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Dates for Your Diary

- Bollin Sale** 17th June 2006
- Polden Sale** 24th June 2006
- Royal Show** 2—5th July 2006
- Council Meeting**
20th July 2006
- Logan Sale** 5th August 2006
- Melton Mowbray Autumn Sale**
8th/9th September 2006
- Wolseley Park Sale**
23rd September 2006
- Joint Production Sale, Taunton**
14th October 2006
- AGM**
11th November 2006

New Breed Record

Our Showing workshop, held at the beginning of April at Springbarrow Lodge, was a great success. Our thanks must go John and Pat Stanley for very kindly allowing us the use of their farm, to Steve Gray, who led the day and to Pat Stanley and John Brigg who led two of the sessions. The day was over-subscribed and regrettably we had to turn people away. As a result we plan to hold another day next year, and in the meantime we hope to see those who attended this year's workshop at some of the Longhorn classes this summer!

We have already had a very successful sale at Worcester where a new Breed Record was set when John and Joshua Brigg's 2 year old heifer, Gorse Layla, sold for 3,700 guineas. The heifers sold particularly well, with John and Pat Stanley's heifer, Blackbrook Ophelia making 2,500 guineas and Logan Blithsome, from Professor Craft's herd, reaching 2,200 guineas.

There are a number of herd sales this year, in addition to the Society's Premier Sale at Melton Mowbray in September and an open production sale at Taunton in October - details of all sales are within.

Council has recently agreed some

changes to the bull registration rules. There is concern that the short registration period means that some good bulls miss out on registration. We are therefore extending the registration window to 800 days. Full details are printed within.

Council has also agreed a new appraisal for Melton Mowbray. To ensure that all vendors and purchasers know what is incorporated, the appraisal is printed within.

The Society will have stands at a number of shows this year—look out for our new, extra stand in the main cattle building at the Royal Show—and do come along to the presentation of the cups at teatime on Sunday 2nd July.

We are also promoting Longhorns in Europe—we will again be attending the Weide Festival in Germany, which takes place in August, and we will also be at Eurotier in Hanover later in the year.

Finally, Council is pleased to announce that we intend to take semen for AI from two bulls this autumn—owners of prospective bulls are invited to submit their details to Council—the form is on page 3

Sarah Slade

Who's Who at the Society

Breed Secretary:

Sarah Slade
Southcott Farm
Chawleigh
Chulmleigh
Devon
EX18 7HP
Tel/Fax: 01769 581212
Email: longhorncs@tiscali.co.uk

All society matters except registrations, transfers, subscriptions and accounts

Registrations and Accounts:

Libby Henson
PO Box 251
Exeter
EX2 8WX
Tel/Fax: 01392 270421

For all registrations, transfers, subscriptions and accounts

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The show season has got off to a slow start. The well attended and enthusiastically received showing workshop kindly hosted by John and Pat Stanley in April has so far to be reflected in the hoped for increase in entries. Leicestershire had to cancel the Longhorn section due to lack of entries – possibly due to changing to a two day fixture and a fresh venue – and the entries at Newark were disappointing. This is a pity as shows are the shop window for both the breed and for your own stock.

The split of Led and Unled sections at the breed sale at Worcester worked well. Despite fears that the normal entry of around 50 head in the Society Sale boosted by three dispersals bringing the entry up to 150 head (132 lots) would be too many, proved groundless. A huge crowd produced spirited bidding from start to finish with, apart from steers, 99 out of 109 breeding stock forward changing hands. It was encouraging that all 99 were transferred indicating that they had been bought for pedigree use. Bulls sold to 2,050 gns for a two year old from Pat Quin with another from the same breeder, the days's champion at 2,000gns. Females to a top of 3,700 gns for a 2year old heifer, a new breed female record price, and another four over 2,000. It is to be hoped that this buoyant trade and interest in the breed will be carried on to the four private sales already planned for the summer as well as the breed premier sale at Melton Mowbray. At Melton, Council have decided to restrict this to Led cattle only and have replaced the inspection (with the authority of the inspector to reject entries) by an assessment by an independent Appraiser whose appraisal will be available to prospective purchasers but no further comments, views or rejections made.

Joshua Brigg

Council Corner

Sub groups

John Hedges reported from the New Projects sub-group which had met recently. It had focused on the potential for commercial cross-breeding; the need for promotion of the breed to new markets (such as the Game Fair which the Society had attended last year); the importance of good promotion, not just at summer shows, but also at Primestock shows which members should be encouraged to enter; the need for better education regarding the finishing of stock for the meat market; the need for scientific evaluation and an ongoing programme to bring in young bulls for AI. Council agreed that these also merited pursuing and agreed proposals for action.

Bull registrations

Council agreed that the window for registration should be extended to 800 days to allow for the slow-maturing nature of the Longhorn. The full rules would be printed in the newsletter and implemented immediately.

