

Newsletter - Turihaua Angus
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Turihaua has been breeding Angus Cattle for over 100 years and one of its main selection criteria has always been phenotype. This has never changed. The other selection tools we now have available to us is a multitude of EBV figures for specific traits; the main ones being Calving Ease, Maternal, Fertility, Growth and Carcase Traits and DNA profiling for genetic gain. We are very mindful of the importance of these tools but believe they are a reflection of the genetic potential of any given animal and therefore should never be used without considering the phenotype and general structure of any animal.

East Coast Angus Bull Walk

Wednesday 26 April
 Thursday 27 April



A selection of the two year old sale bulls will be on display on Thursday 27 April, 8.30am – 9.00am.

Some herd sires will also be on display, Turihaua Rex, Turihaua Legend, Tangihau Highland H143 Turihaua Meateor, Turihaua K215

This is a great opportunity to see what bulls we have available for the June Sale.

Scotland World Angus Forum

Turihaua Angus are sponsoring Emma Pollitt to attend the Angus World Forum in June as part of the Youth Team.

TurihauaANGUS

Breeding Excellence since 1906



2016 Bull Sale Reviews

Bull Sales were exceptional in 2016 with a total clearance of 104 bulls across both the two year sale and the yearling sale.

It is pleasing to know that the type of cattle we are producing are exactly what our clients are wanting for commercial breeding operations; sound functional fertile cattle that will survive beyond the 3 year guarantee we offer.

Turihaua sold 73 rising two-year-olds at auction with an average price of \$8119. Four sold for the auction high price of \$14,000 with 16 others for upwards of \$10,000.

Bloodlines to attract the most attention at the June sale were the sires, Rex,



Hamish with Lot 8 K29 at the June Sale, sold to Marewa Station for \$13,500 Photo courtesy of The Gisborne Herald.

Break, Mythology and Tangihau Regal.

At the yearling sale in September 29 yearlings were sold for an average of \$4,706. This was the top average across New Zealand for the yearling sales.

Angus Bull Unit

We have one bull Turihaua Chasm (L44) at the Angus Bull Unit this year. He will be for sale at the National Sale Tuesday 16 May as a part of Beef Expo, Feilding. We hope to catch up with some of you at this exciting event.

Turihaua Chasm was used as a yearling over stud heifers. His sire S Chisum has bred exceptionally well around the country, leaving moderate thick cattle with plenty of growth. Chasm is a sound bull with the spread of EBVs we are looking for.

Turihaua Chasm dam Turihaua D224 is our top performing Te Mania Unlimited daughter. She has impeccable feet, a beautiful udder, a kind nature and plenty of fertility averaging 15 embryos per flush



Turihaua Chasm (L44) at the BEU

April 2017 Angus BREEDPLAN EBVs

	Calving Ease DIR	Calving Ease DTRS	Gestation Length	Birth Wt.	200 Day Wt	400 Day Wt	600 Day Wt	Mat Cow Wt	
EBV	-3.6	+1.2	-1.4	+4.6	+41	+74	+93	+69	
	Milk	Scrotal Size	Carcase Wt	Days to Calving	Eye Muscle Area	Rib	Rump	Retail Beef Yield	IMF
EBV	+12	+2.9	+50	-5.5	+3.5	+1.1	+2.0	0.0	+0.6



Turihaua D224

Turihaua Herd Sires



Turihaua Legend H142

Sire: Turihaua Liberation C27

Dam: Turihaua E158

DOB: 9/8/12



Turihaua Rex E297

Sire: Turihaua Texan B141 (ET)

Dam: Turihaua B48

DOB: 4/9/09



Tangihau Highland H3

Sire: Stern 0778

Dam: Tangihau 903

DOB: 6/8/12



SAV Copyright

Sire: Turihaua Campbell Q197

Dam: SAV Madame Pride 4466

DOB: 5/3/10



Facebook Page

Check out our facebook page. We update our facebook on a regular basis when there are key happenings posting photos, videos, newspaper mentions and sale results. Like the page and the updates will appear on your newsfeed.

The January dry spell

Gisborne experienced it's driest January in 112 years.



How are your Bulls Performing?

We hope that all bulls have performed up to expectation and have done a great job getting cows and heifers in calf over the mating season.

Please contact us if any issues arise. We would also love to hear any good news, scanning results or stunning sires that you are excited about.



Turihaua Sets the Standard for Fertility and Cow Production

Fertility and cow production are the two most important traits for driving profit in any commercial or stud cattle herd. Both are easily measured and can be bred through any herd by using a strict selection and culling regime.

