

## 2016 Welcome

Welcome to this years Manchee Agriculture newsletter.

Isn't it interesting when the Bureau of Metrology forecasts it to be dry, it rains and when they forecast rain, its dry. After recently travelling from the gulf in the Northern Territory to the Victorian boarder it is very evident that a big parcel of Australia is very dry. It is great to see the bright light of the cattle market remaining strong with the EYCI averaging around the 580 c/kg cwt and with widespread rain the market will remain this way.

After the announcement in August last year, we are happy to report that the Shorthorn Thousand Guinea branded beef program has been successful within the food sector. JBS are now always looking for cattle for this branded product. Please consider supplying into this premium market for both steers and heifers.

In September 2015, the AA Company purchased their first ten Durham Tropical bulls. These bulls have gone into an AA Co trial, along with other bulls from both the AA Co herd and external breeders, and have been joined to 3000 Brunette Composite heifers, testing for fertility, feedlot performance and meat quality. We are excited by this project and are looking forward to dissecting the results as they come to hand.

It has been a whirlwind start to 2016 with Liz spending eight weeks studying her Nuffield topic across nine countries. Nuffield design the eight week Global Focus Program to encompass all aspects of world wide agriculture. Australian agriculture has some of the most challenging environments and this trip highlighted Australia's capacity to be more viable, economic and productive than most other countries. The next phase is the private study with Liz studying natural lotfed beef and the genetic increase required to offset production loss. This study will primarily take her to the US and UK.

Meanwhile while Liz was overseas, John judged the Murray Grey National Show & Sale at Wodonga earlier in the year as well as travelling to the Queensland coastal town of Bundaberg to judge the cattle section. In May, John and a mate travelled to Borroloola in the Northern Territory gulf for a fishing trip. They covered 5600 km which took in the Barkley Tablelands iconic properties, Brunette Downs and Anthony's Lagoon where some of the cattle herds were seen.



We continue to focus on the end product, our genetics and how premiums can be delivered for our clients. We have continued to put steers in trials with entries in the Brisbane RNA Paddock to Plate trial and RAS Sydney Beef Challenge. We have entered pens in both the domestic and export classes of both competitions. We've continued to work hard with our performance recording, all K draft bulls, heifers and steers carcass scanning data has been submitted to Breedplan to continue to increase the accuracy of our performance data.

John & Liz Manchee

## 2016 SALE BULLS....

|                 |                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>50 Bulls</b> | <b>Top 20% Calving Ease Direct</b>  |
| <b>80 Bulls</b> | <b>Top 20% Scrotal Size</b>         |
| <b>79 Bulls</b> | <b>Below breed ave Birth Weight</b> |

Female fertility is a complex trait with many intertwining traits to either result in a live calf or not. Nutrition, management, disease and genetics are primarily the major factors resulting in a females fertility. Culling for fertility is beneficial but is not the most effective measure to increasing a herds fertility. Fertility is much more than just culling females not in calf. There is little gain over time if you don't select for fertility as opposed to just culling for it.



Ysamburgan Cloudy C61 [P] - dam of YY Sparta F149, YY Octagonal H246 and YY Normanby K232 (in this years sale).

Fertility, as you know, is influenced by many different factors, some which are out of the breeders control. We have spoken a lot about fertility over the years but one thing we may not have made clear is that we protect fertility by selecting other traits, like carcass and weight, after our fertility selection process. When decisions on these other traits are made we keep fertility at the front of the decision making process so that any other trait selected for is not detrimental to fertility. We never enter into a debate over the season and allow a female to have an excuse. There are no excuses, if some of the herd can go in calf in the worst season in a decade, then all the cows should be able to do the same thing!

*"Fertility is much more than just culling females not in calf."*

With all the EBV's, selection indexes and figures available, fertility has largely been ignored with the only fertility traits available being scrotal size and to a lesser extent, gestation length, which is classed as a birth trait. The new Breedplan analysis for Shorthorns, released in January 2016, has incorporated a Days to Calving (DC) EBV's which will see an increase in fertility traits analysed. The Days to Calving EBV is an estimate

of genetic differences between animals in the time from the start of the joining period (when the female is introduced to the bull) until subsequent calving. Days to Calving EBV's are expressed in days and are calculated from the joining records submitted for both heifers and cows. The Days to Calving EBV promotes females that calve earlier in the calving season and deliver a calf every year.

