

## Welcome

Welcome to the Manchee Agriculture annual newsletter. It's been a packed year to date. It has seen us travel to Victoria for the Shorthorn Beef Council Meeting not long after the tragic bush fires of Black Saturday, then to Beef 2009 at Rockhampton and the Major Reduction Sale of the Warenda Santa Stud females.

We hope 2009 has been kinder than some of the more recent years. It is nice to see that as the year progresses it is getting wetter in those areas that need it the most.

We hope you enjoy this years newsletter.

John & Liz Manchee  
Principals  
Manchee Ag

## Future Sires



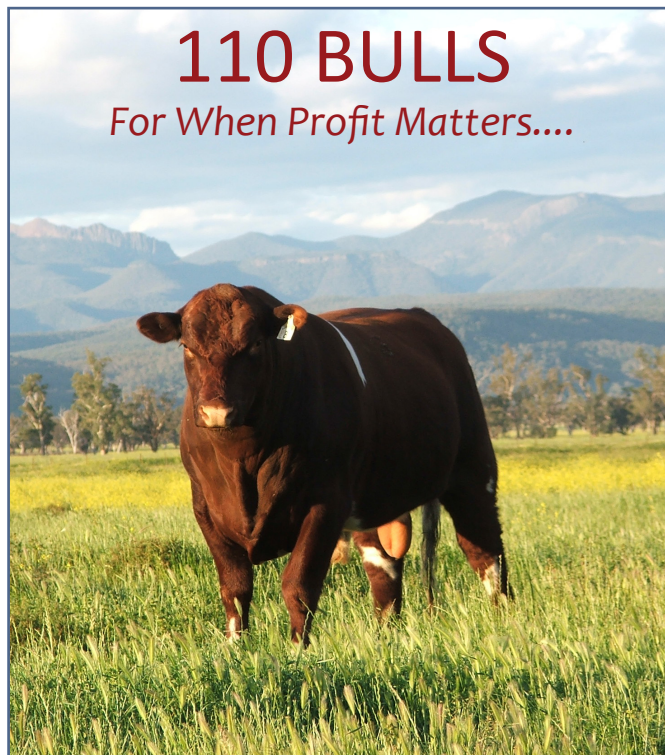
**Yamburgan Cassius Clay C108 (P)** - We believe C108 is a sire with a lot of potential. The maternal Cloudy and Dale female lines combined with the JR Legend carcass give a very balanced package as his figures display.

GL	BW	200	400	600	MILK	SS	CWT	EMA	RIB	RUMP	RBV	IMF
-0.9	+4.5	+34	+47	+67	+5	+2.6	+41	+4.8	+0.2	+0.1	+0.6	+1.0



**Yamburgan Churchill C26** by The Grove Lockyer X857 (P) is a very balanced bull from one of our highest fertility female lines. He is a bull that has always shown tremendous weight for age, muscle and an exceptionally quiet temperament. A real sire of the future.

GL	BW	200	400	600	MILK	SS	CWT	EMA	RIB	RUMP	RBV	IMF
-1.4	+5.9	+40	+53	+70	+2	+1.4	+43	+5.4	-0.7	-0.7	+1.4	+0.6



# 110 BULLS

*For When Profit Matters....*

60

Yamburgan Shorthorns Bulls  
26th August 2009

50

Warenda & Wilgaroon Santa Gertrudis Bulls  
7th September 2009

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Ideal Beef Cow



## Maintenance Free at 'Memagong'

2009 News

Butch and Tory Davidson own 'Memagong', a 4,500 acre mixed farming enterprise in Young NSW. Efficiency, combined with ease of management dictates the management of the cattle, sheep and cropping procedures on Memagong since 1949.

The Davidson's have bred shorthorns since 1949 and began using Yamburgan bulls in 1996. "At the time we were targeting the 450 to 600kg steer market," said Butch, "and although today we have changed to a shorter turn off, the Yamburgan genetics have proved versatile enough enable to this shift with out a strong genetic change."



Butch & Tori Davidson

The 'Memagong' female herd comprises of around 250 mature females. They are run in combination with around 2,400 merino x Dohne ewes and around 600 Ha of cropping. Due to the intensive nature of the program at 'Memagong' the cattle must be able to maintain, breed and grow under a range of conditions and with little assistance and these requirements have helped shape the breeding decisions.

"Our breeding program has now become a closed Yamburgan blood herd. John is a cattleman first and he breeds seed-stock directly suitable for our commercial production requirements," said Butch.

