



New Zealand Dexter Dispatch

Number 66 November 2009

*Marking the beginning of Modern Dexters in New Zealand -
Meadonpark Charles, bred by Alec and Anne Meades*

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*Front Cover: Late Spring Calving doesn't always strike better weather!
Imani DeeCee with the brand new Imani Jolt, born in Oxford, 28 October 2009.
-Photo by Peter Lucking*



EDITORIAL

You are correct...this Dispatch is late and I apologize for that!!

I have still called it the November Dispatch – issue number 66 and I trust you will enjoy it.

Colin Read, our new Herd Registrar reports in the dispatch for the first time as Registrar. Please take note of the things he says and that will make his job easier and the turn around time for new registrations and transfers quicker.



It is great to see a number of area reports in this issue. Things are happening out there on the 'front line' and we all like reading about it and seeing the photos. If you have an area meeting or anything local where Dexters are present, then make sure you take a few photos, contact me and we can report on it in the next Dispatch.

The show season is here again so thanks to those of you who have been to the shows, taken photos, reported on the day and sent me results. It is good to see Dexters on show in increasing numbers around the country and some great photos to record these events.

On page 31 we have started our new business card type advertisements and if you want to promote your stud or other things you do in this way then please be in touch with me.

Thanks again to all who contributed to this dispatch. Happy reading. *-Keith*

WRATT'S WRAMBLINGS

I have had quite a bit on my mind over the last six weeks and that is one of the reasons why this Dispatch is so late.

Heather and I have been looking forward to the arrival of another Granddaughter for some months but as the end of October arrived so did a few complications with the pregnancy and our daughter in law Jaz. The short version of events is that Molly Jane Wratt was delivered by emergency Caesarian Section on Friday evening the 30th of October in Caboolture Hospital which is about an hours drive north of Brisbane. I was surprised by a number of things on that Friday.... As the day went on, our son Glen kept us in touch with what was happening and the first surprise was how easy it was to communicate through texts and cell phones – wherever he was and wherever we were that day we were in touch with each other even though he was on the other side of the Tasman Sea.

The second thing that surprised me was how helpless I felt. I guess I am the kind of person who likes to be in control of the things that concern me most. As that Friday



wore on, the control was with the Medical staff at the hospital and literally all I could do was assure Glen and Jaz of my love and care and of course I could pray, which I did. Another surprise was how these rough patches in life have a funny way of pulling us closer to those we love the most – I guess I knew that but it was a good reminder to love and care for those closest to us. Another surprise was how something like this just dominates every thought and action – it was impossible to settle that day. I was restless and upset and desperate for the outcome to be a good one...it was and I am hugely thankful for that.

The other surprise was Heather and I found two cheap seats on Emirates Airline to Brisbane within 24 hours and as busy as our life and days were here at that time we just got up and left. The lawns weren't mown, the garden wasn't tidy, the windows weren't cleaned or the vacuuming done. I had a heap of urgent work in the orchard and things to be done around here but they didn't matter.

A friend was able at short notice to take care of the dogs, shift the cows and just keep an eye on the calves but we just left and are pleased we did. We as a family shed quite a few tears that day and into the next. It was a very emotional time for us and I have wrangled before about tears of sadness and tears of joy. Tears are good and I had plenty of both but found the whole event physically and emotionally draining.

Molly is now six weeks old and settling into good feeding and sleeping routines and we are sure her future is good and normal. She is such a precious little treasure to us and just as with our other four grandchildren has her place in our hearts forever. This Poppa and Nanna are planning to make good use of the Brisbane Airport in the months and years ahead!!

Oh and there was another surprise!! Our flight from Auckland to Brisbane and return resulted in 1.36 tonnes of flight emissions. I had no idea about that but that is what was on our Ticket. 1.36 Tonnes of what? I was given the opportunity to offset those emissions and to learn more about Emirates unique corporate flight offset programme by contacting a guy named Phil Smith and looking up a web site.

Now, his job must be just one of the best jobs everbut I wonder what he does. I must actually give him a call and follow this through because I like to think I do care about our environment and the future of this world. Do I have to plant a tree every time I fly?

While I am in the air and the plane I am in is emitting all those nasties, my cows are at home belching CO₂ on a regular basis and I sure hope the dogs aren't farting too much because I am going to have to plant so many trees that I will have to get rid of the cows because there won't be any grass for them to eat and of course the dogs may as well go too because there will be nothing for them to do...and me at that stage, well who knows what I will be doing...probably flying over to Brisbane and emitting more nasties and having to rush home and plant more trees.....!!

Take it easy over Christmas, take time to smell the roses and spend plenty of time with those you love the most . . .

-Keith



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sunday week ago, the 29th November, I travelled down to Stratford to attend the North Island Dexter Breed Show. There were 30 well presented and trained Dexters there, 6 exhibitors, their helpers and friends, a good judge, hard working stewards, plenty of public to stop and watch before moving on and good weather – it was a good day, enjoyed by all.

On Saturday the 3rd October I was part of our local Bay of Plenty group who met at Dawn Millar's place at Broadlands where we sat around and chatted over lunch, then had a wander around Dawn's farm and together we chatted Dexters for an hour or so.

These two situations or similar are duplicated a number of times throughout the country each year and to me is the heart and soul of the Dexter Society. Thank you to many of you who contribute significantly to the life of the society in one way or another. Not every member is able or keen to show animals but I would like to think that at least once a year, each member was able to be where other Dexter Breeders are, to support, encourage and learn from each other. As 2010 rolls around I hope you will take that as a challenge. You will benefit and so will the Society and the Dexter Breed.

We have approximately 358 Current Financial Members but of concern to me are the 65 or so members who have failed to renew their membership for the 2009 / 2010 year and are now lapsed members. Some of these will have legitimate reasons why they have not renewed, others will find they need to do so to register or transfer stock and others have simply neglected to do so – just check with your member friends or those you are intending to purchase stock from and encourage them to renew their membership if they have let it lapse.

There are only a few sleeps until Christmas so I hope you are on top of your Christmas shopping and are getting well through the Christmas card list. I just want to take this opportunity to wish all members and their families a happy, safe Christmas and best wishes for the New Year ahead.

-Keith

FROM THE COUNCIL

Council last met at Snelgar's place in Ardmore over the weekend 21st and 22nd November. We attended to the usual correspondence and financial matters and each councilor gave a report on their specific portfolio area.

Some of the things discussed and decisions made were:

- We approved all new members and their stud names who have joined since our July meeting.
- The \$10 late fee for those joining after 1 October is being adhered to.



- We tabled the Royal Show report and discussed ways to get more members involved in promotional stands at shows and field days.
- Options for Syndicate ownership for high value bulls was looked into but no decision made.
- Colin (Herd Registrar) took us through an actual processing of a registration application.
- We considered the change of name from Area Contacts to Area Coordinators and encourage them to be more proactive locally to organize meetings, disseminate information from council and provide linkages for local new members.
- More and bigger bumper stickers available for sale.
- Investigate Dexter Society carry bags and coffee mugs.
- Reprint the Hand Book and promotional pamphlet.
- Marion updated us on AGM Plans and organization. Saturday morning will be the AGM, there will be a number of workshops in the afternoon, dinner at night and a bus trip Sunday morning with plenty of help and direction to see the local tourist sights while we are in Dunedin.
- The Animal Assessment Scheme is on track for the final draft to be available for comment at the 2010 AGM.
- We agreed to help organize a North Island Tour for an Australian Group of Dexter Breeders to include an Australasian Dexter Conference and maybe show in November 2011.
- We viewed a new Dexter Society Website which is nearly ready for release thanks to Phil Becker and Web Designer, Brad Harris.

