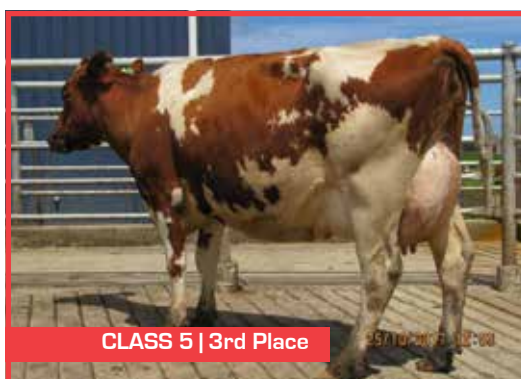
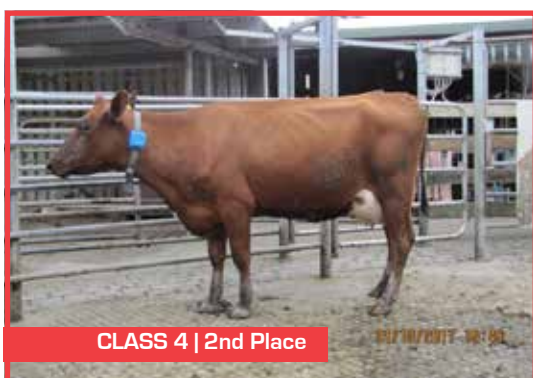
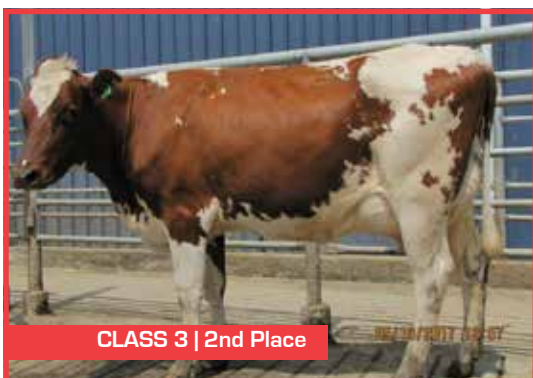
Class 5 5 years and over Red

No.	SIRE	OWNER
1st	Foske	O Simpson
2nd	Edbo	G & K Goulding
3rd	Foske	O Simpson



OVERALL CHAMPION
D & A Martin, Cigar daughter.

ON FARM CHALLENGE VICTORIA 2017 RESULTS



REFLECTIONS

FORWARD: When I was asked to reflect on my time as Executive Officer of the IRCC, there are many fantastic memories that come to mind of the many, many people I have met over the years, some of whom remain good friends to this day, the many countries I have travelled to, the many farms I have visited and the many varied, interesting and sometimes weird and funny situations I have found myself in, all too much to reflect on here. But one thing remains common, it is all due to a red cow that I have had many wonderful experiences over my tenure with the IRCC. So it seemed appropriate to me that I start that reflection with the most important gathering, the one that would make or break the future of the IRCC. – Karen Moroney

REMEMBER, RESPECT, RENEW these were the three words that I used to open the 2013 IRCC (International Red Dairy Cow Club) Conference in Germany. These words are very reflective of my time as the figure head of the IRCC since 1989.

At this meeting I wanted our membership to **REMEMBER** those who had gone before us and why the organisation was formed, going back to our roots or vision, very often will give clarity to our future path and direction. **RESPECT** the achievements of individuals and breed organisations rather than competing and detracting for self interest. **RENEW**, be prepared to change and move with the times to allow new growth and leadership in an organisation.

In my role as Executive Officer, I felt that 2013 was a pivotal year for the organisation and this meeting was pivotal to deciding the future direction of the IRCC. So with this

thought in mind, I set an agenda to find out just how our 21 strong membership saw the future, or indeed, if the IRCC organisation still had relevance 24 years after its inception.

