



ALC UPDATE

This time last year we had just experienced record floods throughout our region. This resulted in a lot of fencing but also gave us an excellent start to the dry season. "Gundaroo" was fortunate to receive follow up falls in June and July then an early break to the wet in October. Tondara was not so fortunate, with no follow up falls after May, however did receive rain from October. As our joining period starts 1st October, this early break is absolute gold. At "Gundaroo" we took advantage of this and cut one month off our cow joining and pulled our heifer joining back to 60 days. This will give us all our calves born this year by 10th November.

We are very proud of our cow herds on both places this year, achieving over 90% pregnancy test results. ALC yearling mated heifers came in at 52% pregnant which is higher than ever before. Two-year-old calving females rebred at an astonishing 89%. **All conceived while lactating in a shortened mating period.** These cow herds have impressed me for a long time, producing in trying seasonal conditions. When all the dots have lined up with rain, they have exploded out of the blocks. ***Declining market and seasonal conditions are good reminders to drive profit within our business, through things within our control ... grass management, herd management and genetic selection.***

To make room for extra calves this year, we have sold weaner steers off Tondara at 220kg for a very pleasing result. The comment from the return buyer was "Always happy to pick up quiet, good-doing steers". The ability to do well off any available pasture (grazing efficiency), we believe plays a major part in fertility in the dry tropics, and it is great to hear those genetics are passed on and appreciated by our steer clients also. All non-pregnant females will be sold in the next few months.

Our annual ALC Bull Sale held on property at "Gundaroo" Nebo, will be on Tuesday 10th July this year. Weight at 200, 400 and 600 days of age, as well as scrotal size at 400 days for young males have been submitted to Breedplan, along with calving records on Dams, joining's and pregnancy test data. This will give us 200, 400 and 600 day growth EBV's, Days to Calving and Scrotal Size EBV's. We will use all this information, along with age of puberty, and generations of cow calving history, along with phenotype, temperament and structural soundness examination, to sort which bulls are worthy candidates for the bull pen. The next few weeks will also see us semen morphology testing and poll testing. The use of this scientific data, along with a strict castration regime, is proving to give us confidence in the production outcomes of ALC genetics in both our herds, and our clients.

The use of a number of homozygous polled sires over the past eight years, is really bearing fruit now, with a

number of their daughters working well in our breeder herd. This will give a good percentage of polled bulls in this year's sale team. As usual, at ALC the bulls are presented in good condition, off grass, with no supplementary feeding. We believe, as do our clients, this is the only way to select genetics to work under pasture conditions – "in their working clothes"!

The bulls will be sold under the Helmsman bidding system. For a detailed description of how this year's bidding system will operate, please go to our web site www.alcrahmans.com.au and click on the "Semen/Bull Sales" tab. This page will also be printed in the catalogue. The Helmsman bidding system gives buyers plenty of time to walk through and select bulls, whilst analysing the data supplied, without pressure. The Bull Sale Catalogue will include four generations of female fertility data, age of puberty and scrotal measurement, EBV's for growth, scrotal size and days to calving, along with Jap Ox and Live Ex \$ Index's.

For more information on reading ALC bull catalogues go the "Semen/Bull Sales" tab on our web site. The catalogue will be available online the week before the sale. If you do not have internet access please feel free to contact Louise or Alf for more information, to discuss which bulls will best suit your requirements or a catalogue. Our door is always open.

ALC ranks extremely high in the Brahman Breed for fertility trait EBV's such as DTC and SS along with Jap Ox \$ index and Live Ex \$ index, so this is a great opportunity to add genetics to your herd that will have an impact on profitability for your business into the future.

If semen is what you'd prefer for this year's mating, please go to our web site www.alcrahmans.com.au and click on "Semen/Bull Sales" tab, then go to "Semen Sales".

Beef Week 2018 in Rockhampton is fast approaching. I believe this is a great opportunity to meet with people we don't get to see as often as we would like to. I will be at Beef most days during the week so please give me a call on 0438 356 050 if you would like to catch up or come for a visit to ALC while you are in the area. If not, we hope to see you for our ALC 2018 Bull Sale at "Gundaroo" on Tuesday 10th July.

Lastly, we would like to encourage our clients to make the shift from mailed out in the post newsletters to email. We have decided to only post out the May and June newsletters / flyers annually, however email all year round. If you wish to receive the ALC sale report in the Christmas Newsletter annually, please consider notifying Louise to make the switch.

Kind Regards,

Alf





ALC FEMALES DRIVE PROFITABILITY WITH FERTILITY!



ALC sires average top
1% for Brahman Breedplan
Jap Ox and Live Ex \$ Index's

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*A ship in harbour is safe, but that is not what ships are built for -
William Shed*

ALC BULL SALE 10TH JULY 2018



**ON PROPERTY - "GUNDAROO" NEBO QLD
8AM INSPECTIONS 10AM START**



Economically Proven - Predictable, Fertile, Grass-Raised Genetics...