



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

E-mail: office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

ALCA Council 2020/2021

Even though we were unable to have our AGM in October this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, your new ALCA Council has been nominated and positions selected.

We welcome Sue Foureur from South Australia and Matt Wilkinson from the North Island, New Zealand as our two new Councillors.

We would like to give a big Thank You to retiring Councillors, Gordon Guthrie and Klaus Emmerich for their valued service on our Council.

ALCA Councillors for the next year;

President: Julie Knight (VIC)
Vice President: Michele Molloy (Qld)
Secretary: Sandra Price (QLD)
Treasurer: Sue Foureur (SA)
Philip Worthington (NZ)
Bill Brydon (NSW)
Bryce Barker (USA)
Matt Wilkinson (NZ)



Restrictions are affecting everyone!

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New Councillor - Sue Foureur

I have been associated with Australian Lowlines since 1998 and have seen the rise, and fall on occasions, of the breed's popularity in South Australia.

I have always tried to increase the awareness of the breed and am now concentrating on selling Lowline Beef (Glenlonny Beef) through the Farmers Market down here in Mount Gambier.

As we no longer have a Promotion Group in SA, my aim is to fill this gap for both members and hopefully new members, to keep them connected and informed about matters within the Association.



New Councillor - Matt Wilkinson



My name is Matt Wilkinson. Together with my wife Tania, we run Lowland Park Lowlines in the North Island of New Zealand.

With the support of Tania for most of my crazy ideas, we have farmed on our property for more than thirty years. With our dairy farming, I have always been an early adopter of sound and modern initiatives, like full season once a day milking, and grazing longer than accepted Industry standards pasture.

Waking up one morning and declaring I wanted to be a beef farmer, was another crazy idea, which became reality relatively quickly, and here we are, running a successful beef operation on what has been considered Prime Dairy Country for the past century.

I always strive to do things differently, against the main tide, which is one good reason we farm, and I promote Australian Lowlines. We successfully breed, grow and fatten Lowline dairy cross and Angus dairy cross steers and heifers, and monitor comparisons between both groups.

I do not consider myself a natural born leader and I'm not at all a political person, however, I notice over the years that many have watched what I do and seem to follow with interest, so along with this unusual phenomenon and the fact that I am passionate about what I do, I suspect that I may be able to contribute positively to ALCA and the promotion of Australian Lowlines and I shall endeavour to do my best.

2021 Australian Lowline Journal

Preparation is underway for the 2021 Journal of the Australian Lowline Cattle Association.

Thank you to all contributors of articles and photos, and members who have paid for advertisements. Unfortunately advertising this year is not sufficient to cover publishing costs so ALCA will be subsidising much of this important publication.

Due to the large number of articles submitted, those not printed in the Journal will be used in the ALCA newsletters next year.

The Journal should be posted to members in December 2020.

Thank you for your support.



Elandra Park Xam at Kawala View Stud, French Island
with Sam Dickinson



Dung Beetle count shows benefits



6 Sep 2020

Elizabeth Anderson

A small addition could be bringing big benefits to the state's soil, with a multiple year project under way in the South East to measure the impacts of dung beetles.

As part of a five-year Meat & Livestock Australia study, under the Dung Beetle Ecosystems Engineers, the MacKillop Farm Management Group is in its first of two years looking at the density and abundance of dung beetles, with sites across eight farms.

IRSA sustainable agriculture consultant and project manager Claire Dennerley said the trial would enable them to inform a database to work out what species were present in the region and if new species needed to be introduced.

She said the benefits of dung beetles for soil in grazing systems had already been demonstrated, as had their potential to help reduce the spread of disease.

Dung beetles tend to bury the livestock dung, which lifts soil nutrition, aids water permeation and can even limit the number of flies and parasites found in the location.

"Better soils mean better pastures and it's a self-regulating system, so low risk and high rewards," she said.

Ms Dennerley said traps were set at host sites near Naracoorte, Western Flat, Reedy Creek and Beachport across multiple soil types, including deep sand, sand over clay and black flats.

The traps allow them to collect beetles and observe what species and population sizes are on the farm.

"The main focus is to get producers tuned in to whether they have dung beetles on their place and whether there are gaps, and then we can look to introduce beetles to fill the gaps," she said.

As part of the MLA project, more than 24,000 spring and summer-active dung beetles were distributed to 50 farms in Vic, SA and WA earlier this year, including the first newly-imported species, to help boost numbers.

Another three species are expected to be imported and reared in Australia to help make up for any deficit in spring-active beetles.

Ms Dennerley said there had been interesting findings in the SE, including one property that had not run any cattle since 1997.