This meeting was a watershed for many reasons and as a result of the discussion and debate that took place, many changes were made to better reflect both the needs of members and to strengthen and formalise the structure of the organisation as a whole. However, several things were abundantly clear to me – that members valued the organisation, as without it there is no platform for red breeds globally to come together in an unbiased atmosphere, to share, debate, expand and broaden our horizons on the developments and changes in breeding globally. Secondly, the motto of “Dedicated to the co-operation in red cattle breeding around the world” was just as relevant in 2013 as what it was 24 years ago! It was also a pivotal moment for me personally, as like the “Red Cow Magazine”, I had to the best of my abilities nurtured the IRCC into existence. The idea was established by my late father, Bill Thompson, but with his untimely death in 1989, that idea was either going to wither before the seed germinated or be watered to grow to its full potential. And grow it did, with the first conference being held in Denmark in 1990 followed by Sweden in 1994, USA in 1998, Australia in 2000, South Africa in 2005, Sweden in 2007, Germany 2013 and Norway 2016. I believe the “seed” has not yet grown to its full potential, but that meeting in 2013, in my opinion, was the start of the renewal of growth yet to come. With the formalisation of the new structure put into place at the 2016 gathering in Norway, and the election

of a Board to manage the activities of the International Red Dairy Breed Federation (formally the IRCC), the next phase of growth has begun. It gave me a huge sense of satisfaction to “pass on the baton” and to know that the IRDBF is in good hands.

In a final reflection I think it's important to celebrate our achievements and to acknowledge our failures. I believe that sometimes you have to look back in order to understand the path ahead. These are my thoughts:

Achievements:

- Despite the different breeding philosophies among the various red breeds the idea of the IRCC gained acceptance. Seven organisations became founding members in 1989.
- The idea gained a lot of support from the Scandinavian breeding associations who were very supportive of holding the first gathering in 1990 in Denmark. Holger Moritz Hansen was integral to promoting acceptance of the idea.
- Eight conferences have been held in various countries around the globe bringing breeds and breeders together.
- It has been a successful vehicle for establishing communication and networking and familiarising participants with the various red dairy breeds that exist in the world.
- It has created respect and understanding of the different breeds and breeding philosophies.
- The IRCC has provided a forum for the exchange of information and addressing challenges that affect us in the global market place.
- Provided a vehicle to draw guest speakers who are professionals and

academics in their field of expertise, to address topics and issues common to all breeds.

- Lifelong friendships are formed.
- Facilitated the name change with Interbull from "Ayrshire" base to Red Breed base making it more relevant. (South Africa 2005)

Failures:

- To drive initiatives that have been recommended.
- To not realise the full potential of the organisation to be a strong advocate for red breeds just as the HFA do for the Holstein Friesians.
- Small breed organisations have fallen away over the years. Why?
- Tyranny of distance – people lose interest.
- Lack of a common point of reference for communication and extension between conferences, this was most evident after the publication "The International Red Cow" ceased which provided a conduit to all red breeds globally in an unbiased format.

Finally, the Australian Red Dairy



Breed will be hosting the 2019 IRDBF conference in Mt Gambier Australia, the program is in the final stages of completion. Make sure you book your

spot to be a part of this fantastic event. You can find more details at www.irdbf2019.com.au

PROFITABLE AUSSIE REDS AT GENETICS AUSTRALIA.

The December 2017 ABV release confirmed the depth of Aussie Red genetics available from Genetics Australia. ARBSCAREBEAR – Johville Park Scarebear (Foske X Andersta), is an outstanding profit sire with a BPI of 266. His balanced production proof is a real feature and with strong yields, positive deviations and solid milk flow. His udder rating follows a similar pattern to that of his sire VFoske. His workability traits are a real feature with solid ratings throughout and this combines with positive cell count and daughter fertility to provide a complete package.

ARBSCAREBEAR is supported by three other strong proven sires each with features that make them strong additions to your breeding program. ARBABBOTT (Tosikko X Fyn Aks), ARBCYGNET (Foske X Olstad)

and ARBRON (Fastrup X Fyn Aks) are quality proven sires with diverse pedigrees.

ARBCYGNET – Beaulands Swannies is another strong production option with 34kgs of fat and over 1000 litres of milk. His solid type ratings are a bonus with outstanding rumps, feet & legs, and teat placement. An improver of fertility, cell count and workability traits, ARBCYGNET is a total performance sire that can be used with confidence.