Our next council meeting will be 20th and 21st March 2010 so please be in touch with me or the secretary if there are matters for council to look at and discuss.

-Keith

PLEASE NOTE!

COLIN READ

is now the

SOCIETY'S HERD REGISTRAR

Please direct all

**Registrations, Transfers and Herd Book
enquiries to**

COLIN READ, 175 RUAHIHI ROAD, RD1, TAURANGA.

PHONE 07 543 4023

EMAIL colmar@clear.net.nz



FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY



It's been hard getting back into things since I returned from my four weeks holiday to Egypt especially the temperature!!! All it has been since we got back is one southerly after the other – so different from the 35-45° C, we had over there. BUT there is nowhere else I would rather live than clean, green New Zealand.

Anyway back to Dexters. Thanks to everyone who has responded to the notice about paying subs before 1/10/09 – most of you did and those of you who were late were very honest and enclosed the extra \$10 late fee that is now payable for subs renewed after that date. Hopefully we won't have anyone being late next year??? Yea Right!!

NEW MEMBERS - Yet again we have had a good influx of new members a total of 21 since the last dispatch, great news - let them keep coming and thanks to the members who have promoted our lovely breed.

On behalf of the Dexter Society I would like to welcome these new members. If I can be of any help to anyone, please don't hesitate to contact me and hopefully I will get to meet you sometime in the near future. On page 17 of this Dispatch you will find a list of the Area Group Contacts – you are welcome to make yourself known to the one nearest you as they are able to provide assistance with society information and local members within your area.

NO.	NAME	LOCATION	PREFIX
796	Anita Schurmann & Allan Crosbie	Waikanae	Chappelglen
797	Bridgette Kammlein & Steve Cutler	Dunedin	Cosybank
798	Patrick Weibel	Waiau	Snowdown
799	George Cowie	Hamilton	Te Pahu
800	Basil & Wendy Pazzini	Morrinsville	Lazy Acres
801	Pete & Lynley Young	Fairlie	Rustic Dawn
802	Kenneth Husted & Snejina Michailova	Pukekoe	Neddri Bakki
803	Iain & Leanne Blackwood	Whakatane	Blackwood
804	Louise Deane	Thames	Earthcamp
805	Mauro Balzarini & Bob Farrell	Arrowtown	Tarama
806	Helen Haste	Pahiatua	
807	River Patton & Lyn Ashley	Inglewood	Wildrose
808	Helen Chambers	Rangiora	Rosewood Farm



809	Christine Crawley & Phillip & Robyn Sinclair	Whangarei	Wetlands
810	Anne Lunn	Porirua	
811	James Thompson & Sue & Steve Earnshaw	Timaru	Earnshaw
812	Richard & Lynsey Parkes	Carterton	Dunga
813	Gail Aitken	Rawene	Classen Road
814	John & Janice Brandon	Wanganui	Canaan
815	Dave & Lesandre Paris	Rangiora	Ashlo fields
816	Lloyd & Linda Parkes	Dannevirke	Gronnebek

Just a reminder to ALL members. YOU MUST be a financial member of The Dexter Society to register and transfer all of your Dexter cattle at the time of birth or sale. Remember to pass this information on to people you sell your animals to and make sure they are aware of these rules.

-Maureen Pettersson

ELITE ACCREDITED BULLS

The English Dexter Cattle Society (DCS) has an assessment scheme for Dexters. Accredited bulls that have passed the necessary criteria from this scheme are known as "Elite". There are various stages within the Elite group which go on to recognize quality progeny.

It can take many years to:

1. Breed an animal that would be considered good enough to be assessed for the scheme,
2. Then have it awarded the "Elite" status as an individual and,
3. Go on further and have the progeny assessed as well.

It is a time consuming and very costly exercise for the breeder to have their bull classified as Elite. As a society we must recognize these bulls and also the lengths that fellow Dexter breeders have gone to have their bulls assessed and then accredited and recognized as "Elite"

To date there is semen from 3 UK "Elite" bulls available in New Zealand.

They are Brambledel Redberry Prince, Moomin Posh and Elmgrove Millennium (the actual bulls are not in NZ).

As far as council is aware this scheme is only open to UK bulls at this stage and no NZ Dexter's have been assessed in this scheme.

DCSNZ Council have made a decision that no advertisements will be accepted for the Dexter Dispatch or Dial a Dexter that use the word "Elite" to describe an animal unless it pertains to an actual accredited "Elite" bull.

All such advertisements will be returned to sender to be amended before being published.



FROM THE HERD REGISTRAR

Well here I am, two months into Herd Registry and still sane (I think). I can only attribute that fact to the great job that my predecessor, Peter Lucking has done in setting up the software and systems to make it work. Peter developed the Herd Registry system and processes over the last eight and a half years that he was Herd Registrar. We are deeply indebted to Peter and Merrial for their significant contribution to the society and I trust they will enjoy their retirement from this job.

My wife Marion and I travelled to Oxford, arriving at Peter and Merrial's on Tuesday 15 September. They were wonderful hosts, making as both feel very welcome. We spent two days with Peter learning his programs and systems and left on Thursday 17th well laden down with files, brass tags, punches and minds crammed with knowledge gleaned from Peter's eight and a half years as Herd Registrar.

I see the role as a huge challenge and so far I am enjoying the communication with the membership on herd related issues.

As can be seen from the attached summaries and graphs, both registrations and transfers are trailing behind last year on a year to date basis.

I trust that this may be the result of either the general economic climate over the past 12 months or the consideration that members have in breaking me into the job gently although I imagine it's probably the former.



Retiring Herd Registrar, Peter Lucking on the right, passes the last of the 38 files to Colin Read to complete the handover!

Registration Issues

On a more serious note, I am a little concerned at the delays being experienced in processing some Registration Applications due to fundamental errors being made in filling the forms out.

By far the most common problems seem to be:

- No AHB tag number
- No Bull Certificate when required
- Forms not signed.

More care by members in completing forms correctly will ensure a faster turnaround of documentation and less costly time and postage.

DNA Profiling, Genetic Testing and Sire/Dam Verification

New procedures have been introduced by Gene Mark who is the main provider of DNA testing and are as follows:

Gene Mark advise Tail Hair samples are no longer accepted for DNA Profiling and True Parent Testing - tissue Samples are only accepted from now on with one exception. Tail hairs will still be required for Chondrodysplasia tests as these are required to



be sent to Australia for testing. Australian MAF and Quarantine regulations prohibit tissue samples from entering Australia, apart from the obvious problems of keeping the samples refrigerated.

The basic reason for the change in policy is based on cost and labour. Tail hair samples were very labour intensive, requiring the tail hairs to be cut 90 times for one test plate. Tissue samples require very little preparation for processing. The reliability and matching of DNA samples taken from tissue samples is much higher than that taken from tail hair samples.