AI & New Bulls

Council agreed that there was demand for AI as well as embryos, especially for export. Embryos can only be taken with Council permission and Council was not aware of any recent application for embryos. However, it would support members who wished to pursue this with suitable animals in order to meet, especially, overseas market requirements. Council also agreed that semen should be taken from two bulls this year to add to the AI programme.

Website

A great deal of information had been added to the site, although work still needed to take place to update the photos. This is ongoing.

Secretary

As the role had expanded, the secretary requested that the journal now be produced professionally, rather than in-house. This was agreed as a positive step forward for the society.

Sales

New appraisal rules were agreed and will be printed in the newsletter. A number of Longhorn sales will be taking place in 2006, in addition to Society sales and this should offer a good opportunity for new and existing breeders.

Shows

The Society has a stand at Beef Expo and Nicky Lockett and Peter Close are kindly providing the cattle for the exhibit. We have an additional site at the Royal Show and propose that the presentation of the prizes should take place there at teatime on Sunday of the show. There are a number of new shows offering classes this year and it is important that all classes are well supported as otherwise this reflects poorly on the breed.

Events

The showing day was a great success and will be repeated in 2007

It is intended that the Judges Workshop should also be held again this year—the date still has to be confirmed with master judge, David Lowry. It will be open to all judges as well as other interested members.

A workshop on finishing and marketing of stock was proposed (arising out of the Project sub-group discussions) and this will be announced once details have been agreed.

Publications

The small breed leaflet has been updated and re-printed and will be available shortly.

Following earlier agreement, the journal will be produced professionally with the aim of publishing for distribution in January 2007.

Correspondence

IBR Herds

Requests had been made regarding the health status of herds and it was noted that whilst the Society does not hold this information, and that status can change, it would be useful to have an indication as this is a request frequently made by buyers. Amendments will be made to the annual census.

AOB

It was noted that Sabine Zentis was very kindly going to translate our existing literature into German so that we can use the leaflets for promotion there. Thanks were expressed to Sabine for being prepared to undertake this for the Society.

Bulls Required for AI Scheme

Council has decided that it intends to take semen from a further two bulls this autumn.

Owners of proven bulls, or of young bulls where the sire and dam are exceptional and the dam can be seen, are invited to submit details to the secretary for further consideration by Council.

Submissions should be made on the form below and accompanied by up to date photos of the bull (and also of the dam if a young bull)

Owners may opt either to meet costs of semen collection themselves, and retain a higher royalty payment, or alternatively the society will meet the costs of collection, and therefore only a small royalty will be paid to the owner.

Further details on testing, health requirements and royalties paid to owners are available within the AI section of the journal and will also be supplied to interested breeders.

I am interested in submitting my bull(s) for semen collection.

Name of bull..... Reg No.....

Sire..... Dam.....

Date of Birth.....

Any further useful information:.....

Name of bull..... Reg No.....

Sire..... Dam.....

Date of Birth.....

Any further useful information.....

Owner Name.....

Address.....

Tel.....

Send to: Sarah Slade, Southcott Farm, Chawleigh, Chulmleigh, Devon. EX18 7HP Tel: 01769 591212



REGIONAL GROUP NEWS

The regional groups operate independently of the Society and organise herd visits, social events and herd competitions. They form a focal point for getting to know other like-minded people and provide a potential for gaining stock and knowledge. All the groups are run by volunteers. Enthusiastic group members, young and old, experienced or complete beginners are always welcome. Please do get in touch with your local breeders group co-ordinator and get involved in group activities.

Mid West Longhorn Breeders Group

5th August—Production Sale from the Logan herd in Worcester Market

20th August—Summer Gathering at Longash herd, by kind invitation of Sid Hollier

14th October—Joint Production Sale at Taunton Market entries open to all LCS members

19th November—Awards Lunch at the Alveston Manor Hotel

For details contact:

Contact: Peter Guest, Colaba Lodge, Hamnish, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 0QN

Tel: 01568 760251

South East Longhorn Breeders Group

8th July—Summer picnic at 11.30am at Wimpole Hall Farm, Cambridge

September—herd Competition

November—Autumn Lunch

For details of these events please contact:

Robert Williams, Maydencroft Manor, Gosmore, Hitchin Herts

Tel: 01462 434762

North Western Longhorn Breeders Group

For details contact:

Phil Robinson, Bolin Valley Project, County offices, Chapel Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire

Tel: 01625 534790/534791

Midland Longhorn Breeders Club

For details contact:

Pat Stanley, Springbarrow Lodge, Swannymore Road, Coalville, Leics LE67 5UT

Tel: 01509 503276

Welsh Longhorn Breeders Club

For details contact:

Bernard Llewellyn, Carreg Cennan Castle, Trapp, Llandeilo, Dyfed

Tel: 01558 822291

Northern longhorn Breeders Club

For details contact:

Peter Close, Fishwick Mains, Fishwick, Berwick on Tweed TD15 1XQ

Tel: 01289 386317



New Members

* We should like to welcome the following new members to the society :

