

The Dairy Shorthorn

- Summer 2015-16

The newsletter of the Dairy Shorthorn Association of Australia

www.dairyshorthorn.com

PO Box 1053 Bendigo Vic 3552

Ph: 03 - 5444 4646 Fax: 03 - 5442 5264



Prices skyrocket at Dairy Shorthorn milking herd dispersal

The mid year dispersal sale of Malcolm and Ian Douglas's Tuerong prefix Dairy Shorthorn milking herd

in Victoria at the Shepparton Selling Centre, proved once again that the popularity of the breed really does spread far and wide resulting in the herd being snapped up by buyers from not only various areas of Victoria but Tasmania and New South Wales. Semen being was sold to breeders as far away as Western Australia.

What was also telling about the breed's popularity was the best price the Douglas brothers received for a cow.

Top price of was \$6000 for Tuerong JN Biddy 30th, pictured on the front page, a third generation royal grand champion, who calved in September.

The mature cow was bought by Peter Price of Leongatha, who also picked up Tuerong Lady Melba 21, joined to Sequa Barri Shorty 4 and by Willow Park High Society for \$3000 and Tuerong Maffra Lorna 3 joined to Tuerong SG Pretender for \$3400.

Through and through the sale did not disappoint, with a record-breaking breed average of \$2635. The 49 Dairy Shorthorn females offered averaged \$2635, while 11 bulls sold averaged \$2687.

Dairy Shorthorn Association President, Karen Doggett, said what was particularly interesting was that many of the buyers who had purchased Dairy Shorthorns at the Smith's dispersal sale in March 2014, had become members of the association and returned for more Dairy Shorthorns from the Tuerong sale to go into their milking herds.

To NSW...

DSHA member, Sophie Tomkins of Gollan, NSW, was one person who brought up Tuerong cattle to add to her existing herd. She put her plans in place as soon as she knew the milking herd was being sold.

Sophie purchased seven females and one bull from the Douglas brothers and their arrival got attention on the front page of Sophie's hometown newspaper, The Wellington Times.

Sophie was quoted as saying she was excited about continuing the breed. She began looking for them 15 years ago and after searching New Zealand, Ireland and the UK, she realised how rare Dairy Shorthorn cattle had become.

"They are also good mothers," she said.

"They are a good quality meat and very different to farming fashionable muscle breeds with a high growth rate."

The Tuerong cattle join the rest of those at the Tomkins' property.

The website

Have you googled the Dairy Shorthorn Association of Australia lately? If you have, you will find a brand new look and format for the pages which will continue to be improved as is needed on these days of

finding 'absolutely everything you need to know about anything' on the net. And that also applies, of course, to people who want Dairy Shorthorn information.

The new look website not only features those usual reads about the history of the breed and the such but there is now a Bulletin Board where members can list animals for sale – even things they want will be accepted to the Bulletin Board. Contact association member Murray Francis who is now the 'keeper' of the website. His email is womerahgully@bordnet.com.au. Murray will be able to steer you in the right direction with those for sale and wanted pieces . (By the way, that's not Murray in the picture!)

There's heaps more on the DSHA website too, such as Dairy Shorthorn semen for sale – a 'must read' before you plan that next joining!



New herd book

There's a new herd book out so you can see who has bred what in recent times. Curl up in bed and read this one instead if Santa gives you a Mills & Boon you fling into the bin.

The herd book is now Volume 20 and it is available right now for \$27.50 and yes, that includes gst and postage. Contact the DSHA office, the details of which are on the front page, if you want to secure

yourself a copy of this breed record. Herd book also sometimes help if you want to trace back some of your herd's ancestors further than the registration paper goes.

New Dairy Shorthorn semen for sale

Semen is now available for purchase from Tuerong Pretender SG. He was recently collected before being sold at the Tuerong dispersal.



He is sired by Swinsongrange Challenger (U.K.) who is an imported sire of the 1960s and his dam is the top priced cow at the Tuerong dispersal, Tuerong JN Biddy 30.

The price for this latest semen offer is \$22 a straw and that includes gst however, freight and handling costs are extra. If you have any inquiries about purchasing this semen, contact Karen on 0408 353 953.

Back to Tassie?

At the October council meeting of the Dairy Shorthorn Association , it was proposed that the next AGM be held in Tasmania where there are quite a few members with some interesting herds. The visit will be held along with a get-together and possible farm visits. There will be more details of this after the

February council meeting. There have already in the past few years been visits to Tasmania by current council members and the AGM was held there four years ago with great success.

Any heifers to sell?

Expressions of interest are being received from Dairy Shorthorn Association members who may have excess heifers to sell, possibly towards the middle of next year.

The idea was raised at the October council meeting that a Dairy Shorthorn sale could possibly be held combined with the second stage of the Tuerong dispersal. The possibility was also raised that an annual sale of Dairy Shorthorns could be held if there were sufficient numbers. If you are interested please contact Malcolm Douglas on 0429 956 906.

Pictured are Malcolm, left and Ian Douglas with one of their cows before the dispersal sale of their herd at Shepparton. Thanks to the Weekly Times for the use of the photo.



Two more get life

At the October DSHA council meeting, two long serving council members were elevated to Life Council membership in recognition and appreciation of their services to the association and to the breed. The members given life are Malcolm Douglas and Tom Dunn.

World Shorthorn Conference

The conference is coming to Australia in 2019 – a little advanced warning here so you can tidy up your paddocks to host those visitors!

But closer in time is that Australia will play a part in the World Conference when it is held next year in Uruguay. The DSAA will be represented by Malcolm Douglas.

Vale

Mrs Lois Ives, wife of Mr Ron Ives, Ashbrook Stud, Bradvale, sadly passed away in June this year.

Lois and Ron have been long time members and Dairy Shorthorn breeders.

Several members past and present attended her funeral.

Our condolences to the extended Ives family.

Seasons Greetings

Have a safe and happy 2016!

Several of our members have had hospital visits in the past 12 months so we wish you a healthier 2016, too and a very Merry Christmas!

The letter for those tattoos for 2016 is F

