



Australian Lowline Cattle Association Inc.
Website: www.lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

E-mail: office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

Great Outlook for Lowlines

Over the past months there has been an increased interest in Lowline cattle which has resulted in a high demand for good quality bulls and breeding females.

Both stud and commercial cattle are highly sought after so the supply can't keep up with the demand. Some breeders are networking with others to find cattle available for sale – this is one benefit of being part of your state Promotion Groups, and it is working!

This has also resulted in an increase in new memberships with the total ALCA memberships now at 300 – the highest number of members in our Association for quite a few years.

Thank you to Carole Johns and all the ALCA members who have been promoting the breed to potential clients and encouraging membership with ALCA. Don't forget that ALCA also has an inexpensive Commercial Membership available.

We all know how good this breed is. The numerous benefits of Lowline cattle are why people have continued their involvement with the breed for over 20 years.

The continued growth of the Association will ensure the cattle numbers increase to fill the demand for bulls, breeding females and steers for beef production.

A big positive for the future of Lowlines.



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Happy Birthday Moonlight!



Australian matron, Broken Arrow Moonlight has reached another milestone in her long life. Moonlight celebrated her 20th Birthday on 22nd April 2017.

Bred by Greg & Peter Rhodes of Broken Arrow stud in Canberra in 1997, Moonlight's last calf was born in 2014 when she was 17.

Moonlight is owned & much loved by Chris & Greg Hine from McIntosh Lowlines at Gympie in Queensland where she enjoys a very happy and well deserved retirement.

John Rowe - Past ALCA President

We were saddened recently to hear of the passing of fellow Australian Lowline breeder, John Rowe.

John and his wife Ann, first came to us at our Stud in Bendigo in 1997 wanting quiet cattle for their new property at Kyneton, Victoria.

After inspecting our herd, they purchased two cows in calf, ARD R019 Rhoda and ABF L036 Jessie. From this visit a great friendship was formed and Yerrinbank Lowline Stud was formed.

John & Ann were very willing to learn about cattle as John had been raised on the land in South Australia. They leased bulls from us and then started flushing cows with success. All their cattle were named after Australian rivers.

John & Ann were very active members of the Southern Region Promotion Group and John accepted the challenge of being Chairman for a while. They displayed their cattle at country and Royal shows along with other members.

One year they opened their farm for the Promotion group to invite the top chefs of Melbourne, who were bussed up to Kyneton and shown how we raise our Lowline beef as well as partaking in a tasting meal of Barbequed and Roasted Lowline beef, prepared professionally by a qualified chef who was a friend of our family.

After Peter and I had enjoyed visiting the biggest beef expo in the Sthn Hemisphere at Rockhampton, far Nth Queensland, held every 3 years, we suggest to John & Ann to come with us the next time it was on, at which they accepted. We had a great time visiting the Expo and travelling around the district seeing all the different types of Bos Indicus cattle bred up in the tropics.

John and Ann also travelled with us to the Adelaide Show where visiting Victorian Lowline breeders enjoyed the hospitality of the South Australian exhibitors.

John & Ann also produced prime Lowline beef, supplying outlets as well as friends with their home bred beef.

John was elected President of ALCA and used his professional experience to serve the membership diligently.

John & Ann's early contribution of promotion and strong breeding into the Australian Lowline breed is much appreciated and helped stand the Breed in good stead today.

Health reasons forced John & Ann to sell their herd and the farm a few years ago and they moved to Melbourne to be near their adult family.

Our condolences to Ann and the Rowe Family.

Rest in Peace, John

Jeanette & Peter Stebbins



1999 Royal Melbourne Show –
John & Ann Rowe with their Junior Champion
Heifer, Yerrinbank Tamar

Cloudbreak Lowlines takes Eungella Beef to the Markets

Cloudbreak Lowlines took our grass-fed, free-range, premium Eungella Certified Lowline Beef to the Greater Whitsunday Farmers' Market for the first time this month, and will be going again on the 1st Wednesday of each month thereafter. The market is 1½ hrs from our farm, and with two young girls, and Kell working away to support the farm, we chose to attend monthly rather than weekly.

Up until this point we had only been selling our beef in bulk, by the side.