* Mr E J Cuming, Feniton Court, Honiton, Devon EX14 3BE

* Mr Donald J Franklin, Sisters Farm, Bow-Wow, South Cerney, Cirencester, Glos GL7 5TN

* Mr & Mrs P Froehlich, Hillfields Lodge, Lighthorne, Warks CV35 0BQ

* Mrs Sallie Lloyd, Oakwood House, Thorpe, Newark, Notts, NG23 5PY

* Dr Ewan Mackintosh, 34 Audley Road, Chippenham, Wilts SN14 0EH

* Mrs C A Neal, Oakwood Lodge, Low Road, North Tuddenham, Norfolk NR20 3DH

* Mrs A H Murden, Fishwick Mains, Berwick, Scotland TD15 1XQ

* Mr Andrew Gibbs, Purdys Solicitors, Market Place, Reepham, Norwich, NR10 4LZ





Showing 2006



In addition to the summer shows, there are also a number of Primestock Shows which offer classes for longhorns. The Society actively encourages members to support these classes and offers, at both the National Primestock Show and sale and the Welsh Winter Fair, the following special prizes:
 £1000 to Supreme Champion if a purebred Longhorn
 £500 to Supreme Champion out of a Longhorn dam
 £50 to each animal forward in the Longhorn class, if purebred (National Primestock Show only)
 £25 for any first placed animal out of Longhorn dam
 £10 for all entries forward in non-pedigree section out of a Longhorn dam

The National Primestock Show takes place at Bingley Hall, Stafford on 18th—19th November

For details contact: Mrs K M Tomlinson, County Showground, Weston road, Stafford ST18 0BD
 Tel: 01785 258060/247111

Email: enquiries@staffscountyshowground.co.uk

The Royal Welsh Winter Fair takes place on 27th—28th November at the Royal Welsh Showground.

For details, contact:

Benjamin Williams, RWAS, Llaelwedd, Builth wells, Powys, LD2 3SY

Tel: 01982 554403

Email: livestock@rwas.co.uk

We are also delighted to note that the Royal Smithfield will be holding Primestock Competitions on 1st & 2nd December at the Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet.

Contact: The Royal Smithfield Club, Brierley House, Summer Lane, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5LE

Tel: 01225 837904 for more details.

Newark & Nottinghamshire County Show - Results

Judge: John Backhouse

Bull, any age. (7 entries / 3 forward)

1st Blackbrook Lionheart	J.W. & P.A. Stanley
2nd Tetford Kingpin	C.T.D. & S.D. Sutcliffe
3rd Blackbrook Philosopher	J.W. & P.A. Stanley

Cow (5 entries / 2 forward)

1st Blackbrook Louisa	J.W. & P.A. Stanley
2nd Gorse Goldilocks	W.J. Spalton

Senior Heifer (6 entries / 3 forward)

1st Blackbrook Osprey	J.W. & P.A. Stanley
2nd Tetford Lucerne	C.T.D. & S.D. Sutcliffe
3rd Bejon Ena	W.J. Spalton

Junior Heifer (10 entries / 5 forward)

1st Blackbrook Pearl	J.W. & P.A. Stanley
2nd Blackbrook Peach	J.W. & P.A. Stanley
3rd Bejon Ferinda	W.J. Spalton
4th Barlings Foxglove	G.S. Thomas
5th Barlings Fritillary	G.S. Thomas

Group of 3 (2 entries / 2 forward)

1st Blackbrook Philosopher, Osprey & Pearl	J.W. & P.A. Stanley
2nd Gorse Goldilocks, Bejon Ena & Ferinda	W.J. Spalton

Breed & Male Champion

Reserve Breed & Reserve Male	Champion Tetford Kingpin
Female Champion	Blackbrook Osprey
Reserve Female Champion	Blackbrook Louisa
Best Junior Bull	Blackbrook Philosopher
Best Junior Heifer	Blackbrook Pearl

Blackbrook Lionheart

Gofarmer

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is John Dixon and I would like to tell you about a business for farmers that you may be interested in. I am sure that you keep abreast of new ideas in the market place and you may have heard of some new websites that have been launched recently to enable farmers to auction off farming goods. These sites are good and have their place but they also have their pitfalls as goods are listed for short periods of time and incur both listing and sale commission fees also they prohibit the advertising of livestock.

Gofarmer, a non auction site started by myself (a third generation farmer) and my partner Rachel, is a website that is comprehensive in structure yet adaptable to its customers needs. We offer not only the choice to sell direct to other farmers but also the opportunity to sell direct to the general public with a wide choice of goods from livestock to machinery and also meat products, veg boxes to holiday homes, farm B&Bs and even contractors can advertise their services. The site is designed to combine all things rural and make them accessible to all people from all areas be it county to county or even nationwide this includes Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and now even expats in France.

Sellers have up to date statistics to see how many times each advert has been viewed and when it was last viewed. You are also able to list a website with each advert and sellers can see how many hits their website has received from the Gofarmer site.