"We have found dung beetles are quick to return – once cattle were introduced, we had a really active population within a short time," she said.

Ms Dennerley said there was more work needed on what kinds of chemicals or drenches were the best options to maintain the existing dung beetle populations.

A new guidebook from the DBEE can help primary producers identify their own populations, with similar information also found on a digital identification guide phone app, available through the DBEE website

Dung Beetle count shows benefits



SPOT CHECK: Producer Darryn Simon, Woodrise, Beachport, with PIRSA sustainable agricultural consultant Claire Dennerley out checking the dung beetle traps.

Biological impacts vital to soil health

About a decade ago, Beachport biological farmer Darryn Simon introduced a number of dung beetles to the property he manages and welcomed the chance to host a trap to monitor how the population was progressing.

"It's a citizen science project to see what is surviving and how the population is going," he said.

Mr Simon said it was possible to monitor the activity by observing if cow manure was still on the ground surface.

He said dung beetles were an important part of their biodiversity and the dung that was dug into the ground maintained much of its nutrients, compared with those left on the surface.

Throughout the years, he noticed that while they had good summer-active species, there was a gap in winter and spring, with the winter gap largely filled, as they aim for year-round activity.

"We still seem to have a void in spring," he said.

Mr Simon said the project was still in its early days – just six months into a two-year SA-based trial – but already there have been some "revelations", such as the discovery of some NSW species.

"It's going to take the two years to get a handle on what's here," he said.

Welcome to New Members

Once again we are welcoming many new ALCA Members to our Australian Lowline family. We hope you are enjoying your cattle and being part of our Association.

Full Membership

Wayne Harper
Ravenshoe, QLD – **TORLOCH**

Janet Harris
Adderley Edge, Cheshire, UK – **SANDPIT**

Emmanoul & Johanna Gewargis
Greendale, NSW – **EMEERIA FARM**

Mark, Wendy & Samantha Fard
Auckland, NZ – **BELLA BESTIAMI**

Mark James Henry
Kin Kin, QLD – **SOLID HENRY**

Lifestyle Membership

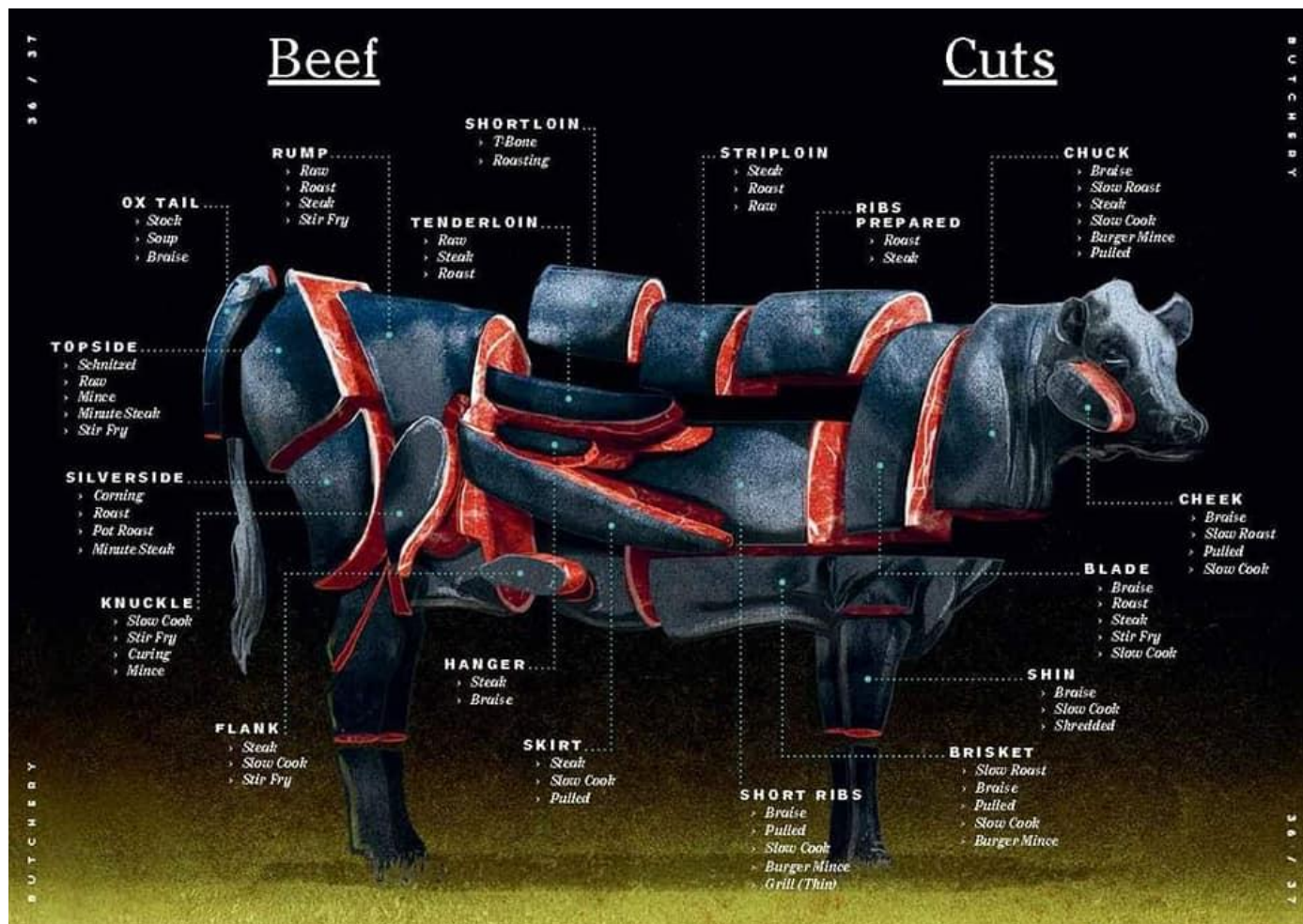
Andrew Norman
Lower Portland, NSW – **GREENSWAMP**