This is a unique farmer-only market (no 'resellers'), operated specifically to support the development of a local food system in the Mackay Isaac and Whitsunday region (Nth Qld). The Greater Whitsunday Food Network has been operating the Farmers' Market in Mackay City Centre for the past nine months, providing farmers and specialty food producers with an outlet for fresh produce and value added goods every Wednesday. This activity has been very successful in bringing producers together with consumers to build awareness and to showcase what our region has to offer.

The public response to the Farmers' Market has been very positive and the GWFN is committed to continuing to grow the market to connect more people with local produce and the people who grow, catch or make it. The mid-week timing and city-centre location is designed to entice local chefs to use more local produce in their menus.

We are very lucky that we have a small, local, family-owned abattoir, who kills our steers for us, and then transports them to our wonderful local country butcher. Our butcher then processes the beef, packages it on foam trays, cryovaccs the beef, and labels it with weight, price, date etc, as required by law. We chose this option as it was easier than us carrying scales (that needed to be certified), buying a labeller, etc, and the cryovacccing looks great, preserves the quality, and makes the food safety approvals much easier as everything is nicely sealed. We have a small mobile coldroom, approved by Safefood Qld, which we use to transport the boxed beef, and also sell from on the day.



We had one steer processed for the markets, with a full range of cuts available, including crumbed steak, offal and broth bones.

The steer was 100% Lowline, and around 2 ½ years old. The hanging weight was 225 kg, and the dressed weight was 162 kg, giving a bone-out percentage of 72%.

We only use 100% Lowline steers (or heifers) as we can then guarantee a uniform consistency of product. All the prime cuts sold out quickly, of course! We were left with mince, sausages, and other secondary cuts. These I then took to our local Eungella markets on the Sunday, and sold the rest of the beef (an added advantage of a Wednesday market, being able to have a back-up plan on the weekend). I have a plan for the next market to push a 'Barby Pack' in order to sell more mince and sausages.

As the markets get busier, and our name more widely known, I can see us selling the whole beast at the one market.

We had a lot of interest in the Lowline breed, most people had not heard of them, and we made sure they knew a lot by the time they left our stall. This is the beauty in a farmers-only market, the customers love to talk directly to a farmer! We took a range of marketing material, so have spread the word far and wide. Most surprisingly, we also got good leads for live Lowline sales, and took a definite order for two.

Cloudbreak Lowlines take Eungella Beef to the Markets....cont

We did not expect this at all, and are thrilled at the exposure that our beef stall has given to our Cloudbreak Lowlines cattle sales.

The only advertising I did for the market was Facebook, I 'boosted' a post for \$27, which received 136 likes, 36 shares, and 12 comments. Next time I will put a free ad in the local pocket trader. We had some wonderful feedback from our beef customers, and many have said they will be back next month. We did not have EFTPOS, but definitely needed it, I have ordered a small mobile device from my bank, which links to my smartphone, so at the next market we will be ready to go.



Our venture to the markets has been a long time in the planning, and is definitely time-consuming, but it is a wonderful way to promote all those things that we all value about the Lowline breed and the wonderful beef that they produce.

Mandy Tennent



Eungella Lowline Beef Pastrami

Reminder: Lowline Breed Uniform



A reminder to all show participants that the correct Lowline Breed Uniform is to be worn at all shows.

- Black Lowline woollen sleeveless vest
- Chambray shirt (light blue)
- Moleskin pants or Blue jeans
- Lowline breed tie (not a requirement but can be purchased to wear at shows)

In Queensland, it is acceptable to wear white coats if you don't have a breed uniform.

This is an option for schools who have students showing Lowlines.

The woollen vest, chambray shirt & breed tie can be seen on the ALCA website in MEMBERSHIP under the Merchandise tab and can be ordered through the ALCA office: office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

If you need to order a uniform from ALCA, please ensure that you place your order in plenty of time before you need it. Uniforms have to be sourced directly from the companies so will not be available immediately.



2017 Sydney Show Results

The Royal Sydney Show judging was held on 7th April, 2017 at the Sydney Olympic Park at Homebush, NSW.

An impressive line-up of 31 Lowlines and 8 calves were exhibited by 10 studs from New South Wales & Victoria.

New Youth member, 8 year old Sienna Smith, granddaughter of Michael & Christine Noel, exhibited cattle from her own stud, Red Lily Lowlines, for the first time and did a great job.

Congratulations to all who participated and presented such magnificent cattle for judge, Rachel Wheeler, a well known Angus breeder from Wellington, NSW.

