ALCA NEWSLETTER



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

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Happy Birthday ALCA!

On 8th August 1992, the Australian Lowline Cattle Association was formed 'under a gum tree' at the NSW Department of Agriculture's Trangie Research Farm.

The first 25 members of the association became the Foundation Members of ALCA.....

And here we are today with 300+ members from countries all over the world and a breed of cattle that is unique – Australian Lowlines.

This and much more will be published in a book being prepared to celebrate ALCA's 25th Anniversary. It will incorporate the early days of Lowlines in Australia & how we have progressed, as well as Lowlines today.

If you have any past or present photos you think we could use for this publication, please send to Julie Knight wanamara@westnet.com.au

This publication should be available for purchase just in time for Christmas presents.

So 'Watch this Space!'



Trangie cattle in 1951

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Happy 25th Birthday Australian Lowlines

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ALCA AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Australian Lowline Cattle Association will be held on Saturday 7th October 2017 in Brisbane, Qld.

The venue for the meeting is still being finalized and members will be notified shortly.

ALCA members are encouraged to attend. It is a great opportunity to meet your Councillors, network with other members and socialise.

This event is not only the AGM for ALCA but also includes a Members Forum where members are encouraged to voice their opinions about issues involving the association, ideas for breed improvement and breed promotion which council can work towards over the following twelve months.

On Sunday 8th October, the new Council will hold a face-to-face meeting to plan strategies for the year.

If you can't attend but would like to send in your ideas for discussion, please contact Carole Johns at ALCA



Join us at the ALCA AGM & Members Forum!

Reminder - Renew your ALCA Membership

A reminder to all members that membership fees for the Australian Lowline Cattle Association (ALCA) and Certified Lowline Beef (CLB) Producers are now due.

If you have not received a renewal for your membership or have any queries please contact Carole Johns – office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

All financial ALCA members for 2017/2018 will be listed in the ALCA 25th Anniversary Book so renew your membership now.

Your names & studs will be included in this celebratory publication which will be available for purchase throughout Australia & overseas.

Book your Accommodation for Rockhampton Beef 2018

Australia's national beef expo is one of the world's great beef cattle events and is held just once every three years in Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia.

Beef Australia 2018 will be held from 6th -12th May 2018 and will be a celebration of all facets of the Australian beef industry.

The Australian Lowline Cattle Association will again have a trade site with a display of cattle at Beef 2018. There will also be Australian Lowlines in the show competition as well.

If you are thinking of visiting Beef 2018 at Rockhampton next year, make sure you book your accommodation very early as accommodation is always difficult to find at the last minute.



Teen seriously injured after falling from horse

The Chronicle - 9th July 2017 8:24 AM

A TEEN has been airlifted to hospital after he fell from his horse during a campdraft event on the Darling Downs.

LifeFlight's Toowoomba-based SGAS Rescue helicopter flew to the event at Condamine, near Miles, yesterday morning after the teen fell from his horse during competition.

It is believed the male teen's horse tripped while competing, causing the horse to fall on top of the rider.

The horse then rolled on top of him, before quickly getting up.

The horse then started to take off with one of the rider's feet still caught in the stirrups, causing the rider to be dragged along a short distance.

After landing, the LifeFlight critical care doctor treated the teen for neck and chest injuries.

The teen had a tube inserted to assist his breathing before the aeromedical crew loaded him into the rescue helicopter and airlifted him to the Princess Alexandra Hospital in a serious but stable condition.

It was one of six primary missions in less than 24 hours for LifeFlight crews at the weekend, including four motor vehicle incidents.



A Toowoomba-based LifeFlight helicopter airlifted a teen after he fell from his horse at Condamine. - RACQ LifeFlight

Get Well Soon, Mike

This article from the Chronicle in July is about Michael Lacey, son of Ku & Jim. Ku Lacey is an ALCA Councillor & Ag teacher at Rockhampton Girls Grammar School.

