



## ALC UPDATE - The year in review.

As the saying goes, "time fly's when your having fun". This year has certainly gone fast.

The year started well, but a short wet season that finished in February, left us a bit short on feed. In April we made some adjustments to our stock numbers and thought we had it all covered through until Christmas. Then, a killing frost in winter, followed by light rain, that spoilt what standing feed we had, made for a very tight year. Our grass was black, no protein and no energy so stock have been doing it tough. Thank goodness for adapted Brahman cattle and genetics that stick with you when the season turns bad. To take a positive out of this dry time, we will certainly find the real performers in the cow herd; cows that can conceive while lactating and in low body condition. When I see these cows putting their hand up to go again, it never ceases to amaze me.

Although the season has not been perfect, we will maintain the pressure with a 60 day mating on heifers and 100 day mating on cows. All mating will be finished January 10. At Gundaroo we have only received 13mm in October and 14mm in November. The mating's commenced October 1<sup>st</sup> so this dry period will create some serious reproductive pressure. ***Pressure creates diamonds and the cream always rises to the top.***

All calves were born before mid-November this year so branding is almost all done. Breeders that failed to deliver a live calf have been sent to the meat-works to make room for those that are working. Fortunately, the cattle market has been reasonably strong throughout the year so selling to reduce numbers has not been a hard decision.

Louise is flat out herd recording and sending DNA for Sire Verification. With our three children home from school, work is in full swing, with fences going up, branding, scrotal measurements on young



bulls to find the early puberty animals etc. Life for a bush kid is never dull! We are very fortunate we get to do it all together.

Cyclone Owen has given us a Christmas gift of 48mm at Gundaroo and with some follow up rain in the coming weeks hopefully, this should see a good start to the year ahead. Tondara received 120mm from Owen so is now off to a great start. Tony has done an excellent job of staying in front of the dry this year at Tondara so has a smile from ear to ear. I feel for those who have not had a break to the season yet and sincerely hope the rain comes soon.

The strengthening momentum continued for this year's on property ALC bull sale with 100% clearance for a fourth year in a row. Paddock bulls were all sold in the same week as well.



For a full sale report, please visit the ALC Brahman's web site [www.alcbrahmans.com.au](http://www.alcbrahmans.com.au)

We would like to thank all our clients for your continued support this year, and look forward to working together in 2019. From all of us at ALC, we would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a successful, healthy and wet New Year.

*Alf*



***If you set goals and go after them with all the determination you can muster, your gifts will take you places that will amaze you. – Les Brown***



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
From Alf, Louise, Heath, Tom and Ellie — ALC Brahmans



We truly live in a land of extremes

Above—"Gundaroo" March 2017

Above—"Gundaroo" November 2018

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