The 'Memagong' herd is highly fertile with recordings or 90% to 95% each year regardless of season with a 7 week joining period. Temperament – udders and feet are excellent and help with the sales of both surplus females and steers.

"As we do not go near our cattle we rely on proven and consistent genetics to maintain the profitability in cattle breeding," said Butch. "Yamburgan has enabled us to maintain this with ease."



Butch with Matilda and Loui Simpson

## Oscar Sons Shine

The first calves of The Grove Oscar are showing moderate birth-weights with excellent muscling characteristics. Oscar is an extremely virile bull whose calves are generally the first to hit the ground each season and has had no problem with mobs of 70 cows.



The Grove Oscar (P) - By The Grove Lockyer X857 (P) and out of The Grove Dale 39th (P).



Yamburgan Ossie D96 (P) - His half brother is lot 6 in this years sale.



Yamburgan Ossie D59 (P) - His half brother is lot 10 in this years sale.



## A Better Carcass is Our Goal

2009 News

The advantages of utilising the best of the Manchee Ag herd has resulted in the first crop of Shorthorn X Santa Gertrudis progeny.

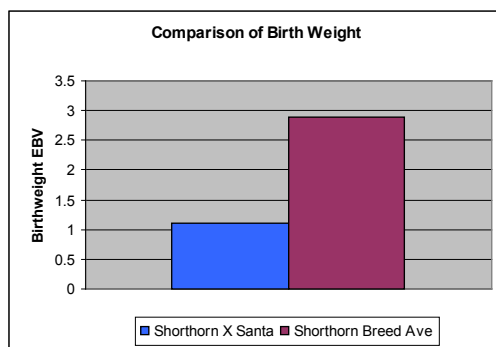
They have been bred from a cow herd that never allowed a pregnancy tested dry female to re-enter the breeding program and are sired by the leading sires in the Santa breed for marbling and tenderness utilising GeneSTAR technology.

This results in a high meat quality, easy maintenance animal with emphasis on all fertility traits that are heat tolerant.

There is a big swing in the domestic and export markets towards animals with better eating quality. The research we have been doing on the eating quality of the Manchee Ag herd has started to pay dividends with a contract to supply a local butcher with 100% of his beef products.

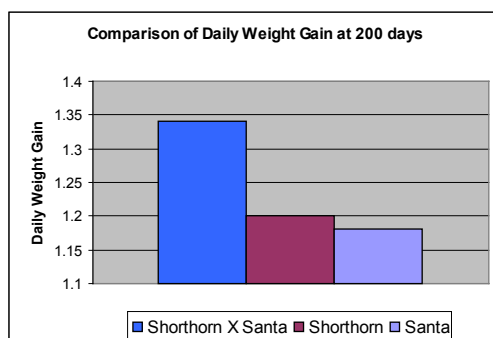


An example of the F1 females



**Above:** Smaller birthweights on the Shorthorn X Santa calves means ease of maintenance, more calves on the ground and more dollars in the pocket.

**Below:** Superior weight gains were evident in the Shorthorn X Santa weaners.



- ✓ High Meat Quality
- ✓ Low Birthweight
- ✓ 100% Fertility
- ✓ Heat Tolerant
- ✓ High Meat Tenderness
- ✓ High Weight Gain
- ✓ Short Hair
- ✓ Foraging Ability



An example of the progeny from our F1 breeding program

## On The Horizon



Yamburgan Jafar D174 (P) by Narralda Aladdin A048 (P) and out of Yamburgan Matilda 58th. He combines the maternal traits of one of the best cows in our herd (by Weebollabolla Theodore) and the thickness of JR Legend and Eionmor Ideal.



Yamburgan Matilda 45th - By Weebollabolla Theodore (P). She is the grand dam of Yamburgan Jafar D174 (P). Matilda 45th is considered one of the best females in the Yamburgan herd.





### Warenda Bull Sale - Monday 7th September

2009 will be the last year Warenda will be holding an On-Property Bull Sale. This year sees the last opportunity to purchase bulls by some of the leading sires of the Santa Gertrudis breed. Two of the leading lots are sons of Wilgaroon Kokoda (P), lot 1 Wilgaroon Chisel (P) and lot 2 Wilgaroon Comanche (P), both being exhibited at Brisbane Royal. Kokoda (P) was sold as a 6 year old sire at our recent Female Reduction sale to S Kidman & Co for \$10,000. Wilgaroon Jester (P) has produced another leading son, Wilgaroon Cheetah (P), who will also be exhibited at Brisbane. The sires represented in this years sale are; Wilgaroon Jester (P), Wilgaroon Kokoda (P), Warenda Require (P), Warenda Peter Pan (P), Warenda Mexico (P), Warenda Mahogany (P) and Rosevale Quilpie W308.

