

Breeding advanced production genetics does not mean that we are neglecting our traditional basics.

Since 1998 we have been sending our cows to winter in the hills at Clayton Station. This way we keep a close eye on hardiness, fertility and structure. Cows who can't cope are culled. They must produce a good calf annually. They are there this year and the Lawson Cows are there too.

Our aim is for a Mature Cow Weight to be lower than the 600-Day Wt EBV. This means the herd feed requirements will be lower and growth rates will be increased.

Fertility:

We have been heifer mating for the last 20 or more years. We put every heifer to the bull at 300 to 350 kg mating weight. We get between 5% and 10% dry, which are culled. This year 18% of the sale bulls are out of first calving heifers.

We are one of the few studs that semen test sale bulls, and any bull with a result of less than 70% is culled. We service capacity test as well.

Structure:

One of the main reasons for my traveling so extensively in Australia and America is so that I am able to view the offspring of the bulls I plan to use. We are constantly assessing our cattle for feet, leg structure and walking ability.

We stand behind our bulls on all of these issues.

At Kakahu we are preparing 130 bulls for the Annual Bull Sale. Of these approximately 100 will be offered at auction along with 10 Lawson 18month bulls.

It has been most interesting to identify the production genetics in our bulls.

For instance:

- 78 of the bulls are better than breed average for Australasian EBV's for the two traits of Birth Weight and Gestation Length, making them suitable for heifer mating.
- 75 of the bulls are better than the breed average of Australasian EBV's for growth.
- 71 of the bulls are better than the breed average of Australasian EBV's for EMA.
- 70 of the bulls are better than the breed average of Australasian EBV's for FAT.
- 59 of the bulls are better than the breed average of Australasian EBV's for IMF.
- 75 of the bulls are better than the breed average of Australasian EBV's for CWT.
- Only 12 of the bulls being prepared are not in the top 50% of the Breed in Australasia for either Carcase or Growth.

IN OTHER WORDS, BUYERS HAVE A LOT OF CHOICE!

OUR AIM IS FOR BREEDERS TO PROFIT FROM USING OUR GENETICS.

- EVERY COW TO GET IN CALF AND CALVE EASILY
- CALVES TOPPING CALF SALES (as many do)
- EARLY MATURING STEERS, THAT FATTEN QUICKLY WITH HIGH YIELDING CARCASSES

FURTHER INFORMATION INCLUDING THE ONLINE CATALOGUE (AFTER MAY 1)
CAN BE FOUND AT
www.kakahuangus.com

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SEE YOU ON JUNE 19TH, 2006