This service is available for £45 a year (only £5 in the first year). There are no limits to the amount of products a seller can list for sale at any one time, no time limit to the period the advert runs for (during membership) and most importantly there are no hidden charges such as commissions. Buyers can contact Sellers directly by email, phone, through their own website or by mail.

You may have gathered by now that we are not a big company, we are just farmers that have come up with an idea to help other farmers like ourselves with small budgets to maximise what they have got. And although we started this business by ourselves with no funding apart from our own in nearly 2 years we have over 550 registered users. Most of these have been gained from the 25 agricultural shows we have attended nationwide with gofarmer this year alone.

We would like to build on what we have achieved so far and help more farmers reach more customers and market their products to a larger audience and enjoy increased business as many Gofarmer members have already. If you would like to take a look at the site at www.gofarmer.com and get back in touch with us to say if you are interested or ask any questions please do. You can contact us by;

Email: john@gofarmer.com

FUTURE SALES

Dates for 2006

Saturday 17th June 2006 Bollin Valley Partnership Reduction Sale at Chelford Market

42 Cows with calves at foot or in calf, 7 bulling heifers 14 yearling heifers, 5 bulls

Auctioneers:

Marshall Auctioneers and Valuers, Chelford Agricultural Centre,
Chelford, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 9AX.

Tel: 01625 861122

Email: info@frmauctions.co.uk

Saturday 24th June 2006 Polden Farms Dispersal at Bristol Sales Centre

Dispersal sale removed to the market for convenience

Auctioneers:

McCartneys, The Heath Meadow, Nunnery Way, Worcester WR4 0SQ

Tel: 01905 769770

Email: worcester@mccartneys.co.uk

Saturday 5th August 2006 Production Sale from the Logan Herd at Worcester Livestock Market

Approximately 40 females from Professor Craft's Logan herd

Auctioneers:

McCartneys, The Heath Meadow, Nunnery Way, Worcester WR4 0SQ

Tel: 01905 769770

Email: worcester@mccartneys.co.uk

8th & 9th September 2006

National Show & Sale at Melton Mowbray

All cattle will be appraised.

Auctioneers:

Melton Mowbray Market Auctioneers, Melton Mowbray Market,
Scalford Road, Melton Mowbray LE13 1JY

Tel: 01664 562971

23rd September 2006 Dispersal of the Wolseley Park Herd on instructions of Lord Peter Till of Kingston

Approximately 130 pedigree Longhorn cattle

Removed for convenience to:

Far Coley Cattle Yards, Little Haywood, Staffs

And to include excess farm machinery

Auctioneers:

Eaton & Hollis, Cattle Market, Chequers Road, Derby DE21 6EP

Tel: 01332 349307

Saturday 14th October 2006

Joint Production Sale from the Holcombe, Longash and Tripps herds. at Taunton Market

ENTRIES FROM OTHER HERDS ALSO WELCOME—entries close 15th September

Cattle will be sold by Clive Roads, but entries are being co-ordinated by Taunton Market Auctioneers, contact:

Auctioneers:

Mr D Biss, c/o Greenslade Taylor Hunt, Princes Street, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1EW

Tel: 01935 423474

Spring Sale at Worcester - New Breed Record

A 2-year-old In-Calf Heifer "Gorse Layla" from JS & JW Brigg's herd at Warwick sold at 3,700 Gns to Cheshire Wildlife Trust at the Mid West Longhorn Club Show & Sale at Worcester on Saturday. The heifer, which had taken the Reserve Championship in the show, had previously won Reserve Breed Champion at Burwarton and Moreton in 2005 and was hotly contested and finally secured to go with 21 other purchases made by the Trust at the sale.

The second highest price was from J & G Stanier's "Dodsleigh" herd offered for sale due to the Stanier's family plans to emigrate to New Zealand. The cow carrying a "Southfield" prefix and by "Two Tone" levelled at 2,550 Gns and was purchased by the breeders David & Angela Blockley, Bradford, York. The Blockley's were also keen to compete for a "Blackbrook" female, a daughter of "K2" and eventually secured John & Pat Stanley's fine heifer at 2,500 Gns.

Prof Ian Craft consigned several animals to the sale from his noted "Logan" herd and peaked with a "Huntsham Cardinal" daughter that won 2nd prize in the show being purchased by Mrs S Coleman, Colchester, Essex for 2,200 Gns.

The consignment of bulls enjoyed a spirited following with an entry of two from Mrs Pat Quinn's "Harford" herd selling at 2,000 Gns for the Show Champion to local breeders AB & FM Bomford, Worcester and a second prize bull from the same farm at 2,050 Gns to Staunton County Park, Havant, Hampshire.

Averages were as follows: -

32 Cows and calves av £864.73

5 Heifers and calves av £905.10

48 Heifers recently served or unserved av £842.41

10 Bulls av £1163.40

Auctioneers: McCartneys, Worcester.