ARBSCAREBEAR and ARBCYGNET are ideal matings for the many ARBBONJOVI daughters and granddaughters in the population.

ARBABBOT – Beaulands Abbot is the production king and sits just behind

ARBSCAREBEAR for profit. ARBABBOT is an A22 sire and is a staggering 38kgs of protein and 264 ASI. ARBABBOT is a great complimentary mating for VFoske daughters and granddaughters.

ARBRON – Beaulands Ron is one of the best bulls around for improving udder depth, cell count and survival while still maintaining high levels of production. At 201 ASI and 33kgs of protein, he has the rare combination of high production, health and longevity.

We are eagerly awaiting the next unofficial genomic run which will allow us to add to last year's selections of ARBMUFASA, ARBTOPDOG and ARBSURETHING. Thanks to all Aussie Red breeders who have submitted animals for testing.



Breeding for what truly matters

By choosing VikingRed you breed for a balance between health and high production. VikingRed is the top RDC breed in the world compared on Interbull data.



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for details of our
exciting team for 2018!

Phone 02 6071 3007
info@vikinggenetics.com.au



Breeding for what truly matters

AUSTRALIAN RED DAIRY BREED

AWARDS STANDARDS

1. Lifetime Production Award

Production recognition:
Butterfat and Protein in excess of:

LEVEL	FAT	PROTEIN
BRONZE	2525	2160
SILVER	3250	2780
GOLD	3690	3060

Lactations: a n i m a l must have calved in consecutive calendar years

Type: VG85 or Higher

Longevity: at least SIX lactations;

2. Production Achievement: 4. Supreme Production:

Production recognition:

Single 305 day lactation with minimum 3.1% P and minimum 3.4% F
AND/OR one of the following:

1. Fat 410 kg
2. Protein 340 kg

Production recognition:

Single 305 day lactation with minimum 3.3% P and minimum 3.9% F
AND a combination of 410kg Fat and 340kg Protein

Mammary: to be classified during normal tour with each category in the Mammary System to be classified as 85 or higher

3. Superior Total Performance

Longevity Recognition:

LACTATION	FAT (KG)	PROTEIN	LEVEL
Six (Minimum)	1780	1520	Standard STP
Seven (Exactly)	2080	1775	Gold
Eight (Exactly)	2375	2025	Elite

NOTE: The Superior Total Performance (STP) Award is applied for individually at classification

TOP 5



Cluain 3975 Matilda 2nd in Class 1.
Sire Cigar



Cluain 3417 Rosie 4th in Class 4.
Sire Ladykiller



Cluain 3641 Helen,
Overall Champion Cow, SA OFC.
Sire Meeson



Cluain 3070 Empress, 2nd in Class 5
Sire Waikato.

South Australia
ON FARM CHALLENGE
AUSSIE RED COWS WHO
PLACED IN THE TOP 5

NEW SOUTH WALES 2017 RESULTS

AUSSIE RED COWS WHO PLACED IN THE TOP 5



RED MOVE THE RIGHT FIT FOR COORIEMUNGLE FAMILY

Article supplied courtesy of Weekly Times

A DESIRE to even-out the size of their crossbred herd prompted the Hooker family to move into Aussie Reds.

Father-and-son Graeme and Steven Hooker milk up to 400 cows at Cooriemungle, in southwest Victoria.

They moved to the 220ha property in March 2016 from Fish Creek in Gippsland.

They calve a third of their herd in autumn, the remainder in spring.

"We had a lot of Friesian-cross cows. (Crossing) with Jersey was not an option because we would have a smaller-size animal," Graeme said.

"The Friesian-cross was a nice size cow, but putting Friesian back over (the cross) would make it a bigger cow.

"The reds allow us to have a three-way cross and it has helped bring

the Friesian ones back a bit (in size) and the Jersey side (of the herd) up a bit to even it out."

The Hookers hosted a farm tour as part of the Australian Red Dairy Breed annual general meeting held at Warrnambool last week.