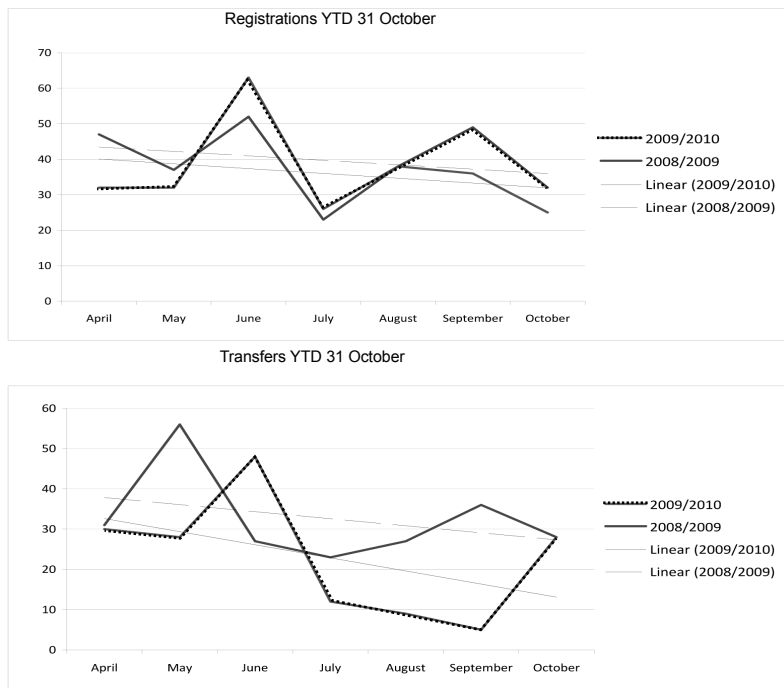
The cost of profiling from a tissue sample is cheaper than what was being charged for a tail hair sample.

Costs are as follows:

Tissue punch Kit	\$20.00 (pack of 10).
Applicator	\$34.00
Profiling cost	\$15 per animal. - was \$25 for tail hair DNA profile.
<i>GST to be added to all prices.</i>	

A loan applicator is available at no cost from Gene Mark and can be ordered when ordering the punch kit. The punch kits will also fit some ZEE Tag applicators, so if you have one of these it may save you the inconvenience or expense of acquiring a special applicator. Gene Mark can be contacted on 0800-436-362.

Registration / Transfers 2008-2009 compared to 2009-2010 Year to date



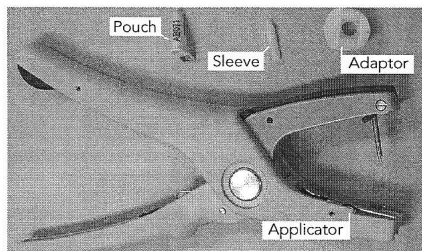
The Society has been given an applicator for taking tissue samples and any members are welcome to borrow it for the cost of return postage and packaging. Make contact with me if you require it. The basic setting up for tissue sampling is shown below and full instructions come with the tissue punch kit. Personally I find the process very simple and easy to do when doing the AHB ear tags.

If any member has any problems relating to Registrations, Transfers or DNA Testing, I would welcome your call or email and will assist to the best of my knowledge and ability.

- Colin Read

GENEMARK PUNCH INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION



The GeneMark Punch is designed with simplicity and ease of use for sample taking in mind; a complete GeneMark Punch kit is shown below:

The GeneMark Punch can only be used in conjunction with a Zee Tags applicator. If you do not own a Zee Tags applicator, you can purchase an applicator from GeneMark.

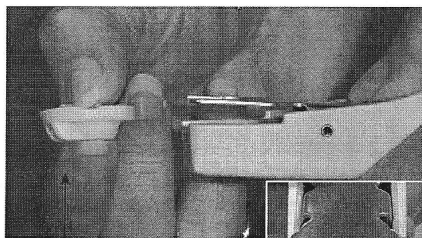
Before using the GeneMark Punch:

- Ensure that your hands and the Zee Tags applicator are clean.
- Dirt and blood from another animal present on the sleeves or pouches can contaminate the sample.

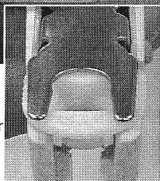
GETTING STARTED

POSITIONING THE ADAPTOR

Lift the metal clamp, and insert the adaptor into the groove. The guides on the underside of the adaptor should face towards the front of the applicator.

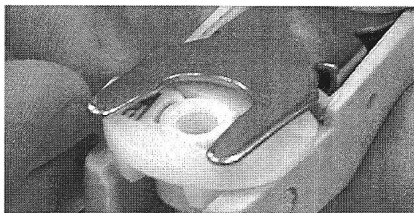
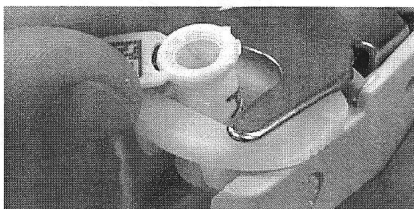


Note: the adaptor need only be inserted at the beginning of sampling and can be left in place for the sampling of multiple animals.



INSERTING THE SAMPLE COLLECTION POUCH

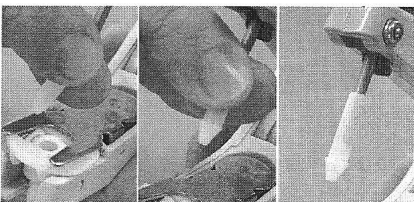
Insert a clean sample pouch into the adaptor. Ensure the plastic tab is facing forward.



Lift the metal clamp slightly and rotate the pouch so that the plastic tab slides under the clamp, and rests within the groove of the top surface of the adaptor.

POSITIONING THE SLEEVE

Position the sleeve over the applicator's retractable pin. Ensure the sleeve is firmly in place.



RESEARCH

I'm afraid it has been rather quiet on the research front, although I have had three of our own cattle tested for the A2 gene. Two were A2/A1 and only one was A2/A2 and he is an Ayrshire bull. I am, like you awaiting the feedback from the questionnaires that you received with the last dispatch that I hope we all filled in and returned as asked.

PROMOTIONS

We have finally had some orders for the core flute signs, but we could do with some more so as to keep the price down. See the details on page 19 of the last (August) Dispatch. These are great for the front gate or with your stock at shows to advertise your stud.

There has been absolutely no interest in the uniforms, which leads me to believe it is something low on member's priorities and little point in pursuing it much more. But for those who are thinking about the breed showing uniform just a reminder that council has agreed that a choice of colours and styles are available to members. And these will have the Dexter Society Logo on the left chest and left sleeve. I have a lot of information about shirts, colours and costs and am happy to help members with their choice and place an order each month. If you want further information please contact me.



-Steve Ring

BOOK NOW!

**CHEAP FLIGHTS TO DUNEDIN FOR THE
2010 DEXTER CONFERENCE & AGM**

12-13 JUNE 2010 at Mosgiel

Accommodation can be booked at

MOSGIEL REGENCY MOTEL

Ph 03 489 4711 or email Mosgiel.Regency@xtra.co.nz

- MORE DETAILS IN FEBRUARY DISPATCH -

*Closing date for REMITS for the 2010 AGM
has been extended to 1 February 2010
Please send to the Secretary.*



ORGANIC OFFERINGS

"So let me get this right", I said to my colleague. "You take some Cow dung, put it in a cow's horn and bury it in the ground over winter. Then you take the stuff out of the horn and mix it with water for an hour and then spray the liquid round the fields/paddocks using a hearth brush".

"That's correct," was the reply.

"And you haven't been burnt at the stake?" I asked as I reached for my cross and holy water!!

Which is probably the same reaction dear reader, that you would have had. However all is not as it would appear. Allow me to elucidate.

Back in Germany in the 1920's after years of applying chemical fertilizers, a group of farmers had become increasingly worried about the state of their pasture and the health of their animals. So they asked Rudolf Steiner who was a spiritualist to help them. Steiner produced a series of lectures in 1924 that attempted to address the farmers' issues. These lectures resulted in the Bio Dynamic movement being formed.