A special NSW Promotion Group trophy, dedicated to the late Hugh Deakin of Macdonald Lowlines from Macdonald, NSW, was awarded to the most successful Youth member at the show. Hugh's wife, Cynthia Deakin presented this trophy to Matt Cooney, Cann Valley Lowlines, for his very successful Sydney Show.

FEMALES

Class 100: Heifer 9 – 12months

- 1st Wanamara Licorice Allsorts – G & J Knight
- 2nd O'Hara Miss Sue-Ellen – W & T Hall

Class 101: Heifer 12 – 16 mths

- 1st The Cedars Lavender – C.Chandler

Class 102: Heifer 16 – 20 mths

- 1st Serena Down Leisel – M & C Noel
- 2nd Barrenjoey Stormy Miss – W & L Brydon
- 3rd O'Hara Katie Scarlett – W & T Hall
- 4th Serena Downs Layla – Sienna Smith

Junior Champion Heifer:

Wanamara Licorice Allsorts – G & J Knight

Reserve Junior Champion Heifer:

Serena Downs Leisel – M & C Noel



Lowline calves from Serena Downs were a big drawcard for the public in the cattle shed at Sydney Show

Class 105: Heifer 20 – 24 mths

- 1st Wanamara Solitaire – L & L Kupers
- 2nd Wanamara Serendipity – L & L Kuipers

Class 106: Cow 24 – 30 mths

- 1st Serena Downs Kiss Me Kate – Sienna Smith

Class 107: Cow over 30 mths

- 1st Whitby Farm Q.T – K & G Lorains
- 2nd Elle Kay Ruby – L & L Kuipers
- 3rd Rotherwood Glamour Girl – Vicki Gilbert
- 4th Barrenjoey Fiorente – W & L Brydon

Senior Champion Female:

Whitby Farm Q.T – K & G Lorains

Reserve Senior Champion Female:

Elle Kay Ruby – L & L Kuipers

Grand Champion Female:

Whitby Farm Q.T – K & G Lorains



Australian Lowlines in the Grand Parade at Sydney Show

2017 Sydney Show Results cont.

BULLS

Class 111: Bull 9 – 12months

- 1st Rotherwood Masterpiece – Vicki Gilbert
2nd Serena Downs McGee – M & C Noel

Class 112: Bull 12 – 16 mths

- 1st Cann Valley Momentous– Matt Cooney
2nd Cann Valley Count Lucifer – Matt Cooney
3rd O'Hara Charleston – W & T Hall
4th Whitby Farm Optimus Prime – K & G Lorains

Class 113: Bull 16 – 20 mths

- 1st Whitby Farm Squizzy – K & G Lorains

Junior Champion Bull:

Cann Valley Momentous – Matt Cooney

Reserve Junior Champion Bull:

Rotherwood Masterpiece – Vicki Gilbert

Class 116: Bull 20 – 24 mths

- 1st Elle Kay Ledge N Derry – L & L Kuipers
2nd Wanamara Cavalier – G & J Knight

Class 117: Bull 24 – 30 mths

- 1st O'Hara Sir Charles – W & T Hall
2nd Serena Downs Luke the Duke – M & C Noel

Senior Champion Bull:

O'Hara Sir Charles – W & T Hall

Reserve Senior Champion Bull:

Serena Downs Luke the Duke – M & C Noel

Grand Champion Bull:

O'Hara Sir Charles – W & T Hall

Roger Barlow Perpetual Trophy – Best Exhibit:

O'Hara Sir Charles – W & T Hall

Class 122: Best Two Bulls not over 24 mths

- 1st O'Hara Lowlines – W & T Hall
2nd Serena Downs Lowlines – M & C Noel

Class 123: Sire or Dam's Progeny

- 1st O'Hara Master Gerald – W & T Hall



Grand Champion Cow, Whitby Farm Q.T & Grand Champion Bull, O'Hara Sir Charles

Hordern Trophy - Sydney Show

Every year at Sydney the perpetual Hordern Trophy is awarded to the best pair of beef cattle exhibits in the Interbreed competition. These pairs consist of the Grand Champion Bull and Female of each breed exhibited at the Sydney Show. It is a much sought after award as it includes prize money of \$7,500 each for the Bull and Female of the pair.

This year the senior Australian Lowline team of O'Hara Sir Charles and Whitby Farm Q.T. were selected by the international judge, Robert Dixon from Canada, to be in his top ten of this prestigious interbreed competition.