An eye-catching sire - Tarrawarra Genesis from Tarrawarra Lowlines



Meat Cuts from a Carcase



Have you wondered where certain cuts come from on a carcass? Above is an example of which part of the beast the different cuts are found.

Breed Beef not Bone

Do you wonder what meat yield your steers are producing?

Quality Australian Lowline steers have a much higher meat yield than most breeds as they have less bone & therefore, less wastage.

Use the calculation below to work out your saleable meat yield.

Meat weight = Saleable Meat Yield
Carcass weight X 100



25 months old grass fed Wanamara steer.

Carcass weight was 251kg with saleable meat of 191kg = 76% meat yield.



How to present a 'For Sale' Advertisement

Start with a picture of your animal. Not just any picture, but a good picture.

Your animal should be standing side-on to you.

- the animal's nearside back leg should be back, so it accentuates the hock muscle and exposes the udder or testicles.
- Front legs should be close together, straight underneath the animal.

The sun should be behind you so it doesn't create shadows on the animal. Early morning or late afternoon sun is best when it is sitting low on the horizon.

Get yourself down so you are ever so slightly looking up at the animal.

Pay attention to your background as animals always look better on grass and worse in mud.

Always have your animal standing on level ground
Edit your pic so the animal is almost taking the full frame.

Theory is great but in practice is far more difficult.
Animals rarely stand correctly, or in the right place.

Have a go. You may surprise yourself, and it certainly doesn't need to be perfect.



Now for your sales pitch.

The more info the better. Different buyers require different information.

The Animals Full Pedigree Name, age, a little bit of history and any statistics if you have them –

- Birth weight, mature weight, height at the hips.

Useful comments are helpful –

- Temperament, progeny, any other good points.

Include your Stud name and a copy of the ALCA pedigree of the animal, location of the animal, and price, and of course your contact details.

Good luck with your sale!
Matt Wilkinson

Home > Business, farming & industry > Farming & forestry > Livestock > Beef cattle

Australian Lowline R3 bull

Bred for better beef

Listing #: 2758356382

Asking price: \$2,000 | Listed: Thu 27 Aug, 2:24 pm

[Watchlist](#)

Casablanca Raphael is a solid, chunky, well grown fellow who has come through the very wet winter particularly well. From pedigree parents, he has been DNA tested and can be registered if required. Suitable for your Lowline herd, lifestyle block or to go over dairy or beef heifers to produce superior calves. Trained to electric fences.

Australian Lowlines are a unique heritage breed, 100% descended from Aberdeen Angus, providing all the advantages of modern Angus, including superior meat, while being two thirds of their size and therefore much easier on your paddocks and to handle. They are renowned for their high fertility, good temperament, easy calving, hybrid vigour, long breeding life and shorter gestation period. Photos.

1. Raphael Aug 26. 2. Solid rump. 3. Good condition. 4. Autumn photo. 5. Quiet with other stock. 6. Walking through crush. Casablanca Lowlines. C10. Last test February 2020.

Photo 4 of 6

[Farming checklist](#)

A good advertisement in Trade.Me.NZ by Casablanca Lowlines, NZ.