The two mainstays of Bio Dynamics are the preparations 500 and 501.

Preparation 500 is made with cow dung that has been placed in a cow's horn and buried over the winter months. After this time the dung will be converted into humus that contains masses of microbial life. A cow horn is used as it contains calcium and when on the cow the horn collects vapours from the stomach via the sinus and in turn passes these qualities into the cow dung. After being buried for six months, a small amount of this humus is mixed with water and stirred for an hour. During the stirring a vortex should be formed which will pull energy from the cosmos. After an hour the liquid is sprayed in big droplets by the use of a hearth brush as if you were playing tennis. The energy from this liquid will over time, improve the condition of the soil and it will permeate through your land. It is best to apply preparation 500 in the evening when the moon is descending. I have found that making the stirring a social occasion, apart from reducing the time one person stirs for, has the added benefits of increasing the energy within the brew.

Preparation 501 is made from finely ground quartz crystal which again is placed in a cow's horn and buried, but this time over the summer months. Again a small amount of the preparation is mixed with water for an hour but this time, it is sprayed in a fine mist and allowed to drift over trees or pasture. Preparation 501, being high in silica, will strengthen plants and prevent fungal infections. It should be applied in the morning when the moon is ascending. It is especially effective when the moon is in opposition with Saturn.

There has been research that concludes that the bio dynamic farms have better soil properties than conventional farms which ultimately results in better animal health. Peter Procter states that "Bio Dynamics is what makes organics work".

For more information read "Grasp the Nettle" by Peter Proctor.

Anyway must dash: my black cat wants to go out and my broomstick needs a WOF .

Until next time....

-Steve Ring

The Editor has received this letter seeking clarification and explanation from Steve which he gives at the end of the letter.

Re Organic Offerings

Hi Steve, I found your article on page 22 of the August Dispatch interesting and have two questions to ask regarding the article itself.

- 1. You mention administering a tonic using cider vinegar but you don't say how to administer it. Further down the paragraph you suggest a homeopathic remedy for parasites called Vermis. Again could you explain how to administer it?*
- 2. In the basic lick combination of Dolomite, Copper sulphate, flowers of sulphur (sorry never heard of those) and urea free seaweed, you say mix together and keep dry, so am I correct in assuming you only put it out in a container for the cattle in dry weather?*

I was going to contact you personally but thought other cattle breeders might have similar questions. I hope you can clarify the answers and thanks for your input.

-Margaret Perry, Bellebrae Dexters

Steve Replies

1. Cider Vinegar needs to be mixed 50:50 with water and administered orally. Never drench a cow with it neat. Another option is to add 20-30ml per cow of neat cider vinegar to water troughs daily. I read a report by one farmer who every full moon, drenches his cattle with Cider vinegar, Garlic and Wormwood and never has any parasite problems.
2. Vermis is a Homeopathic remedy for internal parasites. Administer a capful in water troughs or in acute cases sprayed on to a mucus membrane e.g. the nose or open vagina. The best time to put Vermis in water troughs is for four days leading up to the full moon. For more details and expert advice contact Tineke Ph 07 858 4233.
3. The lick does need to be kept dry, as the copper will degenerate in the wet. Flowers of sulphur is available from Farmlands/ RD1/ Elders and can be used to remove external parasites by rubbing a handful along the spine of the animal.

Hope this helps...

-Steve

Organic Offerings is now a regular page in the Dispatch and it is an opportunity for you to share with others your Organic Advice and Stories or ask questions that Steve, Carol and others who farm this way can answer. Please contact Steve or the editor if you have something to contribute here.



THE OPERATION



Marlow




I.

There he lay in the paddock, that bright winter morn,
On the frosty brown stubble, right where he'd been born:
Such a minuscule bovine--we just had to laugh--
About half of a half of a regular calf;
More the size of a rabbit. "Oh, look at her feet!"
Said the Wife. "They're so tiny, so cute, and so sweet."
I replied, rather stern, "'Cute and sweet'? Maybe so;
But irrelevant utterly. Didn't you know
That we ranchers disdain all such frivolous stuff?
We're pragmatical, bottom-line guys, rough and tough,
Unconcerned with aesthetics, and sentiment-free.
And another thing, madame: this calf is a *he*,
Not a she. Don't you see, down below, there's that string
Sort of dangling? "Is that," she enquired, "his, um, *thing*?"
"Yes it is," I informed her. "Our calf is a male."
"Well, so *what*?" she said peevishly. "Look at his tail
And his sweet little face and adorable toes."
"Those are *hooves*," I suggested. She said, "And his nose,
Well, I think it looks Marlow-ish, how about you?
So, whatever the sex, call him Marlow--let's do!
Oh, our Marlow is cuter than Bambi, I'll bet--"
"Do not name him!" I told her. "For then he's a pet."
"Well, what *else* would he be?" she asked. "Revenue? *Lunch*?"
We both shuddered at that. "If it comes to the crunch--"
I began. "Which it *won't*," she replied. "Do not fret."
I said, "Yet, my dear, surely, we should call the Vet;
For the wee one's a he one; we must call the Vet."

II.

"Oh my yes," said the Vet. "If your calf is a bull,
And you leave him intact, you will have your hands full.
He'll be dangerous soon, unpredictable too.
Turn your back on a bull, and he'll trample poor you.
He'll be pawing the ground and rampaging around,
And he'll curdle your blood with that bellowing sound!
At a bound, in some hormonal rage, he'll then crash
Through your fence to the road, and away he will dash.
Then you'll have to retrieve him; he won't simply come.
And in ten weeks or so he'll be mounting his mum.
And you do not want that, my old life-styler mate."
"I most certainly don't!" I exclaimed, quite irate.
"Oh, the very idea's repugnant to me.
Also, what if the neighbours should actually,
Sort of chance to glance over and see such an act?"





Well, we won't let that happen, and that is a fact.
Much obliged for the info," I said to the Vet
And then hung up the phone in a terrible sweat.
"Do not fret," said the Wife. "We should call our Good Friend,
Upon whom we depend; he will snip, he will mend."
"Yes, we should!" I agreed, and I sighed with relief.
"He will . . . fix little Marlow and save us from grief
With his scissors--it *won't* hurt! He'll give it a go.
He's a really good rancher--like me--he's a pro.
It's a big operation, but he's a real pro."

III.

"It's a small operation, dear Marlow!" I cried.
"And you won't feel a thing, so just please move inside
This enclosure. Believe me, if only I could
Just omit this necessity, surely I would.
But it's for your own good, so please trust me. I vow
You'll be much better off--and, well, here's our Friend now,
Roaring up on his farm bike and billowing dust.
You're in good hands with him. He will do what he must."
So I hailed the Friend thus: "Fellow rancher, g'dye!"
He said, "Ear tags and testicles--oh, by the by,
What's his name?" I said, "Marlow," and blinked back a tear.
"Never fear," said the Friend, and then, "Marlow, come here,
Please, and lend me your ears." *Click* the left, *clack* the right,
And hey, presto! Amazingly fast, what a sight:
On each ear was a bright yellow tag. "Should be blue
For a boy," said the Wife. "Well, that *would* have been true,"
Said the Friend. "But the point is about to be moot
Because now is the time that we get to the root
Of the matter--so, Marlow, quick, onto your back,
While I snap on this band, and then soon you will lack--"
"I can't look!" I exclaimed; said the Friend, "I can't see
The expected appurtenance, which seems to be
Absolutely, well, absent. So it seems to me--
And it's just my opinion, but evidently--
Your wee Marlow's a heifer." "You mean he's a she?"
I responded. "Apparently so," he replied.
"I was right!" said the Wife, and she smiled and she sighed
With relief. "Maybe so," I objected, "But what
About that little string kind of thing sort of jut-
Ing below?" "Oh, well, that's her umbilical cord,"
Said the Friend, who then let go of Marlow and pointed toward
My own navel. "We've all had one such," he explained.
"Yes I *know* about birds and the bees," I said, pained.
"Sure you do," he said softly to me. "But the bee
And the bird, they're not *mammals* you see, like we three.
No, not mammals--nor ranchers--unlike you and me."