Lowline exhibitors couldn't contain their excitement as the Lowline pair were moved up the ranks to finish in the top 10.

Congratulations to Whitby Farm Lowlines (Ken & Gill Lorains) and O'O'Hara Lowlines (Tracey Hall).

This has only been achieved once before at Sydney when in 2011 the senior Lowline pair of Allambie Moonbeam (the late Tammy Breuer) and Colombo Park Debussey (Lynda Senger) were moved up the ranks to also finish in the top 10 pairs.

Another momentous occasion for the Lowline breed at a Royal Sydney Show was in 2007 when the Grand Champion Lowline Cow, Kobblevale Surprise (Lee Labrie) was acknowledged to be in the top 10 for the Urquhart Perpetual Trophy which is the interbreed judging of the best Female of the show. A great effort!

Good Bulls Gone Bad by Kit Pharo

Pharo Cattle Company, Colorado, USA

<http://www.grassfednetwork.com/good-bulls-gone-bad/>

Pharo Cattle Company has been selecting and breeding for cattle with good dispositions for well over two decades. It is important to us because it is important to most of our customers. Every bull we sell has been sorted off by himself and put through a very rigorous test that enables us to evaluate and score his disposition. We use a 1 to 5 scoring system — with 5 being the best. A few extremely docile bulls will receive a 5+ score. We often describe these bulls as being “gentle as a dead hog.”

Over the years, I have had a few customers tell me that their good bull went bad. They purchased bulls with 5-star dispositions — but those bulls eventually reached the point that they would offer to chase their owner out of the corral. How did that happen? What would cause a good bull to go so bad? Truth be known, I have had more reports of 5-star disposition bulls going bad than 3-star disposition bulls. I experienced this first-hand with PCC Pledge, who is one of the most popular herd sires in the PCC program.

I've been told that when Pledge was a calf he enjoyed close interaction with people. He was so gentle that he was often in the way. On the surface, there is nothing wrong with this type of behavior. When we later evaluated Pledge, we gave him a 5-star disposition. He was a very gentle and easy-going bull. When crowded from both sides in a sorting ally, he allowed us to walk up and touch him. He had absolutely no fear of people. That, my friend, is the reason good bulls sometimes go bad. The normal predator/prey relationship does not exist.

Most bulls, like most teenage boys, will eventually see what they can get away with. They might shake their head at you or paw the ground. They might go as far as to take a few steps toward you. They are feeling a little frisky and they want to see how you will react. Basically, they are challenging you for top spot in the herd. Your response will keep your good bull good or cause him to go bad. If your bull senses that he has successfully bluffed you, he will continue to challenge you. It's possible for him to go from good to bad to worse.

Before your bull gets your bluff, I suggest you get a four or five foot sorting stick and walk straight toward the bull's head. If he does not turn and walk away before you get close enough to touch him with the stick, you should tap him gently on the nose until he has been persuaded to turn and walk away from you.



Kit & Tyson Pharo - evaluating a young bull that may be too gentle.

You do not want your bull to run over the hill every time he sees you — but neither do you want him to allow you to get close enough to touch him with a sorting stick. Your bull needs to maintain a healthy level of respect for you. He needs to see you as the boss. Do NOT, under any circumstances, make a pet out of your bull!

Good Bulls Gone Bad cont.

Most dairy bulls were raised on a bottle by humans. As you may or may not know, dairy bulls are notorious for being very mean. As youngsters, they had no reason to be afraid of people.

Therefore, they never did develop the proper respect for people. It must be extremely confusing for a bovine critter to grow up with human parents. I'm sure it would take many, many years of Psychiatric treatment to even begin to sort out all of the mixed-up feelings.

Back to my encounter with Pledge... When Pledge decided to challenge my authority, I was caught completely off guard — and surrounded by several witnesses. He put me on the fence in a hurry. He has tried to do the same thing at least twice since then. To my knowledge, though, Pledge has never tried to challenge anyone else. Some think I am delusional when I tell them that Pledge put me on the fence. As I said before, once a bull has bluffed you, he will continue to challenge you. If you fail to gain back his respect, your good bull will go bad.

~ Kit Pharo

Editor's Note: No matter how quiet your bull is, remember, always treat him with respect and not as a pet.



25th Anniversary of Lowlines

This year marks 25 years since the first dispersal sale of Angus cattle from the NSW Department of Agriculture's Trangie Research Station.