Fertility

In order to supply our clients with the very best fertility yearling heifers were mated for 42 days. At scanning, six weeks after the bull was removed, John Meban from Eastland Vets, foetal aged all of the embryos and any heifer that fell in calf after 30 days exposure to the bull was culled. This was a nervous time as it was our first year using this policy and we were unsure how it would go. The results showed 70% in calf in one and a half cycles. Acceptable but with room for improvement. The long term objective is to reduce the mating period down to one cycle in the heifers, and this will be achieved by slowly reducing exposure time to the bull year by year. The mating period for the R3 heifers and mixed age cows will remain at two cycles (42 days).

Cow Production

How to measure cow 'production' can be an interesting topic of conversation with many views on what the most important aspects are and how much weighting different aspects should get.

To us it can be broken down into three parts:

- Cow efficiency – the amount (kgs) of calf weaned vs cow weight and condition score
- Cow fertility – how long has she taken to conceive after exposure to the bull
- Calf performance – what have her progeny achieved (made replacement herd or been culled)

All of this information has been collected and we are currently analysing the results. The long term objective is to rank the cows with a scoring system and have the results available in the bull sale catalogue alongside her son, so our clients can make a more informed decision about how the dam has performed when selecting their bulls. We hope to have this ready by this year's annual sale.

We will also be able to use this information to select our elite ranking females for embryo transplant in order to get more of their genetics on the ground. And any underperforming females will be culled from the herd.

This research is an ongoing program and we still have a lot to do yet. We are very interested to hear your feedback, so don't hesitate to ring if you have any questions.

Spectacular Horse Trek

The Poverty Bay Hunt Club hosted a three day horse trek at Waitangi weekend this year. It was to raise funds for the club. Over 120 riders traversed through Turihaua Station (Paul Williams) and Pihitia Station (Toby Williams) as well as Makorori, Rimunui and Ngahiwi Stations. Those who participated were blown away by the spectacular coastal views and warm hospitality of the locals.



South American Connections

Trip to South America

Hamish and I and close friends Pete and Sylvia Jex-Blake enjoyed a trip of a lifetime in April last year travelling through South America. I have to say it was a trip not a holiday!! We packed so much in. The trip was initially to visit fellow angus and commercial breeders who have used our genetics or been to visit us here at Turihaua.

The thing that struck us the most was how passionate and dedicated the farmers are in what we would call difficult farming conditions, both environmentally and politically.

We visited the Arecos at Flores Chicas, just 8 hours south of Buenos Aires, Argentina where we saw sons by Turihaua Rex and Turihaua Liberation. We were treated to two days of amazing hospitality.

We then spent 5 days with Sebastian Olasso Aguirre travelling through Uruguay. We visited Las Grutas a property he manages in central Uruguay. They have progeny there by Turihaua Rex and Liberation. It was interesting to compare our genetics with American genetics they have used through the herd.

We visited the Julio and Marcia Taborda at La Blanca. They are almost on the Uruguay/Brazilian border. They too are very happy with the Turihaua Rex and Crumble progeny they have. Their daughter Elena is working with us at the moment and will then attend Lincoln University where she will do some Post Graduate Ag Science papers, from July.

We are extremely grateful to everyone for making our trip so memorable.



Visit to La Blanca. From left Peter Jex-Blake, Enrique Taborda, Julio Taborda, Hamish Williams, Alejandro Olasso, Carlos Mas Carloma, Sebastian Olasso. In front Elena and Marcia Taborda.

Our overall observations were that due to the harsh environment, pasture and market requirements, that our smaller framed cattle with plenty of constitution, meat cover and durability are the types of cattle that best suit their programmes.

We are in the process of exporting further quantities of semen. We also visited Chile (wineries), Peru (Amazon rain forest, Machu Picchu) and Bolivia (Lake Titicaca and Uyumi Salt Plains).



Turihaua Rex Son



Turihaua Liberation Son

Both these bulls were retained for use in the herd at Flores Chicas, Argentina.

Beatriz

Beatriz de Smet d'Olbecke, from Coyhaique in Chile, a veterinary science graduate from the University of Vina Del Mar worked at Turihaua for three months before Christmas. Her working holiday visa did not allow her to work in New Zealand as a veterinarian, but Beatriz hard working attitude and passion for the stud cattle was marked from the very start. She became family to everyone at Turihaua turning up to dinners with Chilean culinary specialties, pesco sours and a ready smile. Beatriz is a talented photographer, we used her shots throughout the 2017 Calendar and check out our facebook page for photos she took of mating in October last year. We are hoping to lure her back from her current trip around Australia for a holiday to help with calving for a few months over the winter.



Toby, Paul, Beatriz and Hamish festing on Chilean style BBQ Lamb cooked by Beatriz at the Christmas party.