-Poem and photo by Fritz Logan



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REMIT CLOSING DATE IS 1 FEBRUARY 2010

Minutes of council meetings are available to all members on request.



Deadline for February Dispatch is January 20, 2010



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DCSNZ CHARGES

Membership - due 1 July

Full	\$40	Joint	\$55
Junior	\$20	Or without magazine -	\$10

A \$10 late fee is charged on all membership renewals after 1 October each year.

Registration - ALL Grades

Under 12 months	\$10	12 to 24 months	\$20
Over 24 months	\$20	Require Council approval	

The Application Form must be fully completed (Leg length and your Yellow Tag numbers are not compulsory, but the data is highly desirable for Herd Book research, and dual identification)

Transfers

Within 30 days of sale	\$15	Over 30 days after sale	\$30
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All Transfers, whether to members or non-members, are to be paid for, and submitted by, the Seller who must be a financial member at the time of sale. The Transfer must also be signed by the Buyer.

Replacement Brass Tags \$1 each

Herd Books Electronic -\$10; Printed Edition -Annual Full Issue \$15



'NAKI NEWS' by 'Lil' Bull

The 'Naki' Group has had a very busy time since our last report. We have had two field days, hosted the society AGM in June, promoted Dexters at the local Lifestyle Expo and help organize and support the North Island Dexter Breed Show held in association with Stratford's Centennial A & P Show. A few members have been busier than most as local support has been quite poor. This is plea, not only to the 'Naki' locals, but to all society members to support and help with local Dexter activities.

So often it is left to the keen few who turn up regularly and help with everything. I know we are all busy, but if we all share a bit of the local load things seem to go along much better.

Our first field day was a visit to Marlene and Tim Busby's, who own a property at Egmont Village. They have a grade herd of lovely animals and they also run a Bed and Breakfast come meeting place. We had a close inspection of their lovely building there with a built in brewery – those of us there had a sample which was very tasty. Thanks to Marlene and Tim for a great day and for the Barbeque lunch you provided.

Our second field day was a visit to Laura and Stephen Barbarics's property near Stratford. The few of us who attended had a good time there and were particularly impressed with their lovely grade herd of Dexters. Thanks to Laura and Stephen for hosting us.

Thanks to those who helped with hosting and organizing the AGM in June, which from all the feedback we have had, was a great success. The weather even played its part, with such a magic day on the Sunday that could only have impressed our visitors...see the outstanding photo on the back of the August Dispatch!!

In early October we were part of another Lifestyle Expo. Thanks to the society for supporting this financially. We had another very popular stand promoting Dexters. There were open pens so spectators could walk in, pat and cuddle the quiet Dexters. This was a great hit.

Last Sunday (29th November) we held the North Island Dexter Breed Show in conjunction with the Stratford A & P Society's centennial show. A record 28 Dexters were at the show. Thanks to those who traveled from the Waikato, Manawatu and of course thanks to the locals who came. Thanks to our Judge, Nancy Edge who had a busy day and did a great job. Results are on page 24 of this dispatch.

Jorja does it Again

Last year Jorja Rosser took a little Dexter calf to her first school calf day and left with a second and third ribbon (her photo was on the back of the February 2009 Dispatch).

This year she again took a dexter calf and left with two ribbons. She was placed 1st in leading and 2nd for grooming from a field of six calves. To top the day off, she was awarded Junior Champion with her calf Briana.

Well done Jorja!!

THE SOUTHERN GROUP REPORT

The Southern Group has met four times this year making our way through Otago and Southland, the two provinces that join into the Southern Area. Each time we have met someone new and learned of other Dexter Owners in the vicinity with whom we would like to make contact.

On October 31 we met at Eileen and Patrick Fahy's property in Wilcox Road, Kennington, a few minutes from Invercargill which is of course the home base of the Southland Stags and the new home of the Ranfurly Shield. I just need to repeat that to make sure you understand...**The Home of the Ranfurly Shield!!!!** Go the Stags!!

Over a cuppa, we are very sociable; we talked about a wide range of aspects of all things Dexter. Julia Eden brought a sample of Estroject heat detectors for our first subject. Next we covered the very real and sometimes permanent danger of cattle eating macrocarpa. This not only can cause abortion and the loss of a calf but also it can cause retained cleanings which can lead to the cow becoming sterile. Most of us had received the letter from Genemark about hair samples not be accepted for DNA profiles any longer, to be replaced by tissue samples; We learnt how to obtain these correctly, devices available, the cost of tool to do the job, sample sleeves and what to do with the samples. De-horning was our next subject and we discussed the whys and hows of this unpleasant procedure, what is the best practice from an animal welfare perspective and complete removal verses leaving the horns on and the behaviour that can lead to.

We walked out to see the stock and pay our respects to a first time mum - Rose, who is fostering 2 extra calves; a quiet wee girl and diligent mum being supervised by a big teenager not above trying to flog a feed too!!! While Rose is handling feeding 3 calves, we talked about possible problems for her, as lactating is her first priority and coming into season again may be delayed for sometime when feeding a number of calves. Eileen will keep us informed on progress there.



Plans for us hosting the AGM in Dunedin over the weekend 12th and 13th June 2010 were discussed, fundraising ideas, entertainment and education options were discussed too. After lunch we travelled to Allison and John Warrens property on SH1, Longbush; the two bulls surveyed us as we inspected the cows and calves - a quiet and calm herd, quite happy for a bunch of strangers to wander around in their midst. The photo below is of this mixed herd, the white legs protruding belong to a fostered on calf, doing nicely thank you.

More chat followed, most of it cattle related but some about home-made soap, children, vehicles and lifestyle farming. We all had a very enjoyable day.

We are just a new group but are looking forward to getting to know each other better and establish Dexter help lines and sales links, learning from each other and helping as we can. We also established a buy and sell connection, collected our first subs and planned a catch-up before Christmas to review calving.

-Marion Corbett



MAINLAND NEWS

On Sunday October 4th, the annual Small Farm Day was held at the Rangiora Race Course, and even though the weather was bitterly cold the Mainland Group manned a Dexter Site from 8.30am until 4.15pm. We have done this before and on this day we always get a lot of interest and talk to many dozens of people. This year was no different. We had on display Whare Ra Cruise, a 16 month old bull and Jimari's Sybil McCool, a three week old calf which drew many interested people to us as they went by. Because the wind was so cold we did condense our display in order to keep ourselves as warm as possible. I think a tent next year will be erected! As usual we had enough volunteers rostered to help on the site during the whole day.



Several follow-up contacts have been made and there are sure to be more yet. Thank you to all those involved – mark your diaries for the same weekend in 2010.

The following Saturday, October 10th, we had a Field Day at the home of Suzanne and Geoff Turner and their three children on Adams Road near Christchurch. Quite chilly again this day, but we all forgot about the cold as Suzanne took us through the milking machine routine, making mozzarella, ricotta, butter and much more. It was an education and an inspiration watching this energetic and capable lady do so many things without getting flustered! Not forgetting her man, Geoff who attended to many other things during our visit there...including cooking the pizzas in the big stone outdoor oven which he designed and built. The pizzas were all completely home made and topped with the mozzarella made that day. Delicious!