*Take a fertility genetic leap*

*14 bulls in the top 1% of the breed for scrotal size.*



Pictured above is Roger Evans scanning and scrotal measuring all the K bulls, heifers and steers with all data submitted to breedplan to strengthen our sires accuracies.

### Socialise with us...

Manchee Agriculture has a new look website. Have a look at [www.manchee.com.au](http://www.manchee.com.au) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Follow or like us and we'll keep you up to date with what's happening. New MA BEEF bull sale previews will be available on our YouTube channel at the end of July.



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The Thousand Guineas Shorthorn Beef branded product logo, launched in October 2015.

Since JBS Australia announced the branded Shorthorn product, Thousand Guineas', at our sale last year the success of the product has been building. The product that has carved out a niche in the market has created a point of difference from the Angus brands on the market.

The grain fed product's name derives from the price paid for Comet 155, a prized Shorthorn bull, in 1810, and has wowed chefs and restaurateurs in initial trials and samples around the country due to its exceptional eating qualities.

Shorthorn cattle producers are now receiving a 10c

per kg price premium for eligible cattle, the same as that offered in many Angus breed-based programs for feeders for domestic and export markets.

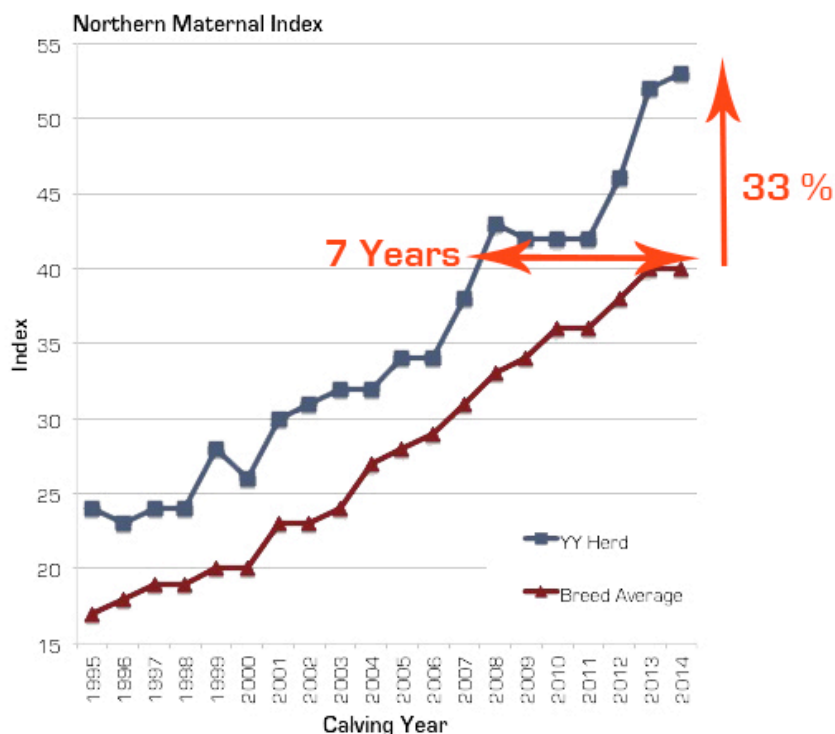
Feeder cattle requirements call for steers and heifers 0-2 teeth, 380-500kg curfewed weight, pure Shorthorn breeding or minimum 75pc Shorthorn content crossed with British breeds. Registration with Shorthorn Beef as a preferred supplier is also required for traceability certification.

Contact your local JBS buyer for more information or contact the Shorthorn Beef office on 02 6772 2400 to register for the program.



# TAKE A 7 YEAR GENETIC LEAP

**The Northern Maternal Index of the Yamburgan Herd is 7 years ahead and 33% above the breed average.**



## 2016 Bull Sale Preview

2016 News

This year the draft of 142 Shorthorn bulls, of which 100 will be catalogued, **averaged in the top 15%** of the breed for all **\$indexes**, with some of the breeds highest \$indexing bulls being catalogued. This year for the first time we are cataloguing the top 20 Durham Tropical bulls to be auctioned.