New Registration Rules for Bulls

At their recent meeting, Council decided to update the rules for the registration of bulls. With immediate effect the following rules apply:

BULL INSPECTION and REGISTRATION

Birth must be notified within three months of birth no charge

Registration should be applied for between 365 days and 400 days of age £ 100

Bulls that are proposed to be kept for breeding must be inspected by a practising veterinary surgeon prior to registration. Application for a registration form should reach the Society office when the animal is between 365 and 400 days of age. It must be inspected by 800 days of age and must have reached a minimum adjusted weight of 431 kg. (950 lbs.) at 400 days, with 1 kg. per day adjustment for bulls over 400 days up to 631 kg. at 600 days, and 0.5kg per day adjustment for bulls between 600 and 800 days up to 731 kg. at 800 days. All bulls must adhere to the breed standards.

NO PROGENY OF UNREGISTERED BULLS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION

Only bulls that have been inspected and fully registered will be eligible to be entered for the Society's Official Show and Sale, or for pedigree classes at any other show.

Bulls will not be eligible for entry into the herd book after 800 days without special permission of Council. If Council approval is forthcoming, a late registration fee (currently £100) will be payable in addition to the normal bull registration fee.

National Show & Sale—Appraisal Forms

To ensure that both vendors and purchasers are fully aware as to what the appraisal at the National Show and Sale will entail, we have decided to print, in full, the detail of the forms below that will be used by the Society's appraiser.

Appraisal of Animals Entered at Official Society Sales

Animals entered in the official Society sale will be appraised by the appointed appraiser. THIS IS NOT A VETERINARY INSPECTION and purchasers are advised to seek veterinary opinion on any aspects of an animal on which they are uncertain or to verify any points. The Appraiser will not enter into any discussion with vendors or purchasers.

SALE at..... Date.....
 Animal Lot Number..... Ear Tag No.....
 Age

Bull.....	Heifer.....	Cow.....	Calf at Foot.....
In Calf.....	(Date PD test.....)	Served to Bull (Dates.....)	

CONDITION SCORE

Animals will be condition scored from 1 (very thin) to 5 (very fat)

1.... 2.... 3.... 4.... 5....

BREED CHARACTERISTICS

The Breed Standard is set out below.

The following undesirable characteristics are noted:

Black horns	(leave blank if none present)
Black hooves	(leave blank if none present)

CONFORMATION (The Breed Standard is set out below.)

In the opinion of the appraiser the conformation of the animal:

Conforms to breed standard Yes No.....

PRESENTATION

In the opinion of the appraiser :

The animal walks on a halter Yes..... No.....

Requires feet trimming Yes..... No.....

COWS - UDDER

All quarters appear functional Yes..... No.....

Teats Large..... Average..... Small.....

BULLS - TESTICLES [This section applicable only if bull not yet fully registered and veterinary inspected – does not apply to bull calves sold at foot]

Both Present? Yes..... No.....

Similar Size? Yes..... No.....

Level? Yes..... No.....

Firm? Yes..... No.....

THE SOCIETY ADVISES THAT VETERINARY OPINION SHOULD BE SOUGHT BY PURCHASERS ON MATTERS SUCH AS:

LOCOMOTION, LIMBS, TEETH, EYES, SKIN, TESTICLES: Purchasers are advised to satisfy themselves that the animal walks straight and true, that it stands square and that there are no obvious signs of lameness. The alignment of the teeth and jaw should enable the animal to eat properly. The jaw must not be under or over shot. Eyes must be bright and clear with no blemishes. Skin should be clean with no warts or signs of disease. Testicles should be even and of good size. The animal should be free of genetic defects, sound, physically correct and suitable for pedigree breeding.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PURCHASERS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE SATISFIED AS TO THE HEALTH AND PHYSICAL CONFORMATION OF THE ANIMALS, AND THE SOCIETY CAN ACCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY DEFECTS THAT MAY BE FOUND IN ANY ANIMAL EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER THE SALE.

BREED STANDARD

HORNS Fine in texture, with traces of pink towards base and free from black; shape to be either straight from head with a forward sweep or turned with an incurve towards the mouth, horns growing back and thick, coarse horns undesirable

EYE To be prominent and with docile expression

BODY To be level in back with well sprung ribs, neat in shoulder, full at back of shoulder, wide over sirloin, level over pins and neat set on tail, with level underline, not coarse in brisket, full in thighs, lengthy and level in steak piece, with teats well placed, of good size but not coarse.

LEGS To be straight

HAIR To be thick but soft in touch and pliable

COLOUR Optional, all to have white line down centre of back and slight preference to be given to red brindles and rich reds and to a white patch on each thigh.