Louise Ballantine then had us all make a string halter. Some looked decidedly better than others but we all made one and took the instructions home to improve on the first attempt. We all had been asked to take nine strands of baling twine and that is what the halter was made from. Quite a lot of fun really and a useful article when completed. Thank you Louise for taking responsibility for this and being patient with those of us who were slow learners!.

Thank you Suzanne, Geoff and family for having us share your home and making us feel welcome- it truly was such a great day.

I will report on our Field Day held on December 5th, at the home of Vicki and Hamish Ferguson in the Dunsandel area in the February Dispatch. *-Marion Mangnall*



BAY OF PLENTY REGION - SPRING MEETING

The first weekend of October was a beautiful spring day in Broadlands (just north of Taupo) where about 12 members from throughout the Bay of Plenty gathered at Dawn Millar's property on the banks of the Waikato River. Sue Barclay, from the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic was our guest speaker talking about the initial feedback from the questionnaire for the Research Paper being undertaken on the current state of Dexter Breeding in New Zealand.

This was followed by a general discussion on upcoming shows and feedback from the AGM held in New Plymouth in June.

Dawn then took us all on a guided tour of her property. We took the opportunity to see her good selection of stock and it was great to see the new additions to her herd. Many of us were envious of the lovely flat pastures, well raced and fenced paddocks and looking very lush at that time of year.

Many thanks Dawn and your family for your warm hospitality and for sharing your farm and experiences with us on the day. Thanks also to Sue Barclay for the update on the Research Paper.

Just a reminder to BOP Locals of up coming shows. Tauranga 23rd January, Rotorua 31st January and Te Puke 13th February. Hope to meet up with some of you there.

-Marion Read and Mary Howard



WAIKATO NEWS

On Sunday 4th October we held a field day at our Cherry Oak Dexter Stud in Matangi, just outside of Hamilton.

Several people have told us that the very wet weather on the day kept them home. This was a shame as the few of us there had such a good day. Nevertheless we had a very informative talk by Wally Kite, a local cattle breeder and judge of long-standing for Dexters and other cattle breeds. He discussed with us points to look for in the conformation of Dexters - both positive and negative. He also indicated what judges look for in the show ring. We asked lots of questions and learnt a lot.

It was a shame there wasn't a bigger turn out, as we didn't get wet at all - we were in the barn and then on the deck for afternoon tea. In fact, it didn't rain at all during the time Wally was here!

Special thanks to Wally and to those who came.

-Stan & Betsy Smith - Cherry Oak Dexters



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND SHOW REPORT

The 2009 Royal Show was held in Christchurch from November 11th – 13th in probably what was the worst three days of weather for the Christchurch Show for quite some years.

Mr Christopher Marler from the United Kingdom was the Dexter Judge. He was an experienced judge and gave exceptional explanations for his decisions. He was a very friendly, approachable chap. The Dexters were judged on the Wednesday in variable weather. Unfortunately there were only two exhibitors – Cameron Walker, who had two cows with calves and a yearling heifer and Julia Eden who had an adult bull, three cows and their calves and a yearling heifer. Both exhibitors had traveled from the Gore area. Again it was of concern that no locals had any entries in the Dexter Classes.

We showed off our team shirts, white polos with black trim and the DCSNZ logo on the chest. The weather was more than chilly during judging so oilskins were allowed in the ring.

Java Chaos was awarded the Supreme Champion Dexter, Mr Marler saying he was a classy animal.

Java Hera and her calf Holly won the senior cow and Mealluaine Dancer won the heifer section.

On Thursday Java Chaos went up against the Herefords, South Devons, Pinzgauer etc in the Meat and Wool Cup. He was unplaced but represented the Dexter Breed very well, behaving and presenting himself beautifully.

Java Ace, this seasons bull calf found the whole thing fairly boring, resorting to checking out the thermos and a bag of dry clothes!! Four week old Ethan did a lot of sleeping though catching the eye of many visitors to the Dexter pens.



Java Ace entertaining himself. It was a long time for a young fella to behave.



Java Eris and Ethan chilled out.



Java Ace, this seasons bull calf found the whole thing fairly boring, resorting to checking out the thermos and a bag of dry clothes!! Four week old Ethan did a lot of sleeping though catching the eye of many visitors to the Dexter pens.

Thursday seemed a very long day just hanging around but Friday was interesting and challenging. Friday is Canterbury Anniversary Day, show day for the people!! The weather turned really nasty about 11am driving a lot of folk into the relative warm and dry of the livestock sheds. Some of these people may have preferred not to have been there, actual live animals make noises and smells that the townies are not used to. Some of the comments were very revealing. It appears the gap between town and country gets wider each year. Both of the exhibitors put up windbreak cloth around the pens. This was not just to reduce the wind chill factor blowing through but also to reduce the uninvited fingers poking where they shouldn't!!

The Royal Show, the A & P District shows and the Small Farmers and Lifestyle Field Days are where we showcase our Dexter Cattle. It takes a lot of time, commitment and some expertise on behalf of the competitors to prepare and display at the show for three days in the case of the Royal. We can't all do it so I think we should at least appreciate what exhibitors do to promote Dexters for the society. Perhaps next year more members could attend, offer moral support on the public relations front and you may even make a sale!!



Java Chaos in the Judging ring

We made a lot of contacts and I am confident there will be good follow up interest.

The show was quite an experience, fun talking Dexters for three days, explaining that cows do lick their calves there... and rubbing shoulders with the Judges, who behind the posh accent are just farmers at heart like the rest of us. - Marion Corbett

SHOW DATES

Tauranga	24 January 2010
Rotorua	31 January 2010
Te Puke	13 February 2010
Morrinsville	6 March 2010

Contact Marion Corbett for more details.



2009/2010 NTH ISLAND DEXTER BREED SHOW

This was held in conjunction with the Stratford Centennial A & P Show over the weekend 28th and 29th November. This must be one of the biggest shows around for cattle and pigs and it was a credit to those organizing the show. The Dairy Breeds had their classes on the Saturday. Lots of the classes had 15 to 20 exhibits in each class. The day was quite wet, but the interest and enthusiasm high.

The Dexters, All Breeds Dairy and All Breeds Beef were all judged on the Sunday. The day was fine but started off cool and cloudy, which was ideal, as later in the day the sun came out and it was almost too hot to be dragging animals around the ring.

There were 30 Dexters on show, all well presented and exhibited by members from Manuwatu, Waikato and around Taranaki. The judge was Nancy Edge from Northland. Special thanks to those who travelled long distances to be there.