Since the accident, Mike has been in a serious but stable condition at Brisbane Hospital, with his family vigilent at his side.

It is going to be a long and slow road to recovery for this young man and we send Mike and his family all out best wishes.

A miracle baby for Moonbeam



At the end of July, Lik Lik Lowlines in Cambooya, Qld, received a big & much welcomed surprise.

Twelve year old cow, Allambie Moonbeam had produced a lovely heifer calf after many failed attempts at getting the old girl 'in calf'.

Vet checks over the past couple of years had found Moonbeam had the left & right ovaries co-joined so she wasn't expected to get pregnant ever again.

But the persistent attention from a young bull, aptly named Gigolo, has resulted in this little miracle baby. Congratulations !!!

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A sad Goodbye to an old Lowline Matriach



Sadly we lost one of our beautiful and gentle cows "Allambie Christina".

She was 17 years old and still produced calves up until last year. She was such a good doer and maintained her condition for many many years without her teeth.

She will be sadly missed.

Goes to show what a hardy and fantastic breed Lowlines are!

Georgie Saunders Bunya Grove Lowlines, NSW

First Show for Innisfail State College, Qld

After months of training and preparation, the School Cattle team at Innisfail State College were ready to participate in their first agricultural show at Tully in Queensland.

The college have their own stud, Yabala Lowlines and are keen to begin breeding their own Lowline cattle.

Congratulations on such a well prepared and professional looking team.



Yabala Innisfail State College Lowline Stud cattle handling team ready to compete at Tully show - our first ever competition! Go Team ISC!!!!

Don't forget to visit the Lowlines at the 2017 Royal Brisbane Show (EKKA)



Lowland Park, North Island, NZ

Lowland Park is the home of Matt & Tania Wilkinson, dairy farmers near Hamilton in the North Island of New Zealand. They explain why they now also have Lowlines.

'We've been dairy farming for 28 years here, at Rukuhia in the western side of the Waikato, New Zealand's golden dairy area. But we've had enough of dairy farming, growing older, etc and seek an easier lifestyle on the land. Beef sounds like a great option, so not following trends, we stumbled upon lowlines.

The only pedigrees here on farm are bulls, which we cross with our jerseys and will finish for beef. Our oldest beefies are yearlings. We also run traditional Angus dairy cross with the Lowline cross as a comparison, weighing monthly.

To give you an idea, our crossbreds at 12 mths are 224 kg live weight for the heifers and 239 kg for the steers.

The maximums are 254 and 272 respectively.

The heifers are getting mated to lowline bulls to calve as 2 year olds as once calved heifers, and I imagine the steers will go at around 400Kg.

When asked about the photo Matt supplied (below) of one of his Lowline bulls with some Jersey cows, he replied 'Our jerseys aren't tall, but are certainly well grown and well fed, so often appear like big jerseys. And we only ever milk them once a day. My neighbours call them teddy bears. But they are all lanky jersey friesian crosses (called kiwicross here).'



One of the smallest Lowline bulls at Lowland Park lined up with the dairy cows



As time goes by, the dairy cows will disappear and the beef will take over.

At this stage we have no outlet for our beef, but we hope to come across those opportunities, preferably supplying someone who wants to add value, as we do', explained Matt.



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Australian Lowline Cattle of America (ALCOA)

Since the recent name change of the American Lowline Register to the American Aberdeen Association, the name of their cattle has now been changed from Lowline to Aberdeen.

Some American Lowline breeders would like to retain the breed name (Lowline) and have joined ALCA so they can do so. Their cattle have been introduced into the ALCA herdbook, following stringent verification of their pedigrees and DNA/PV results.

We welcome breeders from all countries and hope you all find support and assistance within our association to continue breeding and promoting your Lowlines in your own countries.

American Promotion Group

A Promotion Group has been formed in America for the USA ALCA members called the Australian Lowline Cattle of America (ALCOA).

Interested in becoming a member of the ALCOA Promotion Group or advertising your stud, or your cattle 'For Sale' have a look at the ALCOA website for details.