Very informative advert & the bull sold within a few days



A Blast from the Past - ALCA Newsletter October 1996

Southern NSW & ACT Promotion Group

Hi all Lowline members, I have decided to write a few lines in the newsletter to let everyone know what is happening in the Southern NSW and ACT region.

We had a very successful promotion group meeting at Russell and Joan Betts place at Mittagong on the 28th September 1996. Nine studs were represented. It was also good that Don Burke was able to attend the meeting, giving members the chance to meet the new president, and discuss any concerns or ideas they might have for ALCA.

Many thanks to Joan and Russell Betts for making their home available for the meeting and for providing a very pleasant lunch.

The promotion group has arranged to exhibit at Murumbateman Field days, (on the outskirts of Canberra) on the 19th and 20th October 1996 and Agview at Camden (on the southern side of Sydney) on the 25th, 26th and 27th October 1996. All this takes quite a bit of organising, but we'll get there, with the co-operation of all the members of

the promotion group. Here's hoping the weather is kind to us for these days.

Next on the agenda was organising the Canberra Show, setting up the stalls (bunting etc), and trying to work out how many Lowline cattle would be exhibited. We need to have around 30 head to make sure we are asked to exhibit the following year.

If there are any new members in southern NSW (it's up to you to decide if you are in southern NSW as there are no boundaries set) who would like to become a member of our promotion group or just attend meetings, or perhaps to help out at the field days, you would be most welcome. We try to hold a Southern NSW & ACT promotion group meeting every three months or less. If you would like to attend please contact myself or my Husband Keith of Keimoi Lowline Stud Goulburn—phone (048) 292 121.

Here's hoping everyone gets lots of heifers this year, kind regards, Moira Smith.

Binnowee Open Day

Lights, camera, action! There was action aplenty at Don Burke's Binnowee Miniature Cattle Stud on Sunday 13th October, 1996 as Don Burke conducted an open day to rival the best.

The day demonstrated the future direction of the Lowline cattle breed and gave prospective buyers and breeders of the cattle an insight into the professional marketing expertise accessible to Lowline breeders.

Highly regarded guest speakers such as Professor Roger Barlow, the scientist who created Lowline cattle and Rick Pisaturo of Mandalong cattle fame commenced proceedings.

Professor Barlow spoke about the establishment and history of the breed while Rick Pisaturo spoke about the future of small breeds. It was great to meet and hear from the man who actually created our breed and to hear about the future direction of beef research. Rick Pisaturo's talk concerning the existing and future demand for small carcasses was also greeted with enthusiasm.

Other guest speakers included Rick Tindall, one of the most respected ET Veterinarians in the country and Bob Wilton, one of the best cattle judges in NSW.

The open day was fully catered with the main culinary attraction being the serving of a Lowline steer superbly prepared by celebrity chef and food expert Geoff Jansz. The number of people backing-up for seconds attests to the eating qualities of our Lowline cattle and the culinary skills of the chef.

Geoff also gave a talk which presented a chef's view of beef and the qualities needed to provide top eating qualities. From all accounts our Lowline cattle are capable, with correct preparation, of meeting the demands of a variety of lucrative markets.

Association members from as far afield as Victoria, Queensland and Northern NSW attended the open day and made the most of the opportunity to meet Don and the other Committee members who were present and talk Lowlines.

The day was extremely well attended by the public and demonstrates the wide acceptance of Lowlines. Don also made a video of the day which will be available for purchase at a later date.

Although the auction at the end of the day commenced slowly I believe the after auction sales were very pleasing. Congratulations Don on a great promotion and a great day—Keith Smith

Issue of Next Journal

The next issue will be distributed in early January 1997. Closing date for articles and advertisements will be 4th December 1996. Advertisements and articles can be sent to:

Keith Smith
PO Box 949 Goulburn NSW
or fax on (048) 29 2121



DNA Testing

For further information and Forms for all Genetic Testing, go to the ALCA Website. All the information you will need is in the Members Area.

If you still need assistance, please contact the ALCA office – office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

Submitting DNA Samples to Zoetis

Submitting your DNA samples is an easy process:

1. Order your DNA test kits from Zoetis (they are free of charge)
2. Collect your DNA Samples. Ensure they are labelled with the correct details of the animal to be tested.
3. Fill out the Zoetis Form
 - either: a) print the forms directly from the ALCA website & complete them by hand
OR b) download the file, open in adobe & fill them in on your computer and then save & print
4. Please indicate, by placing a ✓ in the box, that you require your results emailed to the Australian Lowline Cattle Association as well as yourself. This is especially important with SNP results.
5. Post your Samples and completed forms (Zoetis DNA Testing Submission Form & Sample Information Form) to:
Zoetis Australia Pty Ltd
PO Box 75
BANYO QLD 4014
6. Payment of all fees for DNA services is to be made directly to Zoetis.
Zoetis Australia
BSB: 212 -200
ACC – 016049204

Alternately you may apply for an account by completing a credit application form with Zoetis.
Please contact Zoetis for further information.