Steven told the group of Aussie Red enthusiasts they would like to maintain the 50:50 herd split between Aussie Reds and Holsteins, but it was proving difficult.

"It is looking like we will be all red," he told the group.

"We are consistently getting 60 per cent replacements out of the reds and struggle to get 40 per cent out of Holsteins.

"They (Aussie Reds) also stay in our herd longer."

Overall herd health, fertility and an ability to walk and handle both the heat and wet conditions were just

some of the reasons given by the Hookers as to why they liked the Aussie Red breed.

It was a scorching hot day at Cooriemungle last Thursday and the Hookers' herd were standing under the shelter of trees.

Graeme said the Aussie Reds had grazed longer in the heat than the Holsteins, before seeking shade.

The herd receives "just on two tonne" per cow grain and mineral mix and this is supplemented at the moment with silage and the Hookers have just started feeding millet.

Production is at 18 litres a cow a day with a 4.33 per cent butterfat and 3.22 per cent protein.

The herd peaked in spring at 28 litres/cow/day when they had 170-180 autumn calved cows in the herd.



TOP LTE'S

FEMALE NAME	HERDBOOK	LA SS SCORE	OWNER	SIRE NAME
WAIKATO FARM JOY 4095	27645	VG85	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	VR CIGAR
BEAULANDS ULTIMO LEAF	28200	GP84	RW GRAHAM	VR MANSTORP ULLIMULLI ULTIMO
CLUAIN 3771 BESS	26357	GP84	HAMILTONS RUN	R FASTRUP
FAIRY VALE 807 PENNY	26754	GP84	TERRY BLASCHE	FAIRY VALE TERRY
FAIRY VALE 825 LUCY	27501	GP84	TERRY BLASCHE	BEAULANDS MEESON
FAIRY VALE 828 FUSSY	27503	GP84	TERRY BLASCHE	R FACET
LONGROAD FOSKE HILDA 2	27201	GP84	T B & L J HUMPHRIS	V FOSKE
LONGROAD FOSKE LADY 2	27204	GP84	T B & L J HUMPHRIS	V FOSKE
WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 4075	27643	GP84	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	V FOSKE
WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 4094	27644	GP84	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	SAMMATIN VALPAS
WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 4077	27658	GP84	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	V FOSKE
WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 4118	27676	GP84	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	BOSGOWAN BON JOVI
BEAULANDS CIGAR BIRDIE 2	27963	GP83	RW GRAHAM	VR CIGAR
BEAULANDS CIGAR HILDA 2	27996	GP83	RW GRAHAM	VR CIGAR
BEAULANDS CIGAR VERBENA 3	27609	GP83	RW GRAHAM	VR CIGAR
BEAULANDS FAST FAVOURITE 2	27976	GP83	RW GRAHAM	R FASTRUP
BEAULANDS FAST PRINCESS 9	28212	GP83	RW GRAHAM	R FASTRUP
BEAULANDS FASTRUP HAZEL	27617	GP83	RW GRAHAM	R FASTRUP
BEAULANDS FOSKE PRIMULA 7	28643	GP83	RW GRAHAM	V FOSKE
BEAULANDS SOLERO BIRDIE	28640	GP83	RW GRAHAM	VR SOLERO
BEAULANDS SOLERO HILDA	27381	GP83	RW GRAHAM	VR SOLERO
BEAULANDS XFACTOR HILDA	28644	GP83	RW GRAHAM	BEAULANDS X FACTOR
CLUAIN 3769 JESSICA	26355	GP83	HAMILTONS RUN	R FASTRUP
CLUAIN 3774 CLARABELLE	26360	GP83	HAMILTONS RUN	R FASTRUP
FAIRY VALE 778 RUTH	27271	GP83	TERRY BLASCHE	BOSGOWAN BON JOVI
FAIRY VALE 811 PATTY	27494	GP83	TERRY BLASCHE	BOSGOWAN BON JOVI
FAIRY VALE 815 LIBBY	26761	GP83	TERRY BLASCHE	FAIRY VALE TERRY
LODEN LITTLE RED 2691	26559	GP83	M RIGGS	MERIBEN PARK JACK FROST
LODEN SPOTTY 2719	27167	GP83	M RIGGS	ASMO ANDREI
LONGROAD LOGIC SWISSE	28797	GP83	T B & L J HUMPHRIS	LONGROAD LOGIC
LONGROAD NICK PIPA	28662	GP83	T B & L J HUMPHRIS	ORANA NICK
WAIKATO FARM JILL 4081	28498	GP83	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	ASMO ANDREI
WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 4071	27673	GP83	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	V FOSKE
WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 4079	27672	GP83	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	V FOSKE
WAIKATO FARM PRIMULA 4093	27670	GP83	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	SAMMATIN VALPAS
WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 4084	27647	GP83	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	ASMO ANDREI
WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 4096	27675	GP83	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	VR CIGAR
WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 4099	27663	GP83	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	VR CIGAR
WAIKATO FARM PRINCESS 4107	27660	GP83	WAIKATO FARM AUSSIE REDS	R FASTRUP



