

COMBINED ALLENDALE/DAYS PRODUCE SOLID SALE RESULT

The first combined Poll Hereford sale of the Allendale and Days Whiteface studs produced a very solid sale result at Bordertown last week. Despite the current lowering of beef industry market confidence, the sale achieved a 92% clearance, topping at \$12,000 and averaging \$3,795 for the 56 bulls sold. While this average was down \$800 on last year's outstanding result, nearly half of that difference could be attributed to the one bull that sold for a \$22,000 record price last year.

The Day family have restructured their operation since last year's sale, with Lachlan and Lou Day now running the Days Whiteface stud and Alastair and Jayne running their portion of the cattle under the original Allendale prefix. The combined offering of 61 bulls and 12 heifers was held at the previous sale venue, now the home of Days Whiteface.

There was a good crowd with 48 registered bidders, a vast majority of these being names that have regularly featured in past sales, with particularly strong support from Victorian beef cattle producers. In the wash-up of the sale, Victorian and southern SA producers accounted for 38% of the offering each, while the balance went to pastoral producers in northern SA and Broken Hill regions.

If the sale was lacking anything in comparison with last year, it was a few more buyers in the mid budget range who were willing to take the opening pastoral bids through to \$3,000 to \$4,000, more reflective of their true value.

The top end competition was very good, with 9 bulls selling in excess of \$6,000. Topping the sale was a very impressive skurred bull, Allendale Zeppelin D25, offered by Alastair and Jayne Day. Sired by the \$85,000 A. National, he displayed great length, balance and mobility, ranking in the top 1% of the breed for 200 and 400 day weight and also in the top 10% for most other traits. He was bought by David and Susan Sleigh, representing Sleigh Pastoral Co that includes David's brothers Richard and Andrew and their families. They run properties at their home base of Ruffy in Victoria and at Jerilderie in the NSW Riverina. The bull will be a seedstock sire to produce their own bulls.

"We turn off around 500 calves per year and if he serves us as well as our last top Allendale bull he has only cost us about \$5 per calf," David said.

An outstanding, deep bodied ET son of Debarry Eden that ranked in the top 15% of the breed for all indices was purchased for the second top price of \$11,000 by Ralph Nemeth, Dunrobin Grazing Co, Mansfield, buying through Rodwell's Jamie Beckingsale. This bull, Allendale Tipperary D15 was also offered by Alastair and Jayne, and like the sale topper, has semen retained for use in the Allendale stud. Ralph Nemeth has purchased at Allendale for many years, including last year's Allendale record on-property price of \$22,000.

"The Allendale cattle have the structure, mobility and doing ability we are looking for in our herd. They perform and maintain themselves better than any other lines we tried in our hill country grazing situation, giving us premium prices and market flexibility," Ralph said.

The top price from the Days Whiteface offering was \$8,500, paid by the Stoney family, 'Ellingerin', Inverleigh, Vic. They are also repeat buyers and sought the outstanding performance figures on Allendale Urban D91, by the high performance and muscling sire, Wirruna Abercorn.

Hill & Waters, buying through TDC Penola's Darren Maney were strong bidders throughout the sale, purchasing 4 bulls in total. The first lots are often the best value buys and they made the most of that opportunity. Included in their purchases were lots 1 and 2, both for \$4,500 each and offered by Days Whiteface. One of these was a full ET brother to the Allendale \$11,000 bull, highlighting their astute buying decision.

Yalanda Pastoral Co, buying through Spence Dix & Co's Jonathon Spence, were another repeat buyer and also purchased 4 bulls for their Coorong based herd, paying to \$4,000.

However it was the pastoral orders that put a floor in the sale, with Dean Hotchin, overseer for Mootaroo Pastoral, Broken Hill being the sale's overall volume bull buyer. Buying through Elders Broken Hill's Mick Courtney, he purchased 7 bulls from \$2,000 to \$4,000 and at the outstanding value average of \$2,286. Two came from the Allendale offering and 5 from the Days Whiteface offering.

GA Young & Sons, Kalangadoo and buying through Landmark Millicent's Jim Noonan have been very strong top end volume buyers for the last few years; this year being no exception. They purchased 3 bulls to a top of \$7,250 and also included the one Abberley bull at \$6,000 offered by guest vendors John and Helen Illsley.

Also prominent repeat buyers were Leon and Sally Wheeler, Wallacedale. Buying through Saffon Kerr & Co, they went to \$8,000, \$5,000 and \$4,000 in purchasing 2 Allendale and 1 Days Whiteface bulls.

Landmark Gepps Cross purchased 4 bulls to \$2,250 account HJ Broad for their northern SA stations, while Lachlan and Joanne Gall, Langawirra Station, Broken Hill and buying through Elders' Tom Penna, picked up 3 to \$3,000.

Other key buyers included TRJ & MA Baker, Furner (2 top bulls @ \$7,000 and \$5,000); Emu Springs Pastoral Co, Tintinara (2 @ \$5,500 and \$2,750); Henty Anderson Partnership through Keatley Livestock Mt Gambier (1@ \$6,750) and Coryille Pastoral Co, through Crawford Dowling, Ballarat (1 @ \$6,000).

Also offered were 12 heifers; 6 from each stud. Eight of these sold to a top of \$5,250 and averaged \$2,906. The top PTIC heifer, Allendale Fancy C219 was purchased by Brian Burgess, Ravensdale Poll Hereford stud, Ravensdale, NSW. He purchased 4 of these classy heifers for his recently formed stud, based on Allendale genetics. Other female buyers were TR & JL Williams, Caramut and R & K Boon Partnership, Strathalbyn with 2 heifers each, all at \$2,000.

Sale Summary	2010	2009
<u>Combined Bulls</u>		
Offered	61	59
Sold	56	59
Top	\$12,000	\$22,000
Ave	\$3,795	\$4,597
<u>Heifers</u>		
Offered	12	12
Sold	8	10
Top	\$5,250	\$5,000
Ave	\$2,906	\$2,600

Agents: Elders & Landmark

Auctioneers: Gordon Wood, Malcolm Scroop (Landmark) and Ross Milne & Nick Harton (Elders)



Top Price: Alastair Day and Elders Euroa's Tim Mercer with the \$12,000 top priced bull purchased by Tim's clients, Sleigh Pastoral Co, Ruffy and Jerilderie.



Top Days Whiteface bull: Landmark auctioneers Gordon Wood and Malcolm Scroop are pictured with Days Whiteface principal Lachy Day and the \$8,500 bull bought by the Stoney family, Ellingerin, Inverleigh, Vic.



Ralph Nemeth, Dunrobin Grazing, Mansfield, Vic is pictured with Allendale principal Alastair Day and Ralph's agent Jamie Beckingsale, Rodwells Mansfield and the \$11,000, 2nd top priced bull overall that Ralph purchased. He also bought the \$22,000 top priced bull last year.



Volume station buyers – Pictured are volume pastoral country buyers and their agents at the Allendale/Days Whiteface sale. They are Mark Courtney, Elders Broken Hill; Tom Penna, Elders Adelaide; Dean Hotchin, overseer, Mootaroo; Lachlan & Joanna Gall, Langawirra Station, Broken Hill; and Larryn Gogel, Elders Keith.



Female key buyer: Pictured after the Allendale/Days Whiteface Poll Hereford sale are Alastair Day, Allendale; Brian Burgess, Ravensdale, NSW who purchased 4 heifers to the top of \$5,250 for his recently formed Ravensdale Poll Hereford stud; Lachy Day, Days Whiteface; and Clay McArthur who works for Brian.