The main sires represented are Yamburgan Zeus H140 (21 sons), Yamburgan Tobermorey F090 (24 sons), Yamburgan Emperor E103 (homozygous Poll) (17 sons), Yamburgan Ossie E65 (21 sons), Yamburgan Grissom G31 (15 sons), Yamburgan Sparta F149 (homozygous Poll) (8 sons) and Yamburgan Achilles (homozygous Poll) (6 sons).

### 142 BULLS...

Domestic Maternal Index **31** Bulls in TOP 5%

Export Maternal Index **31** Bulls in TOP 5%

Northern Maternal Index **45** Bulls in TOP 5%

The steer trial competitions we have entered over the last 5 years, against all other breeds in all states of Australia, have highlighted this crop of sires as some of the best carcass sires in Australia. These trials have set up great relationships with all the major processors for Yamburgan bloodline cattle. Our aim is to breed cattle that produce economic value at all stages of the production system that hit market specifications with consumer satisfaction.



YAMBURGAN SPARTAN K442 (P)

|     | CE   | Dir | CE   | Dtr  | GL  | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW  | Milk | SS   | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW | IMF |
|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| EBV | +4.4 | -   | -2.8 | +3.0 | +34 | +54 | +75 | +62 | +2  | +1.7 | +48  | +7.5 | +0.3 | +0.7 | +1.5 | +0.5 |     |     |
| Acc | 47%  | -   | 52%  | 75%  | 70% | 71% | 74% | 59% | 39% | 72%  | 56%  | 56%  | 62%  | 61%  | 56%  | 46%  |     |     |

Spartan K442 is a very exciting young sire who we believe will have an enormous impact in the Shorthorn breed. It's rare to find a bull with a 37kg actual birthweight, top 20% calving ease direct, top 5% for 400 & 600 day weights, top 1% carcass weight and positive rib and rump fat. Spartan displays an enormous hindquarter

| SELECTION INDEXES          | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$54   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) | +\$54   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$72   | +\$36 |

like his sire but has a maternal pedigree as strong as any female in the breed. The Thunder daughters really breed on, we are currently using two sons of Thunder daughters as well as YY K442 and YY K303, both will be used this year in AI programs. From a contemporary group of 104 bulls, YY Spartan K442 was in the top three for EMA and top 14 for IMF.



YAMBURGAN MONKIRA K303 (P)

|     | CE   | Dir  | CE   | Dtr  | GL  | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW  | Milk | SS   | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW | IMF |
|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| EBV | +7.7 | +3.9 | -1.8 | +2.4 | +32 | +46 | +67 | +51 | +8  | +3.1 | +46  | +7.2 | -0.3 | -1.1 | +1.8 | +0.5 |     |     |
| Acc | 48%  | 40%  | 55%  | 75%  | 71% | 72% | 75% | 62% | 40% | 73%  | 59%  | 59%  | 65%  | 65%  | 60%  | 51%  |     |     |

Monkira K303 is a super sire in the making, the first calf to be offered out of our super donor dam, Broughton Park Harmony F55. Monkira K303 is a very long bodied bull with a lot of weight for age and a very similar outlook to Zeus at the same age. BP Harmony F55 breeds wide topped cattle with high carcass weight but low birth weight and good calving ease.

| SELECTION INDEXES          | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$53   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) | +\$57   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$67   | +\$36 |



YAMBURGAN EMPEROR K340 (P)

|     | CE   | Dir  | CE   | Dtr  | GL  | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW  | Milk | SS   | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW | IMF |
|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| EBV | -2.0 | +5.7 | -3.6 | +4.3 | +34 | +48 | +78 | +60 | +10 | +2.4 | +43  | +6.0 | -0.7 | -0.5 | +1.6 | +0.4 |     |     |
| Acc | 49%  | 43%  | 51%  | 74%  | 71% | 71% | 74% | 61% | 44% | 72%  | 58%  | 58%  | 64%  | 64%  | 58%  | 50%  |     |     |

Y Emperor K340 is a very stylish, correct young bull that stands out in the mob. He is very like his sire through the front and with a hind quarter like the Grissom progeny.

| SELECTION INDEXES          | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$39   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) | +\$43   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$58   | +\$36 |



## 2016 Bull Sale Preview

2016 News

K340's dam is from the great breeding Margaret line who has been in our donor program this year. She is a quiet, super uddered cow who had just weaned another excellent bull calf for next year.