**60% of sale bulls are poll or poll scurred.**

**73% of sale bulls are 'Classified S'**

#### Commercial Power

**93% above breed average for EMA**

**60% above breed average for retail beef yield**

#### Powerful Performance

**67% above breed average for 400 day weight**

**71% above breed average for 600 day weight**



Lot 3 - Wilgaroon Cheetah C584 (P) by Wilgaroon Jester (P)



Lot 2 - Wilgaroon Comanche C612 (P) By Wilgaroon Kokoda (P)



Junior Show Bull - Wilgaroon Dunkurk D522 (P) by Wave Hill Major (P) and out of Murrumbo Sapphire (P), the dam of Beaumon (P).



Lot 1 - Wilgaroon Chisel C742 (P) By Wilgaroon Kokoda (P)



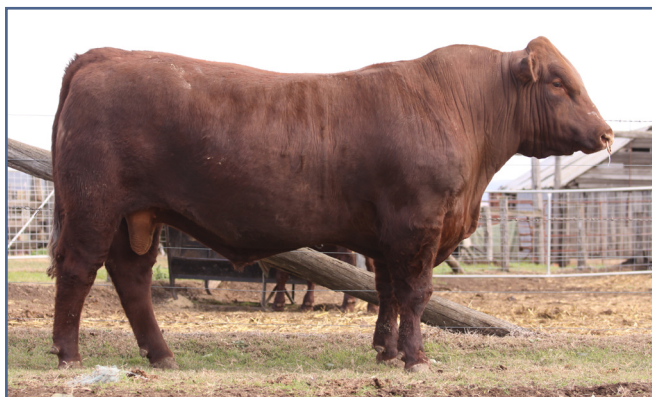
Lots 3, 2 & 1 - Wilgaroon Show Bulls



Lot 19 - Warenda C568 (P) by Warenda Require (P)

**50 Warenda Santa Gertrudis Bulls - 7th September 2007 - 1pm**





Lot 12 - Yamburgan Masterpiece C82 (P) (AI) by Eionmor Masterpiece 32K



Lot 11 - Yamburgan Lockyer C30 (P) by The Grove Lockyer X857 (P)



Lot 10 - Yamburgan Lockyer C8 (P) by The Grove Lockyer X857 (P)



Lot 3 - Yamburgan Coolabah C18 (P) by Yamburgan Mittiebah 3rd (P)

# YY

## Yamburgan Bull Sale - Wednesday 26th August

This year Yamburgan bull sale draft offers clients an opportunity to purchase new genetics with several new sires used in the Yamburgan herd.

Yamburgan Diamantina 20th is bred along similar lines to Weebollabolla Theodore and is producing low birth weight, soft easy doing cattle and is represented by 8 sons.

The Grove New Legend Z58 has bred a very consistent line of well muscled, deep hind quartered bulls of moderate frame. New Legend is represented by 10 sons.

The first sons of Narralda Aladdin will be offered. Four yearling bulls with tremendous weight for age, length and width will be offered.

Yamburgan Mittiebah 3rd and The Grove Lockyer X857 are again represented heavily in the catalogue with some of the pick of the sale being by these two great sires.

### Efficiency

90% are above breed average for **rib & rump fat**

### Exceptional Fertility

77% are above breed average for **scrotal size**

52% are above breed average for **birthweight**

### Commercial Power

72% are above breed average for **eye muscle area**

78% are above breed average for **400 day weight**

62% are above breed average for **IMF%**



Lot 8 - Yamburgan Lockyer C129 (P) by The Grove Lockyer (P). His full brother sold for \$19,000 to the Ridley & Evans Families Nero and Nagol Park studs.