UNDESIRABLE: Cattle with black on the horns, black hooves or with no red hair in the coat are considered undesirable and are not encouraged by the Society

BVD and the Importance of Vaccination

We strongly recommend that you vaccinate against BVD, especially if you attend Shows. We suggest you discuss the matter with your Veterinary Surgeon particularly in the light of the experiences of a breeder of pedigree cattle who ceased vaccinating for BVD three years ago as he had had no problems for many years. Unfortunately one of his show animals that year was in its first trimester of pregnancy during the show season and came into contact with either a transiently infected or a persistently infected [P.I.] animal. At this stage of development the embryo has no immune system and adopts the virus as part of its own make up, becoming in due course a "P.I.". In this case the P.I. was born the following spring and was obviously a "bad doer"; BUT because it had a hole in the heart neither the vet nor the breeder thought "BVD". In due course this animal and its mother joined the previously bulled heifers, which were mostly in their first trimesters, with disastrous results the following spring. The cows which had been with the P.I. since it was born were relatively problem free since they had acquired immunity before the bull joined them. However later in the year this group was mixed with another large group of "naive" animals causing another wave of problems later the following summer. All in all some 20 calves either died from BVD generated pneumonia or were put down as "P.I.s"

Disease Overview

Bovine Virus Diarrhoea is closely related to the viruses that cause Classical Swine Fever in pigs and border disease in sheep. This virus causes a complex of diseases in cattle the most important of which interfere with reproduction, affect the foetus and lead to mucosal disease. BVD virus can also cause enteritis during acute or transient infection which is usually mild but occasionally severe enough to kill even adult cows. Transient BVD virus infection is also believed to cause significant suppression of disease resistance and may contribute to the pneumonia complex in calves.

Infection immediately before or during the breeding season will reduce conception rates and cause early death of the embryo. Infection at any stage of pregnancy can result in abortion.

The virus can also cause deformities in the calf. However of particular importance is infection in the first third of pregnancy when developing calves that survive remain Persistently Infected with the virus (PI calves) and it is these calves, once born, that provide the major route of spread for this virus.

They often appear normal but always shed virus throughout their lives. Many develop a fatal enteritis known as mucosal disease before they reach maturity, however, significant numbers of PIs survive well into adulthood. Semen from transiently infected bulls can also spread infection. Theoretically other ruminant species, such as sheep and deer, can be a source of infection for cattle although sheep are at greater risk from cattle than vice versa.

Contaminated needles and other equipment can also spread virus from animal to animal and herd to herd. Therefore careful herd health security and quarantine are an essential part of control. The economic losses for an uncontrolled outbreak of BVD can be very great.

It has been calculated that in a large beef herd these can exceed £45,000 over a ten year period while losses can be greater in the dairy herd. In most outbreaks reproductive losses are the most significant although mucosal disease cases are the most obvious.

Where possible control by identification and removal of PI animals is advised with subsequent exclusion of any potential sources of reinfection. Screening is by ELISA test for antibody on blood or bulk milk with secondary screening of animals with low or negative antibody for virus, also using ELISA tests.

In some herds where potential sources of reinfection cannot be excluded vaccination might be the only viable option although this is likely to be expensive and protection of the herd may be incomplete.

Vaccination may also be used in the course of an eradication programme, particularly in beef herds.

Initial Assessment

Where the BVD infection status is unknown, we recommend that samples from 10 animals are collected from each distinct management group in the age range 9 - 18 months.

These are tested for the presence of antibody to BVD and, if positive, it indicates that infection is active in the herd. If negative, it is the first step to accreditation.

If animals are sold off the herd before 9 months of age, calves in the age range 6-9 months should be sampled instead.

In the dairy herd, bulk milk screens and first lactation screens can offer additional information.

Disease Control

Once BVD infection is confirmed in the herd, all animals over 4 months of age are screened once and then all animals born subsequently for a period of 12 months after the removal of the last virus positive animal are also tested.

This is usually achieved through two tests 12 months apart. Animals are individually tested for antibody and any with low or negative levels are then tested for virus.

Once virus positive animals are confirmed by a second test, they are removed from the herd. We follow up to check the success of eradication by repeating the testing described under the Initial Assessment (above) on two calf crops.

If these show no evidence of infection, the herd is considered free of BVD.

Control Programme

Annual testing to maintain accreditation the same test procedure described in the initial assessment is repeated each year.

Bulk milk samples or samples from first lactation cows are also tested three times a year in the dairy herd.

Disease Free Status Accreditation

Accreditation follows on from either a negative initial screen or after the eradication procedures are complete.

Testing is essentially the same procedure as the initial assessment, repeated at annual intervals and, after two clear tests, the herd is awarded the status 'accredited free of BVD infection'.

Milk can be used to replace blood samples for antibody testing in lactating cows and bulk milk samples can be used as part of the accreditation procedure where the initial assessment of the dairy herd shows no evidence of infection.

In this latter case, three clear bulk milk tests at 7 month intervals allow accreditation of freedom from BVD.