RESULTS

PUREBRED DEXTERS

Cow 3 yrs and over	1st	Cherry Oak Carmel	S & B Smith
	2nd	Lakevue Lady Melissa	B & R Rosser
Cow 2 yrs	1st	Porewa Colleen	B & L Jones
	2nd	Belview Bronwyn	B & R Rosser
	3rd	Powera Claire	C & P Bates
Yearling Heifer	1st	Cherry Oak Fifi	S & B Smith
	2nd	Karioi Shirley	B & R Rosser
	3rd	Porewa Delores	C & P Bates
Heifer Calf	1st	Cherry Oak Gretchen	S & B Smith
	2nd	Lakevue Briana	B & R Rosser
	3rd	Lakevue Lady Melina	B & R Rosser
Champion Female		Cherry Oak Carmel	
Reserve Champion Female		Cherry Oak Fifi	

Bull 2 yrs and over	1st	Charming Cochise	B & R Rosser
	2nd	Charming Samuel	B & L Jones
	3rd	Belview Wee Man	B & L Jones
Yearling Bull	1st	Cherry Oak Fergus	S & B Smith
	2nd	Porewa Dunny Boy	B & L Jones
Bull Calf	1st	Digby Hollow Murphy	B & L Jones
	2nd	Jonbay Rambler Romeo	C & P Bates
Bull and 2 females	1st	B & R Rosser	
	2nd	B & L Jones	

Champion Male	Cherry Oak Fergus
Reserve Champion Male	Charming Cochise
Supreme Champion Dexter	Cherry Oak Carmel



GRADE DEXTERS

Cow with or without calf	1st	Box Palm Satellite	B & L Jones
	2nd	Box Palm Alice	B & L Jones
Yearling Heifer	1st	Box Palm Wee Mans Rose	B & L Jones
	2nd	Hiwinui Claire	C & E Oliver
	3rd	Porewa Dulcie	C & P Bates

Champion Grade Dexter

Box Palm Satellite

Reserve Champion Grade Dexter

Box Palm Wee Mans Rose

Youth Handler

1st J Rosser

2nd E Oliver

3rd D Rosser

Novice Breeder

1st Porewa Claire C & P Bates

2nd Hiwnui Claire C & E Oliver

Best Taranaki Exhibit – Charming Stud Trophy

Charming Cochise

B & R Rosser

WAIKATO SHOW REPORT

At the Waikato A & P Show on Sunday Nov 1st, there were 13 Dexters shown by 3 exhibitors. The weather was kind to us & the classes were judged with little time wasted, so that the Dexter Section was finished in good time. It was a great day.

RESULTS

Heifer Calf	1st	Cherry Oak Gracie	S & B Smith
	2nd	Cherry Oak Georgie	S & B Smith
	3rd	Cherry Oak Gretchen	S & B Smith
Yearling Heifer	1st	Charming Angel	P Leek
	2nd	Cherry Oak Fifi	S & B Smith
	3rd	Digby Hollow Lydia	K & L Managh
Heifer 2 yrs old	1st	Charming Dinky	P Leek
Cow, 3 yrs & over	1st	Cherry Oak Carmel	S & B Smith
	2nd	Digby Hollow Jezebel	K & L Managh

Champion Female Dexter

Cherry Oak Carmel

Reserve Champion Female Dexter

Charming Dinky

Bull Calf

1st Cherry Oak Granville S & B Smith

2nd Charming Joseph P Leek

3rd Cherry Oak Gus S & B Smith

Yearling Bull

1st Cherry Oak Fergus S & B Smith

Champion Male Dexter

Cherry Oak Granville

Reserve Champion Male Dexter

Cherry Oak Fergus

Supreme Champion Dexter - Nesfield Cup

Cherry Oak Carmel

S & B Smith



GISBORNE SHOW

Early in October, Carol and I got an unexpected phone call from the Gisborne A&P Show organisers, asking if we would like to take some Dexters down to the show which was to be held over the weekend 16th and 17th October. So we hurriedly halter trained a seven month old heifer and steer, stuck them in the back of our Hi-ace Van and off we went!!!

In hindsight it would have been better to have taken a fully grown cow and calf to give some indication on how big/small an adult can get. There were no judged classes but we put together a Dexter promotional exhibit.

Being show virgins, we were not sure what to expect, but the two days were a great success. The animals were well behaved and we had a great deal of interest from potential new members, with many people not knowing that there were Dexters in the area thus highlighting the importance of getting out to these types of local events. There have, as I write this on the Sunday after, been two phone calls, from people wishing to view some more of our animals.

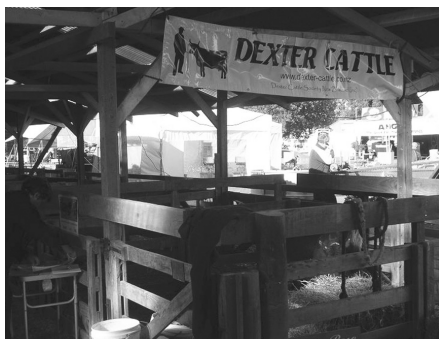
On the first day, a gentleman from PGG Wrightsons stopped to talk. He had judged beef cattle including Dexters in many parts of the world and remarked how good it was to see them again. A lady told us how, when she had a dairy farm, they always used Dexter bulls over their heifers and it is a shame how more farmers don't make use of them for that purpose today.

The show organisers would like us back next year and hopefully they will include other breeds like, Belties and the Hairy Horny cows in a lifestyle exhibit area. They would even like us to take Gulliver – our adult bull, such is his fame.

At the end of the show we were both suffering from question fatigue, so we packed the animals back in the van, along with some chooks we'd bought for another exhibition and headed off home. You could almost hear "duelling banjos" playing in the background!!

A special thanks to Marion Mangnall and Maureen Skilton for the advice and help they gave us to set up our exhibit.

- Steve Ring



SMALL FARM DAY AT RANGIORA

The 4th October dawned cold, bitterly cold, and the weatherman had forecast hail to go with it - a classic show day!

However, Marion Mangnall had, as always, been working and organising like a beaver - Stand was there, advert in a local paper, helpers lined up, so we had no choice but to front up with enthusiasm and there were a goodly number of members who did.



It was bitterly cold and there were a few very fine flurries of light hail but there were also plenty of breaks when the sun did shine and the warmth could be felt as long as you were sheltered from the keenest of Southerlies that seemed to blow from the four corners of the earth!!

Marion had brought along her young bull Whare Ra Cruise, who stayed in the trailer, with perfect manners all day. It was in fact the warmest place to be and many of us would have been happy to get in there and join him had there been room! Marion also brought a delightful three week old heifer, Sybil, who was in a small enclosure and who could have been sold many times over.

Interest in the Society and the Dexter Breed was good with positive enquiries, though general attendance was quite a lot below the previous show (as was the number of exhibitors). It was felt that Society representation at this type of show was probably one of the best for reaching out to new people; where Showing classes get people around them, there are fewer of the 'general' public as most are cattle people themselves.

A huge 'thank you' is owed to Marion and to all those who helped, for making it a worthwhile display and a great day.

-Peter Lucking

KERRY BULL

The society has recently become aware that there are straws available in New Zealand for a Kerry bull by the name of Kelmscott's Seamus.

This bull is being promoted as an Irish Dexter which we as council, have some concerns about.

This bull is registered to the Kerry Society in USA and therefore any progeny from this bull can not be registered as part of the DCSNZ.Herdbook



NEW WEB SITE

The Dexter Society (Phil Becker in particular) has been working on a new and exciting Website for the past couple of months.... that will be released early in the New Year at the same address as our present one. WATCH OUT FOR IT!!!!

More Details in the February Dispatch.

www.dexter-cattle.co.nz
CHECK IT OUT!!

Dial-A-Dexter

**The Dial-A-Dexter service is available for all those who want to
buy or sell Dexters or have Bulls for lease & service**

Contact Karen Managh, phone/fax 07-849 5591

or email tag@ihug.co.nz for an up to date listing

Dial a Dexter : tag@ihug.co.nz
CHECK IT OUT!!



MAINLAND GROUP FIELD DAY - 27 March 2010

Elaine & Rob Partridge,

408 Central Road South, Upper Moutere (west of Nelson).

More details nearer the time - mark this date in your diaries and plan to be there.