Lot 15 - Yamburgan Aladdin D8 (P) by Narralda Aladdin A048 (P)

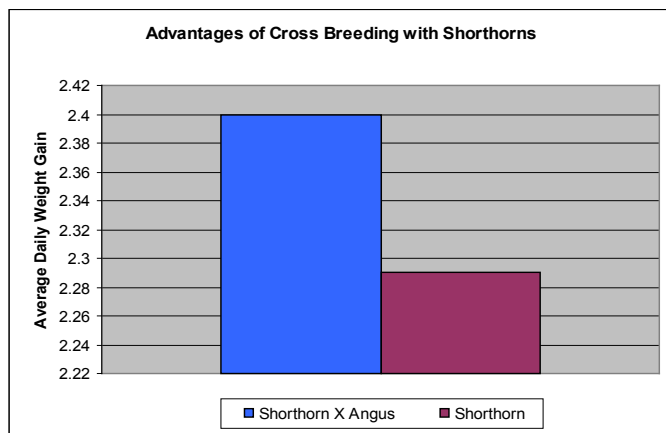
60 Yamburgan Shorthorns Bulls - 26th August 2009 - 1pm



Manchee Agriculture has again entered the RNA 100 day feedlot trial, now known as the Paddock to Palate competition, carried out at Launcell's Feedlot at Drillham in Qld.

We have entered two pens. The first pen we have entered are purebred Yamburgan Shorthorn steers and the second pen are Angus cross Shorthorn steers out of Yamburgan breed females.

The inclusion of the crossbred steers has resulted in the ability to compare the overall weight for age and weight gain. The crossbred steers identified the advantages of using a Yamburgan Shorthorn bull. The use of this bull has increased the weight for age, weight gain and overall profitability of progeny and no meat quality is lost.



The obvious advantages of using a Yamburgan Shorthorn Sire over Angus bred females. All gain with no loss!

The 50 day daily weight gain figures in this years trial are showing that the Shorthorn, Angus is an exceptional cross. Our Shorthorn X Angus steers are out performing the purebred Shorthorn steers (see graphs).

The Shorthorn bull crossed over an Angus female, adds growth and weight for age without compromising marbling or meat quality.

Not all cross breeding is equally effective though. The higher the quality of your herd, the higher the risk of introducing an inferior bull will be, no matter what breed. It is vital to know the performance value of your herd so the introduction of an inferior bull will be reduced. By introducing a sire with superior traits, both genetically and phenotypically, will result in added value.



An Angus cross cow with a Shorthorn X Angus calf at foot by a Yamburgan sire.

## Warenda Major Reduction Sale Report

the beginning of the year to have a Major Reduction sale of the Warenda bred females was not made lightly and unfortunately, family commitments finally made the decision for us. We will continue our involvement with breeding stud Santa cattle by continuing with the Wilgaroon Stud in a smaller way.

The success of the sale was a testament to the Warenda and Wilgaroon females. We were truly proud of the females, the way they presented and the spirited bidding for them.

The sale saw 263 females sell for an average of \$3193 a head. Four sires averaged \$14,000 and the 27 semen packages consisting of 25 straws each averaged \$1843.

Top priced female was Warenda Sunshine (P), a four year old daughter by Warenda Mexico (P) sold to Frank Ashman, Shannbrook Stud, Beaudesert, Qld. Sunshine had an excellent heifer calf at foot by Wilgaroon Jester (P). Shannonbrook stud took home 3 females for an average of \$8,333.

Sunshine's dam, Warenda N21 (P), a Murrumbo Beaumon daughter sold to Maurice and Margaret Barlow and family, Yarrabee Stud, Dingo, Qld for \$12,000. The Barlow's also purchased Wilgaroon G19 (P) for \$10,000.

Rick and Alice Greenup, Greenup - Eidsvold Studs, Kumbia, Qld purchased Warenda R143 for \$15,000 and she had a very good bull calf at foot by Glenn Oaks Braveheart. They also purchased Wilgaroon K9 (P), a Warenda Mexico daughter, for \$7,000.



Warenda Sunshine (P) sold for \$18,000 to Frank Ashman, Shannbrook Stud, Beaudesert, Qld.

Craig Hindle, Bullamakinka Stud, Toobeah, Qld purchased 16 lots to average \$2,965; Ben Hoare, Echo Hills Stud, Laravale, Qld purchased 13 lots to average \$3,945; Ashley Adams, Darracourt, Blackall, Qld purchased 13 lots to average \$2,153; Dennis and Gail Moxey, Denngal stud, Forbes, NSW purchased 12 lots to average \$2,000; Bailey Properties, Paradise Downs, Blackall, Qld purchased 10 lots to average \$2,800.

John and I would like to thank all Santa Gertrudis breeders, buyers, bidders and agents for making the sale such a success. We wish everyone enjoyment and success with their purchases.



By Grame Hopf

The "Ideal Beef Cow" is what all beef breeders in Australia should be attempting to obtain through their own breeding programmes. Often the question is asked: What is the ideal beef cow? I sum this question up in the following manner.