Contact us:

Premium Cattle Health Scheme

SAC Veterinary Services, Greycrook, St Boswells, Roxburghshire TD6 0EU T: 01835 822456 E: vcstboswells@sac.co.uk

Longhorn Cattle For Sale and Wanted

FEMALES FOR SALE

**Dr P Cleland, School Green, Huntingdon, Kington,
Herefordshire, HR5 3PQ
Tel: 01544 370650**

School Green Edwina Born: 2/3/04

Sire: Southfield Aristocrat g.s. Parc Grace Dieu Two Tone

Dam: School Green Xanthia g.s. Bollin Taurus

Show quality. Only for sale as is daughter of present stock bull.

School Green Delilah Born: 2/2/03

Sire: Bollin Taurus

Dam: School Green Sonia

Sold with heifer calf at foot

School Green Fenella Born: 2/4/05

Sire: Southfield Aristocrat

Dam: School Green Rosita

**R Hunt, Scotch Produce Centre, Lomber Hey Farm, An-
drew Lane, High Lane, Stockport, Cheshire SK6 8HY
Tel: 0161 427532**

Lomber Hey Lily Born: 10/1/03

Sire: Wellhead Peregrine

Dam: Wellhead Yewdale Lass

Lomber Hey Iris Born: 10/3/03

Sire: Wellhead Peregrine

Dam: Wellhead April

Lomber Hey Buttercup Born: 25/3/03

Sire: Wellhead Peregrine

Dam: Wellhead Amy

Lomber Hey Rose Born: 20/12/04

Sire: Heyworth Emperor

Dam: Wellhead Amy

Wellhead Yewdale Lass Born: 14/7/99

Sire: Wellhead Peregrine

Dam: Wellhead Maggie

Wellhead Alpha Born: 1/1/00

Sire: Wellhead Peregrine

Dam: Wellhead Katie

Lomber Hey Lupin Born: 8/5/05

Sire: Heyworth Emperor

Dam: Lomber Hey Iris

Wellhead Amy 16/4/00

Sire: Huntsham Sultan

Dam: Fishwick June

**William Higginbotham, The Dairy, Sharnford Lodge Farm,
Bumblebee Lane, Sharnford, Leic LE10 3AE
Tel: 01455 208318**

Fosseway Nettle Born: 16/1/04

Sire: Fosseway Indiana

Dam: Fosseway Jewel Weed

Fosseway Narcissus Born: 28/3/04

Sire: Linton Max

Dam: Fosseway Hazel

**Mrs Rita Poulson, New House Grange, Orton Lane,
Sheepy Magna, Atherstone, Warks CV9 3NJ
Tel: 01827 880203**

Ryehill Florence Born: 3/3/00

Sire: Charnwood Statesman

Dam: Ryehill Bathsheba

Calved end of April. Sold with heifer calf at foot.

**Jill Tait, White House Farm, Danegate, Eridge Green,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN3 9HX**

Tel: 01892 853302

The following ORGANIC animals for sale;

Saxonbury Dorcas Born: 7/4/03

Sire: Bollin Taurus

Dam: Willow Unity

Superb 3 y.o heifer to calves this summer to Welborne Jolyon

Saxonbury Diamond Born: 10/4/03

Sire: Bollin Taurus

Dam: Bulford Sapphire

Superb 3 y.o heifer to calves this summer to Welborne Jolyon

Saxonbury Delight Born: 24/9/03

Sire: Bollin Taurus

Dam: Saxonbury Angel

Well-grown, outwintered bulling heifer

Saxonbury Emerald Born: 27/3/04

Sire: Bollin Taurus

Dam: Bulford Sapphire

Well-grown, outwintered bulling heifer

Saxonbury Emily Born: 25/3/04

Sire: Bollin Taurus

Dam: Saxonbury Beryl

Well-grown, outwintered bulling heifer

Saxonbury Eleanor Born: 9/4/04

Sire: Bollin Taurus

Dam: Saxonbury Caprice

Well-grown, outwintered bulling heifer

Saxonbury Dulcimer Born: 27/3/03

Sire: Bollin taurus

Dam: Saxonbury Domino

Well-grown, outwintered bulling heifer

Organic yearling heifers also available.

**J Henson, Cotswold Farm Park Ltd, Bemborough Farm,
Guiting Power, Cheltenham, Glos, GL54 5UG
Tel: 01451 850307**

Bemborough Brent Goose Born: 9/5/01

Sire: Harford Umpire

Dam: Bemborough Wentletrap

In calf to Harford Diplomat

*** STOP PRESS ***

**Longhorn Classes at Southwell Ploughing Match,
Brackenhurst, Southwell, Notts—23rd September 2006**

For Details contact:

Mrs S Hardstaff, Colliery Farm, Linby

Nottingham NG15 8AE

Tel: 01159 633654

www.southwellploughingmatch.co.uk

Longhorn Cattle For Sale and Wanted

**Messrs Vaughan, Penlan-Uchaf, Gwaun Valley,
Fishguard, Pembrokeshire, SA65 9UA**
Tel: 01239 820775

Carn-Edward Flo Born:24/04/2005

Sire: Bulford Freddy

Dam: Mendip Louise

Carn-Edward Flossie Born:08/09/2005

Sire: Bulford Freddy

Dam: Carn-Edward Catrina

Carn-Edward Farryn Born:23/03/2005

Sire: Newbrook Tristan

Dam: Carn-Edward Ceridwen

Carn-Edward Ferran Born:30/03/2005

Sire: Bulford Freddy

Dam: Bollin Rowan

Carn-Edward Fara Born:28/06/2005

Sire: Bulford Freddy

Dam: Grove House Kate

Carn-Edward Ferne Born:11/04/2005

Sire: Bulford Freddy

Dam: Grove House Nasturtium

Carn-Edward Farren Born:29/03/2005

Sire: Newbrook Tristan

Dam: Carn-Edward Ceris

WANTED

Thoresby Home Farm, Newark, Notts

Tel: 01623 861374 Mobile: 07973 963730

WANTED: Bull to hire. Suitable for cows and heifers.

Required as soon as possible for 3 - 4 months (negotiable). We are in a totally TB free area.

Steeple Wick Farming Company, Steeplewick Farm,

Stansgate Road, Steeple, Essex CM0 7LQ

Tel: 01621 773368

Two working bulls required for this summer.

D C Greaves, The Coppice, Hextall Lane, Ranton, Staffs

ST18 9JU

Tel: 01785 282616

Stores always required for rare and traditional breeds finisher

Richard Vaughan, Huntsham Court, Goodrich, Ross-on-Wye, Hereford

Tel: 01600 890296

Looking for store cattle, male/female, well grown for finishing. Will pay Continental prices for suitable cattle.

Michael Davies, Avey Lane Farm, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 3QJ

Tel: 020 8508 2579

Requires OTMS cattle for conservation grazing 30months—10years old. Will collect & pay OTMS prices.

Mr A Loze, The Old Vicarage, Abbotsham, Bideford, Devon EX39 5AP

Tel: 01237 470122

Bull required urgently on hire for this season for small herd.

Can retain until end of year if required.

Pensthorpe Nature Reserve, Fakenham, Norfolk, NR21 0LN

Tel: 01328 851465 Email: info@pensthorpe.com

Bull to hire required.

STEERS FOR SALE

Laura Phillips, St Justs Farms, Hornington, Salisbury, Wilts

Tel: 01722 718555

Two OTM Steers: one hand reared, very easy to handle, both very quiet. 36 months old now. Need new homes. Suit grazing project, filming, etc

Bollin Valley Partnership, Tim Harding, Cheshire

Tel: 01625 534791

Email: Tim.Harding@cheshire.gov.uk

20 Strong Steers born 2004

BULLS FOR SALE

Phil Evans, Hollybush Farm, Mathry, Pembrokeshire

Tel: 01348 831512

Linton Elijah Born:28/04/2004

Sire: Bollin Urchin

Dam: Linton Kate

Show quality. View at www.lintonlonghorns.co.uk

S. Zentis, Gut Laach, 52385 Nideggen, Germany

Tel: 0049-1723985221

email: cylonghorns@aol.com

CASTLEVIEW MIRAGE

Born:06/03/2003

Sire: Castleview George (8550)

Dam: Castleview Emily (6457)

Very quiet, easy to handle (has been shown). Offspring very uniform with good conformation.

Mr Lea, Dinglebank Farm, Lower Withington,

Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 9DP

Tel: 01477 571312 Mobile: 07989 340925

Dinglebank Falco Born: 17/7/03

Sire: Blackbrook Hawkeye

Dam: Fishwick Alana

Borders/North England Grazing Scheme

A new grazing scheme is being set up this summer in north east England from the Tees to the Tweed. We are looking for a few people, sympathetic to conservation issues and willing to graze stock on wildlife sites within this area. Please do contact us at the address below—or look on the GAP website for more details of grazing project schemes, conservation grazing issues and details of local grazing schemes nationwide.

Jane Wilson, GAP LCS Co-ordinator, Scotland and N. Ireland, Gibshiel, Tarsset, Hexham, Northumberland, NE48 1RR Tel: 01434 240728

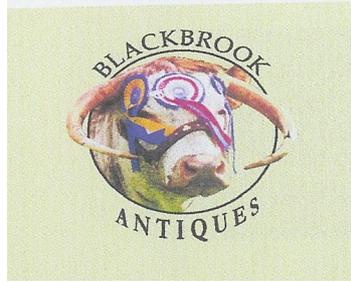
Email: jane.wilson@grazinganimalsproject.co.uk

Website: www.grazinganimalsproject.co.uk



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BLACKBROOK ANTIQUES



Offer For Sale

Longhorn Cow in extensive Moorland landscape

19th Century oil on canvas (canvas size 19"x29" inches)
signed B Morrish

In contemporary ornate gilt frame.

For details please ring 01509 503276 or 07860 515893

John & Pat Stanley