LONGROAD FOSKE LADY 2
84 POINTS

TOP
LTE

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Australian Red Dairy
Breed Register Limited**
C/- Holstein Australia
Postal: PO Box 489,
Hawthorn East VIC 3122
Email: enquiry@holstein.com.au
www.aussiereds.com.au

I/We hereby apply for membership in the Australian Red Dairy Breed Register Limited (the ARDB) and do hereby agree to conform to the constitution, rules and regulations of the ARDB and pay the Annual Membership Fee.

I AGREE to keep complete and accurate records of the breeding of Aussie Red cattle in my possession, including consecutive dates of all services with positive identification of females bred and sires used, and of all dates of calving, with the sex and identification of each calf and I further acknowledge the right of the ARDB to have access, through the relevant herd recording organisations, to all milk production/herd recording data relating to the cattle in my possession.

Dated at..... this day of 20.....

Name of Nominee:..... Signature:.....
[Print name of voting person & signatory of your membership]

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY and **ANNUAL FEE** (Please tick where appropriate) Fees include GST

1. **ORDINARY** ☐ **\$198.00** for Breeder with full membership and voting rights
2. **ASSOCIATE** ☐ **\$99.00** for Non-breeder with no voting rights

Note: Membership Fee is payable at the time of joining and on 1 November of each subsequent year.

I WISH MY MEMBERSHIP TO BE IN THIS NAME:

NOTE: Your membership name will appear on all Certificates of Registration to identify the breeder/s and owner/s of each animal, who shall be the exclusive holders of the Herd Prefix allocated to this membership.

ENTER your complete postal address, the details which locate your farm, ABN or ACN and your contact details.

Postal Address:

Property Address:

.....
.....

.....
.....

State **Postcode**

State **Postcode**

ABN/ACN

Tel ()

Fax ()

Email

Mobile No

DECLARATION OF OWNERSHIP

I/We hereby declare that this application represents the following persons in this membership and we agree to notify the ARDB within thirty days of any change by the deletion or addition of a partner in this membership.

Names of Partners (Please print)

First Names

Surname

Signatures (Please write)

.....

.....

BE SURE THIS APPLICATION IS COMPLETED IN FULL AND PROPERLY SIGNED.

IMPORTANT - PLEASE SEE OVER

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (cont.)

IMPORTANT - CHOOSE A HERD PREFIX

All Ordinary (breeder) members of the ARDB are required to register and use a herd prefix to identify the cattle which they breed. A prefix may not exceed two words and 30 letters. Any meaningful word may be used, or you may create one out of parts of names that relate to your family or farm. Your own surname may be suitable, if not too common. Short, uncommon names or words make the best prefixes.

MAKE SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS HERE in order of preference.

1.
2.
3.
4.

CHOOSE A HERD TATTOO

[Tattoo should consist of up to 4 digits – numbers without letters are not acceptable.]

1.
2.
3.
4.

HERD RECORDING DATA ACCESS

All members participating in herd recording are requested to assist the ARDB in obtaining herd recording information and lactation history data by completing the following.