YAMBURGAN ZEUS K378 (P)

| CE  | Dir  | CE | Dtr | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA  | Rib | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|
| EBV | +7.9 | -  | -   | +1.7 | +34 | +43 | +60 | +35 | -   | +2.6 | +41 | +5.7 | +0.4 | 0.0 | +1.0 | +0.6 |     |
| Acc | 45%  | -  | -   | 73%  | 68% | 69% | 70% | 56% | -   | 65%  | 53% | 53%  | 59%  | 59% | 53%  | 45%  |     |

Zeus K378 is a young sire with a lot of presence, balance and extension through the neck and shoulder. A heifers first calf with a 36kg birth weight and is in the top 1% for all indexes.

| SELECTION INDEXES          | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$52   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) | +\$54   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$63   | +\$36 |



YAMBURGAN MONKIRA K443 (P)

| CE  | Dir  | CE | Dtr  | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| EBV | +6.9 | -  | -1.0 | +3.6 | +35 | +52 | +86 | +75 | +7  | +2.7 | +53 | +5.9 | -0.6 | -0.9 | +1.5 | +0.3 |     |
| Acc | 46%  | -  | 52%  | 75%  | 71% | 72% | 74% | 62% | 44% | 72%  | 58% | 59%  | 65%  | 64%  | 59%  | 50%  |     |

Monkira K443 is a great fronted bull with an excellent muscle pattern and very strong top line. A bull that really stands out in the contemporary group. YY K443 is a maternal brother to last years top priced bull selling for \$28,000. Y Adela B243 has had a big impact through the herd, a rising 10 year old female with a near perfect udder and constitution. A daughter Y Adela D225 is one of the breeds highest indexing females. YY K443 is the third highest Northern Maternal indexing bull for 2014.

| SELECTION INDEXES          | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$48   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) | +\$51   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$71   | +\$36 |



YAMBURGAN ZEUS K345 (P)

| CE  | Dir  | CE | Dtr | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| EBV | +4.2 | -  | -   | +2.2 | +27 | +42 | +50 | +43 | -   | +1.5 | +37 | +6.5 | +0.6 | +1.2 | +0.8 | +0.5 |     |
| Acc | 44%  | -  | -   | 73%  | 69% | 71% | 73% | 58% | -   | 71%  | 55% | 56%  | 63%  | 63%  | 57%  | 46%  |     |

Zeus K345 is a low birth weight bull with high fat figures. A beautiful fleshing, easy doing bull with a lot of style and presence, very typical of the Zeus cattle. The further we go down the track with Zeus the better he is getting. They are very predictable cattle, low birth weight, well fleshed, good doing cattle that are structurally very correct. A heifers first calf.

| SELECTION INDEXES          | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$44   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) | +\$40   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$52   | +\$36 |



YAMBURGAN ZEUS K312 (P)

| CE  | Dir  | CE | Dtr  | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| EBV | +3.6 | -  | -3.3 | +2.6 | +30 | +44 | +56 | +41 | -   | +1.9 | +38 | +5.5 | +0.6 | +0.6 | +0.6 | +0.6 |     |
| Acc | 46%  | -  | 50%  | 73%  | 69% | 71% | 73% | 58% | -   | 71%  | 55% | 56%  | 62%  | 62%  | 56%  | 46%  |     |

Zeus K312 is a stylish, moderately framed Zeus son with a lot of carcase expression and a very strong pedigree. Y Rosewood 188th, the grand dam of K312 is rising 12 years of age and is still breeding well. She is an ex-donor cow who has 6 daughters retained in the stud and sale bulls to date have averaged \$15,500.

| SELECTION INDEXES          | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$42   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) | +\$40   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    | +\$51   | +\$36 |

*"You don't know where you're going,  
if you're looking backwards".*

*Sir Winston Churchill*





**YAMBURGAN SPARTA F149 (P)**

A homozygous poll sire with exceptional carcass through the top line & hind-quarter. Sire of 8 bulls in sale group.

| SELECTION INDEXES          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$38   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$33   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$47   | +\$36 |

| CE  | Dir  | CE   | Dtr  | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA | Rib  | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|-----|
| EBV | +1.0 | +3.2 | -3.7 | +3.2 | +26 | +41 | +52 | +54 | -1  | +1.1 | +36 | +6.7 | 0.0 | +1.0 | +1.5 | +0.1 |     |
| Acc | 74%  | 58%  | 85%  | 96%  | 88% | 89% | 92% | 74% | 55% | 88%  | 72% | 75%  | 78% | 77%  | 71%  | 65%  |     |