These cattle are now known as our Australian Lowlines



It has been suggested we publish a coffee table book to commemorate the past 25 years, filled with photos and historic information to preserve our history for future generations.

We are asking members and past members to send photos and information about people, cattle and events that have been highlights for the breed over the past 25 years. If you know a past member, ask them if they have anything to contribute.

We will include a list of ALCA Presidents, Life members and current members of the Association for the year 2017/2018. Publication is expected to be towards the end of 2017 so make sure you renew your memberships in plenty of time to have your names & studs included.

We also welcome photos of your cattle today and all contributors will be acknowledged.

If you have any photos or information, please send to Julie Knight wanamara@westnet.com.au

Let Carole Johns know if you are interested in purchasing an anniversary book when it is published.

2017 Toowoomba Royal Show

The Toowoomba Royal Show was held from 30th March to 1st April at Toowoomba in Queensland.

Five Lowline studs exhibited 18 animals on the weekend.

Unfortunately, due to the extensive flooding in Queensland from the recent cyclone, Rockhampton Girls Grammar School couldn't travel with their show team to Toowoomba as planned, so missed the event.

Congratulations to all the Lowline exhibitors.

Class 4027 Bull 6mths & under 12mths

1st – Tanview Master

2nd – Pittsworth Model

Class 4028 Bull 12mths & under 15mths

1st – Tanview Major

Calf Champion Bull: Tanview Master

Reserve Calf Champion Bull: Tanview Major

Class 4030 Bull 18mths & under 21mths

1st – Lik Lik Legend

Junior Champion Bull: Lik Lik Legend

Class 4032 Bull 24mths & Over

1st – Tanview Jackaroo

2nd – Tanview Kingdom

Senior Champion Bull: Tanview Kingdom

Reserve Senior Champion Bull: Tanview Kingdom

Grand Champion Australian Lowline Bull:

Tanview Jackaroo

Class 4033 Female 6mths & under 12mths

1st – Lik Lik Melina

2nd – Tanview Matilda

3rd – Lik Lik Majestic

Class 4034 Female 12mths & under 15mths

1st – Lik Lik Mia

Calf Champion Female: Lik Lik Melina

Reserve Calf Champion Female: Tanview Matilda

Class 4035 Female 15mths & under 18mths

1st – Tanview Love bird

2nd – Lik Lik Lunar

Class 4036 Female 18mths & under 21mths

1st – Lik Lik Liberty

2nd – Alycam Lucerne – Wendy & Travis Caesar

Junior Champion Female : Lik Lik Liberty

Reserve Junior Champion Female: Alycam Lucerne – Wendy & Travis Caesar (Ebony lowlines)

Class 4038 Female 24mths & Over

1st – Tanview Lorikeet

2nd – Sunrise Jubilee – Christina Schiller

3rd – Lik Lik Jelina

4th – Lik Lik Heiress

Senior Champion Lowline Female:

Tanview Lorikeet

Reserve Senior Champion Female: Sunrise Jubilee – Christina Schiller

Grand Champion Australian Lowline Female:

Lik Lik Liberty



Lik Lik Melina – Female Calf Champion



Lik Lik Liberty – Grand Champion Female

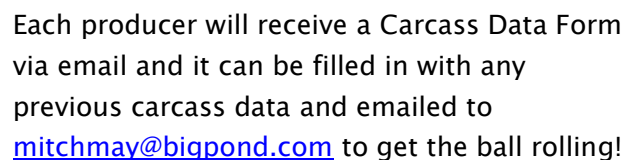
Collecting Steer Data

ALCA is collecting steer data from CLB producers by using a simple data feedback form, seen below.

This data collection will benefit all members when information on our CLB beef production is collated and made available, both for stud breeders at time of sale and commercial producers needing feedback on their processes and production.

It has always been a requirement when signing the CLB Producers Agreement to provide ALCA with this information. But many producers have not yet done so, perhaps through time constraints or other difficulties.

So ALCA has now provided a feedback form which will be available on the website and able to be emailed directly!



This information will benefit all members, breeders and producers. And it will benefit the breed as a whole to have some valid statistical data to support our promotions.

Entries are now open for the 2017 EKKA.

Lowline Cattle Dates: 14th – 20th August
Lowline Judging: Friday 18th August

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For further information contact the
Southern Queensland Promotion Group –
Christina Schiller
christina.schiller@uqconnect.edu.au