Herd Recording No/Shire Property No

National Herd Id

Herd Recording Centre

NLIS Property Identification Code

(Leave blank if unknown)

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

☐ **Electronic statements;** tick if you DO NOT want to receive statements and invoices by email

Classification

Do you wish to be contacted regarding classifying your animals during 2017/18? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you wish to receive a 2017/18 classification booklet? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Shared Membership Information

☐ Please tick here if you wish your membership information NOT be provided to interested third parties.

Membership Form Statement

At Australian Red Dairy Breed Register Limited we are committed to protecting your privacy. We will not disclose any personal information obtained from you to a third party, except as follows:-

1. The ARDB publishes, including on its website, membership information.
2. The ARDB publishes and provides information concerning members' animal identification (including NLIS details), registration, classification, traits, awards, production, pedigree, breeding value, herd listing and progeny listing.
3. The ARDB searches its database and generates listings of animals and relevant information concerning these animals.
4. The ARDB publishes competition, show and sale results.

The above information may be provided to interested third parties, with member details, excluding personal information which we consider to be of a private nature.

Your consent

By applying for or renewing your membership, you consent to the collection and use of this information by The ARDB. If we decide to change our privacy policy, we will advise such changes, so that you are aware of our information gathering and dissemination practices.

Breeding Top Genetics in Gippsland



Gippsland farm manager, Paul Cocksedge, has been using the ABV's to breed cows that maximise his profit under the Australian Milk Processors payment system, for 23 years. Along

with the farm owners Gordon and Sylvia Vagg's herd, Paul has his own red herd, which began from 13 Australian Red Heifers that he purchased from his uncle in 1994. Paul has always used AI, and has selected bulls primarily based initially on ASI, then APR and now BPI and he pays particular attention to kilograms of protein and protein percent, as these are 2 of the most highly heritable traits. It has also suited his supplier, Murray Goulburn, to ensure he is paid a premium for his protein kilograms, as he incurs a penalty for his volume.

In the August 2017 ABV release, the results of Paul's breeding program is evident, in the red component of his herd, which has grown to over 49 milkers. Paul now has the top ranked Australian Red herd for protein % and protein kilograms. Paul was asked how the raw data of his cows compared to their genetic ability and he said, "The results were very pleasing and have confirmed the profitability of the Australian Reds. A mixture of autumn calved and late lactation spring Australian Red cows were producing 1.90kgs of milk solids per cow per day with a fat test of 4.61% and protein test of 4.02% on my most recent herd test. They are currently being fed 6kgs of pellets in the dairy, 1kg of silage and pasture.

Initially, I wondered if I had made the right decision purchasing those 13 heifers. But as I compared them to their Holstein herd mates, thanks to herd recording it was

soon evident that their solids production was only marginally behind the Holsteins. But on my payment system, because of their higher components, they were coming out in front. Considering the Australian Red Cow medium sized frame, they were also consuming less than my larger Holsteins. But the biggest bonus for me, was that nearly all of them were back in calf to A.I, which is another key component of farm profit."

Going forward, Paul says, "Along with careful consideration of type traits, and in particular udder traits, I will maintain my emphasis on protein production.

With the reds, there is no doubt their efficient production, health and fertility are their greatest strengths. I understand that low milk protein percentages and high milk volume has a strong negative correlation on health & fertility, so I guess by accident and a bit of luck, my choice of breed and breeding strategy has allowed a fairly rapid natural expansion and improvement of my herd. And the seemingly endless supply of young stock coming through also allows me to maintain a high level of selection pressure on my herd and the income from excess stock sales is just an added bonus."



L- R. Sam Graham, Brett Davies, Greg Goulding and Paul Cocksedge

Photos Supplied: Shutterbytes by Michele Hamilton

2018 Board



Australian Reds

'Better Genetics, Better Health'

- + Excellent Fertility
- + Low Cell Counts
- + Easy Calving
- + Highly Productive

= The most profitable choice

**For more information on
Aussie Reds and membership enquiries**

Contact: info@aussiereds.com.au
or visit the website www.aussiereds.com.au