**YAMBURGAN GRISSOM G31 (P)**

Sire of winning National Carcase comp pens at Beef Australia 2015. Sire of 15 bulls in the sale group.

| SELECTION INDEXES          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$45   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$51   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$62   | +\$36 |

| CE  | Dir  | CE   | Dtr  | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| EBV | +5.1 | +4.0 | -1.2 | +3.6 | +37 | +55 | +76 | +54 | +11 | +1.5 | +49 | +4.7 | -1.0 | -1.8 | +1.8 | +0.5 |     |
| Acc | 71%  | 52%  | 75%  | 94%  | 87% | 87% | 90% | 73% | 46% | 86%  | 70% | 74%  | 78%  | 77%  | 71%  | 63%  |     |



**YAMBURGAN ZEUS H140 (P)**

Low birth, explosive early growth & a proven carcass sire. Sire of 21 bulls in this years sale group.

| SELECTION INDEXES          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$56   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$53   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$61   | +\$36 |

| CE  | Dir  | CE   | Dtr  | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| EBV | +8.1 | +2.2 | -3.7 | +1.3 | +32 | +43 | +51 | +32 | +8  | +3.0 | +39 | +5.9 | +1.3 | +1.6 | +0.2 | +0.8 |     |
| Acc | 73%  | 63%  | 83%  | 92%  | 89% | 90% | 89% | 73% | 42% | 88%  | 72% | 75%  | 79%  | 78%  | 72%  | 64%  |     |



**YAMBURGAN TOBERMOREY F090 (P)**

Semen has been exported to the US, Canada and NZ. Sire of 24 bulls in this years sale group.

| SELECTION INDEXES          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$43   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$52   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$63   | +\$36 |

| CE  | Dir  | CE   | Dtr  | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| EBV | +7.2 | +3.9 | -0.6 | +3.8 | +31 | +47 | +75 | +63 | +5  | +2.2 | +48 | +7.2 | -0.9 | -2.0 | +1.9 | +0.4 |     |
| Acc | 72%  | 61%  | 87%  | 96%  | 91% | 90% | 94% | 78% | 57% | 90%  | 77% | 80%  | 82%  | 82%  | 77%  | 71%  |     |



**YAMBURGAN EMPEROR E103 (P)**

A homozygous poll sire with tremendous do-ability and muscle. Sire of 17 bulls in the sale group.

| SELECTION INDEXES          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$43   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$41   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$53   | +\$36 |

| CE  | Dir  | CE   | Dtr  | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA  | Rib  | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| EBV | -0.5 | +8.1 | -5.2 | +2.8 | +21 | +32 | +48 | +36 | +10 | +2.5 | +27 | +6.6 | +1.6 | +4.2 | -0.2 | +0.7 |     |
| Acc | 81%  | 72%  | 86%  | 96%  | 94% | 93% | 94% | 83% | 69% | 92%  | 79% | 82%  | 84%  | 83%  | 79%  | 73%  |     |



**YAMBURGAN OSSIE E65 (P)**

A slick coated bull with enormous top line and high IMF in a single package. Sire of 21 bulls in the sale group.

| SELECTION INDEXES          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$Value | Ave   |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|-------|
| Dom Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$44   | +\$28 |
| Export Maternal Index (\$) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$45   | +\$32 |
| Nth Maternal Index (\$)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | +\$54   | +\$36 |

| CE  | Dir  | CE   | Dtr  | GL   | BW  | 200 | 400 | 600 | MCW | Milk | SS  | CWT  | EMA  | Rib | Rump | RBW  | IMF |
|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|
| EBV | -1.8 | -0.2 | -4.6 | +3.4 | +31 | +51 | +69 | +70 | +4  | +2.1 | +47 | +8.7 | -0.4 | 0.0 | +1.9 | +0.7 |     |
| Acc | 72%  | 61%  | 68%  | 96%  | 91% | 91% | 94% | 78% | 65% | 91%  | 77% | 79%  | 82%  | 81% | 76%  | 70%  |     |



Increasingly, consumers want to make food choices that are perceived to be more natural. Consumers increased awareness of an antibiotic free option, among other 'free' options, is spurred by reports of antibiotic resistant super bugs and antibiotic residues in meats. Companies like Subway and Macdonald's have reported to cease selling meat products, within the next few years, that are not antibiotic free.