The "Ideal Beef Cow" is a cow who gets in calf early, calves easily and gives ample milk to rear a good calf. Along with these requirements she must have good management traits and sound conformation.

Correct skeletal structure is essential for all livestock as it enhances the length of efficient productive lifetime. To ensure longevity of breeding stock, animals must be structurally correct and able to walk freely to breed, graze, reach water and pasture conditions. Structural defects can lead to impaired mobility, pain and eventually to unsoundness.

Anyone involved in livestock selection must be able to identify correct structure, observe defects and understand the seriousness of defects. The environment of animals can also play a factor in potential development of structural defects.

Lets look at the beef cow in several sections:



### THE MAMMARY SYSTEM

The mammary system - one of the prime factors of a beef cow for breeding. It needs to be functional and maintain itself free from injury and damage. The udder should be free from excess fat and fibrous tissue, as this tissue does not excrete milk. The fore udder should be moderate in length and be attached firmly onto the body wall. The rear udder should show capacity and be firmly attached by the lateral ligaments onto the thigh of the cow. Through the centre of the udder the vessel is supported by the medial suspensory ligaments. These ligaments go from the floor of the udder up between the thighs and join onto bone structure at the base of the pelvis. If these ligaments are strong the floor of the udder will show a distinct division between halves of the udder, especially between the back teats. Each of the four teats should be placed squarely under each quarter of the udder and be of a desirable size and shape for a new born calf to easily find and drink from. Many of the problems experienced with poor udders and early breakdown of udder ligaments are a direct result of young heifers being over conditioned in body and udder fat prior to being joined on their first pregnancy.

### DESIRABLE CONFORMATION

There are certain structural features which are obvious from the outside. The way the legs are attached to the body is important with respect to calving ease. The shoulder should have good slope and from the front be tapered towards the top. The pelvis should also have good slope. The greater the angle of the line drawn

between the hips and the pins of the pelvis and the horizontal, the greater the vertical diameter of the pelvis will be allowing for the calf to get through and hence improve calving ease.

The hooves are the most important single feature of conformation of cattle pertaining to locomotion. It is generally considered that the majority of hoof deformities are acquired and that there may be a degree of genetic disposition.

Therefore, the hooves of young animals (under two years) retained for breeding should be structurally perfect: without concavity of the wall, only slight concavity of the inside wall of the claw, the horn should be shiny and without ridges or grooves, the bulb of the heels should be rounded, the claws should be approximately equal size and the bearing surface adequate for the size of the animal. The front angle of the hoof should be the same angle of the pastern and the angle divergence between the claws about 15 degrees.



### COMMON DEVIATIONS FROM THE DESIRABLE JOINT ANGLES AND THEIR ASSOCIATED LAMENESS

1. Any decrease in the angle i.e. more bend - the greater the strain on the associated ligaments, tendons and muscles.
2. Any increase in angle i.e. straighter - the greater the concussion experienced by the joints.
3. The greater the range of movement of a joint the greater its susceptibility to wear and tear e.g. the hip and stifle.



All 700 calves born in 2009 will be weighed at birth for Breedplan.

**MA Beef – proven genetics that perform, all year, every year since 1947.**



## 110 BULLS

More Yield  
More Weight  
*For When Profit Matters*

### For When Profit Matters

Have you been getting the results you expect from your bulls?

Choosing bulls is a difficult and time consuming task and a poor choice can haunt you for years to come through the daughters retained in your herd. Maximum profit comes from low cost production with minimal animal maintenance and maximum fertility. A herd with a low maintenance and with superb udders and fleshing ability will always provide you with greater profit margins. Reproductive traits are the foundation of a good female herd. They are difficult to change genetically so it is crucial to begin with proven reproductively sound genetics.

Manchee Ag bulls are prepared on forage oats crops, worked with horses, dogs and bikes and are fit, ready for work. When purchasing a bull from us you know that the females are managed with fertility and productivity in mind. They must have a calf every year, be structurally sound and have good udders - No Compromise. This allows us to continue with a low maintenance breeding operation because these factors are the biggest drivers FOR WHEN PROFIT MATTERS in a beef cattle operation.

### Pushing the Fertility Boundries



I had to see this for myself, to believe it!

The cow on standing heat, pictured above, calved on the 23rd June 2009 and the photo was taken on the 13 July 2009. She is cycling 20 days after calving, her calf, E222, is pictured in the foreground.

**Fertility will always be the most important profit driver for beef cattle producers.**



Manchee Agriculture

Incorporating: Yamburgan Shorthorns & Warena - Wilgaroon Santa Gertrudis



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