STEAK OF ORIGIN

For those interested in sending a heifer or steer to the Steak Of Origin, you will be pleased to know that the council will fund the application fee providing the animal is inspected beforehand so as to ensure that it is in the best possible condition and a good representative for the breed.

Details of the 2010 competition are not yet available but further details can be found at:

<http://www.beeflambnz.co.nz/competitions/competitions-steakOrigin.html>



A STEP BACK IN TIME

New Zealand Dexter Breeders Assn.

NOVEMBER 1994.

Newsletter No. 6.

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Alec Meades, (Ph. 9 - 433 8491)
Apotu Road,
R.D. 1, Kamo,
Whangarei.

Secretary:

Nancy Edge, (Ph. 9 - 432 7079)
Takahiwai Road,
R.D. 1,
Ruakaka.

A very belated greetings to all our fellow breeders from your Secretary.

I offer sincere apologies for the absence of the August Newsletter which was due to a build-up of work in my office compounded with the demands of calf rearing. I invested a considerable amount of time typing up, printing and reprinting the draft constitution during deliberations by the Provisional Committee and this had an inevitable effect. Once this has been finalised, then things should get back to 'normal' - whatever that is.

REPORT OF A.G.M.

Eight members assembled at Alec Meades home on 25 June. Apologies were received from five other members.

The Annual Statement of Accounts showed that the Association had a net balance of \$190.05 in the bank. As the Treasurer had indicated that she would not be available, the meeting decided that in the meantime, the position of Secretary and Treasurer should be combined until membership numbers increase sufficiently to justify individual appointees.

The meeting declared that the President, Secretary, and four Councillors nominated be duly elected. I personally welcome aboard Jeff Stephenson, Doreen Goodall, Brian Vidler and Mike Willis as Councillors.

Mr. Bielby advised that he did not wish to continue as Herd Registrar. A motion was passed thanking him for the service he had provided in setting up the Herd Book Records to date. Discussion at the meeting concluded that in the interests of minimising costs to the Assn. it was desirable for an appointee to be based in the North near the Secretary. As there was no-one to fulfil the position, the meeting resolved that the President and Secretary should maintain these records in the meantime.

This means that all future correspondence, subscriptions, fees and registrations applications should be addressed direct to the Secretary.

The meeting resolved that the annual subscription should remain at \$10.00 for the current year. This sub is now due and a 'tear-off' renewal form appears at the end of this Newsletter.

In 'General Business' considerable discussion took place on aspects of the Constitution which were raised by members.

Excess White: Those present recommended that registration of those animals which have white in excess of the breed standard be accepted at GRADE 1 level only. All other grades must conform to the breed standard.

Breed Inspection: Discussion on the practicality of carrying out breed inspections confirmed the concerns expressed by some members. The meeting recommended deletion of all 'Inspection Rules'.

Genetic Defects: The question of refusing registration of animals shown to carry genetic defects was raised by a member and the points raised were discussed. This resulted in the recommendation that sub-clause (iv) of clause 1.10 be deleted. (i.e. delete the words "is shown to carry genetic defects").

Finally, the subject of 'Incorporation' was discussed. It was the feeling of those present, that current membership numbers do not justify a move in this direction. Both the President and Secretary gave their personal assurance that while they were in office, they would not be doing anything to jeopardize the financial obligations of all or any one of the Associations members which of course includes themselves.



TAURANGA A & P SHOW

Saturday 23rd January 2010

DEXTER CATTLE - DAIRY CATTLE - BEEF CATTLE

**Gate Pa Racecourse Domain
Cameron Road, Tauranga**



10 am Start
Purebred and
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21 Dexter classes
including a
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Best presented
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Classes proudly sponsored by:

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Bellebrae Dexters
Mark Lawrence, Edgecumbe

ENTRIES CLOSE 21 DECEMBER 2009

SEND TO

Secretary - Tauranga A & P Assn.
Kris Newcombe
25 Youngson Road, R D 6 , Tauranga.3176
Email address : tauranga_aandp@xtra.co.nz
phone: 07 548 1703

- This advert Sponsored by Bellebrae Dexters -



FOR SALE, WANTED, TO LEASE

Bridgegrove Stud has for sale 2 Bull calves. Bridgegrove De Villiers Black, horned; DOB 30 August 2009 \$750 plus GST and Bridgegrove Murphy Red, horned; DOB 4 September 2009 \$750 plus GST. *Contact Alastair & Chris Bridge. Ph 06 364 3401 bridge@bridgegrove.co.nz*

Cardon Heights has for sale Riverlea Ducati a Dun, long leg bull. Dob-14.07.2003. HB#2282, Dehorned. Throws excellent calves of a varied of heights. Not halter trained but is quiet to handle. \$1200 ono. *Contact Anne Burdon Ph 07 871 1733 Email anne@otodc.govt.nz*

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Sizes are: Calf - Newborn to approx 5 months - no chain; Weanling - approx 4 months to 12 months, with small link chain; Yearling - 10 months to 18 months; Medium 18 months to most small adult cows; Large - Mature cows and young bulls; Extra large - mature bull. For prices - discount for bulk orders please *Contact Liz Jones Ph 06 329 8887. Email: boxpalm@clear.net.nz.*



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Let us look after things while you take a break.

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Currently in the Nelson District.

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Email: robjaneandrew.lawson@xtra.co.nz




Bellebrae Dexters & Avocados
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TUROA DEXTERS

For sound mating advice, bookings and sales, contact:

Heather & Keith Wratt
1000 No 2 Road, RD2, Te Puke 3182
Tel: 07 573 8558
email: keith.wratt@paradise.net.nz



DEAR DR DEXTER



Dear Dr Dexter,

I have been breeding Dexters for many years and take a lot of care dehorning my animals. I have best success when using a hot gas iron on the young calf. Some of my Dexters grow too big for the gas and I have to use either a scoop type dehorner for smaller animals or a guillotine type tool to dehorn yearlings. I still take care but find in some cases the horn re grows and often does so in a deformed way. What am I doing wrong and what can I do about the re grown horns?

-John

Dr Dexter Replies

I am not sure if you are doing anything wrong John, no matter how careful you are there does seem to be a small percentage that will develop re growth no matter how careful you are. Sometimes this is little more than a small amount of horn tissue that doesn't amount to much. Other times horns can fully re grow and unfortunately as you say the new horns are rarely the shape they were meant to be. Some of these re grown horns can actually cause problems in the future especially the ones that grow down and around and if left long enough can actually grow into the skull. Distorted horn growth is not always the result of dehorning gone wrong. Horns can be damaged or knocked off and again can re grow in a less than attractive manner.

Just remember that a vet must be used to dehorn animals over 12 months of age and consulting your vet for his advice is the best option for older animals especially those with deformed horn growth. The vet will likely use Embryotomy Wire and a local anesthetic. Have the re growth dealt with as soon as possible before the new growth develops to any significant size.

The large elastrator bands placed over the horn and left right at the base of the horn is sometimes successful in removing the horn. This method can take a number of weeks and sometimes even months to remove the horn but it is bloodless and you can do it yourself.

If you have a horn growing into the skull then it is very important to involve your vet at the earliest convenience.

ADVERTISING RATES ---- ADVERTISING RATES

Members may insert free advertisements of approximately 25 words each free of charge.

Members' rates are.....B&W only ¼, Page \$25 ½ Page - B&W \$40

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NEW ---- NEW ---- NEW

Business card type adverts: \$10.00 for one insertion, \$30.00 for four

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If you buy THREE advertisements of the same size, you are given a fourth advertisement of the same size FREE! Contact the Editor to find out more.