*"Is antibiotic free the new fad in consumer requirements for the beef industry?"*

But questions remain, including the feasibility and sustainability of raising livestock in an antibiotic-free environment and in sufficient numbers to feed an ever-growing population of meat eaters, what this means in added cost to consumers and if antibiotic-free really means antibiotic-free.

The antibiotics in question, used in the feedlot industry, are known as ionophores, an animal production-enhancing antimicrobial feed additive. Ionophores used in the feedlot industry are currently not in use in human medicine and there is still debate as to any link or possible effect on antimicrobial resistance to therapeutic (conventional) antibiotics in either people or food animals. The difference in antibiotic resistance between Australian extensive and intensive beef production is also negligible, as reported in MLA



Cattle on an antibiotic free ration at Manchee Agriculture.

research. Ionophores, as feed additives used in cattle diets, increases feed efficiency and body weight gain by as much as 10% and reduce the mortality rate of feedlot cattle.

So, the question is, can the feedlot industry partially adapt to supply an antibiotic free beef product to discerning consumers without animal welfare issues? This is, ultimately, what I am trying to ascertain in my Nuffield study over the remainder of the year.

US research has shown that there continues to be a large gap between livestock producers and consumers regarding antibiotic use in animal care and welfare. The introduction of 'Never Ever' antibiotic free, HGP free and animal byproduct free beef in the early 2000's saw many US feed yards adopt the marketing ploy. Since the global financial crisis in 2008, a number of feed yards have ceased feeding cattle for the program as production loss was too great. So, what genetic increase is required to offset the production losses to implement a 'Never Ever' program in Australia?

### MA Beef 2016 Benchmarking Trials

This year Manchee Agriculture have again entered two of Australia's largest benchmarking feedlot trials, these being the RNA Paddock to Plate and the RAS Beef Challenge.

In total we are trialing 70 steers and heifers in the 70 day and 100 day fed classes.

The main Shorthorn sires represented this year are:

- YY Zeus H140 - 7 steers
- TG Legend A584 - 8 steers
- YY Sparta F149 - 10 steers
- YY Tobermorey F090 - 10 steers
- YY Ossie & M Ookali G34 - 7 steers

The main Durham Tropical sires represented this year are:

- M Jester D281 - 7 steers
- W Dunkirk D522 - 6 steers

We look forward to the results of these trials in August and September 2016. These trials have been a great way of benchmarking our sires in an independent process where all animals are fed the same in the one environment.

## Durham Tropicals Continue to Outperform

2016 News

This year, for the first time, we will be offering 20 Durham Tropical Bulls for auction in this year's sale. We have been extremely happy with the performance of the Durham Tropical cattle with steer trial wins in Australia's only national competition, Beef Australia 2015 winning National Champion Carcase. Durham Tropical steers have also won Champion Carcase in the 2014 and 2013 RAS 70 day domestic competition and Champion EU pen in the 2013 Primex Beef competition.

Durham Tropical bulls are being used as far north as Cloncurry, Qld, with the AA Co, east to Guyra, NSW, and west to Alice Springs, NT. They are proving to be highly adaptable, fertile but retaining tropical characteristics and fit the Meat Standards Australia MSA specifications.

We have had tremendous interest in the Durham Tropical program and think it's only fair that this year the bulls will be sold by unreserved auction at our annual bull sale on the 31st August 2016.



Wilgaroon Lancelot E167, sire of some 2016 Durham Tropical sale bulls.



## YY Yamburgan Bull Sale

Wednesday 31st August 2016

100 *Shorthorn Bulls*  
20 *Durham Tropical Bulls*

### 142 BULLS AVERAGE...

|                   |      |                        |
|-------------------|------|------------------------|
| Low Birth Weight  | +3.0 | Below breed average    |
| Short Gestation   | -2.6 | ave top 15% of breed   |
| Weight for Age    | +59  | for 600 day weight     |
| High Constitution | 0.0  | Top 20% - Rib Fat      |
| High EMA          | +5.8 | Top 15%                |
| Fertility         | +1.9 | Top 20% - Scrotal Size |



**YY**

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