Supreme Heifer Challenge

The Inaugural Supreme Heifer Challenge sponsored by Turihaua at the 2016 Gisborne Show gave local beef breeders an opportunity to display and compete commercial heifers from across the region. We had a fantastic turnout with eleven entries across various breeds. Each entry put up three heifers that were judged by Bruce Orr who assessed uniformity, temperament, conformation and Phenotype. Patrick Murphy from Whareopaia Station Tolaga Bay, won the competition with a pen of Angus heifers receiving a taxidermy Turihaua bull hoof, and the choice of \$1000 cash or \$2000 off the price of a Turihaua Bull at the 2017 bull sales. Second place went to Whangara B20 and third to Waipaoa Station. We are looking forward to the competition again in October 2017.



(from left) Patrick Murphy, MPI Minister Nathan Guy and Paul Williams



The actual Turihaua Bull Hoof Trophy

Photos courtesy of Stephen Jones Photography.

Steak of Origin



2016 Steaks up for judging

Turihaua had great success at the 2016 Steak of Origin winning 2nd Place in the Best of British Breed. This year's entries close on 28 April. Any New Zealand beef farmer who breed commercial stock can enter into the Best of Breed category. There are six farmer classes,

including separate ones for Angus and Hereford breeds, which until now have competed in the same class. The two Best of Brand classes are open to meat retailers, wholesalers and foodservice suppliers.

All competition entries are aged for three weeks before undergoing stringent scientific texting. The steak is tested for tenderness and eating quality, including tests for pH, marbling and percentage cooking loss. The entries that meet the colour threshold and are the most tender will go through to the semi-final, where a panel of New Zealand's leading chefs will determine the class placings with the class winners progressing through to the final judging.

Winners will be announced at the Steak of Origin Awards Dinner in Auckland on Thursday 20 July. This has changed to give the event more exposure.

We are looking forward to entering again this year.

Environmental Initiatives

Over the last two years we have made progress riparian planting our water supply reservoirs and the Turihaua Stream. This was supported by funding from the Gisborne District Council through the Natural Heritage fund. We are currently focusing on fencing the water ways and encouraging natural regeneration. This year we will

be working with the Makaraka Native Plant Nursery to source seed from our QE2 reserves to grow our own riparian vegetation. We are carrying out some baseline native fish and macroinvertebrates studies with support from Council so we can monitor the improvement in stream health in the future

NATURALLY SELECTED

"No matter how pretty they are or how expensive they were at auction, high maintenance and low-fertility cattle should be removed from the herd."

Julius Ruechel, Grass-Fed Cattle.

In the wild there are no humans making the final judgements about which genetics will be included or excluded from the cattle herds. There are only two simple criteria that determine if any animal's genetics will continue on through the generations or be abruptly removed from the gene pool; fertility and efficiency.

Only competition and the struggle for survival determines whether genetics survive to be passed onto offspring, or die out. In the wild the most fertile,

most competitive, most adapted and most efficient animals will add to the gene pool. The cattle genetics of the least efficient, least competitive, least adapted, least fertile animals will gradually disappear through premature death or lack of breeding success.

The difference between genetic selection in the wild and genetic selection in our domestic cattle herds is that we intervene to prevent the cruel uncompromising consequences of lower quality genetics. We don't let our cattle starve to death. We provide assistance when a cow runs into difficulty during the calving process. And our feed and nutritional supplements help some cattle remain fertile that would otherwise fail to re-breed in the wild. Our moral responsibility to our domestic animals and our farm's profitability depends on this intervention.

But by the same stroke, our intervention also removes, distorts or reduces the strict natural selection process that grazing species face in the wild. This causes less fertile and higher maintenance genetics to be perpetuated in our cattle herds.

In nature only the best-adapted survive, but in a domestic herd almost everyone survives, so the quality of the genetics that are perpetuated depends almost entirely on each farmer's ability to identify and remove less ideal genetics.

Fertility and efficiency are the two most important traits for driving profit in any commercial or stud cattle herd. Both are easily measured and can be bred through any herd by using a strict selection and culling regime.

(An article Paul wrote for the July Angus E-news last year)



Turihaua Rex E297 PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANK SCHERE

NATURALLY SELECTED

"No matter how pretty they are or how expensive they were at auction, high maintenance and low-fertility cattle should be removed from the herd."

JULIUS RUECHEL, Grass-Fed Cattle.

Annual Sale

Tuesday 27 June 3pm

Yearling Sale

Wednesday 27 September 1pm

Turihaua cattle are TESTED under strict commercial conditions for commercial environments.

TurihauaANGUS

Est. 1906



www.turihaua.co.nz

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