NOTES – DNA results can take 4 to 6 weeks to be returned, depending upon Laboratory work loads. After submission to ALCA please allow up to 2 weeks for the registration process to be completed.

Please take this timeframe into consideration if the animal in question is being entered into a Show. ALCA recommends you allow at least 8 weeks for DNA testing & registration to be completed to avoid any hiccups with Show entry deadlines. Where possible allow more than 8 weeks as on the rare occasion an error in the breeders own records has necessitated the retesting of samples.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR ZOETIS – Phone: 1300 768 400
Email: genetics.au@zoetis.com



DNA Testing - cont

Ensure all nominated parents have a compatible DNA test type

DNA + PV (MiP) v SNP + PV Compatibility Table:

Parent/s	Progeny	Compatibility for Parentage
DNA + PV	DNA + PV	YES
DNA + PV	SNP + PV	NO
SNP + PV	DNA + PV	NO
SNP + PV	SNP + PV	YES

If you are not sure if the nominated parents have been upgraded to a SNP profile please check the ALCA database or contact the Lowline Registrar for assistance prior to lodging your form. When converting your herd from MiP to SNP testing you can request the animal being tested to have a SNP performed simultaneously to the DNA + PV (MiP). Please contact Zoetis for further information.

WANAMARA FIRECRACKER

[ALCA Website](#) [Animal Enquiry](#) [Member Enquiry](#) [Online Transactions](#)

Identifier/Tattoo: WANJ277
Herdbook #: 10930
Sex: Female
Birth Date: 23/01/2013
Colour: Black
Calving Year: 2013
Status: Active
Registration Status: Registered
Sire: [WANAMARA CASANOVA](#)
Dam: [WANAMARA WILDFIRE \(ET\)](#)
Breeder: [G & J KNIGHT](#)
Current Owner: [G & J KNIGHT](#)
Transfer History: [\[View\]](#)
DNA MiP #: 381688 MiP sample code
DNA SNP #: Z12343654 SNP sample code (Z for Zoetis)
Progeny: [\[6 - View\]](#)

Look at the Animal Detail screen on the ALCA Database to find the sample codes for the Sires or Dams of your calves for Parent Verification (PV)

If the animal only has a DNA MiP result it will be noted.

If the animal also has a SNP result, there might be 2 numbers, one for MiP & one for SNP.

Results for both parents need to be the same profile for a Parent Verification to be processed for progeny.

Please contact the ALCA office if you need help

Instructions & Forms – <https://www.lowlinecattleassoc.com.au/members-area>



Annual Herd Inventory

Our Lowline Registrar, Natalie Herd, has sent members a Herd Inventory which lists all the **ACTIVE registered** animals on the database under your Herd ID.

NB: Calf recorded animals are not included on this list.

This inventory is to make sure any animals you have sold, culled or died have been noted as such on the database.

These will be made INACTIVE.

When you receive your inventory, make a note in the 'FATE' column of any animals no longer in your herd.

Return the List to the ALCA office by email as soon as possible so Natalie can update your herd on the database - lowline.registrar@abri.une.edu.au

Your prompt attention will be appreciated.



*Australian Lowline
is the name
&
Growing Beef
is the game!*



The Australian Lowline is a heritage beef breed renowned for consistency, quality carcasses and a particularly docile temperament. Read about the benefits of the breed

<https://www.lowlinecattleassoc.com.au/the-breed/benefits>

Calf Recording on Database

Did you realize that you can calf record your calves on the database?

This can be done before you have the DNA/SNP & Parent Verification results & will only cost you \$5 (+GST) per calf.

At a later date when you decide to REGISTER your calf, you can UPGRADE this animal to 'registered' once you provide the ALCA office with the DNA/SNP & Parent Verification results & pay the upgrade fee (Females \$30 + GST/Males \$95 + GST) through The Lowline Shop.

To Calf Record your animals, you can use the Registration Form to Calf Record or do so directly on the ALCA Database.

Instructions for both procedures are on the ALCA Website => Forms & Downloads

<https://www.lowlinecattleassoc.com.au/the-association/forms-downloads>

Payment for Calf Recordings can be made via The Lowline Shop & once payment is made, a link to the Registration Form will be emailed to you.

If you have any problems, please contact the ALCA office.



A Spring calf at McIntosh Creek