Australian Lowlines

Compact beefy cattle
A pleasure to handle
Early maturity
Polled, naturally!
Great Mothers
Easy doing cattle
Suit all climates
Amazing eating quality
Purity & Traceability
Genetics all around the world
Red or Black? You choose!

A great new website is now up and running – Australian Lowline Cattle of America http://www.uslowlinecattle.com/index.html

Also a Facebook page full of information https://www.facebook.com/uslowlinecattle/



Wean 37% more calf weight per acre using Lowline cross cattle

Unv. Of North Dakota, Dickenson Research Cer



Lowline cattle produce premier quality, grass fed and grass finished beef that is efficient, consistent and DNA tested and verified.

What's on your plate?

A big 'Thank You' to Wendy & Steven Rhodes, Sunset Ranch, for all their hard work getting this up and running.

Welcome to New Members

ALCA would like to welcome our latest new members from Australia, New Zealand, England & USA.

Colin Johnson (Full Membership) Donnington, Lincolnshire, UK – Hawthorns

Michelle Bourdua (Full Membership) Springfield, North Carolina, USA – Benchmark

Steven & Martha Bryant (Full Membership) Edgefield, South Carolina, USA. - Breezy Knolls

Jeff & Amy Bogue (Commercial Membership) Bushnell, Florida, USA.

Doug & Harriette Jamerson (Full Membership) Midlothian, Virginia, USA. - Deerhaven's

Peter & Sandy Rogers (Commercial Membership) Central Macdonald, NSW.

Kimberley College (School Membership) Carbrook, Qld. – Kimberley College

Darren Cuthbertson (Full Membership)
Port Melbourne, Vic. - Boldaz

Sean McGovern & Suzanne Gray (Full Membership) Stokers Siding, NSW. - Wollumbin

Malcolm & Lesley Bazeley (Full Membership)
Te Kuiti, North Island, NZ. - Black Diamond

Alistair & Carmel Hill (Full Membership) Nelson, South Island, NZ. - Supplejack



Temperament is everything – Phil Worthington, Woolstone Park NZ with his very quiet 8 yr old bull, Woolstone Park Richmond

2017 Royal Adelaide Show



Major winners at the Lowline Feature Show at Adelaide in 2005 were from Allambie Stud, Dubbo NSW

Don't forget to visit the Lowline exhibiters at the 2017 Royal Adelaide Show from 1st – 4th September at the Adelaide Showgrounds.

On Farm Challenge - South Australia

The South Australian Promotion Group have completed another very successful On Farm Challenge for South Australian members.

This is a competition where cattle are judged on their own farm & without any preparation. Very simple but very effective in helping breeders to identify good and not-so-good traits in their breeding herd so the breeder can make informative decisions in their future breeding programs.

The Judge this year was Mason Galpin from Warrawindi Limousins, a young man with a big future.



Susan Yates, Barossa Lowlines with Judge, Mason Galpin

On Farm Challenge - South Australia...cont

A big 'Thank you' to our judge, all the participants, sponsors & SA PG members who donated their time to help with this event.

Winners of the SA Promotion Group 2017 On Farm Challenge :

Junior female: Barossa Harmony - Alan & Susan Yates.

Senior & Champion Female: Barossa Donna - Alan & Susan Yates.

Junior Bull: Glen Willow Maxi - Klaus & Jo-anne Emmerich.

Senior & Champion Bull: Yenolom Gangster - Klaus & Jo-anne Emmerich.

Beachport Liquid Minerals Grand Champion: Yenolom Gangster - Klaus & Jo-anne Emmerich.

Sires Progeny: Brightside Bond 007 - Brian & Anne Williams of Annie's Lane Lowlines.



Left: Jo-Anne Emmerich with Judge, Mason Galpin





Meet the Minis Day, Qld

Lowlines participated in the Meet the Minis Day on July 2nd held at Junabel Miniatures.

It is an open day for families and small acreage farmers to meet and share our livestock and have fun! Over 4300 people attended and the Lowlines saw most of them!

We have two new members already as a result.

Here are some photos of the day.







Certified Lowline Beef - What can it do for me?

Are you wondering why ALCA has instigated the Certified Lowline Beef programme and just what can it do for you?

Australian Lowlines are not just cute, black cattle. They are in fact beef machines on short legs! The excellent eating quality of Lowline beef is well known. So why not capitalise on this fact?

Hence, the conception of the Certified Lowline Beef Programme.

This is a vehicle provided by ALCA to enable you, the producer, to have a marketing advantage. The CLB logo is synonymous with quality and provides consumer confidence in the product in the market place.



It is well recognized that 'marketing' is not really just about the product - although we already know that CLB supplies consistently good beef! Marketing is so much more!

It's about building a relationship with the consumer and meeting the expectations of that consumer.

Have a quick think about the way the big supermarket chains have taken to focusing on their "relationships with the farmer". They are presenting the consumer with a clean, green image, and knowing the provenance of product, that is the process from growing it on the farm to it being available in the supermarket.

This is where the Certified Lowline Beef programme slots in nicely to the current market trends. The paddock to plate trend if you like. It allows any size producer to partake in directly marketing the Lowline beef product, primarily because you are the one in control – not the big processor nor the supermarket giants.

Most CLB producers are small, family operations running their beef business to suit their own criteria. Not everyone is interested in managing a large scale business, though using lowlines certainly does not preclude you from this style of commercial operation either. In fact, this is the beauty of the Certified Lowline Beef programme - the ability to tailor it to suit your business.



You determine your market size, you determine where your market exists, you decide just how and when you will service that market.

In effect, because you are in control of the entire process, it is you who will benefit from all your investments and hard work. There is no middle man!

In fact, this direct consumer contact allows you to also experience the sense of pride and satisfaction when return customers compliment you time and again on your wonderful product. Nothing beats job satisfaction!

So if up until now, you've thought to yourself "when I get bigger, one day I'll....." well now you have the opportunity to start small and grow, or start small and stay intentionally small . The choice is yours, the opportunities are yours.

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Certified Lowline Beefcont

Perhaps you'd like some guidance or just to have a chat about CLB. Maybe you don't want to run a whole CLB operation yourself, but have excess steers and have been wondering just what to do with them. Thought of selling them to a CLB producer? There are people to talk to who are already marketing their own certified lowline beef - details are available on the website - so contact a CLB producer today and have a chat.

ALCA has implemented the CLB guidelines & producer agreement. There are even advertising materials such as stickers, signs, flyers & posters for you to utilise should you so choose.

For further information either contact Carole in the ALCA office or hop onto the website.

LOWLINE BEEF - Renowned for excellent quality and taste!

LOWLINES – the breed other breeds choose to use, to improve their carcass quality and solve their calving issues.

Get some in your paddock and on your plate - You won't be disappointed!



melts through the steak." Ray Manning, Mackay Chef, re Eungella Beef

A reminder when purchasing Registered Lowline Cattle

Does the animal meet the breed standard for Australian Lowline Cattle?

- All black or all red a little white is allowed so long as it is restricted
 to the udder or scrotum area and must not extend further forward than
 halfway to navel on under belly.
- Weight and size judgment should be based on conformation, health and condition, rather than size.
- Naturally polled i.e. no horns
- · Good conformation, functional and fertile.

Have all registration requirements been observed?

- Both dam and sire are registered in the Australian Lowline Herd Book.
- The animal identifier match those on the certificate.
- The animal being verified for Parentage (if so ask for a copy of the DNA Certificate).
- · The owner being a current financial member and registered breeder of ALCA.
- The purchaser being a financial member of ALCA.
- Has the vendor completed the transfer form on the registration certificate?
 This must be done as soon as possible after the sale and sent to the ALCA Office together with the appropriate fees.